

water hemlock

Cicuta maculata

Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Apiales
Family: Apiaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS
common, native

FEATURES

The water hemlock is a perennial herb. Its stems are upright, branched, hairy and up to seven feet tall. The leaves are triangular in outline, divided into many leaflets and up to three inches long. The white flowers are arranged in clusters of up to four inches across. Each flower is about one-tenth inch long. Fruits are nearly spherical, smooth and up to one-fourth inch long.

BEHAVIORS

The water hemlock grows in wet soil, swamps, roadside ditches and marshes. It flowers from June through August. Most parts of this plant are poisonous.

ILLINOIS RANGE



stem



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leaves



flowers

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; rivers and streams; swamps; marshes

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge