



Allegheny-spurge – *Pachysandra procumbens* – Grows in attractive clumps in the shade, with the clumps growing larger each year. Can be used as a slow growing groundcover if you plant multiple plants. A lovely addition to the shade or partially shaded garden. In the spring, it has soft clusters of flowers above attractively mottled leaves.

Allegheny-vine – *Adlumia fungosa* – Think of this as a climbing bleeding heart. Foliage and flowers are similar to bleeding heart, but grows into a vine. Flowers range from pale to dark pink. Leave seed heads for winter interest and for the birds, or deadhead to prolong bloom.

Allspice, Carolina; Sweetshrub – *Calycanthus floridus* – A dense, attractive shrub with burgundy, spring-blooming flowers that are well known for their sweet or fruity fragrance. The leaves are glossy and attractive. This extremely adaptable tough shrub is deer resistant.

Alumroot – *Heuchera americana* – This dependable plant needs well-drained soil and not too much sun. Consider planting it as the front edge of a shaded border, since the large, roundish leaves offer a different texture to the taller plants behind it.

Alum-root, hairy – *Heuchera villosa* – This heuchera has pointed leaves and can tolerate dry shade, a problem area for many gardeners. It will take some sun if kept moist. It makes a fine front edge for a woodland garden.

Anemone, Canada – *Anemone canadensis* – A very aggressive, low-growing groundcover with showy white flowers. It will spread sideways indefinitely. This trait might make it useful in waste areas where very little will grow.

Anemone, rue – *Thalictrum thalictroides* – A small, delicate gem with whitish green flowers. A delight in the spring woodland garden.

Arborvitae, American; northern white cedar - *Thuja occidentalis* - A small to medium sized evergreen tree that provides food and shelter for birds. Tolerates a wide variety of conditions but is a favorite of deer, fence the tree while young.

Arrowwood, southern – *Viburnum dentatum* – Growing in sun or part shade, arrowwood mounds into a dense round form with dark green leaves. It becomes covered with white flowers in late spring, followed by plentiful purple fruits in fall. An easy-to-grow, adaptable shrub. With birds frequently nesting in it, it's a top 10 wildlife shrub.

Asters – *Symphotrichum sp.* – These showy plants bloom in late summer to fall, creating color up until, and sometimes after, the first few frosts. They are essential plants for pollinators; they provide late season nectar for butterflies and bees preparing for winter, and, in winter, their seeds help to sustain birds.

Aster, aromatic – *Symphotrichum oblongifolium* – Violet flowers with a yellow disk and aromatic foliage. Not as tall as the New York and New England asters. It spreads by rhizomes and tolerates dry soil. Named best for the home garden.

Aster, blue wood – *Symphotrichum cordifolium* – Late season lavender color for woodland, shade or border



planting in sun or shade mix. Reseeds in sun or shade, easy to pull where it is not wanted. Reliable.

Aster, calico – *Symphyotrichum lateriflorum* – A delicate branching aster whose numerous flowers are very small and range in color from white to yellow to a reddish purple. It blooms into the fall and will take moist or dry soil.

Aster, flat-topped white – *Doellingeria umbellata* – A tall, white aster for sunny, moist areas. It can grow to 4 or 5 feet tall, so best in the back of the border or, even better, in an informal meadow setting.

Aster, large-leaved; bigleaf – *Eurybia macrophylla* – A woodland aster with unusually low-growing, fuzzy leaves and purple flowers on taller stems. It can form a dense, spreading groundcover and prefers woodland conditions.

Aster, New England – *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* – Purple flowers with a yellow disk on tall stems in late summer into fall. A must for the fall garden. Lower leaves die back as the season progresses, so trim the front few stems early in the season or plant behind lower growing plants. One of our most common and showy asters. Hairy leaves help differentiate this plant from New York Aster (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*).

Aster, New York – *Symphyotrichum novi-belgii* – Purple flowers with a yellow disk on tall stems in late summer into fall. Compared to New England aster, New York aster is more bushy and compact and prefers moist soil.

