

Reading Your Landscape

If your back yard is sandy and well-drained you may have the right conditions for a Black Oak/Lupine Barren. Look for white and black oak as the dominate canopy tree.



Visit A Black Oak/Lupine Barren

Kitty Todd Nature Preserve
10420 Old State Line Rd, Swanton, OH 43558

Oak Openings Preserve Metropark
4139 Girdham Rd, Swanton, OH 43558

Additional Resources

Native Seed, Plants, and Seed Collection:

Wild Ones—Oak Openings Chapter
oakopenings.wildones.org

Metroparks Toledo Native Seed Nursery
metroparkstoledo.com/features-and-rentals/native-seed-nursery/

Wood County Park District Stewardship
Department
(419) 661-5113

Toledo Zoo Conservation Department
www.toledozoo.org/prairie/

Possible Restoration Assistance:

The Nature Conservancy
(419) 867-1521

Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov



The Green Ribbon Initiative is a partnership of public and private organizations, landowners, and individuals working together to preserve, enhance, and restore critical natural areas in the Oak Openings Region of Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

www.oakopenings.org oakopenings@tnc.org

HOMEOWNER'S NATIVE HABITAT GUIDE



BLACK OAK/ LUPINE BARRENS

*A resource for landowners interested
in restoring their Oak Openings
Region property.*

WHY IT MATTERS

Black Oak/Lupine Barren is the classic "Oak Openings" community that historically covered about 45% of the region. This community is a savanna, where black oak and white oak are widely spaced allowing sunlight to reach the surface, which creates a rich herbaceous layer. This community is fire dependent. Lack of fire has caused woody invasions of the savanna and decreased grass and forb diversity.



STEPS TO BACKYARD HABITAT RESTORATION

1. Inventory what you already have
2. Watch water behavior
3. Remove invasive species
4. See what returns naturally
5. Enhance with native species
6. Maintain with yearly mowing

RESTORATION TOOLS

The best management is integrated management. No one of these tools on its own is a cure-all. Think about how each could address the needs of your property.

Hand-Weeding—can be used to control many non-woody invasive species in areas where herbicide use is undesirable. Be vigilant when disturbing large areas of soil as the disruption will promote the germination of weed seeds lying dormant in the ground.

Herbicide—can be used with caution to control invasive species. The two most common methods of application are spraying herbicide on the leaves of the plant, or, for woody species, cutting the trunk/stem close to the ground and applying herbicide to the stump. Herbicides must always be used in accordance with their labels and with the appropriate safety equipment.

Mowing—can be used to set back invasives or more vigorous native species to give others a chance. Make sure that any invasive species you might be mowing are unable to re-sprout from stem fragments.

Burning—can be used to reinvigorate natives and set back invasives. Fire is essential for many Oak Openings ecosystems, but should be planned and implemented carefully.

BO/L Barrens Native Plants

Grasses/Sedges Flowers Trees/Shrubs

BASIC: This list indicates plants that are most common to this plant community. Seeds are available through the GRI.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Bluestem | <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Broom-sedge | <i>Andropogon virginicus</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little Bluestem | <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indiangrass | <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graceful Sedge | <i>Carex gracillima</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swan’s Sedge | <i>Carex swanii</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania Sedge | <i>Carex pensylvanica</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly-weed | <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grass-leaved Goldenrod | <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woodland Sunflower | <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rough Blazing-star | <i>Liatris aspera</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Everlasting | <i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifol-</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-eyed Susan | <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Goldenrod | <i>Solidago juncea</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gray Goldenrod | <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tall Ironweed | <i>Vernonia gigantea</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow False Indigo | <i>Baptisia tinctoria</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Little-leaved Tick- | <i>Desmodium ciliare</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small-leaved Tick- | <i>Desmodium mailandicum</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roundhead Bushclover | <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Bushclover | <i>Lespedeza hirta</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Lupine | <i>Lupinus perennis</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Bergamot | <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Mountain Mint | <i>Pycnanthemum pilosum</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Vervain | <i>Verbena urticifolia</i> |

INTERMEDIATE: These plants indicate that the habitat is maturing. Consider interseeding with species from this list.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottlebrush Grass | <i>Elymus hystrix</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture Thistle | <i>Cirsium discolor</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Snakeroot | <i>Eupatorium rugosum</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large-leaf Aster | <i>Eurybia macrophylla</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> False Sunflower | <i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Hawkweed | <i>Hieracium gronovii</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sky Blue Aster | <i>Symphyotrichum</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Smooth Aster | <i>Symphiotrichum laeve</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sessile-leaved Tick-trefoil | <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goat’s Rue | <i>Tephrosia virginiana</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Betony | <i>Pedicularis canadensis</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woodland Thimbleweed | <i>Anemone virginiana</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Columbine | <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Licorice | <i>Galium circaezans</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey Tea | <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> |

HIGH BIODIVERSITY: These plants indicate that the habitat is mature. Plants on this list may be difficult to acquire.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty Oat Grass | <i>Danthonia spicata</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plantain-leaved Everlast- | <i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plains Puccoon | <i>Lithospermum car-</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flowering Spurge | <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual False Foxglove | <i>Aureolaria pedicularia</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culver’s-root | <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bastard-toadflax | <i>Comandra umbellata</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birdfoot Violet | <i>Viola pedata</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two-flowered Cynthia | <i>Krigia biflora</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture Rose | <i>Rosa carolina</i> |

Invasive Plants to Control

This is not a comprehensive list of the invasive plants that can be found in black oak/lupine barrens. These six species are some of the most widespread. For more information about how to ID and control these and other invasive species you might find in the Oak Openings Region, visit the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network at www.misin.msu.edu.



COMMON BUCKTHORN



MULTIFLORA ROSE



SPOTTED KNAPWEED



BLACK SWALLOWWORT



EURASIAN HONEYSUCKLES



ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET