



## 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 Uses:** Borders, rock gardens, cottage gardens, open woodland areas, rain gardens. Best when massed.  
Flowers can be used in fresh cut arrangements.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soil types including clayey soils. Best fall foliage color usually occurs in full sun, but flowers generally last longer if given...

**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 Uses:** Borders, rock gardens, cottage gardens, open woodland areas, rain gardens. Best when massed. Flowers can be used in fresh cut arrangements.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, loamy soils. Tolerates some drought. When grown in full sun, plants often require no pruning or staking. When grown in some shade and/or in ...

**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 Uses:** Borders, rock gardens, cottage gardens, open woodland areas, rain gardens. Best when massed. Flowers can be used in fresh cut arrangements.

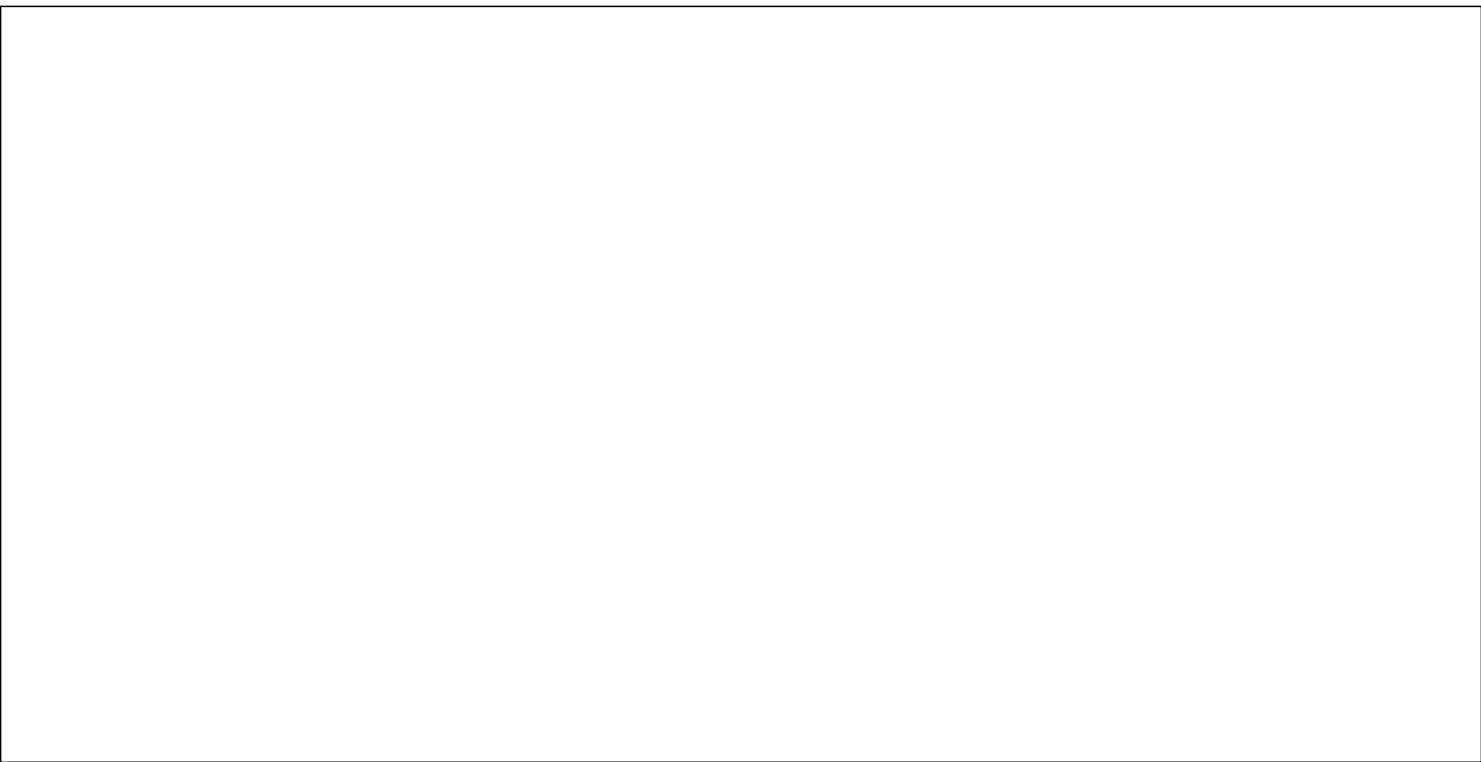
Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, loamy soils. Tolerates some drought. When grown in full sun, plants often require no pruning or staking. When grown in some shade and/or in ...

### **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 Uses:** Borders, rock gardens, cottage gardens, open woodland areas, rain gardens. Best when massed. Flowers can be used in fresh cut arrangements.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, loamy soils. Tolerates some drought. When grown in full sun, plants often require no pruning or staking though they tend to lean. When grown...

#### **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



### 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 Uses:** Borders, cottage gardens, open shade gardens, woodland gardens or naturalized areas. Also a good selection for a hummingbird garden. Continue to water plants after bloom to enjoy the ground cover effect of the attractive foliage.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Wide range of soil tolerance as long as drainage is good. Prefers rich, moist soils in light to moderate shade. Freely self-seeds and will naturalize to for...

### 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* ...)

[MBG] [WF] [PRN] [NMN] [PNL]

Herbaceous, Perennial

**Problems:** This species has very good resistance to leaf miner which often causes severe damage to the foliage of

*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 Uses:** Best left undisturbed in the shady woodland garden, wild garden or native plant garden.

Best grown in fertile, medium to wet soil in part shade to full shade. Needs constantly moist soil rich in organic matter. Does poorly in heavy clay soils. May be grown from seed, but takes five years for plant to flower.

**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 Uses:** Sunny borders, stream/pond banks, butterfly gardens. A good plant for low spots or other moist areas in the landscape.

Easily grown in medium to wet soils in full sun. Surprisingly tolerant of average well-drained soils in cultivation even though the species is native to swamps and wet meadows. Plants have deep taproots and are best left undisturbed on...

### General Maintenance Level - Low

**Problems:** No serious insect or disease problems. [IMBGJ] [WFJ] [PRN] [INMN] [PNL]

Herbaceous, Perennial

**Condition Comments:** With its showy flower clusters that attract butterflies and hummingbirds, swamp

## *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 Uses:** Sunny borders, stream/pond banks, butterfly gardens. A good plant for low spots or other moist areas in the landscape.

Easily grown in medium to wet soils in full sun. Surprisingly tolerant of average well-drained soils in cultivation even though the species is native to swamps and wet meadows. Plants have deep taproots and are best left undisturbed on...

