

# white turtlehead

*Chelone glabra*

## FEATURES

The flowers are produced in a cluster at the stem tip. Petals are white and in a tubular shape with two divisions. The upper section overhangs the lower section and acts to protect it. The lower section is a landing area for insects. This arrangement is said to resemble a turtle's head. The plant may grow to two to three feet in height.

## BEHAVIORS

White turtlehead grows in wet soil, bogs, fens and marshes. It is more commonly found in the northern half of the state than in the southern half. Flowers are produced from July through October. Many pollinators are attracted to the flowers.

## TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division: Magnoliophyta  
Class: Magnoliopsida  
Order: Scrophulariales  
Family: Scrophulariaceae

## ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

## ILLINOIS RANGE





**Aquatic Habitats**

marshes; peatlands; wet prairies and fens

**Woodland Habitats**

none

**Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none