



PLANT FACT SHEETS

for Rain Gardens / Bioretention Systems

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Water Resources Program

June 2025

[MBG]	Missouri Botanical Garden	[PNL]	Pinelands Nursery	[WF]	Wildflower
[NMN]	New Moon Nursery	[PRN]	Pleasant Run Nursery		

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Herbaceous, Perennial

Amsonia hubrichtii
THREADLEAF BLUE STAR

Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil

Soil Description: Grow in medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Mass plants in borders, rock gardens and open woodlands.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Plants may flop, particularly if not cut back after flowering. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: Best fall color occurs in full sun, but flowers last longer with some afternoon shade. Too much shade causes stems to flop over. Cut back to 6 inches after flowering to shape plants into a mound.

Amsonia tabernaemontana

BLUE STAR, BLUE DOGBANE



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW

USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil

Native Habitats: Wet, sandy sites in thin woods & on plains.

Soil Description: Wet to moist, sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. May require staking to avoid flopping in overly rich soils or shady conditions. Rust may occur. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: This species should be cut back after flowering. Blue star has naturalized northeast as far as Massachusetts. A similar species, *A. illustris*, occurs inland from MO & KS to TX.

Amsonia tabernaemontana 'Montana'
BLUE STAR

Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 1.5 ft | **Spread:** 0.75 - 1 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. May require staking to avoid flopping in overly rich soils or shady conditions. Rust may occur. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Amsonia tabernaemontana 'Salicifolia'

WILLOW LEAF BLUE STAR

Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Taller plants may require staking, particularly if grown in shade and not pruned after flowering. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Aquilegia canadensis

RED COLUMBINE


© Thomas G. Barnes


Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Red, Pink, Yellow | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Drought, Dry Soil

Native Habitats: Partly shaded to shaded woodland habitat with calcareous soils that are not too rich. Central Texas populations primarily in solution-pitted limestone areas in shade.

Soil Description: Sandy, well-drained soils. Medium Loam, Sandy Loam, Sandy, Limestone-based. Not too rich.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Valued as a shade-loving | **Use Wildlife:** Blooms attract hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and hawk moths. Seeds consumed by finches and buntings. | **Use Other:** Native

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Be careful of overwatering in summer - the crowns can rot. Cut back old seed heads and stems in summer to keep tidy looking. To maintain pure strains of any *Aquilegia* species and prevent hybridizing (which *A. canadensis* ...)

Problems: This species has very good resistance to leaf miner which often causes severe damage to the foliage of many other columbine species and hybrids.

Condition Comments: Red columbine likes moisture but must be in well drained soil. Rich garden soil encourages rank vegetative growth and weak stems and shortens the plant's lifespan, while plants in thin, sandy soils maintain a tight, compact habit and ca...

Arisaema triphyllum
JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW
USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Heavy Shade, Wet Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Forest, Woodland, Swamp, Marsh

Soil Description: Humus-rich, moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Birds and mammals eat the berries of this plant.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Jack-in-the-pulpit is an excellent woodsgarden plant, very easy to cultivate and requiring very little care. It thrives under a variety of conditions, but grows most vigorously in moist, shady, seasonally wet locations. A heavy, leafy ...

Asclepias incarnata

SWAMP MILKWEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink | **Height:** 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 6

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Wet Meadow, Prairie, Field, Riparian, Swamp, Marsh. Most often found on the margins of flooded plains, lakes, ponds, waterways, marshes, swamps, and other wet areas.

Soil Description: Rich, wet, very muddy to average garden moisture. One of the few ornamentals that thrives in mucky clay soils. Prefers neutral to slightly acidic soil but will tolerate heavy clay.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Herbaceous | **Use Wildlife:** Milkweeds are an important food source for the monarch caterpillar. | **Use Food:** Although milkweeds are poisonous raw, the young shoots, leaves and seed pods are all edible cooked. When placed in cold water, brought to a boil and simmered till tender, milkweeds are said to be delicately flavoured and harmless. (Poisonous Plants of N.C. State) The flower buds, nectar-sweet flowers and seeds are also edible. (Kershaw) | **Use Medicinal:** In the past, the roots of swamp milkweed were simmered to make a tea taken in small quantities both as a general purge and to destroy and expel parasitic worms.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: With its showy flower clusters that attract butterflies and hummingbirds, swamp milkweed is underutilized in gardens. In moist soils or in a pond, it will thrive. The interesting seed pods look like other milkweeds. Swamp milkweed wil...

Asclepias incarnata 'Ice Ballet' ICE BALLET SWAMP MILKWEED

Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9
Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Asclepias syriaca
COMMON MILKWEED



© Elaine Haug



© George F. Russell

Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 0.75 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** UPL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Native Habitats: Old fields, roadsides, and waste places.

Soil Description: Medium to fine sandy, clayey, or rocky calcareous soils. Also found in well-drained loamy soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Food: According to the Field Guide to Medicinal Wild Plants or Edible Wild Plants, common milkweed is edible only under certain circumstances. Boiling can eliminate the bitter taste and toxicity of the | **Use Other:** Native

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Somewhat weedy and can spread.

Condition Comments: Not shade tolerant. Needs lots of sunlight.

Asclepias tuberosa

BUTTERFLY MILKWEED



Perry Eckhardt

Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Orange | **Height:** 1 - 2.5 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Native Habitats: Grows in prairies, open woods, canyons, and hillsides throughout most of the state, common in eastern two thirds of Texas, uncommon in the Hill Country. Plant in well-drained sand, loam, clay, or limestone.

Soil Description: Prefers well-drained sandy soils. Tolerates drought.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Butterfly | **Use Medicinal:** Its tough root was chewed by First Nations People as a cure for pleurisy and other pulmonary ailments explaining its other common name, pleurisy root. (Niering) | **Use Other:** This showy plant is frequently grown from seed in home gardens.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: Needs to be transplanted carefully and requires good drainage. It takes 2-3 years before *A. tuberosa* produces its vibrant flowers, which appear in 2-3 inch clusters of orangish-red. Once established, it lasts for years...

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Crown rot can be a problem in wet, poorly drained soils. Susceptible to rust and leaf spot.

Condition Comments: Butterfly

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Herbaceous, Perennial

Baptisia australis
BLUE WILD INDIGO, BLUE FALSE INDIGO



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: **Violet, Purple** | **Height:** 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Deer

Native Habitats: Wood edges; limestone glades; prairies

Soil Description: Moist, well-drained, clays. Tolerates lime.

Recommended Uses:

Use Medicinal: Amerindians used root tea as emetic and purgative; cold tea given to stop vomiting. Root poulticed as an anti-inflammatory. Held in mouth to treat toothaches. Toxic. | **Use Other:** Plant juice turns purple on exposure and is a fair substitute for true indigo in making blue dye.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Taller plants may need support, particularly when grown in part shade locations. Sensitive to juglone. Tends to perform poorly when planted close to black walnut trees.

Caltha palustris
MARSH MARIGOLD



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 1.5 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 7

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Wet woods, marshy hollows, stream edges

Soil Description: Muddy, humus-rich soil.

Recommended Uses:

Use Food: EDIBLE PARTS: Cooked, early spring greens are edible. Cover the young leaves with 2-3 changes of boiling water until barely tender; cut into bite-sized pieces, salt lightly, and cover with butter and some vinegar. Tightly closed buds can be pickled after covering with boiling water as described for leaves. Do not boil. The leaves are sometimes used as potherbs but require several short boilings with changes of water between. (Niering)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to powdery mildew and rust.

Condition Comments: Marsh marigold requires little care other than protection from drying, winter and early spring winds.

Chelone glabra
WHITE TURTLEHEAD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Pink | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Part Shade
Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Brushy marshes; stream banks; wet ditches; low meadows; woodlands

Soil Description: Light, rich, wet to moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to mildew, particularly if soils are kept on the dry side and/or air circulation is poor. If grown in too much shade, plants may need some support.

Coreopsis lanceolata
LANCELEAF TICKSEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 1 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** UPL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Native Habitats: Open woodlands, Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas

Soil Description: Sandy, gravelly soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based, Calcareous

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: May be selectively thinned to improve appearance by removing clumps from the interior of the planting. Mulching helps conserve moisture and control weeds.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Can be an aggressive self-seeder. Tends to sprawl, particularly if grown in moist and/or fertile soils. Crown rot may occur if grown in moist, poorly drained soils.

Condition Comments: Lance-leaved coreopsis is the most common coreopsis and is easy to grow. It is drought tolerant but is not a reliably perennial. However it self-sows readily and can become weedy. The showy golden flowers are nice in a vase and are a ...

Echinacea purpurea PURPLE CONEFLOWER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Native Habitats: Well-drained limestone, sand, clay, loam. Rocky, open woods; thickets; prairies.

