

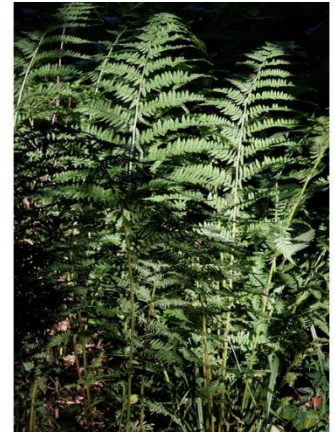


Lady Fern

Athyrium filix-femina

Plant Description – native, fern, deciduous, perennial

Height: 1 – 3 ft **Width/Spread:** 1 – 2.5 ft



Leaves

Shape: lanceolate

Arrangement: whorled

Margin: lobed

Form: twice compound

Leaf Description: fronds (leaves) are light green, appear lacy, finely divided; each frond has 20-30 pairs of leaflets with narrow pointed tips and leaflets are divided either further into deeply cut, lanceolate to oblong sub leaflets; grow in circular clumps

Flower/Bloom

Not a flowering plant



Fruits & Seeds

Spreads via: Spores & Rhizomes

Seed Type: Spore-bearing Cone

Spore Season: Summer - Fall

Fruit and Seed Description: no fruit or seeds, reproduces by spores; spores are found in sori on the bottom of the sub leaflets

Ecological Benefits

white-tailed deer browse leaves during summer; can provide significant cover for wildlife; value of this fern to wildlife appears to be low overall

Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; prefers moist to wet soils at all times (*water three times per week*)