

# Juncus effusus



## soft rush

|          |           |     |   |
|----------|-----------|-----|---|
| Family   | Juncaceae |     |   |
| Origin   | Native    |     |   |
| WIS Code | FACW      | CoC | 3 |

### DESCRIPTION

This rush forms dense clumps from rhizomes (underground stems). The round stems, with soft white pith inside, are erect (to 1 m tall), smooth, and unbranched. This species lacks leaves but does have bladeless sheaths at the base.

### FLOWERS AND FRUITS

June through September. Flower heads are in a branching cluster, with the branches generally fanning or spreading. Flower clusters appear to sprout from the side of the stem with an erect bract (not an extension of the stem) extending above the flower cluster. The bract is very long, up to one third as long as the stem. Flowers are numerous, sepals are sharply pointed at the tip, and perianth (set of petals and sepals wrapping the flower) is equal in length to slightly longer than the capsule. Capsules are egg-shaped and seeds lack tails that are found in some *Juncus* species.

### HABITAT

Floodplain forests, open wet meadows, ditches and disturbed sites.

### SIMILAR SPECIES

No common wetland species are similar.



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