

MICHIGAN MONKEY FLOWER AT GLEN LAKE

The Michigan Monkey Flower plant is one of Glen Lake's many claims to fame. Why? Because in the entire world, the east shore of Glen Lake is one of only 15 locations where Michigan Monkey Flower (*Mimulus michiganensis*) is known to grow.

Michigan Monkey Flower is:

- 1. Globally, critically imperiled.**
- 2. Listed as Endangered**
both in U.S. & Michigan.
- 3. Michigan's only endemic plant.**
growing no place except Michigan.
- 4. Particularly well suited to habitat**
along Big Glen's east shore: streams, seeps, springs, shoreline near outlets.



Public Viewing Area

The public can view a healthy population of Michigan Monkey Flower on Glen Lake at Old Settlers Picnic Grounds, a Leelanau County Park, where a healthy population of Michigan Flower can be viewed from atop the bluff near the southern side (toward the Glen Lake Narrows) of the loop drive.

How to Find Michigan Monkey Flower

Where To Look

- ... Along the banks of sandy streams with cold, flowing water such as the "back streams" that are often found between the backs of Glen Lake cottages and S. Dunns Farm Road.
- ... In small drainages, including from collection pipes, flowing into the lake.
- ... Along the shoreline, especially near where a stream, seep, or spring flows into the lake.
- ... Small, seepy areas or wet depressions in the ground.

When To Look

- ... During peak blooming season from the last week in June to the first week in August. It is usually very difficult to find monkey flower when it is not blossoming.

What To Look For

- ... Yellow flowers that look like snapdragons.
- ... Stems up to 15 inches long but usually appear shorter because the stems tend to recline
- ... Leaves dark green, oval to oblong (often wider on the end joining the stem) and toothed edges (ranging from slightly toothed to fairly jagged).
- ... Frequently found amidst forget-me-nots (small blue flowers), watercress (small white flowers) or jewelweed are associated species that almost always invade the Michigan Monkey Flower growing areas and steal resources such as food, nutrients, air, and space.

Conservation Needs

- ... Direct protection for the plants and their growing places.
- ... Special care for Michigan Monkey Flower plants sites by landowners where the plants occur.
- ... Vigilance to be sure that the hydrology (water flow and table) and water quality is never degraded, and where possible is enhanced.

To Learn More, or Report Michigan Monkey Flower On Your Land Email: Jody@MamaBearMichigan.com Or Search: Michigan's Special Plants. Then scroll down to abstract for *Mimulus michiganensis* (Michigan Monkey Flower).