

# WILDLIFE GARDEN SPECIES LIST

Plant Information	Scientific Name	Priority	Description
<b>'Appalachian Joy' Flowering Dogwood</b> <b>Type:</b> Tree <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Partial Sunlight <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host, Shelter/Nesting Material	<i>Cornus florida</i> 'Appalachian Joy'	High	Cultivar of native tree to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This small understory tree produces showy white bracts (modified leaves) surrounding tiny flowers in spring before leaves emerge. Bright red berries follow in fall. Outstanding red fall foliage. Provides food for over 100 bird species. Resistant to dogwood anthracnose disease.
<b>'Forest Pansy' Eastern Redbud</b> <b>Type:</b> Tree <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> 'Forest Pansy'	High	Cultivar of native eastern North American tree. This small ornamental tree produces masses of pink flowers directly on bare branches in early spring before heart-shaped purple-red leaves emerge. Leaves turn yellow in fall. Flat purple seed pods persist into winter. Flowers provide early nectar for bees. Native bees nest in hollow stems.
<b>'Mt Airy' Fothergilla</b> <b>Type:</b> Shrub <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Partial Sunlight <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Shelter/Nesting Material	<i>Fothergilla major</i> 'Mt Airy'	Medium	Native shrub to southeastern United States mountains. This 5-6 foot deciduous shrub produces fragrant white bottlebrush flowers before leaves emerge in spring. No petals - showy parts are actually stamens (pollen-producing structures). Outstanding fall color ranges from yellow to orange to red. Attracts bees and beneficial insects. Prefers acidic soils.
<b>'Shamrock' Inkberry</b> <b>Type:</b> Shrub <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Partial Sunlight <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Shelter/Nesting Material	<i>Ilex glabra</i> 'Shamrock'	Medium	Compact cultivar of native evergreen shrub to eastern North America including Virginia's Coastal Plain. This dense, rounded shrub grows 3-4 feet tall with small, dark green oval leaves. Small white flowers produce black berries on female plants. Berries important winter food for birds. Salt tolerant. Requires acidic, moist soils. Excellent foundation plant.
<b>American Elderberry</b> <b>Type:</b> Shrub <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Summer <b>Sun:</b> Partial Sunlight <b>Moisture:</b> Wet	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	High	Native shrub to eastern North America including Virginia. This fast-growing shrub reaches 5-12 feet tall with large compound leaves and flat-topped clusters of tiny white flowers in summer. Dark purple berries follow flowers. Berries important food source for over 100 bird species. Forms colonies through suckers. Tolerates wet soils and part shade.

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host

### American Senna

*Senna hebecarpa*

Medium

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host

Native to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This bushy perennial legume grows 3-6 feet tall with bright yellow flowers in summer followed by distinctive flat, brown seed pods. Compound leaves (multiple leaflets on one stem) fold at night. Fixes nitrogen in soil. Host plant for sulphur butterfly caterpillars. Self-seeds readily.

### American Sycamore

*Platanus occidentalis*

Low

**Type:** Tree

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Spring

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Wet

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Shelter/Nesting Material

Native tree to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This massive tree can reach 75-100 feet tall with distinctive mottled bark that peels to reveal white, green, and brown patches. Large maple-like leaves turn brown in fall. Round seed balls persist into winter. Provides nesting sites for cavity-nesting birds. Tolerates urban conditions well.

### Blue Wild Indigo

*Baptisia australis*

Medium

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This sturdy legume grows 3-4 feet tall with blue-green compound leaves and spikes of blue pea-like flowers in late spring. Fixes nitrogen in soil through root bacteria. Black seed pods rattle when mature. Extremely long-lived once established. Attracts bees and provides host plant for some butterfly larvae.

### Brown Eyed Susan

*Rudbeckia triloba*

Medium

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Annual

**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar

Native annual/biennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This cheerful wildflower grows 2-5 feet tall with numerous small yellow daisy-like flowers having dark brown centers from summer through fall. Self-seeds prolifically, creating naturalized patches. Attracts butterflies, bees, and goldfinches eat seeds. Tolerates drought and poor soils excellently.

### Butterflyweed

*Asclepias tuberosa*

High

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar,  
Larval Host

Native to Virginia and found in every county, this drought-tolerant perennial produces brilliant orange flower clusters from June to September. Unlike other milkweeds, it has clear (not milky) sap. Spindle-shaped seed pods contain silky-haired seeds that disperse by wind. Essential nectar source for butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds; host plant for monarch caterpillars.