### **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 Uses:** Butterfly gardens, meadows, prairies, or naturalized/native plant areas. This plant is considered by many gardeners to be too vigorous and weedy for borders.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Drought tolerant. Does well in poor, dryish soils. Easily grown from seed, and will self-seed in the landscape if seed pods are not removed prior to splitting ope...

### 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 Uses:** Butterfly gardens, rock gardens, meadows, prairies, or naturalized/native plant areas. Also effective in sunny borders or slopes. Whether massing plants in large drifts or sprinkling them throughout a prairie or meadow, butterfly weed ...

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Drought tolerant. Does well in poor, dry soils. New growth tends to emerge late in the spring. Plants are easily grown from seed, but are somewhat slow to establish...

### **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

## *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 Uses:** Borders, cottage gardens, prairies, meadows and native plant gardens. Effective in naturalized settings. Best as a specimen or in small groups.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Best in full sun. Tolerates drought and poor soils. Over time, plants develop slowly expanding clumps with deep and extensive root systems, and shoul...

### 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 Uses:** Water or bog gardens. Pond edges.

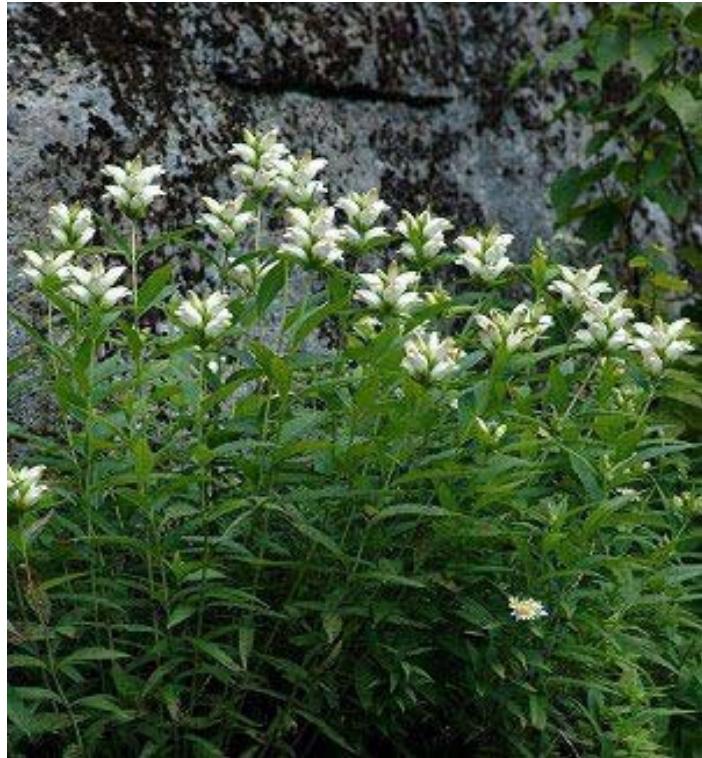
Grow in full sun to part shade in shallow water at the margins of a pond or water garden or in wet, boggy soils. Best flowering usually occurs in full sun, but plants appreciate some part shade in the heat of the summer. If sited in fu...

**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 Uses:** Shade or woodland gardens. Bog gardens. Pond or water garden peripheries. Wildflower or native plant gardens. Borders as long as the soil moisture requirements can be met.

Best grown in moist to wet, rich, humusy soils in part shade. Appreciates a good composted leaf mulch, particularly in sunny areas. Consider pinching back the stem ends in spring to reduce mature plant height, especially if growing pla...

**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 Uses:** Best naturalized in native wildflower gardens, rock gardens, meadows or prairies. Good plant for areas with poor, dry soils. Can be effective in borders, but self-seeding tendencies may need to be kept in check to maintain a more formal...

Easily grown in dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Thrives in poor, sandy or rocky soils with good drainage. Tolerant of heat, humidity and drought. Prompt deadheading of spent flower stalks encourages additional b...

### 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 Uses:** Excellent, long-blooming flower for massing in the border, meadow, native plant garden, naturalized area, wildflower garden or part shade area of woodland garden. Often massed with black-eyed Susans (rudbeckias).

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Best in full sun. An adaptable plant that is tolerant of drought, heat, humidity and poor soil. Divide clumps when they become overcrowded (about eve...

### 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 Uses:** Wild flower garden. Naturalized areas. Periphery of stream or pond. Open woodland garden. May be grown in borders as long as sited in an area where spreading roots will not interfere with other plants.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, fertile, humusy soils which do not dry out. Mistflower is a vigorous plant that spreads aggressively by rhizomes and self-seeding. In...

**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 Uses:** Moist areas in borders, cottage gardens, meadows, native plant gardens, wild/naturalized areas, rain gardens or water margins.

Easily grown in abundantly moist, fertile, humusy soils in full sun to part shade. Also performs well in moist sandy to gravelly soils. Soils must not be allowed to dry out. Generally intolerant of shady locations. Plants may be cut t...

**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 Uses:** Tall plant for moist soils in borders, cottage gardens, meadows, native plant gardens, wild/naturalized areas or water margins.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Tolerates some light afternoon shade, particularly in hot summer climates. Prefers moist, fertile, humusy soils which do not dry out. Cut plants to the ground in late winter.

### 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 Uses:** Good size and late bloom for borders, native plant gardens, wildflower gardens, cottage gardens, woodland gardens, rain gardens, or banks of ponds or water gardens.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Does well in both sandy and clay soils. Needs constant moisture. May flop and requires staking in rich, fertile soils.

**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 Uses:** Many people perceive Joe Pye weed to be nothing more than a roadside weed and have never seriously considered its outstanding ornamental attributes. It is a substantial plant which needs space, but when planted in groups or massed can p...

Easily grown in average, medium moisture soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, fertile, humusy soils which do not dry out. Tolerant of clay soils. Cut plants to the ground in late winter. Best propagated by stem cuttings. ...

### 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 Uses:** Open shade gardens, woodland areas, native plant gardens or cottage gardens.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Thrives in shade and tolerates dry conditions. Good air circulation and some morning sun help reduce incidence of foliar diseases. Propagate by div...

**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 SNEEZEWEEED**



### 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 Uses:** Borders. Also effective in prairies, meadows, cottage gardens, wild gardens, naturalized areas or in moist soils along bodies of water.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Prefers rich, moist soils. Intolerant of dry soils. Avoid overfertilization which may cause plants to grow too tall. Although not required, plants may be cut back in early Jun...

