

WHAT IS A FLORA?

A Flora is a **compilation of data** about all of the naturally occurring plants in a particular place or time.

IDENTIFICATION & CLASSIFICATION

Identify plants and understand their relationships (taxonomy).

DOCUMENTING BIODIVERSITY

Record and catalogue all species present.

MONITORING

Evaluate the effects of human activity, such as climate change and urbanization.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Identify endangered species to manage biodiversity loss or restoration.

ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Understand natural communities and their composition to anticipate other species/animals found there.



Flora Virginica was first published in 1739 by Johannes Fredericus Gronovius in the Netherlands using the collections of colonist John Clayton. It served as the primary reference on Virginia flora for over 200 years.

Claytonia virginica
Spring Beauty
©Lara Call Gastinger

ABOUT THE FLORA OF VIRGINIA PROJECT

- * The Foundation of the Flora of Virginia Project, Inc. is a nonprofit led by a volunteer board dedicated to conserving and sharing knowledge of Virginia's native plants.
- * Founded in 2001 to update *Flora Virginica* (1739), the work of early botanist John Clayton.
- * After a decade of research, the Project published *Flora of Virginia* (2012)—the Commonwealth's most complete botanical reference.
- * The book documents 3,200 plant taxa in 200 families and includes 1,400 detailed illustrations.
- * The Flora App makes this information portable and searchable—even offline.
- * The Flora serves professionals, educators, and nature enthusiasts as the most trusted guide to Virginia's plants.

Visit floraofvirginia.org to learn more, download the App, and donate.



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