Soil Description: Well-drained, sandy or richer soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Echinacea spp. attract butterflies and hummingbirds. | **Use Medicinal:** Extracts thought to improve white blood count. Echinacin stops bacteria from forming the hyaluronidase enzyme, which helps make cells more susceptible to infection. Its a mild natural antibiotic. Small amounts taken a few times daily are better than large dose

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Japanese beetle and leaf spot are occasional problems. Susceptible to aster yellows disease.

Condition Comments: Echinacea is a suitable addition to a prairie garden and attractive in flower arrangements. It is a popular

Eupatorium coelestinum

BLUE MISTFLOWER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Powder Blue | **Height:** 1.5 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 10
Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil Tolerant, Deer
Native Habitats: Wood margins; stream banks; low woods; wet meadows; ditches

Soil Description: Moist loam, sand, or clay.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: This wildflower attracts bees and butterflies.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to powdery mildew. Leaf miners and aphids may also visit. Plants tend to flop and may need support. Spreading tendencies must be watched, particularly if planted in the peren...

Condition Comments: Blue mistflower is good as a border plant or as a colonizing groundcover. The fluffy-edged flowers are a magnet for late-season butterflies. It also spreads quickly and can become a pest.

Eupatorium dubium

LITTLE JOE PYE WEED, COASTAL PLAIN JOE PYE WEED



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW

USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: moist, usually sandy acidic soil of swamps, bogs, marshes, swales

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Good resistance to powdery mildew. Leaves may scorch if soils are allowed to dry out.

Eupatorium maculatum
SPOTTED JOE PYE WEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Purple | **Height:** 4 - 7 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Leaves may scorch if soils are allowed to dry out.

Eupatorium perfoliatum
COMMON BONESET, AMERICAN BONESET



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 4 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Damp prairies; alluvial woods; bogs

Soil Description: Moist to wet soils

Recommended Uses:

Use Medicinal: The dried leaves have been used to make a tonic, boneset tea, thought effective in treating colds, coughs, and constipation. (Niering)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Foliage may scorch if soils are allowed to dry out.

Eupatorium purpureum
PURPLE JOE PYE WEED



Characteristics:

Height: 5 - 7 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist prairies; wood edges; wooded slopes

Soil Description: Moist soils

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: An important source of honey, attracting pollinators by the score.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Leaves may scorch if soils are allowed to dry out. Powdery mildew and rust may occur. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Eurybia divaricata

WHITE WOOD ASTER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Green, Brown | **Height:** 1 - 2.5 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov
Sun: Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Drought, Heavy Shade, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Native Habitats: Woodland

Soil Description: Tolerates dry soil, shade to part shade neutral to slightly acidic conditions.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to powdery mildew. Aster wilt can also be an occasional problem, particularly if plants are grown in poorly-drained clay soils.

Condition Comments: Vigorous or aggressive, even in dry shade.

Helenium autumnale
COMMON SNEEZEWEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist, open areas along streams & ponds; wet meadows

Soil Description: Moist clay soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Food: Poisonous to humans.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Foliage is susceptible to powdery mildew, leaf spot and rust. This species generally requires some staking or other support and will benefit from pinching or July-cutback as detailed above. Deer ...

Condition Comments: Sneezeweed requires a damp site. The typical species occurs in the east. Var. *grandiflorum* and var. *montanum* are the common western varieties.

Heliopsis helianthoides
SMOOTH OXEYE, OXEYE SUNFLOWER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** flower
Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** UPL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Deer
Native Habitats: Moist to dry, open woodlands; prairies; fields

Soil Description: Sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to aphids. Taller plants may need staking or other support.

Condition Comments: An undemanding plant which provides excellent, mid-summer color. Eastern plants belong to var.

Hibiscus moscheutos SWAMP ROSEMALLOW



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 3 - 7 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Swampy forests; wet meadows; marshes

Soil Description: Moist to wet, slightly acidic soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Hummingbirds

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Some susceptibility to leaf spots, blights, rusts and canker. Japanese beetles can severely damage foliage if left unchecked. Whiteflies, aphids and scale are occasional insect visitors. Leaf scorch will occur if soils are allowed to ...

Condition Comments: Clumps of Hibiscus start to grow late in the season and flower over a long period in late summer.

Iris versicolor
BLUE FLAG, BLUE WATER IRIS



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue To Purple | **Height:** 2 - 2.5 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Meadows; stream banks; marshes; swamps

Soil Description: Moist, rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Hummingbirds

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Susceptible to a number of insect pests including iris borer, iris thrips, and aphids. Potential disease problems include various rots (rhizome rot, crown rot, bacterial soft rot) leaf spot, and leaf/blossom blight.

Aphids can spread m...

Condition Comments: Even though it can tolerate complete submergence, this iris can be easily grown in most gardens. It is not a demanding plant. Once established, it will spread by self-seeding and extension of its rhizomes.

Liatris spicata
DENSE BLAZING STAR



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Purple | **Height:** 1.5 - 2.5 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun
Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Drought, Clay Soil, Deer

Native Habitats: Moist, wood openings; mesic prairies; marsh edges

Soil Description: Moist, average soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Butterflies frequent Liatris spp.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Taller plants may require staking or other support. 'Kobold' does not need staking.

Lilium superbum

TURK'S CAP LILY



Characteristics:

Height: 4 - 7 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 0.75 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC W

USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Wet meadows, swamps, and woods.

Soil Description: Loam, Sand. Good drainage essential.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Like moist but well drained soils

Lobelia cardinalis

CARDINAL FLOWER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Red | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Ditches, Ravines, Depressions, Woodlands' edge, Opening, Stream banks, Roadsides, Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas, Near lakes or ponds, Swamps

Soil Description: Moist to wet, humus-rich soil. Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Limestone-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Clay

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Aromatic, Color, Showy, Garden | **Use Wildlife:** In bloom, cardinal flower attracts hummingbirds. Nectar-Hummingbirds | **Use Medicinal:** Amerindians used root tea for stomach aches, syphilis, typhoid, worms. Leaf tea used for colds, croup, nosebleeds, fevers, headaches, rheumatism. Poisonous. (Foster & Duke) | **Use Other:** Used mainly in love potions. Finely chopped roots places in food as love charm.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Snails and slugs may damage the foliage. Some hybrid lobelias have not performed well at the Kemper Center in St. Louis for reasons that at this point are unclear. Foliage contains alkaloids whi...

Condition Comments: Cardinal flower has very showy red blooms. It is particularly attractive at the edge of a woodland garden. The soil must be kept moist or wet at all times. A winter mulching in northern climes is beneficial. It can be propagated by b...

Lobelia siphilitica

BLUE LOBELIA



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil, Black Walnut Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Open, wet woods; stream banks; marshes; meadows

Soil Description: Clay, Loam, Sand

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Snails and slugs may damage the foliage. Some hybrid lobelias have not performed well at the Kemper Center in St. Louis for reasons that at this point are unclear. L. x speciosa hybrids are of...

Condition Comments: Not at all drought tolerant, keep soil moist, watering if necessary in average soil conditions.

Mimulus ringens MONKEY FLOWER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue | **Height:** 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 0.75 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Wet meadows and streambanks.

Soil Description: Loam

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Monarda didyma

BEE-BALM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Red | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Moist, open woods; meadows; stream banks; mountains to 6500 feet

Soil Description: Rich, moist, acid soils. Juglone tolerant.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Valued for its bright flowers and minty aroma | **Use Wildlife:** Hummingbirds, butterflies, and

bees are attracted to the blossoms of Oswego tea. | **Use Food:** Occasionally used in Earl Grey tea. | **Use**

Medicinal: It's medicinal uses include expelling worms, and for treating gas, fever and stomach ailments.

(Lamb/Rhynard) The name Oswego Tea"" comes from the fact that the leaves were used for a tea by the Oswego Indians of New York. Early settlers also used the plant for this purpose when regular tea was scarce. (Niering) The name Beebalm comes from the folk use of crushed leaves to soothe bee stings.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Can colonize by rhizomes. If want to keep in bounds, divide every 3 years.

Problems: Powdery mildew can be a serious problem, particularly in crowded gardens with poor air circulation.

In addition, if the soil is allowed to dry out, the stressed plants become increasingly susceptible to disease. Rust can also be a prob...

Monarda fistulosa

WILD BERGAMOT



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Lavender | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Grows in dry open woods, fields, wet meadows and ditches, and at the edges of woods and marshes in the eastern fourth of Texas. Well-drained but moist sand, loam, clay; acidic or calcareous soils. Zones 4 to 8.

Soil Description: Thrives in a wide range of soils, from acid to lime to rich to poor to sand to clay. Less tolerant of flooding, but can take it in the winter.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A hardy garden standard, with brilliant blooms and pleasantly fragrant foliage, many cultivars.