### Carolina Rose

*Rosa carolina*

Medium

**Type:** Shrub

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

Native shrub to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This low-growing rose reaches 3-6 feet tall with typical rose compound leaves and fragrant pink five-petaled flowers in summer. Red rose hips (fruits) follow flowers and persist into winter. Spreads through underground suckers to

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Shelter/Nesting Material

form thickets. Important food source for birds. Thorny stems provide nesting sites.

**Cherokee Sedge**

**Type:** Graminoid

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Sun:** Partial Sunlight

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Shelter/Nesting Material

*Carex cherokeensis*

Low

Native sedge to southeastern United States including Virginia's Piedmont. This clumping sedge grows 1-2 feet tall with narrow leaves and small brownish flower spikes. Triangular stems distinguish sedges from grasses. Tolerates both sun and shade. Forms attractive tufts that provide texture in native plant gardens. Seeds provide food for wildlife.

**Common Milkweed**

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar, Larval Host

*Asclepias syriaca*

High

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This tall milkweed grows 3-6 feet with broad oval leaves and large clusters of fragrant pink flowers in summer. Milky sap is toxic to most animals. Large seed pods split to release silky-haired seeds. Primary host plant for monarch butterfly caterpillars. Spreads through underground rhizomes.

**Common Ninebark**

**Type:** Shrub

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Sun:** Partial Sunlight

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Shelter/Nesting Material

*Physocarpus opulifolius*

Medium

Native shrub to eastern North America, though more common in northern regions than Virginia's Piedmont. This arching shrub grows 5-10 feet tall with distinctive maple-like leaves and dome-shaped clusters of small white flowers in late spring. Peeling bark provides winter interest. Red seed pods follow flowers. Attracts beneficial insects and birds.

**Coral Honeysuckle**

**Type:** Vine

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

**Sun:** Partial Sunlight

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Lonicera sempervirens*

High

Native vine to southeastern United States including Virginia's Piedmont. This well-behaved climber reaches 10-20 feet with trumpet-shaped coral-red flowers from spring through fall. Blue-green leaves may be evergreen in mild winters. Red berries follow flowers. Excellent hummingbird plant. Non-invasive alternative to exotic honeysuckles. Drought tolerant once established.

**Dense Blazing Star**

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Liatris spicata*

Medium

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This striking wildflower produces tall spikes of purple fuzzy flowers that bloom from top to bottom (unusual pattern) in late summer. Grows 2-5 feet from underground corms (bulb-like structures). Outstanding butterfly magnet. Flowers have grass-like fragrance. Extremely drought tolerant once established.

**Eastern Prickly Pear**

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

*Opuntia humifusa Raf.*

Low

Native cactus to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This low-growing succulent forms clumps with flattened, pad-like stems armed with small spines. Bright yellow flowers in summer followed by red fruits. Extremely drought tolerant

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<b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Dry <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar, Shelter/Nesting Material		and adapted to sandy, poor soils. Provides nectar for bees and shelter for small wildlife.	
<b>Emerald Green Arborvitae</b> <b>Type:</b> Tree <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Shelter/Nesting Material		<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> <i>'Smaragd'</i>	<div>Low</div> <p>Cultivar of native North American conifer. This narrow, pyramid-shaped evergreen grows 12-14 feet tall with dense, bright green scale-like foliage that retains color year-round. Produces small cones. Deer resistant. Provides year-round shelter for birds. Note: Species native to northern regions, not specifically Virginia's Piedmont, but widely adapted.</p>
<b>Fox Sedge</b> <b>Type:</b> Graminoid <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Late Spring to Early Summer <b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Wet <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Shelter/Nesting Material		<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	<div>Low</div> <p>Native sedge to eastern North America including Virginia. This clumping grass-like plant grows 2-3 feet tall with narrow leaves and distinctive spiky brown flower clusters at stem tips. Triangular stems distinguish sedges from true grasses. Thrives in wet to moist soils. Seeds provide food for waterfowl and songbirds. Important component of wetland ecosystems.</p>
<b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b> <b>Type:</b> Forb <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Late Winter to Early Spring <b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Moist <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Pollen, Nectar		<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	<div>Medium</div> <p>Native to central and eastern North America, this perennial grows 2-4 feet tall with erect spikes of tubular white flowers in late spring and early summer. Flowers have distinctive purple guidelines inside that direct pollinators to nectar. Named "beardtongue" for the fuzzy sterile stamen protruding from each bloom. Excellent pollinator plant attracting bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.</p>
<b>Golden Ragwort</b> <b>Type:</b> Forb <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Spring <b>Sun:</b> Partial Sunlight <b>Moisture:</b> Wet <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar		<i>Packera aurea</i>	<div>Medium</div> <p>Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This early-blooming wildflower grows 1-3 feet tall with heart-shaped basal leaves and clusters of bright yellow daisy-like flowers in spring. Forms colonies through underground rhizomes. Provides early nectar when few other flowers are available. Tolerates wet soils and partial shade well.</p>
<b>Gray Goldenrod</b> <b>Type:</b> Forb <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Late Summer to Early Fall <b>Sun:</b> Full Sun <b>Moisture:</b> Dry <b>Ecological Resources:</b> Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar		<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	<div>Low</div> <p>Native perennial to North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This drought-tolerant wildflower grows 1-3 feet tall with gray-green hairy leaves and arching sprays of bright yellow flowers in fall. Often grows in poor, sandy soils where few other plants thrive. Important late-season nectar source for butterflies and bees. Seeds eaten by birds.</p>
<b>Gray's Sedge</b> <b>Type:</b> Graminoid <b>Life Cycle:</b> Perennial <b>Bloom Time:</b> Late Spring to Early Summer		<i>Carex grayi</i>	<div>Low</div> <p>Native sedge to eastern North America including Virginia. This distinctive sedge grows 2-3 feet tall with broad leaves and produces unique star-shaped seed heads that radiate outward like medieval maces. Triangular stems typical of sedges. Prefers</p>

