



# Prickly Pear Cactus

## *Opuntia humifusa*

Yes, Long Island has a native cactus! The Prickly Pear Cactus is a mounding, low-growing perennial found closer to the shoreline in sandy patches. Easy to grow, hard to kill, and great for containers, too. Be careful of the tiny hairlike spines when handling! The paddles (nopales) and fruit (tuna) are edible and feature in Mexican cuisine.



**Bloom Season:** Early Summer - Mid Summer

**Flower Colors:** Yellow

**Soil Tolerance:** Sandy, Dry, Well drained

**Height:** 1 foot

**Spread:** 1-2 feet

**PERENNIAL**