Though prone to mildew in soils that aren't well aerated, selection 'Claire Grace' is more mildew resistant. | **Use Wildlife:** Birds, Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Use Food:** Leaves boiled for tea, used for seasoning, chewed raw or dried; flowers edible. | **Use Medicinal:** Long ago, oil from the leaves was used to treat respiratory ailments. (Niering) | **Use Other:** The fragrant leaves can be used for perfume.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Colonizes by rhizomes so lift and divide every 3 years to contain it, improve air circulation and improve plant vigor.

Problems: Powdery mildew can be a significant problem with the monardas, particularly in crowded gardens with poor air circulation. This species has good mildew resistance, however. Rust can also be a problem.

Condition Comments: Prevent mildew by providing good drainage and air circulation.

Penstemon digitalis
FOXGLOVE BEARDTONGUE



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue | **Height:** 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil

Native Habitats: Low, moist areas; prairies; open woodlands

Soil Description: Fertile, well-drained loams, clay loams, and sand. Acid preferably but tolerates lime.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A great bloomer for clay loam in areas with poor drainage. | **Use Wildlife:** Hummingbirds and bumblebees

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: For a neat appearance, cut bloom stalks once they've turned brown. Somewhat short-lived, so keep a supply of seed on hand to renew your population.

Problems: Root rot can occur in wet, poorly-drained soils. Leaf spots are occasional problems. Can spread somewhat aggressively in a garden setting. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: Will tolerate dry shade.

Phlox divaricata
WOODLAND PHLOX



Characteristics:

Height: 0.75 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 0.75 - 1 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil

Native Habitats: Moist, rich, deciduous woods and bluffs

Soil Description: Rich, moist, acid soils, but also found in calcareous areas. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Showy, attractive, colorful blooms for the | **Use Wildlife:** Flowers attract butterflies, including swallowtails, gray hairstreaks, and western pygmy blues. Roots consumed by rabbits and voles.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Remove spent inflorescences to encourage more flowering. Prevent complete soil dryness. Add compost to enrich the soil as needed.

Problems: Powdery mildew can be a serious problem. Cutting back stems after flowering helps combat mildew. Spider mites can also be a problem, particularly in hot, dry conditions. Watch out for rabbits.

Phlox paniculata

GARDEN PHLOX



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU
USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Rich, open woods; thickets; meadows; moist roadsides

Soil Description: Organic, Loam

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - **Medium**

Problems: Phlox is not always an easy plant to grow well. Phlox bugs, powdery mildew and root rot can be serious problems. Spider mites can also be a problem, particularly in hot, dry conditions. Taller stems may need staking. 'Jeana' is noted...

Condition Comments: Plants of this species have furnished the stock for many horticultural varieties. The plant need at least 6 hrs. of sun per day. Powdery mildew is a frequent problem.

Phlox stolonifera

CREEPING PHLOX



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Blue, Purple | **Height:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 0.75 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Drought, Air Pollution, Clay Soil Tolerant

Native Habitats: Woods & wooded stream banks

Soil Description: Humus-rich soil.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Powdery mildew can be a problem as summer humidity kicks in. Cutting back stems after flowering helps combat mildew and prevents self-seeding. Spider mites can also be a problem, particularly in hot, dry conditions. Watch out for rabb...

Condition Comments: Creeping phlox will do poorly in full sun, and slugs can be troublesome in very moist soils. In congenial conditions, however, this is a vigorous plant that can become weedy. Ground Cover

Physostegia virginiana

FALSE DRAGONHEAD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink | **Height:** 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Medium

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, A Favorite of Honey Bees | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil

Native Habitats: River banks; wet thickets; prairies, River banks, swamps, and low grounds in east and north Central Texas. Sand, clay, limestone; poor drainage okay.

Soil Description: Moist, humus-rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Hummingbirds, Butterflies

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Rust is an occasional problem. Watch for aphids and spider mites. Species plants can be an aggressive spreader.

Condition Comments: Obedient plant receives its name from the characteristic fact that if you manipulate an individual flower back and forth on its axis, it will stay in position you place it. It is wonderfully adaptable, tolerating both drought and poor d...

Pycnanthemum virginianum
VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN-MINT



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 7

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Thickets; pastures

Soil Description: Mesic to dry, rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

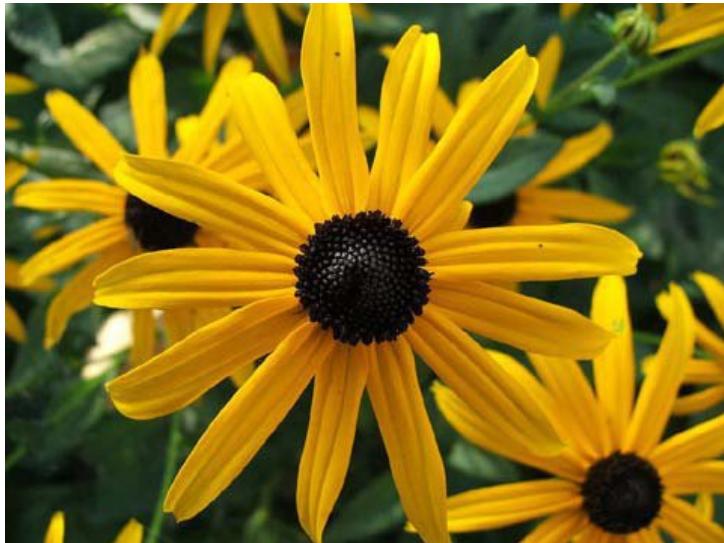
Use Ornamental: Valued primarily for its silvery foliage, secondarily for its flowers.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Can become invasive but is easily controlled by division every 3-5 years. Foliage in direct sun can become scorched.

Rudbeckia fulgida
ORANGE CONEFLower



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow Orange | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Open woods; meadows; pastures

Soil Description: Various soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems, but aphids, powdery mildew, downy mildew, aster yellows, and leaf spot diseases can appear. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: Easy and trouble-free

Rudbeckia hirta BLACK-EYED SUSAN



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil

Native Habitats: Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas, Woodlands' edge, Opening

Soil Description: Moist to dry, well-drained soils. Juglones tolerant

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Color, Showy, Blooms ornamental, Wildflower meadow, Pocket prairie | **Use Wildlife:** Nectar-Bees, Nectar-Butterflies, Nectar-insects, Seeds-Granivorous birds | **Use Medicinal:** Amerindians used root tea for worms, colds; external wash for sores, snakebites, swelling; root juice for earaches. (Foster & Duke)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: Black-eyed Susans are drought tolerant but respond well to an occasional watering. Additional irrigation in a dry year will improve the density of the stand and lengthen the flowering season. Do not mow until after the pl...

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to powdery mildew. Watch for slugs and snails on young plants. Can self-seed freely. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: The cheerful blossoms of the Black-eyed Susans liven up bouquets. This annuals may bloom longer with some afternoon shade. Birds enjoy the ripe seeds. Black-eyed Susan can become aggressive if given too

Rudbeckia laciniata
CUTLEAF CONEFLOWER



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 9 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer

Native Habitats: Low, rich woods; wet fields; alluvial thickets

Soil Description: Moist, slightly acid soil.

Recommended Uses:

Use Food: Early spring leaves boiled for greens by Cherokees and other Southeastern peoples.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Taller plants may need support.

Condition Comments: Because it spreads rampantly by underground stems, cut-leaf coneflower is only appropriate for large sites. May need staking in garden situations but otherwise very hardy. (Ontario

Siphium perfoliatum

CUP-PLANT



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 4 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist woods; prairies; low ground

Soil Description: Wet to mesic soils. Will tolerate clay soil.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Attracts birds for seed.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Unstoppable urge to reproduce, they will pop up everywhere; very little care needed.

Smilacina racemosum
FALSE SOLOMONS SEA



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Drought Tolerant

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Solidago nemoralis

GRAY GOLDENROD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 0.5 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

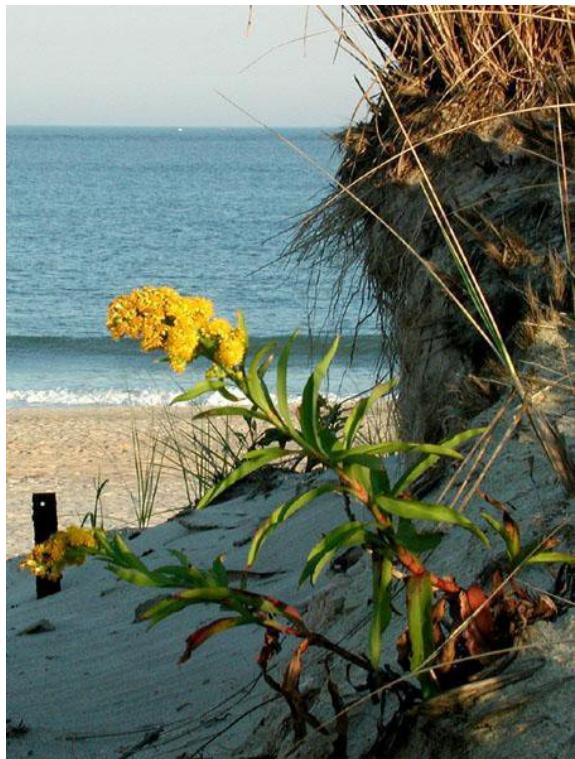
Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to rust, anthracnose, powdery mildew and leaf spot. Root rot may occur in poorly-drained soils. Potential insect pests include several different types of beetles, aphids and gall-form...