Aster, smooth blue – *Symphyotrichum laeve* – Violet flowers in late summer into fall for a mixed sunny border, meadow or woodland edge. A personal favorite of Preserve members.

Aster, white heath – *Symphyotrichum ericoides* – Tough aster that is happy in dry sunny sites. Prolific bloomer with bright white flowers. Height depends on growing conditions and competition. Normally grows 1 to 3 feet high.

Aster, white wood – *Eurybia divaricata* – A delicate, lower growing white aster commonly found in shaded locations, often growing with the smaller stature goldenrods. As with many asters, it will seed freely. So in a garden location, it is best to deadhead to prevent self-sowing.

Azalea, dwarf – *Rhododendron atlanticum* – A shorter shrub with fragrant white tubular flowers, this azalea spreads by root suckers to make it as wide as it is tall. It needs moist, acidic well-drained soil high in organic matter.

Azalea, flame – *Rhododendron calendulaceum* – You can't miss this when in bloom. The colors, ranging over a spectrum of yellow, gold and orange, bring color drama to a woodland garden. It requires moist, acidic, well-drained soil.

Azalea, sweet – *Rhododendron arborescens* – Pleasantly scented white flowers are accented by red style and filaments. Can grow to 15 feet tall and wide. It needs moist, acidic well-drained soil high in organic matter.

Azalea, swamp – *Rhododendron viscosum* – One of the last native azaleas to bloom, it is easy to identify by the strong honeysuckle scent of the flowers. Like many other rhododendrons, it needs acidic soil but this one

can also take wet soil.

Barbara's-buttons – *Marshallia grandiflora* – Pink flowers 12 to 18 inches long emerge from attractive clumping foliage in late spring or early summer. Needs moist, well-drained soil in full or partial sun. It could be combined with other low growers such as blue-eyed grass and nodding onion and wild pink (*Silene caroliniana*) for a low border.

Basil, wild – *Clinopodium vulgare* – The wild cousin of our cultivated basil, it has traditionally been used in cooking and medicinal preparations. Although not overly showy, the flowers are light pink to lavender, bloom from June until September, and are a feast for many pollinators. Deer resistant.

Bayberry – *Myrica pensylvanica* – A tough shrub that can grow in just about any soil. Its dense, rounded form provides nice cover for birds. Gray berries on the females provide winter interest and an emergency food source for birds. Although this is not the bayberry species sold in the spice section of the grocery store, the waxy leaves have a similar fragrance. The berries are used for traditional bayberry candles.

Bearberry – *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* – A dense evergreen groundcover that thrives in poor or sandy soils. The dense, shiny leaves turn red over the winter. Can form large clumps in sun or part shade. Good for soil stabilization.

Beard-tongue, foxglove – *Penstemon digitalis* – An attractive and reliable meadow or perennial border plant. White tubular flowers rise above clumping foliage. It naturalizes, but not aggressively. Significant pollinator plant as it blooms in the garden's quiet period between spring and summer, jumpstarting the flowering season in your border plantings before coneflowers begin to bloom.

Beard-tongue, hairy – *Penstemon hirsutus* – A lower growing beardtongue with pale lavender flowers. This is not as common along the roadsides as *P. digitalis* but it is a soft, lovely surprise to find it. It could be used in the front of borders or rock garden, perhaps with a selection of wild pink (*Silene*) or eastern columbine (*Aquilegia*).

Bee-balm – *Monarda didyma* – Another of the top three hummingbird plants, this is a bright red, moisture loving plant like *Lobelia cardinalis*. An easy-to-grow plant that comes back every year. It will spread sideways indefinitely in moist, rich soil if you don't contain it, but it is easy to contain. It makes it a nice addition to a meadow habitat or a source of plants for your friends. In addition to hummingbirds, bee-balm is a favorite of butterflies and clear wing moths. A must for your butterfly garden.

Bee-balm, spotted; Horsemint – *Monarda punctata* – This drought-tolerant bee-balm grows well in sunny, well-drained areas. The flowers are an intricate stacked combination of pink, green and white. Not as tall as other bee-balms, it has a nice fragrance and is another ecosystem powerhouse for butterflies and pollinators.