**Sun:** Partial Sunlight**Moisture:** Wet**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Shelter/Nesting Materialmoist to wet soils. Seed heads provide architectural  
winter interest and food for wildlife.**Green Milkweed***Asclepias viridiflora*

Medium

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar,  
Larval HostNative perennial to North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This drought-tolerant milkweed  
grows 1-2 feet tall with narrow leaves and clusters  
of small greenish flowers that lack the showy  
appearance of other milkweeds. Despite modest  
flowers, still provides nectar for butterflies and  
serves as host plant for monarch caterpillars.  
Extremely tolerant of poor, sandy soils.**Hairy Ruellia***Ruellia humilis*

Low

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall**Sun:** Partial Sunlight**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, NectarNative perennial to eastern North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This low-growing wildflower  
reaches 6-24 inches tall with hairy stems and  
leaves. Purple funnel-shaped flowers bloom from  
summer into fall. Each flower lasts only one day.  
Tolerates drought and poor soils. Self-seeds readily.  
Also called wild petunia though unrelated to true  
petunias.**Hearts-a-Burstin'***Euonymus americanus*

Low

**Type:** Shrub**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Spring**Sun:** Partial Sunlight**Moisture:** Moist**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/SeedNative shrub to eastern North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This understory shrub grows 4-  
6 feet tall with simple oval leaves and  
inconspicuous greenish flowers in spring. Distinctive  
warty, pink-red seed capsules split open in fall to  
reveal bright red seeds suspended on threads. Also  
called strawberry bush. Provides food for birds and  
colorful fall display.**Hemp Dogbane***Apocynum cannabinum*

Low

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Moist**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, NectarNative perennial to North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This 2-4 foot plant has milky  
sap and small clusters of white bell-shaped flowers  
in summer followed by long, narrow seed pods.  
Historic source of fiber for rope-making. Leaves turn  
bright yellow in fall. Attracts bees and butterflies.  
Spreads through underground rhizomes. Tolerates  
poor, dry soils.**Hoary Mountain Mint***Pycnanthemum incanum*

High

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, NectarNative perennial to eastern North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This aromatic wildflower grows  
2-4 feet tall with dense clusters of tiny white flowers  
surrounded by silvery-white bracts in summer.  
Leaves covered in fine white hairs give frosted  
appearance. Strong minty fragrance when crushed.  
Exceptional pollinator plant attracting dozens of  
beneficial insect species.**Hollow Joe Pye Weed***Eutrochium fistulosum*

High

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall**Sun:** Partial Sunlight**Moisture:** WetNative perennial to eastern North America including  
Virginia's Piedmont. This tall wildflower reaches 4-8  
feet with whorled leaves (arranged in circles around  
stem) and dome-shaped clusters of pink-purple  
flowers in late summer. Hollow stems distinguish it  
from solid-stemmed relatives. Outstanding butterfly  
magnet, especially for monarchs and swallowtails.  
Prefers moist soils.

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar

### Indiangrass

**Type:** Graminoid

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Shelter/Nesting Material

*Sorghastrum nutans*

Medium

Native prairie grass to North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This warm-season bunchgrass grows 4-8 feet tall with distinctive bronze-colored feathery seed heads in fall. Blue-green summer foliage turns orange-yellow in autumn. Important component of native grasslands. Seeds provide food for birds. Extremely drought tolerant once established. Provides nesting habitat for grassland birds.

