

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



***Stylophorum diphyllum* – Wood Poppy**

COMMON NAME: Wood Poppy, Celandine Poppy

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Stylophorum diphyllum* – with *stylo* from Greek for pillar, *phorum* meaning to bear, and *diphyllum* for two leaves.

FLOWER: yellow

BLOOMING PERIOD: April to June

SIZE: 12 to 18 inches

BEHAVIOR: Showy plant for woodlands. With constant moisture the leaves remain green through summer. In a dry spell the plant goes dormant, but moisture again in late summer or early fall will revive the plant and it may even bloom again. The plant seeds readily and spreads to form colonies.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Needs partial to full shade. Tolerant of a variety of growing conditions, but does best in moist, rich, well-drained soil.

NATURAL RANGE: Eastern North America.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Leaves are bright blue-green and deeply lobed with flowers 1 to 2 inches in diameter held above the leaves. The flowers have four petals and after blooming an oval seed capsule about 1 inch long forms. This is densely hairy and the leaves and stem are somewhat fuzzy. Stems contain a yellow juice that was used by Native Americans as a dye.

SUGGESTED CARE: Wood poppy is helped by a mulch of chopped leaves in fall. Be careful that these plants do not crowd out other desirable species. This plant is rabbit and deer resistant!

COMPANION PLANTS: woodland plants of the early spring, such as bloodroot, toothwort, mertensia, jack-in-the-pulpit, etc.

SPECIAL NOTE: The true wood poppy can be confused with a non-native cultivar from nurseries.