Solidago sempervirens

GOLDENROD



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Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Clay Soil

Native Habitats: Saline places along the coast

Soil Description: Sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Leaf rust is an occasional problem. May need to be divided every 2 to 3 years to control growth.

Condition Comments: Pinch the growing tips in June for a more compact plant. This goldenrod does not spread by rhizomes or become invasive. It is resistant to salt spray.

Stokesia laevis

STOKES ASTER



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 1.5 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC

USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Drought, Drought Tolerant

Native Habitats: Coastal plains, bogs, pine savanna, and open woodlands.

Soil Description: Moist, rich, well-drained soil, acidic sands preferred.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A low-maintenance, low-growing groundcovering plant with attractive flowers.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: Colonizes vigorously, so lift and divide every 3 or 4 years if want to keep thinned.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Watch for caterpillars. Flower stems tend to flop, particularly after a strong Midwestern thundershower.

Condition Comments: Winter hardy to Zone 5, well north of its

Symphyotrichum laeve
SMOOTH ASTER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun
Water: Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil
Native Habitats: Open woods; dry to mesic prairies

Soil Description: Variable.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Birds.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. May need staking.

Symphyotrichum novae
NEW ENGLAND ASTER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink, Purple | **Height:** 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil

Native Habitats: Moist, open, wooded areas; meadows; mesic prairies; disturbed sites; stream banks

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Bees and butterflies frequent this wildflower.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Some susceptibility to powdery mildew. Aster wilt can also be an occasional problem, particularly if plants are grown in poorly-drained clay soils. Taller plants may require staking or other support.

Condition Comments: New England aster flowers until frost. Its roots should be divided every several years to keep the plant growing vigorously. Can be aggressive.

Symphyotrichum novi

NEW YORK ASTER



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Pink, Purple | **Height:** 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Susceptible to powdery mildew.

Tiarella cordifolia

FOAM FLOWER



Characteristics:

Height: 0.75 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC
USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Clay Soil Tolerant

Native Habitats: Cool, moist, deciduous woods; stream banks

Soil Description: Moist, well-drained, humus-rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Verbena hastata

BLUE VERVAIN



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist prairies; damp thickets.

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Attracts bees. | **Use Medicinal:** This plant has been used for many years as a medicinal

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Vernonia noveboracensis

NEW YORK IRONWEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Purple, Magenta | **Height:** 4 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Wet Meadow, Prairie, Field, Riparian, Swamp, Marsh. Most often found on the margins of flooded plains, lakes, ponds, waterways, marshes, swamps, and other wet areas.

Soil Description: Rich, wet, very muddy to average garden moisture. One of the few ornamentals that thrives in mucky clay soils. Prefers neutral to slightly acidic soil but will tolerate heavy clay.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Herbaceous | **Use Wildlife:** Milkweeds are an important food source for the monarch caterpillar. | **Use Food:**

Although milkweeds are poisonous raw, the young shoots, leaves and seed pods are all edible cooked. When placed in cold water, brought to a boil and simmered till tender, milkweeds are said to be delicately flavoured and harmless. (Poisonous Plants of N.C. State) The flower buds, nectar-sweet flowers and seeds are also edible. (Kershaw) | **Use Medicinal:** In the past, the roots of swamp milkweed were simmered to make a tea taken in small quantities both as a general purge and to destroy and expel parasitic worms.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: With its showy flower clusters that attract butterflies and hummingbirds, swamp milkweed is underutilized in gardens. In moist soils or in a pond, it will thrive. The interesting seed pods look like other milkweeds. Swamp milkweed wil...

Veronicastrum virginicum

CULVERS ROOT



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 4 - 7 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Medium, Wet

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist prairies; woods; stream banks

Soil Description: Moist, rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Butterflies, Bees | **Use Medicinal:** The root contains a powerful emetic and cathartic. (Niering)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Seldom needs staking, but may need support if grown in too much shade.

Condition Comments: Very adaptable in the garden; try it at the woodland edge.

Ferns

Athyrium filix

LADY FERN



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Not Applicable | **Height:** 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2.5 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade

Native Habitats: Forest, Woodland, Wet Meadow, Prairie, Field, Swamp, Marsh, Lakeshores

Soil Description: Moist, humus-rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Fronds frequently become somewhat tattered in appearance by mid summer.

Dryopteris marginalis
MARGINAL WOODLAND FERN



Characteristics:

Height: 1.5 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade, Dry Shade Tolerant, Deer

Native Habitats: Boggy areas; shaded ledges; bluffs

Soil Description: Muddy, acid soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based, Calcareous

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Bog or pond area, Water garden | **Use Wildlife:** Fuzz which covers the young fiddleheads is a favorite nesting material for birds. | **Use Other:** Bristly

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Can grow in full sun if it is in standing water all the time. Otherwise, must have at least partial shade and at least moist soil.

Matteuccia struthiopteris

OSTRICH FERN



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 5 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW

USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 7

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade, Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut Tolerant, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant, Deer

Native Habitats: Swamps; bottomland woods & thickets

Soil Description: Cool, wet, sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Ostrich

Onoclea sensibilis

SENSITIVE FERN



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW
USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut, Black Walnut Tolerant, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Moist woodlands, floodplains, stream banks, swamps, marshes

Soil Description: Various loose, acidic, moist to wet soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Limestone-based.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Bog or pond area, Water garden | **Use Wildlife:** Shelters salamanders and frogs | **Use Other:** Cut fronds good for dried flower arrangements

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: If it gets too aggressive for your tastes, thin it out.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Foliage may depreciate as summer progresses in hot climates, particularly if soils are not kept moist. Deer tend to avoid this plant.

Condition Comments: Can grow in very wet soils as long as there is adequate oxygen. It cannot tolerate sour clay or stagnant water. Also, does not tolerate freezing well, turns black even in light frost.

Osmunda cinnamomea

CINNAMON FERN



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade, Black Walnut, Black Walnut Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Boggy areas; shaded ledges; bluffs

Soil Description: Muddy, acid soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based, Calcareous

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Bog or pond area, Water garden | **Use Wildlife:** Fuzz which covers the young fiddleheads is a favorite nesting material for birds. | **Use Other:** Bristly

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Can grow in full sun if it is in standing water all the time. Otherwise, must have at least partial shade and at least moist soil.

Osmunda regalis

ROYAL FERN



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Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Not Applicable | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Heavy Shade, Wet Soil, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Swamps; marshes; stream banks; moist depressions in savannas & prairies

Soil Description: Various wet soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Limestone-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: An accent | **Use Other:** Bristly

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Tolerates year-round shallow water.

Polystichum acrostichoides CHRISTMAS FERN



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Drought, Heavy Shade, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Dry Shade Tolerant

Native Habitats: Rich, rocky woods; stream banks; swamps; thickets

Soil Description: Moist, acid, humus-rich soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Acid-based. Best in rocky or sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Borders, accents, and groundcovers | **Use Wildlife:** Attracts Ruffed Grouse

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Crown rot in poorly drained soils can be a problem, particularly in winter.

Condition Comments: Does not tolerate clay soils or standing water. It must have good drainage. Gets stressed in too much sun, becoming pale and stunted. It must be kept moist, cool, and shaded.

Grasses, Sedges, And Rushes

Andropogon gerardii

BIG BLUESTEM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 4 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Pollinators, Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution, Clay Soil Tolerant, Salt Tolerant

Native Habitats: Usually in low meadows and prairies, rare in extreme west. Most abundant in the central plains but also a prairie component in moist grasslands all the way to the east coast.

Soil Description: Acid or calcareous sands, loams, and clays.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: An essential grass for grassland restoration and prairie gardens in the central plains. Large stature, blue-green foliage, and interesting flowering heads. | **Use Wildlife:** Provides cover for at least 24 species of songbirds and nesting sites or seeds for Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslows Sparrow, and other sparrows, as well as nesting sites for Sedge Wrens and Western Meadowlarks.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: It may be cut back, mowed, or burned in late winter. Should not be mowed during the growing season, as that could kill it. However, in areas where it gets aggressive, like the central and northern tallgrass prairie, mowin...

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Big Bluestem needs more moisture to look its best than does Little Bluestem (

Carex amphibola

CREEK SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 0.5 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Heavy Shade, Wet Soil, Drought Tolerant, Dry Shade Tolerant

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Groundcover in moist woodland gardens. | **Use Wildlife:** Larval food for some Skippers. Seeds are eaten by turtles.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Leaf spot, smut and rust are occasional problems.

