# Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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WISCONSIN
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# Foamflower

*(Tiarella cordifolia)*

**Federal Status: Not Listed**
**State Status: Endangered**

**Description:** Foamflower is well-named. Where the plants grow in large groups, the clusters of tiny white flowers look like foam floating across the forest floor. Each plant grows 4 to 6 inches tall, with broad, heart-shaped, coarsely toothed leaves arising from the base. Dozens of tiny five-petaled flowers form an oval cluster at the top of the plant. It blooms from April to mid-July. Foamflower spreads by means of stolons (horizontal stems) creeping along the soil surface.

**Habitat:** The shady floor of mixed hardwood forests in northeastern Wisconsin is foamflower's preferred habitat. It grows where the soil is evenly moist, and where abundant fallen leaves and twigs decompose, producing soil that is rich in organic matter.

**Forestry Considerations:** In woodlands where foamflower grows, logging should be minimized. Removal of the shading canopy overhead would result in reduced humidity, desiccation of the soil and loss of this rare wildflower. Therefore, winter harvest along with single-tree selection silviculture is favored.