Bee-balm; Basil-balm – *Monarda clinopodia* – Basil bee balm is similar to other monardas except the flowers are white. Flowers are sparser and less showy than other bee balms, but will grow in light shade. Visited by



native pollinators and, like all monardas, is a host plant for several butterflies.

Beech, American – *Fagus grandifolia* – A stately tree found in a range of sun to shade in moist, well-drained soil. Beechnuts are an important food for wildlife and the leaves are hosts to numerous butterfly caterpillars. The smooth gray bark is distinctive as are the overwintering golden brown leaves, which are found most noticeably on younger trees.

Bellflower, tall – *Campanula americana* – Tall bellflower is a self-seeding biennial that blooms the second year. Its showy bluish-purple flowers are surprisingly not bell-shaped, but rather open and flat and similar to borage flowers. It grows well in shade to part sun and blends well in a cottage garden.

Bellwort – *Uvularia grandiflora* – The larger flowered of the two bellworts, with gracefully nodding bright yellow flowers. It prefers wooded areas with rich moist soils. If planting this in a new woodland garden, consider enriching the soil with extra organic matter. Because of its larger root system, it is more robust than the perfoliate variety (*Uvularia perfoliata*).

Bellwort, perfoliate – *Uvularia perfoliata* – This bellwort is smaller than *Uvularia grandiflora* and the flowers are a pale yellow. It is more commonly found than the larger variety (*Uvularia grandiflora*) but grows in the same moist wooded areas.

Bergamot, lavender – *Monarda fistulosa* – A lavender bee balm that will grow in most soil conditions but prefers moist soil and sun. Flowers are butterfly magnets. If a butterfly is in the vicinity, it will often be found on bergamot. Works well with summer phlox, downy skullcap and purple hyssop. A partial shade plant with attractive pink flowers and mounded, lacy foliage that blooms all summer if kept moist. Also deer resistant. Truly a winner.

Bergamot, purple – *Monarda media* Similar to lavender bergamot but blooms earlier and has a darker, reddish-purple color. As with all bergamots and bee-balms it is a dynamic pollinator magnet, attracting hummingbirds, butterflies and bees, also deer resistant. Striking color, aromatic foliage and wildlife value combine to make an exceptional plant for the native plant garden. Grows best in full or partial sun and moist soil but is tolerant of drier conditions.

Birch, Gray – *Betula populifolia* – A small (20' to 40") birch that develops chalky white bark with dark triangular patches where branches meet the trunk. Bark is similar to paper birch but is non-peeling. Fast growing, tolerates difficult sites but can be short lived. All birch trees have high wildlife value and are important host plants.

Birch, River – *Betula nigra* Known for its colorful exfoliating bark, river birch is an attractive and adaptable tree. As its name implies, it prefers moist soil and is happy in our moisture retaining clay soils. Once established it tolerates heat, cold, drought and soil compaction. Fast growing and prefers full sun. All birch trees have high wildlife value and are important host plants.

Birch, Yellow – *Betula alleghaniensis* The largest of our birch trees, yellow birch is known for shiny gold-bronze bark that peels in curly horizontal strips. As the tree matures the bark becomes reddish-brown with peeling plates. Prefers moist soil but grows well if well-watered when young. All birch trees have high



wildlife value and are important host plants.

Black gum; Tupelo – *Nyssa sylvatica* – A medium-size tree topping out around 50 feet. Spectacular fall color in a range of reds, oranges and purples. It prefers moist to wet soil but will grow in drier conditions. Numerous flowers for pollinators followed by blue-black fruits for birds.

Black-eyed-Susan – *Rudbeckia hirta* – The most drought-resistant of the black-eyed-Susans (*Rudbeckia* sp.), its 2- to 3-inch flowers feature brown, or occasionally, maroon centers. It is short-lived but reliably self-sows.

Blazing-star, dense – *Liatris spicata* – Purple flowers arranged on a vertical spike add a different shape and texture to the garden. It grows well in the sun in moist to average soil but will also tolerate occasional wet soil at the edge of a runoff area. Blazing-stars are excellent nectar plants for butterflies, and birds feed on the seeds in the fall.