### 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 Uses:** Provides long summer bloom for the perennial border or cutting garden. Also effective in a native plant or wild garden or as part of a naturalized planting or prairie area.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates drought, but does best if regularly watered. Tolerates a wide range of soils, including poor, dry, and clayey. Tolerates some light shade, but plants are...

**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 Uses:** Moist borders. Specimens. Useful in low spots or wet areas in the landscape. Effective along streams or ponds. Temporary summer screen or hedge. Can be grown in large containers.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Best in moist, organically rich soils, but does surprisingly well in average garden soils as long as those soils are not allowed to dry out. Regular deep watering is advisable. ...

### 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 Uses:** Best grouped in sunny areas of ponds or water gardens. Also may be grown in moist border areas.

Grow in medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. This iris may be grown in up to 2-4 of shallow standing water (muddy bottom or containers), or in moist shoreline soils or in constantly moist humusy soils of a border. Propagate b...

### 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 Uses:** Excellent compact plant for perennial border fronts or cutting gardens.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Somewhat tolerant of poor soils, but prefers moist, fertile ones and generally performs better in moist soils than most other species of Liatris . Intolerant of wet soils...

**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 Uses:** Borders, cottage gardens, native plant gardens or meadows. Good plant for moist low spots or pond peripheries. Best grouped or massed.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part/filtered sun. Best in consistently moist, humusy soils. Soils should not be allowed to dry out. Mulch helps keep root zone cool. Plant bulbs 5-6" deep in ...

#### **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 Uses:** Effective in moist areas of woodland/shade gardens, wet meadows or along streams or ponds. Water gardens. Rain garden. Also adds late summer bloom and height to borders as long as soils are kept uniformly moist.

Easily grown in rich, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Needs constant moisture. Tolerates brief flooding. Soils should never be allowed to dry out. Will tolerate full sun in cool, northern climates, but otherwise apprec...

**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.

## *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 Uses:** Effective in moist areas of woodland/shade gardens, wet meadows or along streams or ponds. Water gardens. Rain garden. Also adds late summer bloom and height to borders as long as soils are kept uniformly moist.

Best grown in rich, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Needs constant moisture. Tolerates brief flooding. Thrives in bog gardens. Soils should never be allowed to dry out. Tolerates full sun in northern climates, but app...

#### 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 Uses:** Best naturalized in moist to wet soils in water gardens, bog gardens, wet meadows, water margins or low spots. May be grown in moist soils in borders as long as soils do not dry out.

Grow in moist to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Best in part shade. Naturalizes in optimum growing conditions by both self-seeding and creeping rhizomes.

### 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 Uses:** Butterfly magnet for border fronts. Provides color and contrast for the perennial border, cottage garden, wild garden, native plant garden, meadow, herb garden, naturalized planting or along ponds or streams. Can be used in fresh cut a...

Best grown in rich, medium to wet, moisture-retentive soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers rich, humusy soils in full sun, although some afternoon shade is appreciated in hot summer climates. Does best in well-draining conditions, ...

#### 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.

Herbaceous Perennial

## *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 Uses:** Provides color and contrast for the herb garden, wild garden, native plant garden, meadow or naturalized area. May be used in the perennial border, but is simply a less colorful selection than the similar-in-appearance *Monarda didyma* an...

*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 Uses:** Mass in sunny borders, rain gardens, wild gardens, native plant gardens or naturalized areas. Excellent for fresh cut flower arrangements.

Best grown in average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerant of occasional drought and inundation once established. Can be grown in clay soils but avoid overly wet, poorly drained conditions.

**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 Uses:** Rock gardens, border fronts, wild gardens, native plant gardens or naturalized areas. Also an effective, shallow-rooted cover for early spring bulbs.

Best grown in humusy, medium moisture, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Prefers rich, moist, organic soils. Appreciates a light summer mulch which helps retain moisture and keep roots cool.

**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 Uses:** Garden phlox is a staple of the perennial border. Mixes well with other perennials and provides long summer bloom. Regardless of flower color, garden phlox is attractive to hummingbirds and is a good selection for inclusion in a bird g...

Grow in moderately fertile, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to light shade. Best in full sun. Prefers rich, moist, organic soils. Also prefers climates with mild summers compared to very hot and humid conditions. Needs...

#### 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 Uses:** Ground cover for woodland gardens, shade gardens, native plant gardens or naturalized areas. Also an effective cover for early spring bulbs. Also appropriate for shaded areas of border fronts and rock gardens.

Best grown in humusy, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Good shade tolerance. Prefers acidic, rich, organic soils with continuous, even moisture. Species self-seeds in optimum growing conditions. Spreads b...

### 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 Uses:** Borders, cottage gardens, wild gardens, prairies or meadows.

Easily grown in average, moist, acidic, well-drained soils in full sun. Stems tend to flop in rich soils, too much shade or hot summer temperatures. Taller plants may need staking. Tolerates wet soils and some part shade.

#### 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 Uses:** Interesting plant for the herb garden, border, naturalized area or meadow. Also may be grown in open areas near ponds and streams.

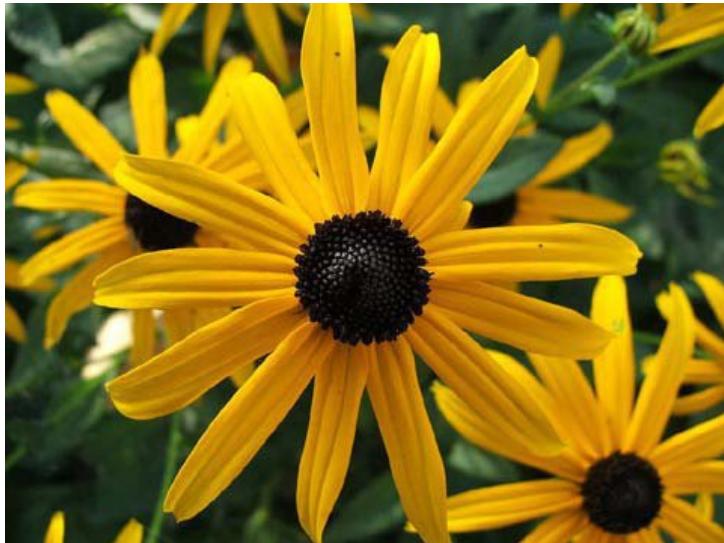
Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun.

### 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 Uses:** Mass in bold drifts in the perennial border, cottage garden, meadow, rain garden, native plant garden or naturalized area. Provides excellent bloom and color for the late summer. Good cut flower.

