



Finton Natural Area

Floristic Quality Assessment Results

A Floristic Quality Assessment of Finton Natural Area was conducted by Greg LaCross during the summer of 2003.

Floristic quality assessments (FQAs) are a useful tool to measure a plant community's conservation value. To perform an FQA, all vascular plant species in a community are quantified and an index representing the rarity of these species is summed to give a ranking that can be compared across different ecosystem types. This information can then be used to identify high-quality species and groupings of species in order to prioritize conservation and management efforts. At Finton Natural Area the total number of species and native species are:

Native Species	Total Species
40	44

The coefficient of conservation (C) is a value between 0 and 10 assigned to each species, representing the species likelihood to occur in an unaltered, pre-European settlement landscape in the state of Michigan (Herman et al 2001). A C-value of 0 is assigned to species with low fidelity to their natural habitat and the ability to persist in numerous habitat conditions. A C-value of 0 is assigned to invasive species, also called adventives. At Finton Natural Area the mean C-values are:

Native Mean C	Mean C w/ Adventives
4.2	3.8

The coefficient of wetness (W) is assigned to each species depending on their probability to occur in wetlands, where species with a W-value of -5 are obligatory wetland species, and those with a W-value of +5 are upland species. At Finton Natural Area the mean coefficients of wetness are:

Native Mean W	Mean W w/ Adventives
1.9	1.8

FQIs less than 20 have minimal significance, while FQIs greater than 35 represent areas of conservation importance and are floristically significant on a statewide level. Areas with FQIs greater than 50 are extremely rare and represent areas of significant native biodiversity (Herman et al 2001). At Finton Natural Area the FQI's are:

Native FQI	FQI w/ Adventives
26.4	25.2

May, L. 2012. Floristic Quality Assessment and Habitat Mapping of Belanger Creek Preserve

Herman, K. D., L. A. Masters, M. R. Penskar, A. A. Reznicek, G. S. Wilhelm, W. W. Brodovich, and K. P. Gardiner. 2001. Floristic Quality Assessment with Wetland Categories and Examples of Computer Applications for the State of Michigan – Revised, 2nd Edition. Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife, Natural Heritage Program. Lansing, MI. 19 pp. + Appendices.



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High Quality Plant Species

This list represents the most ecologically significant and high quality plants found at the Finton Natural Area during a 2003 Floristic Quality Assessment conducted by Greg LaCross. These plants are the highest quality species found on the property and therefore may be rare, difficult to find, or not be blooming depending on the season

Please remember to practice Leave No Trace techniques; picking flowers may not seem like a big deal, but it means others won't have a chance to enjoy them. With thousands of people visiting Conservancy properties, the less impact we each make, the longer we will enjoy what we have. If you are interested in conducting a scientific study on the property please contact the Conservancy for written permission.

C	Scientific Name	Common Name
5	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	SUGAR MAPLE
5	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	WILD LEEK
5	<i>Alnus rugosa</i>	TAG ALDER
5	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	WILD COLUMBINE
5	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	WILD SARSAPARILLA
5	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	JACK IN THE PULPIT
5	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	ALTERNATE LEAVED DOGWOOD
5	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	YELLOW TROUT LILY
5	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	WHITE ASH
5	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	WITCH HAZEL
5	<i>Lycopodium annotinum</i>	STIFF CLUBMOSS
5	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	PARTRIDGE BERRY
5	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	IRONWOOD; HOP HORNBEAM
5	<i>Prenanthes alba</i>	WHITE LETTUCE
5	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	RED OAK
5	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	FALSE SPIKENARD
5	<i>Tilia americana</i>	BASSWOOD
5	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>	STARFLOWER
5	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	COMMON TRILLIUM
6	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	AMERICAN BEECH
7	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	YELLOW BIRCH
8	<i>Hepatica acutiloba</i>	SHARP LOBED HEPATICA
10	<i>Epifagus virginiana</i>	BEECH DROPS

To see pictures or learn more about the plants listed above please visit the Michigan Natural Features Inventory website at <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/data/specialplants.cfm> or consult Newcomb's Wildflower Guide by Lawrence Newcomb.

FLORISTIC QUALITY DATA

40	NATIVE SPECIES
44	Total Species
4.2	NATIVE MEAN C
3.8	W/Adventives
26.4	NATIVE FQI
25.2	W/Adventives
1.9	NATIVE MEAN W
1.8	W/Adventives
AVG:	Fac. Upland (+)

Native	40	90.90%	Adventive	4	9.10%
Tree	16	36.40%	Tree	0	0.00%
Shrub	4	9.10%	Shrub	1	2.30%
W-Vine	1	2.30%	W-Vine	0	0.00%
H-Vine	0	0.00%	H-Vine	0	0.00%
P-Forb	16	36.40%	P-Forb	2	4.50%
B-Forb	0	0.00%	B-Forb	0	0.00%
A-Forb	1	2.30%	A-Forb	0	0.00%
P-Grass	0	0.00%	P-Grass	1	2.30%
A-Grass	0	0.00%	A-Grass	0	0.00%
P-Sedge	0	0.00%	P-Sedge	0	0.00%
A-Sedge	0	0.00%	A-Sedge	0	0.00%
Fern	2	4.50%			