### Little Bluestem

**Type:** Graminoid

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Shelter/Nesting Material

*Schizachyrium scoparium*

High

Native bunchgrass to North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This warm-season grass grows 2-4 feet tall with blue-green summer foliage that turns brilliant orange-red in fall. Produces feathery seed heads with twisted awns (bristles). Extremely drought tolerant and adapted to poor soils. Provides nesting habitat and seeds for birds. Key component of native grassland ecosystems.

### Moss Phlox

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Spring

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Dry

**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar

*Phlox subulata*

Low

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont mountains. This low-growing groundcover forms dense mats with needle-like leaves and masses of pink, purple, or white five-petaled flowers in spring. Excellent for rock gardens and slopes. Spreads to form colorful carpets. Drought tolerant once established. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

### Narrow Blue-Eyed Grass

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Moist

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar

*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*

Low

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. Despite its name, this is actually in the iris family, not grass family. Grows 6-18 inches tall with narrow, grass-like leaves and small blue six-petaled flowers with yellow centers in late spring. Forms small clumps. Each flower lasts only one day but many buds ensure continuous bloom.

### Northern Blue Flag Iris

**Type:** Forb

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Sun:** Full Sun

**Moisture:** Wet

**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed,  
Pollen, Nectar

*Iris versicolor*

Low

Native perennial to eastern North America, primarily northern regions. May not be native to Virginia's Piedmont specifically. This wetland iris grows 2-3 feet tall with sword-shaped leaves and violet-blue flowers with yellow markings in late spring. Requires consistently moist to wet soils. Attracts bees and hummingbirds. Forms colonies through creeping rhizomes.

### Northern Bush-Honeysuckle

**Type:** Shrub

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Bloom Time:** Summer

**Sun:** Partial Sunlight

**Moisture:** Moist

*Diervilla lonicera*

Low

Native shrub to eastern North America including Virginia's mountains. This low-growing shrub reaches 2-4 feet tall with opposite leaves and small yellow tubular flowers in summer. Related to honeysuckle but lacks climbing habit. Forms colonies through underground rhizomes. Provides



**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar

nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies. Tolerates shade and poor soils well.

**Purple Coneflower***Echinacea purpurea*

Medium

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Moist**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

This herbaceous perennial grows 2-4 feet tall with distinctive purple-pink petals surrounding prominent dark brown cone-shaped centers. Blooms from summer through fall with long-lasting flowers. Extremely drought tolerant once established and adaptable to various soil conditions. Provides excellent nectar for bees and butterflies. Goldfinches love eating the seeds from spent flower heads.

**Rattlesnake Master***Eryngium yuccifolium*

Medium

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This distinctive wildflower grows 2-4 feet tall with sword-like leaves resembling yucca and unique white globe-shaped flower heads in summer. Flowers consist of tiny individual blooms packed together. Extremely drought tolerant. Attracts diverse beneficial insects including native bees and wasps.

**Rose Coreopsis***Coreopsis rosea*

Low

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Wet**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

Native perennial to eastern North America, primarily coastal regions. May not be native specifically to Virginia's Piedmont. This low-growing wildflower produces pink daisy-like flowers from summer through fall. Spreads by underground rhizomes to form colonies. Prefers moist to wet soils. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Requires consistent moisture unlike other drought-tolerant coreopsis species.

**Shrubby St. John's Wort***Hypericum prolificum*

Low

**Type:** Shrub**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

Native shrub to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This dense, rounded shrub grows 2-4 feet tall with small oval leaves and bright yellow five-petaled flowers from summer into fall. Numerous prominent stamens give flowers fluffy appearance. Produces small seed capsules. Attracts bees and butterflies. Extremely drought tolerant once established.

**Smooth Sumac***Rhus glabra*

Medium

**Type:** Shrub**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Summer**Sun:** Full Sun**Moisture:** Dry**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Shelter/Nesting Material

Native shrub throughout eastern North America including Virginia. Forms colonies 6-15 feet tall through underground suckers (shoots from roots). Compound leaves turn brilliant red-orange in fall. Dense clusters of small greenish flowers produce red fuzzy berry clusters loved by birds. Male and female flowers on separate plants. Excellent erosion control on slopes.

**Stiff Goldenrod***Solidago rigida*

Medium

**Type:** Forb**Life Cycle:** Perennial**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall**Sun:** Full Sun

Native perennial to North America, primarily Great Plains. May not be native specifically to Virginia's Piedmont. This drought-tolerant wildflower grows 2-5 feet tall with broad, rough leaves and large flat-topped clusters of yellow flowers in fall. More robust

**Moisture:** Dry  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

than other goldenrods. Important late-season pollinator plant. Extremely tolerant of poor, dry soils.