Easily grown in dry to medium, organically rich to average, well-drained soils in full sun. Best bloom occurs in full sun, although plants will tolerate some light shade. Plants prefer consistent moisture throughout the growing season,...

### 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 Uses:** Borders. Annual beds. Cottage gardens. Wild gardens. Meadows. Groups or mass plantings. Good cut flower.

Annual, biennial, or short-lived perennial that is winter hardy to USDA Zones 3-7. It blooms in the first year from seed planted in early spring, and is accordingly often grown as an annual. It is easily grown in average, medium moist...

### 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.

Herbaceous Perennial

*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 Uses:** Borders, meadows, cottage gardens, native plant gardens or naturalized areas.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerates hot and humid summers. Can spread aggressively by underground stems, which may be a concern if grown in the border. Divide clumps to control growth...

**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 Uses:** A large plant that needs lots of space. Some gardeners find cup plant to be too large and weedy for border rears, but others find it to be an effective backdrop for other perennials. Adapts well to prairies, wildflower/native plant gar...

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Prefers moist, rich soils, but tolerates some drought once established. Somewhat slow to establish when grown from seed. Self-seeds in optimum growing conditions.

#### 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 Uses:** Best when massed in naturalized plantings, wild gardens, native plant gardens, or woodland gardens. Effective with hostas and ferns. Also may be grown in shady borders or in moist areas near streams or ponds.

Easily grown in evenly moist, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers rich, loose, moist, humusy soils. May grow poorly in hot, humid summer climates. Roots do not like to be disturbed, particularly before plant become...

**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 Uses:** Typically not planted in formal garden settings because of its spreading rhizomatous growth and self-seeding. Plants grow as somewhat unexceptional mounds of green foliage until the flowers explode into bloom in late summer. Meadows, w...

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, slightly acidic, well-drained soils in full sun. Prefers full sun and dry soil. Tolerates light shade. Intolerant of full shade. Likes rocky, sandy soils. Tolerates poor soils, but plants gene...

#### General Maintenance Level - Low

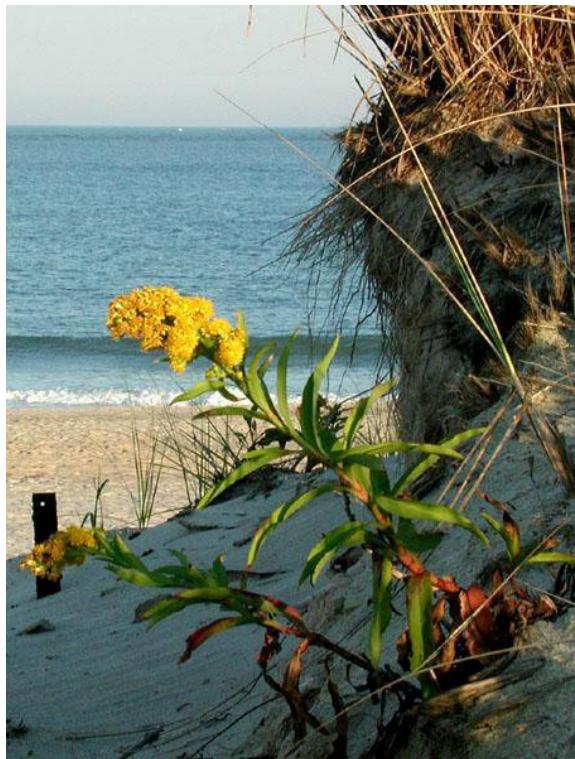
**Problems:** No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to rust, anthracnose, powdery mildew and leaf spot. Root rot may occur in poorly-drained soils. Potential insect pests include several different types of beetles, aphids and gall-form...

## *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 Uses:** Provides good color and contrast in late summer for the perennial border, wild garden, prairie, meadow, native plant garden or naturalized area.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates poor, dry soils. Remove spent flower clusters to encourage additional bloom.

#### 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 Uses:** Border fronts or cottage gardens. Moist areas along ponds, streams or water gardens. Small groupings or mass.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates filtered sunlight, but prefers full sun. Prefers moist, sandy soils, but has surprisingly good drought and heat tolerance. Wet soil in winter is the ma...

#### 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 Uses:** Late blooming perennial aster for the border, wildflower, native or cottage garden. Grows well with Helianthus and Solidago .

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun. Easily self-seeds.

**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 Uses:** Provides color and contrast to the fall perennial border front. Mass or plant in groups. Also effective naturalized in drifts in meadows or in native or wildflower gardens.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun. Prefers moist, rich soils. Good air circulation helps reduce incidence of foliar diseases. Pinching back stems several times before mid-July will help control plant height...

**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 Uses:** Borders, butterfly gardens, rock gardens, rain gardens, cottage gardens, seaside gardens.

Containers. Relatively low habit makes this a good plant for the border front or as an edger. Good complement or substitute for chrysanthemums.

Easily grown in evenly moist to wet, well-drained soil in full sun. Prefers organically rich soils. Tolerant of sandy and clayey soils. Good air circulation and consistently moist soils with good drainage help reduce incidence of foli...

#### 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 Uses:** Shaded rock gardens, woodland gardens, border fronts, wild gardens, naturalistic plantings or moist areas along stream banks. Can be massed to form an attractive ground cover.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Prefers humusy, organically rich, moisture-retentive soils. Soil should not be allowed to dry out. Wet soils, particularly in winter, can be fatal, howeve...

#### **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 Uses:** Borders, meadows, prairies, native plant gardens or informal/naturalized areas.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Typically forms colonies in the wild by both thick, slowly spreading rhizomes and self-seeding. May self-seed in gardens in optimum growing conditions. Can be short-lived.

#### 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 Uses:** Background plant for borders. Cottage gardens, wildflower gardens, meadows or naturalized areas.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Tolerates wide range of soils, but prefers rich, moist, slightly acidic soils. Remove flower heads before seed develops to avoid unwanted self-seeding. Overall plant height may...

**General Maintenance Level - Low** *[MBG] [WFG] [PRN] [NMN] [PNL]*

**Problems:** No serious insect or disease problems.

*Herbaceous, Perennial*

## *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 Uses:** Tall flower spikes provide a strong accent and good vertical height for borders, cottage gardens or wild gardens.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates light shade (and appreciates some afternoon shade in the deep south), but tends to flop and require support if grown in too much shade. Soils should not b...

#### 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 Uses:** Great selection for a shady area of the landscape in need of a small but easy-to-grow fern. Rock gardens, woodland gardens, shaded border fronts or shade gardens. Also effective in shaded areas along streams or ponds.

