

It's My Park | Top 6 Common NYC Weeds

Last Updated: November 9, 2023



Common Chickweed
(Stellaria media)

Leaves: bright, shiny, green, oval-shaped with a pointed tip

Flowers: small, white, clustered at the stems with 5 petals

Stems: slender, branched, row of fine hairs on one side



Common Dandelion
(Taraxacum officinale)

Leaves: jagged, deeply toothed, hairless

Flowers: large, yellow blossoms that mature into round, white puffballs full of seeds

Stems: rises from rosette of leaves



English Ivy
(*Hedera helix*)

Leaves: juveniles are dull green, lobed with light veins—mature leaves are glossy green, unlobed

Flowers: if matured enough, clusters of yellow-greenish flowers, followed by dark, berry-like fruit

Stems: woody vine that climbs or forms dense groundcover



Garlic Mustard
(*Alliaria petiolata*)

Leaves: alternate, lower leaves are triangular to kidney-shaped with scalloped edges

Flowers: in spring, four-petaled white flowers appear clustered at stem ends

Stems: green, distinct "S" or "L" shaped, curve at the base



Hedge Bindweed
(*Calystegia sepium*)

Leaves: arrowhead-shaped with large basal lobes

Flowers: large, trumpet-shaped, white

Stems: light-green to red herbaceous vine that climbs over fencing or other plants for support



Mugwort
(*Artemisia vulgaris*)

Leaves: dark-green upper surface and silvery/white underneath due to small hairs, sharply lobed and pointed

Flowers: in summer; small, clustered, yellow disk-like flowers bloom

Stems: color ranges from green to purple

References:

Boeckmann, Catherine. "13 Common Garden Weeds - Identifying and Controlling Common Lawn and Garden Weeds." *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, 16 October, 2020, <https://www.almanac.com/content/common-garden-weeds>. Accessed 3 April, 2020.