

The seep below this berm of rubble and debris created by the construction of the Town Hall is home to Lady Tresses Orchids (*Spiranthes*), Bonesets (*Eupatorium*), Spatulate Sundews (*Drosera*) and other wetland plants more typically seen in acidic bogs. Mowing has been stopped here to allow other wetland plants to appear. Use the iNaturalist app on your phone to identify the flowers and insects you see here, then share your results.

The **Spatulate Sundews** (*Drosera*) catch insects on their sticky leaves. Once trapped the plant slowly digests the insect. Notice that this soil does not support the growth of many other plants. The problem is that the soil lacks enough nutrient, especially nitrogen. By eating insects, the sundew gets the nitrogen it needs.

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/genus/drosera/>



**Lady's Tresses Orchid** (*Spiranthes*) is a member of the orchid family and one of the showier flowers of the bog.

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/genus/spiranthes/>



**Boneset (*Eupatorium*)** got its name from the fact that its leaves are joined around the stem. Folks once had only plants and other natural materials to cure ailments. They believed that God often gave clues to the use of a plant. An extract of boneset does cause patients to sweat and, therefore, is useful to treat fevers. Because of the joined leaves, it was suspected that it might heal a broken bone, and it did indeed help the bone pain in “breakbone fever”.

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/genus/eupatorium/>