Easily grown in rich, medium moisture, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Tolerates drier soils than many other ferns. Will tolerate full sun, however, only if soil is kept constantly moist. Shelter from wind to protect fr...

#### 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 Uses:** Grow in shady areas of the woodland, rock, native plant or wild garden. Mixes well with spring wildflowers, purple-leaved heucheras and hostas. Excellent as a specimen or in groups.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy, acidic soils with protection from wind.

**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 Uses:** Huge fern for shady locations in the landscape. Young fiddleheads are edible. The brown fertile fronds make attractive additions to winter arrangements.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in part shade to full shade. Best in rich soils with constant moisture. Soil must never be allowed to dry out. Spreads by underground rhizomes to form dense colonies in optimum growing cond...

#### 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 Uses:** Best in wet woodland gardens, rain gardens, and moist locations along streams and ponds. Also appropriate for shaded areas of a native plant garden or naturalized planting. Will spread and form a dense ground cover in the appropriate g...

Best grown in organically rich, medium moisture, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Needs consistent moisture. Although native to swampy and marshy areas, it grows quite well in average garden soil as long as soil is not al...

#### 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. ~~Deprive tend to avoid transplant~~ [PNL]

**Condition Comments:** Can grow in very wet soils as long as there is adequate oxygen. It cannot tolerate sour

## *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 Uses:** Excellent selection for wet areas along ponds, streams, water gardens or in bogs. Also grows well in shaded borders, woodland gardens, wild gardens or native plant gardens.

Easily grown in medium to wet soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy, acidic soils, but adapts to lesser conditions.

#### 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



© Thomas G. Barnes



#### 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 Uses:** Excellent selection for wet areas along ponds, streams, water gardens or in bogs. Also grows well in shaded borders, woodland gardens, wild gardens or native plant gardens.

Best grown in medium to wet soils in part shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy, acidic soils, but adapts to lesser conditions. Also prefers cool summer climates where it tolerates close to full sun as long as given consistent moisture. ...

#### 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 Uses:** Dryish or moist soils in woodland gardens, shade gardens or shady areas of borders, wild or native plant gardens. May also be planted in shady areas along walls or foundations. A good plant for massing on slopes (including dryish, rock...)

Best grown in organically rich, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Consider planting rhizome at an angle to help combat potential crown rot problems which can occur in poorly drained soils. Although...

### 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 Uses:** Best massed in wildflower meadows, prairie or naturalized areas. Also effective in border rears or native plant gardens as a screen or accent. Extensive root system makes this a good grass for erosion control.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerant of a wide range of soils and growing conditions. Puts out lots of growth in moist, fertile soils, but is less apt to topple in dryish, infertile soils. F...

#### 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, mow in...

## *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 Uses:** Groundcover for dry shade. Underplanting for shade perennials. Lawn substitute for dry soils in shady areas (forms a turf that never needs mowing or mow 2-3 times per year to 2" tall). May be best to use purchased plants for covering ...

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers loose loams in dry soils in sun-dappled part shade. Most sedges prefer moist to wet soils, but not this one. Plants spread by rhizomes. P...

### 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 Uses:** Best grown in mass for foliage effect in moist to wet areas including ones with some standing water. Flowers are not showy. Good selection for low spots, stream/pond margins or areas with seasonal flooding. Also may be grown in a vari...

Easily grown in moist to wet soils including standing water in full sun to part shade. Grows well in wet low spots, water margins and areas that experience some seasonal flooding, but also tolerates drier soils with medium moisture. To...

**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 Uses:** Gray sedge is best when used in large groups around pools and ponds. It also makes an interesting accent plant when grown near water gardens or even in containers.

Gray sedge grows best in moist fertile soil in full sun, but will tolerate light shade. It thrives at or near water. Propagation is through seeding in the fall and division in the spring. Under suitable conditions, this sedge may self...

### 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 Uses:** Group or mass as a clumping ground cover in shady areas of borders or woodland gardens.

Edging plant for paths or woodland areas. Also appropriate for areas with moist soils such as low spots or on the periphery of streams or ponds.

Easily grown in medium to wet soils in part shade to full shade. Likes moist, shady areas. Soils should not be allowed to dry out and need consistent supplemental watering in hot summer weather. Cut foliage to the ground and remove in...

#### 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 Uses:** Groundcover for dry shade. Underplanting for shade perennials. Lawn substitute for dry soils in shady areas (forms a turf that never needs mowing or mow 2-3 times per year to 2" tall). May be best to use purchased plants for covering ...

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers loose loams in dry soils in sun-dappled part shade. Most sedges prefer moist to wet soils, but not this one. Plants spread by rhizomes. P...

### 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 Uses:** Best in water gardens, bog gardens or in wet soils along streams or ponds.

Best grown in moist to wet soils in full sun to part shade. May go dormant in hot summer weather if soils are not kept consistently moist.

**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 Uses:** Best grown in mass for foliage effect in moist to wet areas including ones with standing water. Rhizomatous spread may be too aggressive for average garden conditions. Best sited in areas where it can be allowed to naturalize. Flowers...

Easily grown in moist to wet soils including standing water in full sun to part shade. Grows well in wet low spots, water margins and areas that experience some seasonal flooding. Tolerates shady conditions. Spreads by rhizomes to for...

**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 Uses:** Best grown in mass for foliage effect in moist to wet areas including ones with standing water. Rhizomatous spread may be too aggressive for average garden conditions. Best sited in areas where it can be allowed to naturalize. Flowers...

Easily grown in moist to wet soils including standing water in full sun to part shade. Grows well in wet low spots, water margins and areas that experience some seasonal flooding. Tolerates shady conditions. Spreads by rhizomes to for...

**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 Uses:** Is useful for locations that remain moist such as around water gardens or near streams, springs, or ponds. It may also grow well in the partial shade of a moist woods. Suitable for rain gardens, bioretention basins, and bioswales.

Grows well in damp to very wet soils in full sun to partial shade. Seeds should be planted in the fall or moist-stratified and planted in the spring.

#### 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 Uses:** Provides excellent contrast and texture almost year-round to the border, shaded garden, native plant garden, naturalized area, along streams or on the periphery of the water garden. Naturalizing or large, mass plantings may be the best ...

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of poor soils, but prefers moist, fertile soils. One of the more shade tolerant of the ornamental grasses. Self-seeds and may spread aggress...

#### 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 Uses:** Excellent massed in woodland gardens or naturalized areas where the ethereal summer bloom produces a delicate cloud of subtle colors hovering above the foliage. Also effective as a specimen or in groups in shaded areas of borders, large...