Carex crinita
FRINGED SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Riparian

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Carex grayi GRAY SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil, Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: There are no known pests. Gray sedge does not do well in dry soil and in hot climates may not reach full height.

Carex laxiculmis

CREEPING SEDGE



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Green, Brown | **Height:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** Mar, Apr, May, Jun

Sun: Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Heavy Shade, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Low, wet, deciduous or mixed deciduous-evergreen forests, along edges of springs, seeps and streams, usually clay soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Carex pensylvanica
PENNSYLVANIA SEDGE



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Not Applicable | **Height:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Spread:** 0.5 - 1 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul

Sun: Part Shade, Full Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Heavy Shade, Wet Soil, Dry Shade Tolerant, Foot Traffic Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant, Deer

Native Habitats: Dry to moist woods

Soil Description: Dry to moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Leaf spot, smut and rust are occasional problems.

Condition Comments: This is a fine ground cover, spreading relentlessly by rhizomes. Older patches may be invaded by other plants, probably because of the soil enrichment produced by the sedge.

Carex plantaginea
SEERSUCKER SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL
USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 8

Attracts: Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil, Wet Site Tolerant

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Carex stipata
AWL-FRUITED SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL
USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Drought Tolerant, Dry Shade Tolerant

Native Habitats: Low, wet grounds

Soil Description: Wet soil to standing water.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Carex stricta
TUSSOCK SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet
AGCP Status: OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Drought Tolerant, Dry Shade Tolerant

Native Habitats: Acid or neutral swamps; swales; low woods

Soil Description: Wet soil to standing water.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Excellent nesting habitat for rails and snipes. | **Use Other:** Harvested for insulation in ice packing houses and used for rug making. (Kershaw)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Carex vulpinoidea

FOX SEDGE



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Wet

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 7

Attracts: Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Black Walnut Tolerant, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Wet Meadow/Prairie/Field, Swamp/Marsh

Soil Description: Clay, Loam

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: This sedge may be weedy and spreads rapidly.

Chasmanthium latifolium

NORTHERN SEA OATS



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Blue, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2.5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8
Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Black Walnut
Native Habitats: Moist prairies; damp thickets.

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Attracts bees. | **Use Medicinal:** This plant has been used for many years as a medicinal
General Maintenance Level - Low
Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. May need staking or other support.

Deshampsia cespitosa TUFTED HAIRGRASS



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Black Walnut, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Low, moist areas; prairies; open woodlands

Soil Description: Fertile, well-drained loams, clay loams, and sand. Acid preferably but tolerates lime.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A great bloomer for clay loam in areas with poor drainage. | **Use Wildlife:** Hummingbirds and bumblebees

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: For a neat appearance, cut bloom stalks once they've turned brown. Somewhat short-lived, so keep a supply of seed on hand to renew your population.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Will tolerate dry shade.

Elymus virginicus
VIRGINIA WILD RYE



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Not Applicable | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Mar, Apr, May

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Fair grazing, seed and forage for birds and small mammals, used for denning and nesting material.

| **Use Other:** Good grazing for livestock.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Eragrostis spectabilis PURPLE LOVEGRASS



Characteristics:

Height: 1 - 2 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU
USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 - 9

Attracts: - | **Tolerates:** Drought, Black Walnut, Air Pollution, Drought Tolerant, Salt Tolerant

Native Habitats: Sandy or disturbed sites; plains; open woods

Soil Description: Sandy soils. Well drained open fields. Grows best on moist, sandy soil in full sun.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: When in bloom, the short stalks create a nice hazy purple-red coloration especially when grown in a mass. Like most grasses. This plant grows rhizomously and can spread and it will reseed if seeds allowed to ripen.

Juncus effusus

SOFT RUSH



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Wet | **AGCP Status:** OB L

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Wet Soil, Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Swamps, damp open ground.

Soil Description: Clay, Loam, Sand

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Rust, leaf spot and stem rots may occur.

Panicum virgatum

SWITCHGRASS



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet

AGCP Status: FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution, Deer

Native Habitats: Dry or moist prairies; bluffs; stream banks; open woods. In moist and seasonally damp open places throughout Texas, except for Trans-Pecos. Sand, loam, clay, limestone; poor drainage okay.

Soil Description: Dry to moist soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam Clay Loam, Clay, Limestone-based.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Attractive, Fall conspicuous, Pocket prairie, Grows in clumps, Accent | **Use Wildlife:** Fair Grazing; Seeds eaten by ground-feeding songbirds and game birds; Provides cover and nesting material. | **Use Other:** Used for range re-seeding.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to rust, particularly in hot and humid summer climates. Crown or root rot may occur, particularly as a result of improper growing conditions. Japanese beetles, thrips and spid...

Condition Comments: Clump-forming, warm-season grass with open, lacy sprays with small seeds. Switchgrass is a loose sod former with a large, open, finely textured, reddish-purple seedhead. Bright green leaves occur up and down the

Schizachyrium scoparium

LITTLE BLUESTEM



Characteristics:

Height: 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 1.5 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Woodlands' edge, Opening, Hillsides, Slopes, Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas

Soil Description: Well-drained soil. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Limestone-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Fall conspicuous, Grows in clumps, Accent | **Use Wildlife:** Graze, Cover, Nesting material, Seeds-Small mammals, Seeds-granivorous birds.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Little bluestem is wonderful planted en masse. The visual dynamics it provides range from blue-green in late summer to golden with cotton-tufted seedheads in winter. It readily reseeds so little bluestem is not recommended for small ga...

Sorghastrum nutans

INDIANGRASS



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 1 - 2 ft | **Bloom Time:** Aug, Sep, Oct | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Prairies; open woods; fields; dry slopes. Frequent in north central Texas, Edwards Plateau, and Plains Country. Sand, loam, clay, limestone; seasonal poor drainage okay.

Soil Description: Moist, rich soils. Calcareous, Sandy Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Limestone-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Grows in clumps, Accent | **Use Wildlife:** Seeds-Small mammals, Seeds-granivorous birds, Nesting material

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Indian grass tolerates imperfectly drained soil. It is a good accent plant, however it needs tall companions to remain upright.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Along with little bluestem, big bluestem and switchgrass, Indian grass is an important species in the tallgrass prairie. The bright yellow flowers contrast attractively with the blue-gray foliage. The grass stays low most of the year a...

Sporobolus heterolepis

PRAIRIE DROPSEED



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 3 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 3 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep

Sun: Full Sun | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Well-drained limestone, sand, clay, loam. Rocky, open woods; thickets; prairies.

Soil Description: Well-drained, sandy or richer soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Echinacea spp. attract butterflies and hummingbirds. | **Use Medicinal:** Extracts thought to improve white blood count. Echinacin stops bacteria from forming the hyaluronidase enzyme, which helps make cells more susceptible to infection. Its a mild natural antibiotic. Small amounts taken a few times daily are better than large dose

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Echinacea is a suitable addition to a prairie garden and attractive in flower arrangements. It is a popular

Shrubs

Andromeda polifolia

BOG ROSEMARY



Characteristics:

Sun: Part Shade | **Water:** garden | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** Zone 6

Attracts: Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Drought

Native Habitats: Acid bogs

Soil Description: Organic peats, sands and mucks.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Condition Comments: Demands strongly acid soil. No serious disease or insect problems. Creeping rootstocks form large patches.

Aronia arbutifolia

RED CHOKEBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White To Pink | **Height:** 6 - 10 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 6 ft | **Bloom Time:** May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut Tolerant, Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant, Deer

Native Habitats: Pine bottomlands; swamps; open bogs

Soil Description: Moist, rich soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Intermediate food source for birds.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to leaf spots and twig/fruit blight.

Aronia melanocarpa BLACK CHOKEBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 4 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 8 ft | **Bloom Time:** May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Erosion

Native Habitats: Lowlands; bogs; dunes; bluffs

Soil Description: Moist, acid soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Intermediate food source for birds.

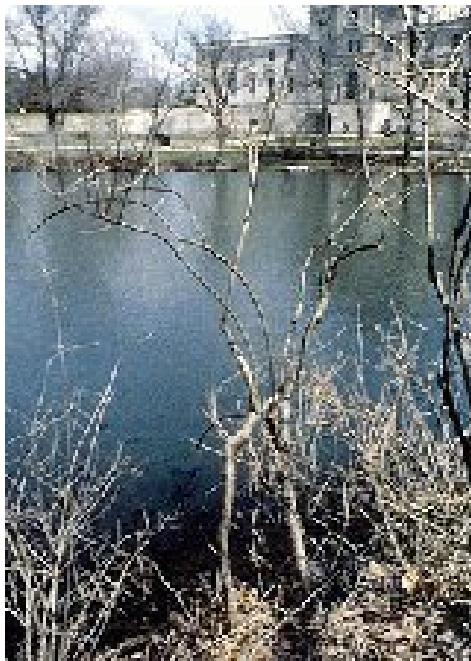
General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to leaf spots and twig/fruit blight.