**Tall Thimbleweed**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Summer  
**Sun:** Partial Sunlight  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed

*Anemone virginiana*

Low

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This woodland wildflower grows 2-3 feet tall with deeply divided leaves and small white flowers in summer followed by distinctive thimble-shaped seed heads. Wind-pollinated flowers lack showy petals. Spreads through underground rhizomes. Prefers partial shade and moist, rich soils.

**Threadleaf Coreopsis**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Summer  
**Sun:** Full Sun  
**Moisture:** Dry  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Coreopsis verticillata*

Medium

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This drought-tolerant wildflower grows 1-3 feet tall with finely divided, thread-like leaves and bright yellow daisy flowers from summer through fall. Forms spreading clumps. Deadheading encourages continued blooming. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Self-seeds moderately in suitable conditions.

**Upland Ironweed**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall  
**Sun:** Full Sun  
**Moisture:** Dry  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Vernonia glauca*

Medium

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This tall wildflower grows 3-6 feet with lance-shaped leaves and flat-topped clusters of purple flowers in late summer. Flowers consist entirely of disc florets (no petals). Seeds have fluffy white bristles for wind dispersal. Outstanding late-season butterfly plant. Tolerates drought once established.

**Virginia Mountain Mint**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Early Fall  
**Sun:** Partial Sunlight  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar

*Pycnanthemum virginianum*

Medium

Native to eastern North America including Virginia. This spreading perennial reaches 2-3 feet tall with dense clusters of tiny white flowers surrounded by silvery-white bracts (modified leaves) in summer. Leaves release strong minty fragrance when crushed. Outstanding pollinator plant attracting dozens of bee and butterfly species. Forms colonies through underground rhizomes (horizontal stems).

**White Fringetree**  
**Type:** Tree  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Spring  
**Sun:** Partial Sunlight  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Chionanthus virginicus*

High

Native small tree to southeastern United States including Virginia's Piedmont. Grows 12-20 feet tall with fragrant, drooping clusters of white flowers with thread-like petals in late spring. Male and female flowers on separate trees; females produce dark blue fruits if pollinated. Yellow fall color. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies.

**White Meadowsweet**  
**Type:** Shrub  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Summer  
**Sun:** Full Sun  
**Moisture:** Wet

*Spiraea alba*

Low

Native shrub to eastern North America including Virginia. This 3-6 foot deciduous shrub produces dense, pyramid-shaped clusters of tiny white flowers at branch tips in summer. Simple lance-shaped leaves with toothed edges. Forms colonies through underground runners. Attracts numerous



**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

beneficial insects and small butterflies. Tolerates wet soils and flooding.

**Wild Bergamot**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Summer  
**Sun:** Full Sun  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Pollen, Nectar

*Monarda fistulosa*

Medium

Native wildflower throughout eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont region. This aromatic perennial grows 2-4 feet tall with clusters of lavender-pink tubular flowers in summer. Leaves have distinctive mint family fragrance when crushed. Excellent nectar source for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Also called bee balm. Self-seeds readily in suitable conditions.

**Wild Quinine**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Summer  
**Sun:** Full Sun  
**Moisture:** Dry  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Parthenium integrifolium*

Medium

Native perennial to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This sturdy wildflower grows 2-5 feet tall with broad, coarse leaves and flat-topped clusters of small white flowers in summer. Flowers lack showy petals - white parts are actually bracts (modified leaves). Extremely drought tolerant. Attracts numerous beneficial insects and provides seeds for birds.

**Wild Strawberry**  
**Type:** Forb  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Spring  
**Sun:** Partial Sunlight  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Fragaria virginiana*

Low

Native groundcover to eastern North America including Virginia's Piedmont. This low-growing perennial spreads by runners to form colonies. Small white five-petaled flowers in spring produce tiny red berries. Three-leaflet compound leaves turn reddish in fall. Fruits eaten by birds and small mammals. Excellent groundcover for shady areas.

**Yellow Buckeye**  
**Type:** Tree  
**Life Cycle:** Perennial  
**Bloom Time:** Spring  
**Sun:** Partial Sunlight  
**Moisture:** Moist  
**Ecological Resources:** Fruit/Nut/Seed, Pollen, Nectar

*Aesculus flava*

Medium

Native tree to southeastern United States including Virginia's mountains and Piedmont. Large tree reaching 60-75 feet with distinctive compound leaves (5-7 leaflets). Produces upright clusters of yellow flowers in spring followed by smooth brown nuts in fall. Excellent shade tree with yellow fall color. Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Nuts eaten by wildlife.

Total Species: 51