

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Pteridium aquilinum

Bracken Fern



Deep green, leathery fronds on upright stems. Grows in open woods and thickets, especially on sandy soils. Turns a lovely burnished gold in the fall. Can spread aggressively.

Suggested companions: lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), rough blazing star (*Liatris aspera*), old field goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*), oaks (*Quercus* sp.), white pine (*Pinus strobus*).

Photo Credit: Wisconsin State Herbarium, by Kenneth J. Sytsma

Plant Type: Fern

Size: 2-4' H
W

Water Tolerant: No

Habitat:

Woodland Margin
Open field/ Prairie
Forested Upland

Soil: Average Garden Soil
Sandy/ Gravelly
Rich Moist

Exposure: sun
filtered

Flower Color:

Bloom Time:

Plant in: Fall

Groundcover: Yes

Other Attributes:
Deer resistant