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soils in part shade. Prefers moist, organically rich soils. Cut old foliage to the ground in late winter before new shoots appear. Flowering stems may be removed in fall to tidy plants or ...

### 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 Uses:** Best naturalized in prairie, wild or native plant areas. Erosion control for hillsides, slopes and streambanks. Foliage and flower/seed spikes lend interest to borders, but self-seeding tendencies in borders is a concern. Rain Gardens.

Best grown in moist, relatively fertile, well-drained loams in full sun to part shade. Perhaps best in light shade. Tolerates a wide variety of soils. Easily grown by seed. This grass is considered to be a superb plant for erosion co...

**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 Uses:** Group or mass in borders. Also effective in native plant areas or meadows where it can naturalize. Inflorescence is excellent for dried flower arrangements.

Grow in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Plants generally perform best in sandy or gravelly loams in hot, dry locations. Plants tolerate infertile, poor soils. Good resistance to drought. Plants spread by self-...

### 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 Uses:** Except for certain horticultural varieties, straight species plants are typically not grown as garden plants. They may be grown at the edge of a pond or water garden, in boggy areas, among wet pebbles or rocks or in several inches of st...

Easily grown in moist to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Best in full sun. Performs well in standing water to 4 deep, but will also grow well in garden soils as long as the soils are in fact kept consistently moist. Plants will s...

#### 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 Uses:** Accent, group or mass. Also effective as a screen. Perennial borders, wild gardens, native plant gardens, prairies, meadows or naturalized areas. Also appropriate for water gardens, bog gardens and along ponds.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates a wide range of soils, including dry ones, but prefers moist, sandy or clay soils. Tolerates occasional flooding. May flop in overly rich soils. Genera...

#### 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

## *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 Uses:** Ornamental grass for borders, cottage gardens, rock gardens, rain gardens, wild gardens, wood margins, meadows or prairie-like settings. Group or mass. A good low-maintenance selection for sun-baked areas.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. Tolerates clay soils and occasional inundation. Performs well in poor soils. Good drought resistance once esta...

#### 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 Uses:** Mass or blend into prairies, meadows, wild or naturalized areas. Vertical accent for borders. Also effective on slopes for erosion control.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerant of a wide range of soils including heavy clays. Does well in poor, dry, infertile soils. Tends to open up and/or flop in moist, rich soils however. May ...

#### 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 blue stem and switchgrass, Indian grass is an important species in the tallgrass prairie. The bright yellow flowers contrast attractively with the blue-gray foliage. The

## *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 Uses:** Ground cover for hot, dry areas. Prairies, meadows, native plant gardens, wild areas or slopes. Also effective in large rock gardens. Accent for foundation plantings or borders.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates wide range of soils, including heavy clays. Prefers dry, rocky soils. Good drought tolerance. Slow-growing and slow to establish. May be grown from se...

#### 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 Uses:** Group or mass in shrub borders or woodland areas. Ability to withstand wet conditions makes it suitable for growing on the margins of ponds or streams. Also effective in naturalized areas where its suckering, colonial growth habit does...

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Wide range of soil tolerance including boggy soils. Best fruit production usually occurs in full sun. Remove root suckers to prevent colonial spread.

#### 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 Uses:** Group or mass in shrub borders, small gardens or open woodland areas. Ability to withstand wet conditions makes it suitable for growing on the margins of ponds or streams. Excellent addition to naturalized areas where its suckering, co...

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Plants have a wide range of soil tolerance including boggy soils. Best fruit production usually occurs in full sun. Remove root suckers to prevent...

### 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 Uses:** Naturalize in woodland areas, native plant gardens, pond margins, low spots or shrub borders. May also be grown in shallow water at the edge of ponds or large water gardens.

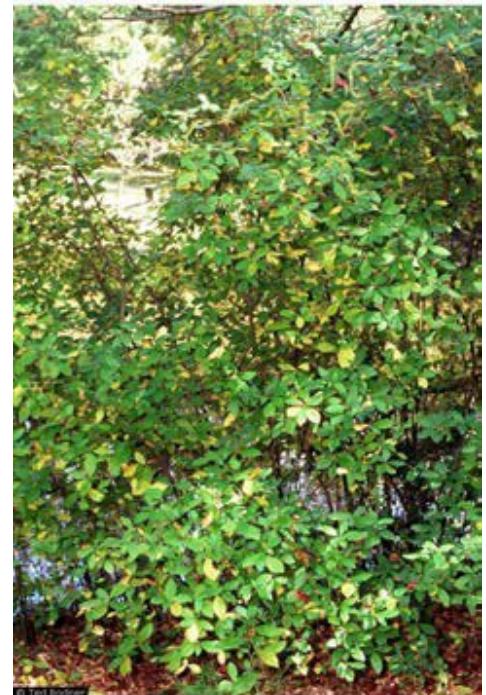
Easily grown in moist, humusy soils in full sun to part shade. Grows very well in wet soils, including flood conditions and shallow standing water. Adapts to a wide range of soils except dry ones. Pruning is usually not necessary, but...

#### 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 Uses:** Summersweets are somewhat unique among flowering shrubs because of their ability to bloom in shady locations in late summer when few other shrubs are in bloom. Mass or group in lawns, foundations or shrub borders. Good flowering shrub ...

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers part shade and consistently moist, acidic, sandy soils. Soils should not be allowed to dry out. Tolerates clay soils. Tolerates full shade. Promptly rem...

### 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 Uses:** Good shrub for moist to wet areas of the landscape. Not overly ornamental. Somewhat unkempt for placement in prominent areas. Good selection for moist woodlands, naturalized areas, along streams/ponds or for erosion control.

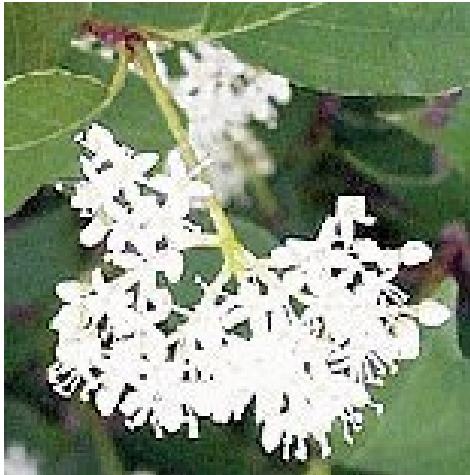
Grow in average, medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, organically rich, slightly acidic soils in part shade. Tolerates close to full shade. Benefits from a 2-4 mulch which will help keep roots co...