Blazing-star, northern – *Liatris scariosa* – Different than the more common blazing star, northern blazing star has bright, shaggy, button-like pink/purple flowers. It will grow in dry, tough places and doesn't like moist conditions. Provides late season color.

Bleeding-heart, fringed – *Dicentra eximia* – A partial shade plant with attractive pink flowers and mounded, lacy foliage that blooms all summer if kept moist. Also deer resistant. Truly a winner.

Bloodroot – *Sanguinaria canadensis* – We look forward to bloodroot, it is one of our earliest spring bloomers. Leaves protect the flower and stem from the cold, and delicate white flowers begin to open at 45 degrees and close again on overcast days and at night. Since the white flowers are short lived, it is always a treat to see them.

Blue flag, northern – *Iris versicolor* – The most well-known of the native irises, northern blue flag can be found growing in the water or along the banks of ponds and streams in the wild. It prefers wet conditions but will grow less robustly in average soil. Feeds both native bees and hummingbirds during the quiet time, between Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) and bee-balm (*Monarda* sp.), in late spring. Plant native irises, the ecosystem will thank you!

Blue flag, slender – *Iris prismatica* – Grass-like foliage that is delicate and narrower than northern blue flag (*Iris versicolor*). It grows well in wet, acidic areas with some sun, and, under these conditions, it will spread, but not aggressively.

Blue-eyed-grass – *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* – Actually in the iris family and not a grass, this charmer will lightly self-seed amidst your plantings. With its delicate blue flowers and nice, compact evergreen appearance, it would work well with Wild Pink (*Silene*) or Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia grandiflora*) to form a mixed but cohesive groundcover.

Bluebells, Virginia – *Mertensia virginica* – The Preserve is well known for its spectacular bluebell display in April. Mixed with other spring ephemerals, they cover the valley along the creek at the bottom of the Parry Trail. The pink buds give way to clusters of lovely blue flowers offset by soft, light green leaves. They depend on queen bumblebees for pollination, and the queen bumblebees depend on them for nectar. Particularly



stunning when planted with wood poppies, they grow best in sun to shade in moist soil. They are dormant in summer.

Blueberry, highbush – *Vaccinium corymbosum* – This is the native blueberry that is usually grown for fruit for humans and birds. This bush benefits pollinators, butterflies, and birds alike. Notwithstanding the fruit, blueberries are sometimes grown where their outstanding fall color is in full view. Mulching with pine needles can help maintain the acidic soil needed for best fruit set.

Blueberry, low sweet – *Vaccinium angustifolium* – At 2 feet tall, lowbush is shorter than highbush blueberry, which is more commonly grown for fruit in the Mid-Atlantic states. Lowbush, the famous “Maine blueberry,” is more common in the north. Its blueberries are smaller and relished by wildlife of all sorts. Blueberries are nearly always listed among plants that are the most beneficial to wildlife. In acidic soils, it can form a dense groundcover. It grows in the woods but has better fruit set in sun.

Bluestar – *Amsonia tabernaemontana* – This perennial has three seasons of interest: blue flowers in late spring, mounds of lush mid-height foliage in summer, and spectacular yellow foliage in fall. It is drought-tolerant and pest-resistant.

Bluestem, big – *Andropogon gerardii* – Our tallest native grass. Drought tolerant, high wildlife value. Useful in meadows or at the back of the perennial garden.

Bluestem, little – *Schizachyrium scoparium* – An easy native grass to incorporate into your landscape. Bluish green clumps in the summer give way to red foliage in the fall topped by white seed heads. A treasure trove for wildlife, this clumping grass provides food and shelter for birds, small mammals, and many pollinators. Drought resistant and lower growing than many native grasses, what's not to love?

Boneset – *Eupatorium perfoliatum* – An interesting plant which has a long history with herbalists. The stem grows through the leaves and it was thought that was a sign it would help in healing bones. Not as spectacular as the Joe-Pyes, but has white flowers that are popular with native pollinators and butterflies. It stays under 4 feet tall.

