



Ludwigia palustris

marsh seedbox

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|----------|------------|-------|
| Family | Onagraceae | |
| Origin | Native | |
| WIS Code | OBL | CoC 3 |

DESCRIPTION

Box-like seed capsules are a key character of this perennial creeping plant. The succulent, often reddish, stems (10-60 cm long), are smooth and branching, sprawling along the ground, rooting frequently at the nodes and with branch tips pointing up (decumbent). Leaves (0.5-3 cm long, to 2 cm wide) are simple, opposite, smooth, egg-shaped and taper at the base to a winged stalk. Leaf color ranges from green to reddish brown.



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FLOWERS AND FRUITS

June through November. The stalkless bell-shaped green to pinkish tiny flowers are paired in opposite leaf axils (where leaf meets stem). The flowers lack petals but have four pointed triangular lobes pointing outward. Fruits are four-sided oblong capsules with numerous seeds.



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HABITAT

Pond edges, stream banks, seasonally exposed sand and gravel bars, swamps, marshes, ditches and other wet disturbed sites.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Lindernia dubia, yellowseed false pimpernel, and *Gratiola neglecta*, clammy hedgehyssop, also have opposite leaves and sprawling habit.

Lindernia dubia has long-stalked pale violet flowers and a narrowly oval seed capsule.

Gratiola neglecta has long-stalked yellow flowers, an oval seed capsule and sticky-fuzzy stems.



Lindernia dubia

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Gratiola neglecta

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