Condition Comments: Very flood tolerant. Suckers profusely. No serious disease or insect problems.

Cephalanthus occidentalis

BUTTONBUSH



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 5 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 4 - 8 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: In swamps, around ponds and margins of streams throughout the state. Sand, loam, clay, limestone; moist, poor drainage or standing water okay. Prairie swales; lake, marsh, creek & swamp margins; dry, limestone bluffs

Soil Description: Limestone-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay

Recommended Uses:

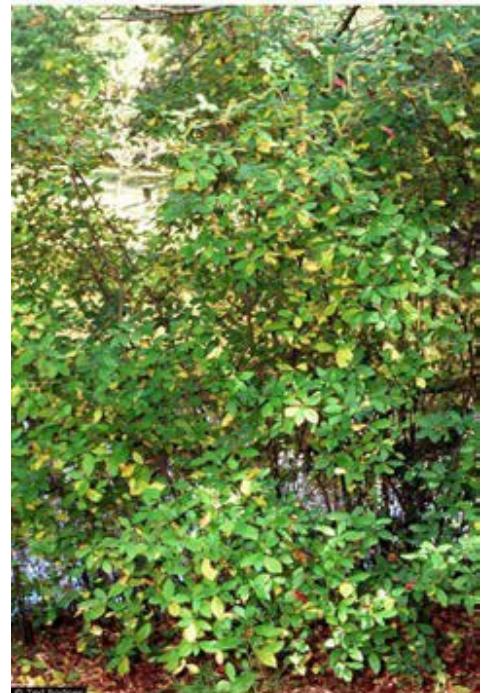
Use Ornamental: Showy, Attractive, Blooms ornamental, Fruits ornamental, Bog or pond area, Aromatic, Water garden | **Use Wildlife:** Nectar-butterflies, Nectar-bees, Nectar-insects, Fruit-birds

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Common buttonbush is a spreading, multi-branched

Clethra alnifolia
SWEET PEPPERSHUB



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 3 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 4 - 6 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Heavy Shade, Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Deer

Native Habitats: Swamps; sea shores; stream banks; hillside bogs

Soil Description: Many wet to moist, acid soils, including sands and clays.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Fragrant, showy summer flowers. Outstanding fall color. | **Use Wildlife:** Bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds use flowers. Many birds and mammals eat the fruit.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: This versatile, carefree shrub responds well to pruning.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Spider mites may be a concern in dry conditions.

Condition Comments: Excellent for coastal gardens due to salt-spray tolerance.

Cornus amomum

SILKY DOGWOOD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 6 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** Mar, Apr | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Swamps; damp thickets; wet prairies

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Plants are susceptible to scale. Additional insect pests include borers and leaf miner. Infrequent disease problems include leaf spot, crown canker, blights, root rot and powdery mildew.

Condition Comments: Not a specimen dogwood, but useful in poorly drained sites and for prevention of lake and stream bank erosion. Tolerates more alkaline soil.

Cornus racemosa
GRAYSTEM DOGWOOD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, **Green** | **Height:** 10 - 15 ft | **Spread:** 10 - 15 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Thickets; river bank woods; wet to dry, low, open areas

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Fruit

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. The dogwood bud gall occurs on this species but is usually not a significant problem.

Condition Comments: Will adapt to drier sites. Used in erosion control and for wildlife habitat. Resistant to most diseases, insects and physiological problems.

Cornus sericea
RED-TWIG DOGWOOD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 6 - 9 ft | **Spread:** 7 - 10 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 7

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: River banks; lake shores; wooded or open, wet areas

Soil Description: Moist, well-drained soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Waterfowl, marshbirds and shorebirds are major users. Also large and small mammals. Deer browse on dogwood year-round.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Susceptible to leaf and twig blights, canker and leaf spots. Scale, leaf miners and bagworms are occasional insect pests.

Condition Comments: This dogwood is adaptable to a wide range of soil and climatic conditions but is plagued by

Hamamelis virginiana

WITCHHAZEL



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 15 - 20 ft | **Spread:** 15 - 20 ft | **Bloom Time:** Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion, Clay Soil

Native Habitats: Moist woods, thickets, bottomlands

Soil Description: Rich, well-drained soil. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based, Calcareous

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Fall conspicuous, Understory | **Use Wildlife:** Birds eat the fruits (small brown capsules).

Browsed by deer and beaver. Seeds-granivorous birds, Seeds-Small mammals | **Use Food:** First Nations used witch-hazel leaves for tea. (Athentic) | **Use Medicinal:** Commercial witch-hazel, an astringent liniment, is an alcohol extract of witch-hazel bark.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Caterpillars and Japanese beetles may chew on the leaves. Watch for gall aphids, scale, leafroller and leafminer. Potential diseases include powdery mildew and occasionally leaf spots. Insect and disease issues are typically not serious...

Condition Comments: The long-lived witch hazel performs best on moister sites. It tolerates wet soils, pollution, shade, and poor soil. Avoid extremely dry situations. Full sun forms fuller, more symmetrical plants. Closely related is H. macrophylla, w...

Hydrangea quercifolia
OAKLEAF HYDRANGEA



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Green, Purple | **Height:** 6 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 8 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Native Habitats: Damp woods; river banks

Soil Description: Moist, fertile, well-drained soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Low.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to leaf blight and powdery mildew. Aphids and spider mites are occasional visitors.

Condition Comments: Susceptible to sunscald, chlorosis in alkaline soils, and winter dieback. Many weak, brittle canes are easily broken in wind and ice. Forms colonies from a shallow root system. Canes can be cut to the ground every two or three years t...

Ilex glabra

INKBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 5 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 8 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil, Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Bogs; wet woods of coastal plains

Soil Description: Sandy to peaty, acid soil.

Recommended Uses:

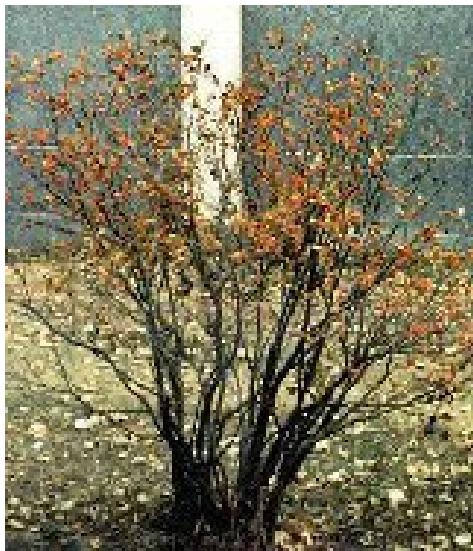
Use Wildlife: High.

General Maintenance Level - **Low**

Problems: Leaf spot is an occasional problem. Susceptible to chlorosis (yellowing of leaves) in high pH (alkaline) soils. Spider mites may appear, especially in dry conditions. Susceptible to inkberry leaf miner.

Condition Comments: Flood tolerant. You must have both a male and female plant to have berries. The male must be the same species as the female and bloom at the same time. Because hollies are such popular landscape plants, it may be worth the risk to pla...

Ilex verticillata
COMMON WINTERBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 6 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 8 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun, Jul

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Air Pollution, Deer

Native Habitats: Swamps, Stream, river banks, Near lakes or ponds

Soil Description: Moist, acidic soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam Medium Loam Clay Loam, Clay

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Fruits ornamental, Attractive | **Use Wildlife:** Cover, Nesting site, Nectar-insects, Fruit-birds.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Occasional disease problems include leaf spots and powdery mildew. Plants do poorly in neutral to alkaline soils where they are susceptible to chlorosis (yellowing of leaves) and often die.

Condition Comments: Winterberry tolerates poor drainage and is quite winter-hardy. You must have both a male and female plant to have berries. The male must be the same species as the female and bloom at the same time. Because hollies are such popular la...

Itea virginica
VIRGINIA SWEETSPIRE



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Heavy Shade, Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Clay Soil Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant, Deer

Native Habitats: Wet, wooded stream banks; swamps; low pine barrens

Soil Description: Moist, acid soils. Acid-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Understory, Erosion control, Showy, Fall conspicuous | **Use Wildlife:** Cover, Nectar-insects

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: Water during droughts.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Deer tend to avoid this plant. Leaves can exhibit chlorosis in alkaline soils.

Condition Comments: It blooms best and has better fall color if grown in an area that receives full sun at least part of the day. Can grow in swamps and other areas of poor drainage. Should be watered during droughts outside its natural habitat.

Kalmia latifolia
MOUNTAIN LAUREL



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Pink | **Height:** 5 - 15 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 15 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Part Shade

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Deer, Dry Shade Tolerant

Native Habitats: Wet to dry woods & pastures; cool meadows & slopes

Soil Description: Cool, moist rocky or sandy soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Susceptible to leaf spots and blights. Also susceptible to borers, scale, white fly and lace bugs.

