

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# *Erythronium americanum*

## Yellow Trout Lily



Also called dogtooth violet (although it's not a violet at all). Beautiful green-and-brown mottled leaves, close to the ground. Nodding, yellow lily-like flowers. May not flower for several years in cultivation, but the leaves are so lovely, it hardly matters. This plant, like spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) is what's called a "spring ephemeral," which means that it dies back to the ground in the heat of mid-summer and stays dormant until the following spring. Will spread over time, creating a lovely mottled springtime carpet.

***Suggested companions:*** Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), under oaks and maples.

Photo Credit: Wisconsin State Herbarium,  
by Kitty Kohout

Plant Type: Wildflower  
Size: 6-8" H  
W

Water Tolerant: No

Soil: Rich Moist  
Average Garden Soil

Flower Color:  
Yellow

Bloom Time:  
April  
May

Other Attributes:

Habitat:  
Forested Upland  
Woodland Margin

Exposure: filtered  
shade

Plant in:

Groundcover: Yes