ACRONYM	C	SCIENTIFIC NAME	W	WETNESS	PHYSIOGNOMY	COMMON NAME
ABIBAL	3	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	-3	FACW	Nt Tree	BALSAM FIR
ACERUB	1	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	0	FAC	Nt Tree	RED MAPLE
ACESAU	5	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	3	FACU	Nt Tree	SUGAR MAPLE
ALLTRI	5	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	2	FACU+	Nt P-Forb	WILD LEEK
ALNRUG	5	<i>Alnus rugosa</i>	-5	OBL	Nt Shrub	TAG ALDER
AQUCAN	5	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	1	FAC-	Nt P-Forb	WILD COLUMBINE
ARANUD	5	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	3	FACU	Nt P-Forb	WILD SARSAPARILLA
ARITRI	5	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	-2	FACW-	Nt P-Forb	JACK IN THE PULPIT

BERTHU	0	BERBERIS THUNBERGII	4	FACU-	Ad Shrub	JAPANESE BARBERRY
BETALL	7	Betula alleghaniensis	0	FAC	Nt Tree	YELLOW BIRCH
BETPAP	2	Betula papyrifera	2	FACU+	Nt Tree	PAPER BIRCH
CORALT	5	Cornus alternifolia	5	UPL	Nt Tree	ALTERNATE LEAVED DOGWOOD
EPIVIR	10	Epifagus virginiana	5	UPL	Nt P-Forb	BEECH DROPS
ERYAME	5	Erythronium americanum	5	UPL	Nt P-Forb	YELLOW TROUT LILY
FAGGRA	6	Fagus grandifolia	3	FACU	Nt Tree	AMERICAN BEECH
FRAAME	5	Fraxinus americana	3	FACU	Nt Tree	WHITE ASH
HAMVIR	5	Hamamelis virginiana	3	FACU	Nt Shrub	WITCH HAZEL
HEPACU	8	Hepatica acutiloba	5	UPL	Nt P-Forb	SHARP LOBED HEPATICA
JUNCOI	4	Juniperus communis	3	FACU	Nt Shrub	COMMON or GROUND JUNIPER
LYCANN	5	Lycopodium annotinum	0	FAC	Nt Fern Ally	STIFF CLUBMOSS
MAICAC	4	Maianthemum canadense	0	FAC	Nt P-Forb	CANADA MAYFLOWER
MITREP	5	Mitchella repens	2	FACU+	Nt P-Forb	PARTRIDGE BERRY
MYOSCO	0	MYOSOTIS SCORPIOIDES	-5	OBL	Ad P-Forb	FORGET ME NOT
OSTVIR	5	Ostrya virginiana	4	FACU-	Nt Tree	IRONWOOD; HOP HORNBEAM
PINSTR	3	Pinus strobus	3	FACU	Nt Tree	WHITE PINE
POAPRA	0	POA PRATENSIS	1	FAC-	Ad P-Grass	KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS
POLBIB	4	Polygonatum biflorum	3	FACU	Nt P-Forb	SOLOMON SEAL
POPGRA	4	Populus grandidentata	3	FACU	Nt Tree	BIG TOOTHED ASPEN
POPTRE	1	Populus tremuloides	0	FAC	Nt Tree	QUAKING ASPEN
PREALB	5	Prenanthes alba	3	FACU	Nt P-Forb	WHITE LETTUCE
PRUSER	2	Prunus serotina	3	FACU	Nt Tree	WILD BLACK CHERRY
PTEAQU	0	Pteridium aquilinum	3	FACU	Nt Fern	BRACKEN FERN
QUERUB	5	Quercus rubra	3	FACU	Nt Tree	RED OAK
RANABO	0	Ranunculus abortivus	-2	FACW-	Nt A-Forb	SMALL FLOWERED BUTTERCUP
RUBCAN	2	Rubus canadensis	5	UPL	Nt Shrub	DEWBERRY
SMIRAC	5	Smilacina racemosa	3	FACU	Nt P-Forb	FALSE SPIKENARD
SOLCAN	1	Solidago canadensis	3	FACU	Nt P-Forb	CANADA GOLDENROD
TAROFF	0	TARAXACUM OFFICINALE	3	FACU	Ad P-Forb	COMMON DANDELION
THUOCC	4	Thuja occidentalis	-3	FACW	Nt Tree	ARBOR VITAE
TILAME	5	Tilia americana	3	FACU	Nt Tree	BASSWOOD
TOXRAR	2	Toxicodendron radicans	-1	FAC+	Nt W-Vine	POISON IVY
TRIBOR	5	Trientalis borealis	-1	FAC+	Nt P-Forb	STARFLOWER
TRIGRA	5	Trillium grandiflorum	5	UPL	Nt P-Forb	COMMON TRILLIUM
VIOPUB	4	Viola pubescens	4	FACU-	Nt P-Forb	YELLOW VIOLET