Leucothoe racemosa

FETTERBUSH



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 3 - 8 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Black Walnut Tolerant

Native Habitats: Pocosins; low woods; shrub-tree bogs & bays

Soil Description: Moist, well-drained, acidic soil

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A glossy-leaved, showy-flowered | **Use Wildlife:** Flowers visited by bees

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: No maintenance recommended except cutting back to keep it at a favored height. A plant that is easy care if established in a favorable site and then left on its own.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Root rot and leaf spot can develop.

Condition Comments: Very difficult to keep in good condition under normal conditions of cultivation. Tends to become weak and susceptible to leaf spot under even mild stress. To avoid this, plant in moist soil with good drainage and then avoid the typical...

Lindera benzoin

SPICEBUSH



Characteristics:

Height: 6 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 12 ft | **Sun:** Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACW

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Drought, Heavy Shade, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Low, deciduous woods; stream banks; swamps

Soil Description: Moist, sandy, well-drained soils. Caliche type, Limestone-based, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam

Recommended Uses:

Use Food: A tea can be made from the aromatic leaves and twigs, and the dried and powdered

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Spicebush is a fast-growing

Myrica pensylvanica
NORTHERN BAYBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 4 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 7 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 6

Attracts: Birds | **Tolerates:** Drought, Erosion, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Ledges, wood borders; thickets

Soil Description: Clay, Loam, Sand

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Eaten by many winter birds.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Bayberry tolerates salt spray and a wide variety of wet to dry, hot to cold growing conditions. Be sure to obtain plants similar to climatic condition in your garden. Both male and female plants are necessary for berries. From NJ to L...

Rhododendron viscosum

SWAMP AZALEA



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Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Pink, White | **Height:** 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 5 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Part Shade
Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** OBL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies, Bees and other pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Swamps; bogs; stream margins

Soil Description: Wet soil.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Low.

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Azaleas are susceptible to many insect and disease problems, including but not limited to canker, crown rot, root rot, leaf spot, rust, powdery mildew, aphids, borers, lacebugs, leafhoppers, mealybugs, mites, nematodes, scale, thrips and...

Condition Comments: This is one of the last azaleas to bloom in spring. It is a variable species with several varieties and forms. Good cultural practices reduce the incidence of disease and insect damage. Flood tolerant.

Rhus aromatica
FRAGRANT SUMAC



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Yellow | **Height:** 2 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 10 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** UPL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Rabbit, Drought, Erosion, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Dry, rocky prairies, old fields & open woods

Soil Description: Dry, rocky soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam Clay, Rocky, Caliche type, Limestone-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Several cultivated varieties of this | **Use Wildlife:** The berries are winter food. Its berries provide food for small animals and birds such as Townsend's Solitaires. | **Use Food:** Its berries provide food for small animals and birds such as Townsend's Solitaires.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to leaf spot, rust, scale, aphids and mites. Nipple galls on foliage are a somewhat common, but generally cosmetic problem.

Condition Comments: In spring, fragrant sumac flowers appear before the foliage. This

Rosa carolina
CAROLINA ROSE



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 10 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACU

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Pollinators, Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Dry, open woods; hills; prairies; roadsides

Soil Description: Rocky soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Roses are susceptible to a large number of diseases, the most common of which are black spot, powdery mildew, rust and rose rosette. Although good cultural practices are the first line of defense in disease control, regular preventative...

Condition Comments: Susceptible to fungal problems.

Sambucus canadensis

ELDERBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 5 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium, Wet | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Erosion, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Alluvial forests; bogs; ditches; drier, old fields. Edges of riparian thickets in Central and east Texas.

Soil Description: Tolerates a wide variety of wet to dry soils but prefers rich, moist, slightly acid soil.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Berries are relished by many bird species and mammals. Deer eat twigs and leaves. | **Use Food:** Elderberries, inedible when fresh and raw, are used for making jelly, preserves, pies, and wine. | **Use Medicinal:** The

General Maintenance Level - High

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to canker, powdery mildew, leaf spot, borers, spider mites and aphids. Branches are susceptible to damage from high winds or from heavy snow/ice in winter. Plants will spread ...

Condition Comments: This plant was used by

Spiraea latifolia
MEADOWSWEET



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Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White To Pink | **Height:** 3 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 7

Attracts: Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Deer, Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Moist slopes & meadows

Soil Description: Moist soils.

Recommended Uses:

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious problems. Susceptible to many of the diseases and insects which attack other members of the rose family, including leaf spots, fireblight, powdery mildew, rots, aphids, leaf roller and scale.

Spiraea tomentosa

STEEPLEBUSH



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Red, Pink, Purple | **Height:** 2 - 4 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 5 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jul, Aug, Sep | **Sun:** Full Sun

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Erosion

Native Habitats: Wet prairies & meadows; marshes; roadsides

Soil Description: Wet, moderately acid, soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Intermediate.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to many of the diseases that attack other rose family members, including leaf spot, fire blight and powdery mildew. Potential insect pests include aphids, leaf roller, caterpillars and...

Condition Comments: Steeplebush needs sun; it will dwindle in shade.

Vaccinium corymbosum

Highbush Blueberry



Characteristics:

Height: 6 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 8 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet

AGCP Status: FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, A Favorite of Honey Bees | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Swamps; bogs; dry barrens; oak woods

Soil Description: Wet to dry, acid, rocky soils to organic peats.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Berries are relished by most birds and mammals. Browsers eat foliage. Attracts 30 species of birds including: American Robin, Eastern Bluebird, Scarlet Tanager, Eastern and Spotted Towhees, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, and Northern Cardinal (Audubon at Home). | **Use Food:** Fruit

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Problems: Birds love the fruit, so plants may need to be covered with netting as the fruit begins to ripen to protect the crop. Chlorosis (yellowing of leaves) may occur in high pH (alkaline) soils. Potential but infrequent disease problems incl...

Condition Comments: Extremely susceptible to chlorosis due to alkalinity. Benefits from mulch. Prune after fruiting.

Viburnum acerifolium MAPLELEAF VIBURNUM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 3 - 6 ft | **Spread:** 2 - 4 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Thickets, Shaded woods. Mesic, mixed woods; bluffs; ravines

Soil Description: Dry, rocky soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Color, Blooms ornamental, Fruits ornamental, Fall conspicuous, Accent | **Use Wildlife:** Birds eat the blue berries. Nectar-bees, Nectar-butterflies, Nectar-insects, Browse, Fruit-birds

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Suckers profusely to form large, loose, open colonies. Susceptible to Viburnum Leaf Beetle.

Viburnum dentatum
ARROWWOOD VIBURNUM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 6 - 10 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 10 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Stream banks; moist woods

Soil Description: Dry to wet, acid soils and sands.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Gamebirds, songbirds and small mammals. Attracts Eastern Bluebird, Northern Flicker, Gray Catbird, and American Robin.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Watch for whiteflies. Otherwise no serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Flood, insect and disease tolerant. Suckers freely from base and transplants well. Most soil-adaptable of the viburnums. Pest free.

Viburnum lentago

NANNYBERRY



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 14 - 16 ft | **Spread:** 6 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade
Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Air Pollution

Native Habitats: Anywhere from ditches and roadways to beaches and fields.

Soil Description: Sand, loam, clay, caliche, limestone. Poor drainage and saline soils okay.

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: A great groundcover for full sun and part shade areas, with trailing foliage and charming, mini-verbena-like flowers. Would also do well as a pot plant. | **Use Wildlife:** Attracts numerous insect pollinators.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Maintenance: Water in dry areas or seasons to maintain a solid cover. Do not mow while blooming, as it can take years to recover.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Mildew and leaf spot are occasional problems.

Condition Comments: Tolerates drought and flooding. Will go dormant during hard winters.

Viburnum nudum
POSSUMHAW VIRBURNUM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 5 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 5 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil

Native Habitats: Savannas; low, wet woods; bogs

Soil Description: Adaptable but prefers wet, mucky, acid soils.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Songbirds, water birds, shorebirds, small mammals

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: Flood, cold, insect and disease tolerant. Transplants well.

Viburnum trilobum
CRANBERRY VIBURNUM



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 8 - 12 ft | **Spread:** 8 - 12 ft | **Bloom Time:** May, Jun, Jul | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2 - 7

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** a wide range of soils. Prune as needed immediately after flowering.

Native Habitats: Stream banks; moist woods

Soil Description: Dry to wet, acid soils and sands.

Recommended Uses:

Use Wildlife: Gamebirds, songbirds and small mammals. Attracts Eastern Bluebird, Northern Flicker, Gray Catbird, and American Robin.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Watch for aphids. Viburnum crown borer can cause stem dieback. Some susceptibility to bacterial leaf spot, stem blight and powdery mildew.

Condition Comments: Flood, insect and disease tolerant. Suckles freely from base and transplants well. Most soil-adaptable of the viburnums. Pest free.

