

Osmunda regalis

Royal Fern



Summer Foliage



Autumn Foliage

Characteristics: Tussock-forming fern; bold-textured, deciduous, native ferns with light green, leathery leaves. Fronds typically turn yellow to brown in autumn. Vascular plant without significant woody tissue above or at the ground.

Appearance:

Height – 4 to 6 ft.

Aerial Spread – 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color – Non-flowering, reproduces by spores

Habitat (Community): Grows in marshes, swamps, wet meadows & moist woodlands

Hydrology:

Easily grown in medium to wet soils in part shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy, acidic soils, but adapts to lesser conditions. **Native Habitat:** Swamps; marshes; stream banks; moist depressions in savannas & prairies.

Indicator status – Obligate wetland

Wildlife Benefits: Provides shelter and nesting for small mammals.

Distribution: Minnesota south to Texas and Florida, east to Maine, and eastern half of Canada