

# Wild Lupine

Scientific Name: *Lupinus perennis*



<u>Life Cycle</u>	<u>Plant Height</u>	<u>Plant Spacing</u>	<u>Soil Moisture</u>	<u>Sun Exposure</u>	<u>Bloom Period</u>
Perennial	2 feet	10 - 18 in.	Medium/Dry - Dry	Full, Partial	May - July

Wild Lupine blooms profusely in racemes with pea-like blue & purple flowers. Palm-shaped leaves surround the plant as an added attraction, making it a popular choice for gardens or restorations with dry, sandy soils. Lupine requires well-drained soils but will adapt to most dry soil types; sand, loam, and gravel. You can find lupine in oak savannas, sand prairies, and pine barrens plant communities. Lupine foliage can look a little worn by the end of summer, so plan for late summer and fall bloomers nearby in the garden. When ripe, the seedpod explodes aiding in distribution. Birds and small mammals will feed on the seeds. This legume is a host plant of the Karner Blue butterfly, a federally-endangered species native to the Great Lakes region. After Wild Lupine emerges in spring, the first brood of the Karner Blue will hatch from eggs laid the previous summer and feed on the new leaves for 3-4 weeks. Once the caterpillars pupate and emerge as butterflies, they only live for a week or two. During this time, they will mate, and lay eggs of the second and final brood of the season. The second brood will hatch in summer, and lay eggs that will lay dormant through the winter and hatch the following spring. Read more about the here! When ripe, the seedpod explodes aiding in distribution. Birds and small mammals will feed on the seeds. Check out this cool [video](#) of our Wild Lupine seed harvest![Karner Blue butterfly here!](#)

\*\*\*All information collected from [www.prairiemoon.com](http://www.prairiemoon.com)\*\*\*