



## ***Claytonia virginica* – Spring Beauty**

COMMON NAME: Spring Beauty

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Claytonia virginica* – the name honors John Clayton (1686-1773), born in England but settling in Virginia in the early 1800's.

FLOWER: Clusters of star-like 5-petaled pink to white flowers with delicate pink lines.

BLOOMING PERIOD: early spring, mid April to early May

SIZE: 5 to 6 inches tall.

BEHAVIOR: This is a true ephemeral, blooming almost as soon as it appears above ground in early spring, and going dormant by June. Often flourishes where lawns and pastures have replaced former woodlands.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Look for spring beauties in maple, basswood, northern red oak forests. Grows best in rich to moist soils where summer shade, grazing and mowing keep down larger competitive plants.

NATURAL RANGE: Minnesota and southern Canada east to southern New England, south to Georgia and Texas. Found in most of Wisconsin.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Self sows rapidly and is especially attractive in large numbers.

SUGGESTED CARE: Provide adequate water until new plantings go dormant in June. Avoid competition from shrubs and early-leafing taller plants.

COMPANION PLANTS: White trout lily, wild leek, wild geranium, hepatica, wild blue phlox, mayapple, Solomon's seal, prairie trillium, Dutchman's breeches and other spring woodland flowers.