#### 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 Uses:** Excellent when planted in groups and left alone to spread in naturalized areas or native plant gardens. Also effective in shrub borders, along streams or ponds or near buildings or when planted as a screen. Can be particularly useful b...

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerates wide range of soil conditions, including both moist and somewhat dry soils. Tolerant of city air pollution. Will spread to form thickets if root s...

**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 Uses:** Excellent massed or as a specimen. Effective in shrub borders where plants can be combined with evergreens or a contrasting color of redtwig dogwoods for interesting winter contrast. Also effective in naturalistic plantings in moist soil...

Best grown in organically rich, fertile, consistently moist soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, including swampy or boggy conditions. Trim roots with a spade and promptly remove root suckers if colonial ...

### 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 Uses:** Shrub borders, woodland gardens. Screen or tall hedge.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Best flowering in full sun. Prefers moist, acidic, organically rich soils. Tolerates heavy clay soils. Promptly remove suckers to prevent colonia...

#### 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 serio...

**Condition Comments:** The long-lived witch-hazel ~~performs best on moist sites~~ <sup>Shrubs</sup>. It tolerates wet soils, pollution, shade, and poor soil. Avoid extremely dry situations. Full sun forms fuller, more symmetrical plants.

## *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 Uses:** Effective as a specimen or accent for foundations or other locations near homes or patios. Group or mass in shrub borders or in open woodland areas. Good informal hedge. Exfoliating mature branches provide interesting color and texture...

Easily grown in organically rich, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Thrives in moist soils, and appreciates a summer mulch which helps retain soil moisture. Bloom occurs on old wood. Prune if needed immedi...

### 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 Uses:** Mass or group. Excellent for shrub borders, foundation plantings or as a low hedge. Also effective naturalized in moist woodland gardens or in moist locations near streams or ponds. This species is noted for its ability to perform wel...

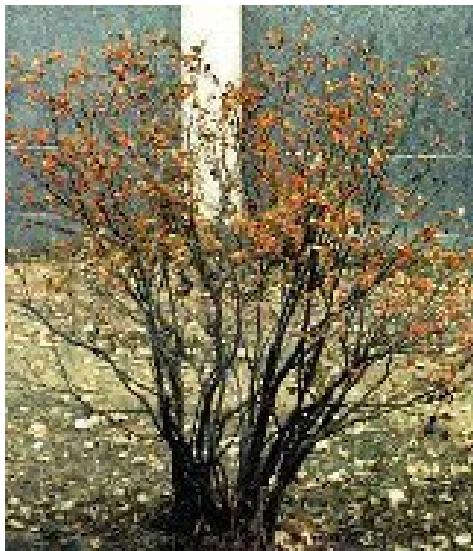
Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Adaptable to both light and heavy soils. Tolerates wet soils. Prefers rich, consistently moist, acidic soils in full sun. Good shade tolerance, however. Avoid n...

#### 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 Uses:** Year round interest, highlighted by the showy display of red berries in winter. Excellent shrub for moist soils in low spots or along streams and ponds. Mass or group as a hedge, in shrub borders, foundations, native plant areas, bird ...

Easily grown in average, acidic, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Adaptable to both light and heavy soils, but prefers moist, acidic, organic loams. Good tolerance for poorly drained soils including wet boggy or swampy co...

### 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.

[\[MBG\]](#)

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Shrubs

*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 Uses:** A versatile shrub for sun and shade. Specimen, group or mass. Shrub borders, open woodland gardens, foundations or hedges. Mass for a shrubby ground cover effect. Naturalizes well in wild or informal areas. Also a good selection for...

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Adaptable to shade, but fall color is best with more sun. Prefers moist, humusy, acidic soils, but tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. Can for...

### **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 100 part of the day. Can grow in swamps and other areas of poor drainage. Should be watered during droughts

*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 Uses:** Superior flowering shrub for groups or massing in shrub borders, cottage gardens, woodland areas or wild/naturalized areas. Hedge. Foundations. Compliments rhododendrons and azaleas.

Best grown in cool, moist, rich, acidic, humusy, well-drained soils in part shade. Mulch to retain moisture and keep root zones cool. Plants tolerate a wide range of light conditions (full sun to full shade), but are best in part shade...

**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 Uses:** Small shrub for rock garden, on slopes, bank stabilizer, border, foundations or underplanting for larger shrubs.

Grow in average, medium to wet, well-drained soils in part shade. Prefers a moist, cool, acidic soil. Can be grown in full sun, but must have good moisture. Does not tolerate drought or windy conditions. Although winter hardy to Zone...

#### 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 Uses:** Shrub borders, shade or woodland gardens, moist areas along streams or ponds, native plant gardens or naturalized plantings.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soils in part shade. Fall color is best with more sun. Tolerates full shade, but habit becomes more open and wide-spreading. Also tolerant of full sun, but good soil moisture is required.

#### 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 Uses:** Best in groups or massed. A versatile shrub that can be used in woodland gardens or shrub borders, as a screen or informal hedge, in wet or shady sites, or on a bank for erosion control. Salt tolerance makes it appropriate for location...

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, peaty or sandy, acidic soils, but tolerates a wide range of soils and growing conditions, including poor soils, wet soils, drought, hig...

**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 Uses:** Best grouped in shrub borders, mixed borders, open woodland gardens, native plant gardens and open shade gardens. Effective near patios or decks. Specimen around the home. Plants in groups with earlier blooming azaleas to extend the a...

Best grown in acidic, humusy, well-drained loams in part shade. This species of azalea is tolerant of moist to wet soils including ones with somewhat poor drainage (its native habitat is swampy lowland areas). It also tolerates periodi...

#### 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 Uses:** Good for stabilizing embankments or for hard-to-cover areas with poorer soils or for wild parts of native plant gardens or naturalized areas. Informal hedges.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of wide range of soils except those that are poorly drained.

### General Maintenance Level - Low

**Problems:** No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to leaf spot, rust, scale, aphids and mites. Nipple gall 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 Uses:** Mass in borders, rose garden, meadows, naturalized areas or native plant gardens.

Best grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun. Best flowering and disease resistance occur in full sun. Water deeply and regularly (mornings are best). Avoid overhead watering. Good air circulation promotes vigo...

**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 Uses:** Group or mass in naturalized areas where suckering spread may be appreciated. Attractive flowers and interesting fruits. Landscape specimen, shrub borders, screens, backgrounds, stream/pond peripheries or low spots. Good sprawling hedge.

Grow in medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, humusy ones. Spreads by root suckers to form colonies. Prune suckers as they appear unless naturalizing. A large...