Boneset, hyssop-leaved – *Eupatorium hyssopifolium* – A finely textured plant with large clusters of white flowers in late summer into fall. Attracts butterflies and pollinators and birds eat the seeds. Grows in well-drained soils, including sandy and dry conditions. Often used in meadows.

Bowman's-root – *Gillenia trifoliata* – Delicate white flowers float above toothed, three-lobed foliage in early summer. More robust, and with larger flowers, than American ipecac (*Gillenia stipulatis*). A tough, drought-resistant shrub-like plant for sun or light shade. This graceful plant blends nicely in the shade garden.

Buckeye, bottlebrush – *Aesculus parviflora* – This large shrub has dramatic flowers in between early spring and summer. One of the best shrubs for blooms and denseness in part shade. Also a butterfly magnet. As the name implies, the seeds are buckeyes which readily germinate when planted.

Buckeye, red – *Aesculus pavia* – This small tree's red flowers appear in late spring when the hummingbirds migrate, making it an important nectar source. Its foliage drops early and leaves an interesting skeleton, with



large buckeyes on the branches.

Burnet, swamp – *Sanguisorba canadensis* – This a large-scale plant, both in terms of leaves and flower stems, and is suited to moist to wet conditions. Its late summer- to fall-blooming period extends the visual interest in a meadow along with the dependable asters (*Symphyotrichum* sp).

Bush-clover, narrow-leaved – *Lespedeza angustifolia* – This wild meadow perennial is rare in Pennsylvania and grows from 2 to 3 feet tall, with creamy white flowers at the top of each stalk. It is useful to bees and birds, and like most plants in the pea family, it adds nitrogen to the soil. It is not suited as a border plant in an ordered perennial garden; instead, consider planting it in a wild area or meadow to support butterflies and improve soil quality.

Bush-clover, round-headed – *Lespedeza capitata* – *Lespedeza* species are wild meadow plants that are useful to bees and birds. They are not suited as a border plant in an ordered perennial garden. As with most pea family plants it adds nitrogen to the soil. Often visited by pollinators, this bush clover grows in dry, sunny areas. It can grow to 4 feet tall. The fat, round clover-type flowers are off white with magenta centers.

Butterfly-weed – *Asclepias tuberosa* – The cheerful orange flowers make this a milkweed favorite. Flowers last a long time and monarchs seem to find them. Mark spots where it is planted, as shoots are late to emerge in the spring- many gardeners give up hope or step on the spot and replant the area.

Buttonbush – *Cephalanthus occidentalis* – This is a great shrub for butterfly gardens. Butterflies will actually leave a butterfly bush to come to buttonbush. It grows in moist to wet conditions in the wild; if given moist conditions while it establishes itself, it will grow in average conditions. It is slow to leaf out in spring.

Cactus, eastern prickly-pear – *Opuntia humifusa* – In spite of cold winters, prickly pear grows in 45 of the 48 continental U.S. states. It is useful for very dry difficult sites and provides interest. The fruit and leaves are both edible, but remember to use gloves when handling as the spines are painful.

Cardinal-flower – *Lobelia cardinalis* – With bright red, long-lasting flowers, this is one of the top three plants for hummingbirds—along with bee-balm (*Monarda didyma*) and trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*). It typically grows tall and narrow, making it a see-through plant. Plant it in a moist spot, or expect to water it—although it has been known to reseed and grow in dry clay. Keep the crown of the plant free of mulch and heavy leaf cover in winter. Consider using a very fine-textured compost before the seeds fall so that, if conditions are moist enough, the seeds will germinate and produce more plants for next year.

Catchfly, sticky; Wild pink – *Silene caroliniana* – Low growing plants for the front of a border, path edge or rock garden. Its delicate pink flowers are somewhat reminiscent of old-fashioned dianthus.

