



## ***Caltha palustris* – Marsh Marigold**

COMMON NAME: Marsh marigold, cowslip

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Caltha palustris* – comes from Latin where *calathos* is a cup, and *palustris* means of swamps. This plant actually belongs to the buttercup family.

FLOWER: Bright, waxy yellow

BLOOMING PERIOD: April to early May

SIZE: 1 to 2 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: reproduces easily by seed and division.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: wet meadows, wet woods and forests, marshes, streambanks. It is tolerant of light shade, but blooms best where it has full sun in spring and then some shade in mid summer.

NATURAL RANGE: It is found throughout Wisconsin. Labrador across Canada to Alaska, south to South Carolina, Tennessee, west to Iowa and Nebraska, and along the west coast.

SPECIAL FEATURES: a lovely early spring wildflower with a buttercup type blossom. The leaves are heart-shaped, stems hollow.

SUGGESTED CARE: Needs a wet, mucky soil and sufficient sunshine. Protect in winter and early spring from drying winds.

COMPANION PLANTS: angelica, spotted Joe-pye weed, boneset, jewel weed, skunk cabbage, wild iris, wild geranium, common elderberry, sensitive fern, marsh shield fern, and elm, butternut, and black ash trees.