

The Ferns of Weeks State Park

The unique geology of Mount Prospect supports a greater variety of fern species (28) than most areas of similar size in New Hampshire. The Lost Nation Gabbro and Ammonoosuc Volcanic Amphibolite bedrock contains calcite and other minerals that provide the fertility for this diversity. The “Geologic History of Weeks State Park” by Dykstra Eusden and Woodrow Thompson has the details and maps that explain the geology. Copies of this full color booklet are available at the park visitor center.

Scientific Name	Common Name	
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Northern Maidenhair Fern	
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Northern Lady Fern	
<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>	Rattlesnake Fern	
<i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i>	Lance-leaved Grape Fern	
<i>Cystopteris bulbifera</i>	Bulblet Bladder Fern	
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Fragile Fern	
<i>Cystopteris tenuis</i>	Mackay’s Fragile Fern	
<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	Eastern Hay-scented Fern	
<i>Deparia acrostichoides</i>	Silvery Glade Fern	
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	Spinulose Wood Fern	
<i>Dryopteris clintoniana</i>	Clinton’s Wood Fern	
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	Crested Wood Fern	
<i>Dryopteris goldiana</i>	Goldie’s Fern	
<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	Fancy Wood Fern	
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	Marginal Wood Fern	
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	Oak Fern	
<i>Matteucia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern	
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon Fern	
<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	Interrupted Fern	
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive Fern	
<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>	Northern Beech Fern	
<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	Rock Polypody Fern	
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Eastern Bracken Fern	
<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	New York Fern	
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	Marsh Fern	
<i>Thelypteris phegopteris</i>	Northern Beech Fern	
<i>Woodsia ilvensis</i>	Rusty Cliff Fern	

Source: The Flora of Mount Prospect by Brett Engstrom and other records.

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