Cedar, Eastern red - *Juniperus virginiana* Eastern red cedar is often overlooked as a landscape tree, yet it is dense, evergreen, and essentially care-free. Females appear to turn blue when the numerous berries ripen and the berries are staple winter food for many species of birds, cedar wax-wings are so fond of them that they are named after the tree. One of our highest wildlife value trees, they provide cover and nesting for birds and are a host plant for a number of butterflies and pollinators. Deep rooted and drought resistant, they will grow in nearly any type of soil.



Chestnut, American – *Castanea dentata* – Once the most common tree in Pennsylvania, it was almost completely wiped out by the chestnut blight. Extensive breeding programs have been searching for a chestnut tree that is resistant to the blight.

Chinquapin – *Castanea pumila* – Chinquapin is in the same genus as the American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) and is moderately resistant to chestnut blight. If infected, it will send out suckers that produce nuts.

Chokeberry, black – *Photinia melanocarpa* – A tough shrub with flowers and handsome, plentiful fruit, this is a great addition when creating a natural habitat for pollinators and birds. It has exceptional fall color and a suckering habit.

Chokeberry, red – *Photinia pyrifolia* – A tough shrub with flowers and handsome fruit, this is a great addition when creating a natural habitat for pollinators and birds; its plentiful fall fruit attracts migrating birds. It has exceptional fall color and a suckering habit. It grows taller than wide, so consider planting it with something shorter to avoid a leggy look.

Cohosh, black; Snakeroot, black – *Actaea racemosa* – It is hard to find a native that blooms so spectacularly in shade in the middle of summer. The tall, thin spires of white flowers stand out well in the surrounding green of the forest and would add interest at the back of a border planting.

Cohosh, blue – *Caulophyllum thalictroides* – Blue Cohosh gets its common name from its dramatic blue fruit and dark blue to purple emerging leaves. In addition, attractive foliage and deer resistance make it a fine addition to the woodland garden. Does best in rich, moist soil.

Columbine, eastern – *Aquilegia canadensis* – A favorite in the later spring garden, the red and yellow flowers dance above the foliage. Hummingbirds hover under the flowers, using the nectar to help fuel their migration and nest building. Frequently reseeds and mingles with other May bloomers, looking especially nice with Jacob's-ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) and golden alexander (*Zizia aurea*).

Coneflower, cutleaf – *Rudbeckia laciniata* – Cone shaped greenish-yellow centers and down-curving yellow petals. A tall, dramatic plant that seems to be always covered by nectaring butterflies and insects. An impressive plant for the back of the flower bed.

Coneflower, orange – *Rudbeckia fulgida* – The most common of the black-eyed-Susan/coneflower family (*Rudbeckia sp.*), this clumping perennial blooms over a long period, late into the fall. A host plant for several butterflies and seeds are relished by goldfinches.

Coneflower, prairie – *Ratibida pinnata* – Another butterfly and pollinator magnet that provides seeds for birds and serves as a host plant for butterflies. Greenish-gray flowerheads above yellow backward curved petals. A natural to mix with coneflowers (*Echinacea*) and black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia sp.*) for a flowering meadow or perennial bed. Likes dry soil and grows 3 to 5 ft. tall.

Coneflower, purple – *Echinacea purpurea* – A reliable, long blooming plant that is ideal for a border or meadow. It is a butterfly favorite and a dependable food source for goldfinches. Consider dead-heading some



plants to keep the bloom going and letting some go to seed to attract birds.

Coneflower, three-lobed – *Rudbeckia triloba* – A late blooming *Rudbeckia* that has sprays of small yellow flowers. Reseeds itself and tolerates almost any conditions but deep shade.

Coralberry; Indian-currant – *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* – Adaptable to dry or rocky conditions, this plant looks more like a dense berry plant than a formal shrub. Its berries last well into the fall. It creates thickets for shelter, making it an important habitat plant.

Cranberry – *Vaccinium macrocarpon* – An ornamental low-growy woody vine and excellent groundcover that produces edible fruit. In the right conditions will form a thick evergreen mat; must be grown in acidic, moist and well drained soil for fruit set. Attracts pollinators and birds will eat the fruit if not harvested quickly. Consider protecting the plants in winter with a thick layer of leaves.

