

# Eupatorium hyssopifolium

## Hyssop-leaf Thoroughwort

Tried and True  
Native Plant Selections  
for the Mid-Atlantic



Clouds of **native\*** Hyssop-leaf Thoroughwort flowers are more likely to float over NoVA roadsides and meadows than residential landscapes. However, these pollinator magnets can tolerate many challenging home environments: dry, (partially) shaded areas, sunny slopes, “hell strips,” and gardens near the seashore.

<b>Perennial</b>	<b>Flowers En Masse, with Pollinators,** Fruit</b>
Height: 1–3 feet	
Spread: 1–3 feet	
Bloom Color: White	
<b>Characteristics</b>	
Sparsely-branched, single-stemmed herbaceous perennial with clumping habit	
Narrowly lanceolate leaves mostly in whorls of 3–4	
Small tubular disk florets in flat-top corymbs July to October followed by cypselae with bristled pappi	
Flower-laden weaker stems may arch/flop over	
Spreads by underground rhizomes	
<b>Attributes</b>	
Tolerates dry soil, drought, salt; resists mildew	
Deer seldom severely damage	
Seedheads provide winter interest & food for birds	<p><b>Excellent Replacement for</b></p> <p><i>Buddleia davidii</i> - Butterfly Bush (a host of the brown marmorated stink bug)</p>
<b>Ethnobotanic</b> uses	
Attracts a myriad of pollinators (wasps, bees, butterflies...) and other beneficial insects including predators and parasites of the brown marmorated stink bug ( <a href="#">Penn State Extension</a> )	<p>*It is native in DC and concentrated in the extreme southeastern corner of PA. It is common in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont of DE and VA but rare in the mountains.</p> <p>**The blue-winged scoliid wasp, Mexican grass-carrying wasp, European honey bee, and red-banded hairstreak pictured above are among the many insects that frequent this plant.</p>
<b>Growing and Maintenance Tips</b>	
<b>Soil Requirements:</b> Well-drained, sandy preferred	
<b>Light Requirements:</b> Sun, Partial Shade	
<b>Water Requirements:</b> Dry, Moist	
Cut to ground in late winter; dead-head when flowers fade to prevent re-seeding	
Use en masse in naturalistic settings, dry meadows, sunny slopes, “hell strips,” by the shore	
<b>Hardiness:</b> USDA Zones 4–8	
<i>developed by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, serving Arlington and Alexandria</i>	

Images by Mary Free, Sunny Garden and by Elaine Mills (fruit), Fairlington Methodist Church Habitat, Alexandria, Virginia



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