

Western Anemone

Anemone occidentalis



Plant and Leaves:

- Plant is clothed with shiny, silvery hairs, grows continuously throughout the season (up to 24 inches, 60 cm tall)
- Leaves basal and on stem, 4-8 inches (10-20 cm) long, feathery-looking, deeply divided into linear segments

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Budding:

- When budding, this is a small plant with a fuzzy, bulbous top
- This is one of the first species to emerge in spring with buds often close to snow



Flowering:

- 6-7 petal-like white sepals with many yellow stamens and many yellow-green pistils in the center
- Flower head is heliotropic, meaning it follows the sun – sometimes you can see insects warming themselves on the flower



Ripening Fruit:

- The plant looks like a “mop top” or “mouse on a stick” (or a truffula tree from Dr. Seuss!)
- Once the petals fall off, each “hair” starts small at 0.4 in (~1cm) and develops to nearly 2 inches (5 cm)
- Each “hair” of the mop has one seed at the bottom



Releasing Seed:

- When the fruits/seeds or “hairs” start to fall off, the plant is releasing its’ seeds.
- When this occurs, the bare yellow stalk shows below the “hair”