Trees

Amelanchier canadensis SERVICEBERRY



Characteristics:

Height: 3 - 5 ft | **Spread:** 3 - 5 ft | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Dry, Medium | **AGCP Status:** FAC
USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 - 8

Attracts: Birds, A Favorite of Honey Bees | **Tolerates:** Drought, Dry Soil

Native Habitats: Wood borders; moist, upland woods.

Soil Description: Moist, but well-drained, soils.

Recommended Uses:

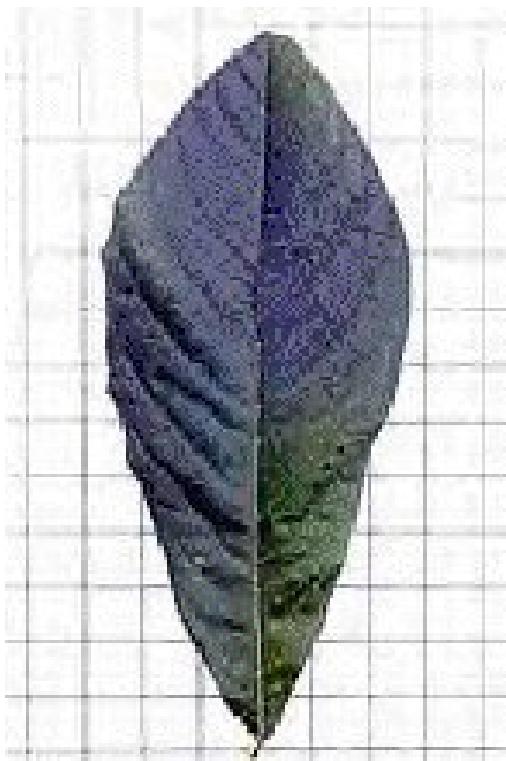
Use Wildlife: An important browse and food plant for birds and other wildlife.

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Rust, leaf spot, fire blight, powdery mildew and canker are occasional disease problems.

Condition Comments: Serviceberries are subject to many disease and insect problems. Damage from these problems is usually cosmetic rather than life threatening.

Asimina triloba
COMMON PAWPAW



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Maroon | **Height:** 15 - 30 ft | **Spread:** 15 - 30 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade

Water: Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FAC | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 9

Attracts: Butterflies, Pollinators, Food Source for Wildlife, Food Source for Pollinators | **Tolerates:** Wet Soil, Black Walnut, Black Walnut Tolerant

Native Habitats: Ditches, Ravines, Depressions, Flood plains, bottomland

Soil Description: Rich, moist, slightly acid soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Understory | **Use Wildlife:** Small mammals relish the fragrant | **Use Food:** First Nations People and European settlers have long used the

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems.

Condition Comments: This is a good understory tree. No serious disease or insect problems. The

Betula nigra

RIVER BIRCH



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Greenish Brown | **Height:** 30 - 40 ft | **Spread:** 25 - 35 ft | **Bloom Time:** Feb, Mar
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 9
Attracts: Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Air Pollution, Black Walnut Tolerant, Clay Soil Tolerant, Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant
Native Habitats: Swamps, Flood plains, bottomland, Ditches, Ravines, Depressions, Stream, river banks

Soil Description: Sandy, moist soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Attractive, Fall conspicuous, Fast growing | **Use Wildlife:** Seeds-granivorous birds, Browse, Seeds-Small mammals

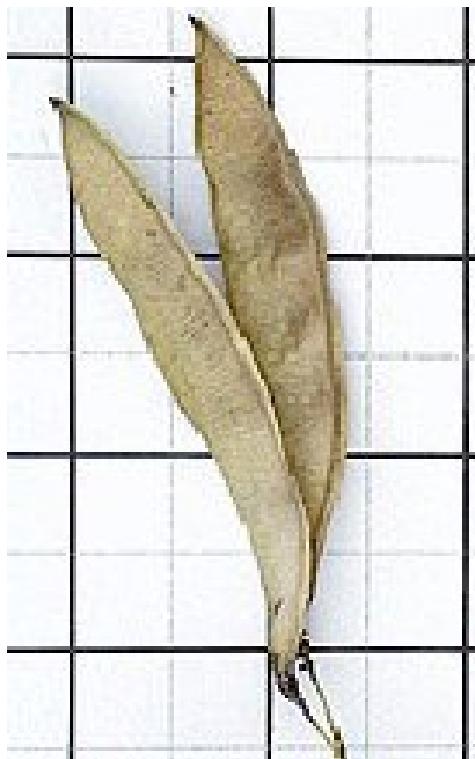
General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: One of the most disease-free birches. Most species of birch grow best in cool, northern climates, but do not adapt well to the hot summers of USDA Zones 5-9 and can be short-lived therein. Weakened birches become vulnerable to the bron...

Condition Comments: River birch is fast growing and long-lived and is probably our most trouble-free birch. Do not prune until summer when the

Cercis canadensis

EASTERN REDBUD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: Magenta | **Height:** 20 - 30 ft | **Spread:** 25 - 35 ft | **Bloom Time:** Mar, Apr, May
Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** UPL | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 8

Attracts: Birds, Hummingbirds, Butterflies, A Favorite of Honey Bees | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Woods; stream banks; limestone bluffs

Soil Description: Moist, fertile, well-drained soils.

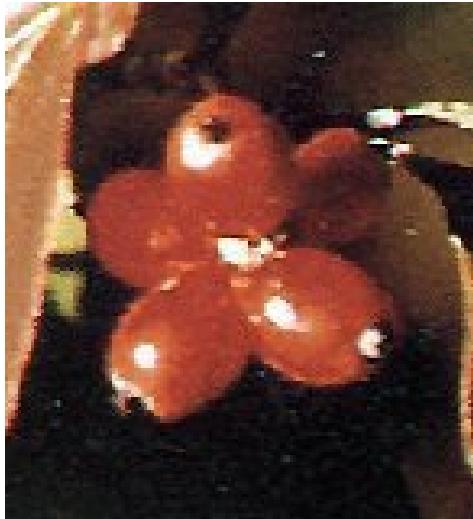
Recommended Uses:

Use Food: Add flowers and flower buds to salads, breads and pancakes. They have a slightly sour taste, high in vitamin C. Young pods may be eaten raw, boiled or sauteed. (Tull) | **Use Other:** Boiled in water, redbud twigs produce a yellow dye. (Kershaw)

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: Canker can be a significant disease problem. Verticillium wilt, dieback, leaf spots, mildew and blights may also occur. Insect pests include Japanese beetles, tree hoppers, leaf hoppers, caterpillars, borers, webworms and scale. Keepi...

Cornus florida FLOWERING DOGWOOD



Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White, Pink, Yellow, Green | **Height:** 15 - 30 ft | **Spread:** 15 - 30 ft

Bloom Time: Mar, Apr, May, Jun | **Sun:** Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium | **AGCP Status:** FACU

USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 - 9

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies | **Tolerates:** Deer, Clay Soil, Black Walnut

Native Habitats: Thickets, Stream, river banks, Shaded woods. Deciduous woods; thickets; bluffs; wood edges; dry uplands

Soil Description: Rich, well-drained, acid soil. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Acid-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Showy, Fall conspicuous, Shade | **Use Wildlife:** Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals, Fruit-deer. | **Use Medicinal:** Dried, ground | **Use Other:** Some tribes used the roots to make a scarlet dye for colouring porcupine quills and eagle feathers. The

General Maintenance Level - Medium

Maintenance: Prune to maintain shape, Prune in early spring, Prevent complete soil dryness, Maintain mulch layer, Fertilize in spring and fall with azalea/camellia-type fertilizer

Problems: Flowering dogwood, when stressed, is susceptible to a rather large number of disease problems, the most serious of which is dogwood anthracnose. Although this anthracnose is not yet a serious problem in Missouri, it has caused considera...

Magnolia virginiana SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA



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Characteristics:

Bloom Color: White | **Height:** 10 - 35 ft | **Spread:** 10 - 35 ft | **Bloom Time:** Apr, May, Jun, Jul

Sun: Full Sun, Part Shade | **Water:** Medium, Wet | **AGCP Status:** FACW | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5 - 10

Attracts: Pollinators, Food Source for Wildlife | **Tolerates:** Clay Soil, Wet Soil, Air Pollution, Clay Soil Tolerant, Salt Tolerant, Wet Site Tolerant

Native Habitats: Open woodlands, Shaded woods, Swamps

Soil Description: Rich, moist soils. . Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Acid-based

Recommended Uses:

Use Ornamental: Attractive, Aromatic, Showy, Blooms ornamental | **Use Wildlife:** Very low. Nectar-moths, Nectar-beetles

General Maintenance Level - Low

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to chlorosis in alkaline soils.

Condition Comments: Sweetbay is slow-growing and has no serious disease or insect problems. It is good for a small patio or specimen tree. Prune after blooming during the growing season because dormant magnolias do not easily heal.