






Lenape Names for Flowers




These are names and photographs of flowers known to the Lenape or Delaware Indians. In the first column there are links in blue that can be clicked to take you to the Lenape Talking Dictionary (www.talk-lenape.org) where you can hear the Lenape name. In the third column enclosed in " " is the literal translation of the Lenape name. For more information about plant usage go here:

<https://delawaretribe.org/wp-content/uploads/DEL-ETHNOBOTANY-Hill.pdf>

Flowering Plants

<p>anshikēmēnshi</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18404</p>		<p>yarrow (achillea millefolium)</p>
<p>chàkinkwēm</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=667</p>		<p>pokeberry (phytolacca americana)</p>
<p>chixamokànatae</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=870</p>		<p>cone-flower (sp??)</p> <p>"comb flower"</p>

<p>ehamxink</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14425</p>		<p>wild indigo (baptisia tinctoria)</p> <p>"that which blows over."</p>
<p>hatusakàn</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1285</p>		<p>ironweed (vernonia sp.)</p>
<p>kishkikwentis</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=13834</p>		<p>violet (the flower)</p>
<p>mpiànàxkwim</p> <p>http://talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5122</p>		<p>water lily Nymphaea odorata</p> <p>"water acorn"</p>

<p>lehëlòkwënataeèk</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4041</p>		<p>jimson weed (datura)</p> <p>“evening blooming flower”</p>
<p>lëni kwshatay</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=3911</p> <p>kwshatay</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=3636</p>		<p>tobacco or indian tobacco (nicotiana rustica),</p> <p>tobacco of any kind</p>
<p><u>òxeataès</u></p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8086</p>		<p>sunflower</p>

matapipalinko

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4371>



cardinal flower
(lobelia cardinalis)

"that which is never overlooked"

pitukëna

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8811>



milkweed
(asclepias syriaca)

"that which grows double"

pkuwakw

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8817>



compass plant or
rosinweed
(silphium laciniatum),

"gum plant."

puhwèsënakw

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8913>



elderberry
(*sambucus canadensis*),

"pithy tree"

tuntus

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=13832>



wild Easter lily; white
adder's-tongue (a flower)
(*erythronium albidum*)



winkimakwsko

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11202>








horsemint; Indian
perfume
(commonly known as bee
balm),
(*monarda* sp.), -

"sweet smelling grass"

<p><u>wisaòtaèk</u></p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11278</p>		<p>goldenrod (solidago canadensis)</p> <p>"yellow flower"</p>
<p>wtehim</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11446</p>		<p>wild strawberry (fragaria virginiana), ,</p> <p>"heart fruit"</p>

Flowering Trees

<p>tuwchalakw</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=10370</p>		<p>dogwood (cornus sp.)</p>
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<p>sakwënakanimënshi</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9115</p>		<p>black haw (<i>viburnum prunifolium</i>)</p> <p>"black haw tree"</p>
<p>mwimënshi</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5326</p>		<p>wild black cherry (<i>prunus serotina</i>)</p>
<p>nènèskakw</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=6006</p>		<p>redbud (<i>cercis canadensis</i>)</p>
<p>mahchikpiakw</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4177</p>		<p>paw-paw (<i>asimina triloba</i>),</p>

Some Other Words for Flowers

òtaès https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8071	flower
òtaèsàk https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8072	flowers
tahkokënatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18308	flower that blooms in the autumn
sikònatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18312	flower that blooms in spring
lehëlòkwënatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18314	flower that blooms in the evening
tekënatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18310	flower that blooms in the woods
òtaès'he https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12862	she picks flowers
tànkatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9868	small flower

màxkatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4417	red flower
òpatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=7976	white flower
wisaòtaès https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14174	yellow flower
sësàpatae https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9250	speckled flower; flower with spots

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