



# Whorled Milkweed

*Asclepias verticillata*

**Plant Description** – Native, herb/wildflower, deciduous, perennial

**Height:** 1-3 ft **Width/Spread:** 1-2 ft



## Leaves

**Shape:** Linear

**Arrangement:** Whorled

**Margin:** Entire

**Form:** Simple

**Leaf Description:** Leaves are 2-3 inches long and narrow, arranged in whorls of 3-6 along stem; attached directly to the stem (sessile); underside is whitish-green with short hairs

## Flower/Bloom

**Flower Color:** Greenish-white

**Flower Shape:** Tubulate **In Bloom:** May-Sep

**Flower Description:** Flowers are small (up to ¼ inch long), fragrant, and 5-petaled; found in umbrella-shaped clusters of about 7-20 flowers



## Fruits & Seeds

**Spreads via:** Seeds and Rhizomes **Seed Type:** Fruit – Dry seed pod

**Months in Seed:** Late Summer – Early Fall

**Fruit and Seed Description:** Fruit is smooth, narrow seed pod about 3-4 inches long and 0.5 inches wide; pod splits open when mature releasing flat, oval, brown seeds with long tufts of white hair



## Ecological Benefits

Nectar source for hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators; seed source for birds; host plant for Monarch butterfly

## Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; cut plant back in late winter to early spring. Wait until you see new growth and cut the old stems back to about 6 inches from the ground; cutting flowers after they are spent will promote further blooms; great fresh cut flower and dried seed pod is ornamental; prefers average amount of water (*water two times per week in summer, once per week otherwise*)