Cranberry, highbush – *Viburnum trilobum* – A show stopper in bloom with large, 2- to 4-inch wide, flat-topped white flowers. Red berries and brilliant red foliage follow in the fall. If it likes its location, it will grow quickly into a dense 15-foot high shrub, making it an attractive screening option. Loves wet feet but survives during our dry summers.

Culver's-root – *Veronicastrum virginicum* – Good for borders or meadows. The flower spikes are attractive as cut flowers. A mid- to late summer bloom also makes it very useful in a mixed planting. Also a butterfly magnet.

Cup-plant – *Silphium perfoliatum* – A vigorous, bold-looking plant with flowers that resemble thin-petaled sunflowers. The leaves join at the stem to create a “cup” that holds rainwater and morning dew. Birds and butterflies will drink from the cup and each cup can create its own little micro habitat. It will self seed vigorously. Not an especially good plant for a border, it is better suited to a wild meadow.

Dandelion, dwarf; Cynthia – *Krigia biflora* – Cynthia looks very much like a tall slender common dandelion. The orange-yellow flower blooms during the late spring and summer. It prefers moist soil, but it can also work as a groundcover in dry, poor soil. It self seeds freely.

Dogwood, alternate-leaved – *Cornus alternifolia* – A graceful understory tree that does well in partial or full sun. Horizontal branches often grow in tiers so that the tree appears layered. White flowers followed by purple fruits that are relished by wildlife.

Dogwood, flowering – *Cornus florida* – The dogwood tree that we all know and love. Showy flowers, red fruit loved by birds, and great fall color. Often seen blooming in the woods, it does best in sun to light shade. It supports birds and is an important butterfly host, unlike the non-native Kousa dogwood that has berries which are too large for birds, provide inadequate nutrition, and is not a host plant for our butterflies.

Dogwood, gray or swamp – *Cornus racemosa* – Tolerant of most soils, this dogwood grows well in part shade to full sun. White flowers in late spring produce white berries that are relished by birds. It colonizes readily, so it should be planted where it has room to run or naturalize. Alternatively, the runners that it produces can be transplanted and shared.



Native Plant Profiles – from A to Z

Dogwood, red-osier – *Cornus sericea* – Often grown for its striking red foliage in winter, red twig is, like all dogwoods, a high wildlife-value plant. It grows as a multi-stem shrub with a mass of white flowers in June followed by sporadic blooming until fall. It prefers moist soil but will grow in a variety of conditions.

Dogwood, round-leaved – *Cornus rugosa* – Like all dogwoods, this has white, pollinator-friendly blooms. It offers numerous berries for birds and is a host plant for several butterflies. It prefers dappled shade but will grow in sun or shade. This tough dogwood does very well in dry conditions.

Doll's eyes – *Actaea pachypoda* – Named for its shiny round white fruits with a black dot in the middle, doll's eyes is shade plant with delicate, attractive white flowers. Berries are relished by wildlife but are poisonous for humans

Dropseed, prairie – *Sporobolus heterolepis* – A large, mounding grass with a beautiful arching appearance. The leaves are narrow and glossy medium green. One of the few low-growing native grasses for sunny conditions.

Dutchman's-breeches – *Dicentra cucullaria* – Masses of flowers that resemble upside down, old-fashioned pants, and foliage that forms a soft green carpet. Foliage disappears by the end of spring. Plant it with other spring ephemerals and plants that will fill in later such as ferns and cohosh. An important plant to provide nectar for the first queen bumblebees to emerge.

Dutchman's-pipe; Pipe-vine – *Aristolochia macrophylla* – A vigorous vine with overlapping, large heart-shaped leaves. It needs sturdy support and can be used to create privacy. Flowers look like old-fashioned pipes and mature into cucumber-like fruits. The sole host of the exquisite pipevine swallowtail butterfly.

Elder, American – *Sambucus canadensis* – An excellent plant for naturalizing at woodland edges, elderberry can create a dense thicket about 10 feet high. Birds are attracted to the fruit, as are people who make jams, jellies and wine. It is on almost every list of the top 10 plants for birds.