#### 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 ...

[MBG] [WF] [PRN] [PNL]

Shrubs

**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 Uses:** Effective along streams or ponds, in low spots or boggy areas, or, with regular watering, in a border or cottage garden.

Grow in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers full sun. Needs constant moisture, and soil must not be allowed to dry out. Remove spent flower clusters to promote additional bloom.

### 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 Uses:** Needs moist acidic soils to grow well. Good selection for pond margins, low spots or other moist locations in the landscape. Mass or group. Low hedge for paths and walkways. Incorporate into foundation planting.

Easily grown in average, acidic, moist to wet soils in full sun. Tolerates light shade. Tolerates a wide range of soils. Remove faded flower clusters as practicable to encourage additional bloom. Flowers on new wood, so prune in late...

#### 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 Uses:** Useful for ornamental purposes (flowers, fruit, quality summer foliage and fall color) as well as for fruit production (blueberries). It is effective in shrub borders or as part of less formal shrub plantings in areas such as native pla...

Best grown in acidic (pH of 4.8 to 5.2), organically rich, medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Shallow, fibrous roots need constant moisture and good drainage. Plants appreciate a good organic mulch. Although ...

#### 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 Uses:** Naturalize in open woodland areas. Also may be used in shrub borders, foundations or hedges.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. This shrub is generally more shade tolerant than many of the other species of Viburnum . Prefers moist loams, but tolerates a wide range of soils. ...

### 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 Uses:** Not highly ornamental, but exceedingly winter hardy, vigorous and reliable. Shrub borders. Tall hedge or screen. Background for native plantings.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist loams, but tolerates a wide range of soils. Established plants have some drought tolerance. Prune as needed immediately after flower...

**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 Uses:** Shrub borders. Tall hedge or screen. Background for native plantings. Suckering habit is conducive to naturalizing.

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prune immediately after flowering since flower buds form in summer for the following year. Remove root suckers to control spread unless naturalization is desired...

#### 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 Uses:** Specimen or groups. Shrub borders, foundations, hedges or roadside plantings. Good selection for low spots and peripheries of water gardens, streams or ponds.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist loams, but tolerates a wide range of soils including boggy ones. Prune lightly, only as needed, in fall. Pruning after flowering may be...

#### **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:** s 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 Uses:** Shrub borders or foundations. Woodland margins. Hedge or screen.

Easily grown in average, moist, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers loams with consistent moisture, but tolerates a wide range of soils. Prune as needed immediately after flowering.

**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. Suckers 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 Uses:** Attractive compact shrub for lawns, shrub borders, woodland margins or native plant areas. Good plant for bird gardens (birds love the fruits). Naturalized plantings. Hedge.

Easily grown in average, dry to medium moisture, sandy/gravelly, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates moist soils. Prune out dead and weakened shoots in late winter.

### 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 Uses:** Naturalize in a native plant or wild garden, or grow in a shrub border or woodland margin. Effective in damp areas along ponds or streams.

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, acidic, fertile soils. Will grow in shade but becomes leggy.

**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 Uses:** Specimen or small groupings for lawns, parks and commercial properties, and, in particular, for wet soils along ponds, streams or in low spots. Good choice for the St. Louis area and generally a good substitute for the paper birch in t...

Easily grown average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. River birch is perhaps the most culturally adaptable and heat tolerant of the birches. Prefers moist, acidic, fertile soils including semi-aquatic conditions, but als...

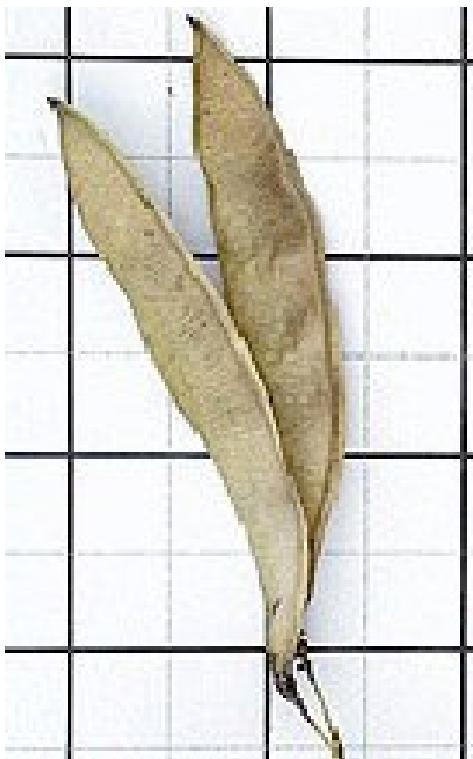
#### General Maintenance Level - Low

**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. 120  
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)

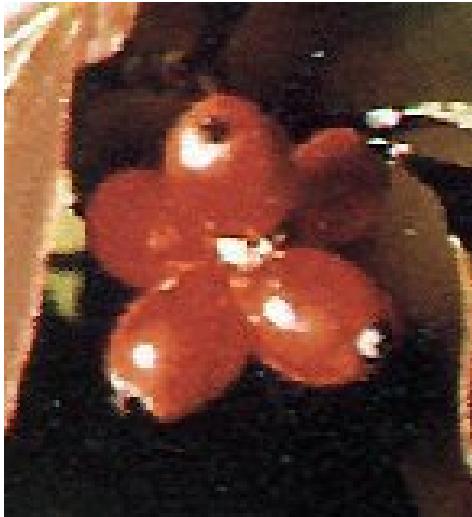
**General Uses:** Specimen or small groups. Lawns, shrub borders, woodland margins, or along patios. Street tree or lawn tree. Attractive in naturalized settings. Good cut flower for forcing indoors.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Part shade is best in hot summer climates. Performs best in moderately fertile soils with regular and consistent moisture. Avoid wet or poorly dra...

#### 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 Uses:** Popular as a specimen or small grouping on residential property around homes, near patios or in lawns. Also effective in woodland, bird or native plant gardens.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, organically rich, acidic soils in part shade. Benefits from a 2-4 mulch which will help keep roots cool and moist in summer. May be...

### 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 <sup>Trees</sup>

## *Magnolia virginiana* SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA



### 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 Uses:** Excellent specimen tree for lawns or tall multi-stemmed shrub for shrub borders. Use in foundation plantings, near patios or on the periphery of woodland areas. Often planted in parks. Will grow in wet soils such as those found in low...

Easily grown in acidic, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, rich, organic soils, but, unlike most other magnolias, tolerates wet, boggy soils. Also does quite well in the heavy clay soils of Missouri. Appreci...

### 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.