

wild geranium *Geranium maculatum*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Geraniales

Family: Geraniaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The wild geranium is a perennial plant that grows from thick roots. Its hairy, upright stems are sometimes branched and may grow to one and one-half feet tall. The leaves at the base of the plant have three to five lobes, are hairy and are up to five inches wide. The stem leaves are oppositely arranged, hairy and smaller than the basal leaves. Flowers are found in a cluster at the tip of the stem. Each flower has five, rose-purple petals that may be one and one-half inches long. The fruit is a capsule, about one and one-half inches long.

BEHAVIORS

The wild geranium may be found statewide in Illinois. This plant grows in rich woods. The wild geranium flowers from mid-April through May.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

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