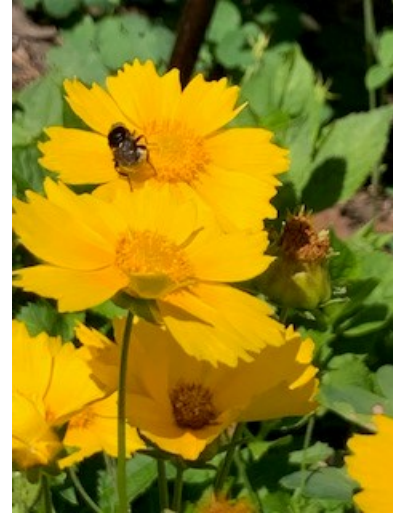


Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Lance-leaved Coreopsis (Coreopsis lanceolata)



Coreopsis is a songbird and gold finch favorite! It has a showy, yellow bloom. It will grow into a clump or large colony. The bloom has two flowers, the ray and the disk. The ray has 4 lobes at the tips. A bloom has 8 rays and a center. Insects or disease are seldom an issue. It is sometimes called tickseed because the seeds look like a tick. Coreopsis will self sow. Fun Fact: it attracts a large number of native bees and predatory or parasitoid insects that prey on pest insects. It also attracts butterflies, moths, skipper, wasps, and beetles. It will host several types of caterpillars and one species of long tongued bees who only forage on Coreopsis. Small herbivore animals eat the foliage. Coreopsis is beautiful to watch in a breeze as it “waves” to you. It provides food and shelter for a large variety of animals and insects.

Coreopsis will thrive in high heat, draught and humidity.

Grows in: full sun

Soil: dry, dry-mesic

Why plant MI native plants? Native plants bring diversity to your yard, increase the diversity of insects, and therefore create a more diverse food chain. They help create a full “circle of life” for insects and hence birds and other animals in the food chain. Native plants use a minimal amount of water, require minimal maintenance, require no chemicals, provide beautiful landscapes, and build a natural wildlife habitat.