



## Turtlehead

*Chelone glabra*

### Growing Information

- Plant Type: Perennial
- Sunlight: Sun, Part Sun
- Soils: Average, moist
- Bloom Time: White flowers in August
- Size: 2-4 feet in height

White Turtlehead is named for its distinctive flowers which are said to resemble a turtle's head. It is mostly pollinated by bumblebees. In the wild, flower color can vary from pink to green. The vibrant Pink Turtlehead (*Chelone lyonii*) is often found in retail nurseries; however, this species of turtlehead is introduced to New England and is native to southeastern states. It appreciates a good, composted leaf mulch, particularly in sunny locations. A good choice for a rain garden.

### Garden Companions

Red Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), Rose Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), Blue Flag Iris (*Iris versicolor*), and Coastal Plain Joe-pye Weed (*Eutrochium dubium*)

### Nature Benefits

- Nectar source for hummingbirds and bumblebees.
- Host plant for various species of moths and butterflies.

### Natural Habitat

Occurs along shores of lakes, swamps, and wetland edges.