

twin-leaf *Jeffersonia diphylla*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Ranunculales

Family: Berberidaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Twin-leaf flowers are white and have eight petals. The distinctive leaves have the appearance of being almost completely pinched into two parts in the center, leading to the name of "twin-leaf." The plants are about eight inches tall when in flower but will grow to a height of about 16 inches.

BEHAVIORS

Twin-leaf is a member of the barberry family of plants. It grows in woodlands and blooms in April and May. It is rarely found in the southern one-third of the state but is fairly common in the northern two-thirds of Illinois.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

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