Elm, American – *Ulmus americana* – Due to their hardiness and form, elms were once the most widely planted shade and street trees in America. However, Dutch elm disease has ravished them for decades. Years of research have resulted in new cultivars with resistance to the disease. They are host plants to the eastern comma and question mark butterflies.

Fern, Christmas – *Polystichum acrostichoides* – This is the wonderful evergreen fern that brightens moist hillsides, sometimes right along with icicles in winter. If planted in rich, moist soil with some shade, it can be enjoyed year-round.

Fern, cinnamon – *Osmunda cinnamomea* – A lovely, dependable fern for moist and part to full shade. Most noticeable are the cinnamon-colored fertile fronds that are produced in spring followed by the vase-like form of the green vegetative fronds of summer.

Fern, Clinton's wood – *Dryopteris clintoniana* – Easily grown in average to wet, swampy conditions. It can grow to 4 feet tall with the fertile fronds standing tall and the infertile fronds tending to lay flat.



Native Plant Profiles – from A to Z

Fern, glade – *Diplazium pycnocarpon* – This fern prefers moist, shady spots but tolerates dry shade. It spreads sideways when in preferred conditions.

Fern, lady – *Athyrium filix-femina* – This is a lacy, delicate-looking but easy-to-grow fern. It grows well in part shade, moist areas.

Fern, marginal wood – *Dryopteris marginalis* – An easy-to-grow evergreen fern. Common in the winter woods of Bucks County, its lacy leaves make it easy to distinguish from the more robust Christmas fern.

Fern, netted chain – *Woodwardia areolata* – Glossy, bright green and attractive fronds that range from 18 to 24 inches in length. Tolerates moist to wet conditions.

Fern, New York – *Thelypteris noveboracensis* – A clumping fern with leaves that taper at both the base and tip. Can spread rapidly but is easy to control.

Fern, northern maidenhair – *Adiantum pedatum* – A well-loved fern that is delicate-looking but easy to grow. Its stalks form almost a complete circle, with a cascade of segments radiating outward that make it look like a Christmas wreath. Consider planting it in drifts with Allegheny-spurge (*Pachysandra procumbens*).

Fern, ostrich – *Matteuccia struthiopteris* – A dramatic, easy-to-grow fern that loves moist shade but can be grown in full sun if enough water is available. It can grow as tall as 6 feet high and will spread sideways in preferred conditions. The best fern for edible fiddleheads.

Fern, royal – *Osmunda regalis* – Tall and bold-looking, this fern grows well in very wet sites in sun to part shade.

Fern, sensitive – *Onoclea sensibilis* – Named for its susceptibility to cold, this easy-to-grow fern does well in wet sites or along the edge of a pond. It will tolerate drier soils but will grow more slowly and be somewhat sensitive to sun exposure.

Fern, walking – *Asplenium rhizophyllum* – An unusual fern that is named for its tendency to develop new plants where the tips of its leaves touch the ground. It likes moist, mossy limestone rocks, in the shade—consider planting them in crevices or on top of moss.

Fire-pink – *Silene virginica* – Despite its name, the flower is bright red. Hummingbirds are the principal pollinators, and the plant continually replaces nectar throughout the day to ensure a reward for the hummingbirds that stop by. A great plant for pollinators, it continually replaces nectar throughout the day for the hummingbirds that stop by. It likes well-drained soil and, if you are lucky, will reseed, and you can divide larger clumps.

Foamflower – *Tiarella cordifolia* – A charming favorite that offers interesting leaves and flowers. The soft white flower plumes are beautiful and delicate, and the foliage creates a nice groundcover in the shade. The leaves of this semi-evergreen turn burgundy and remain on the ground throughout the winter, then provide a boost for the new spring growth. Planting it with *Heuchera sp.* provides mixed-leaf interest.

Fringe-tree – *Chionanthus virginicus* – A small tree that has it all: lacy white flowers that cover the tree in the



Native Plant Profiles – from A to Z

spring, wonderful fragrance, large blue fruits on the female and bright yellow fall color. Consider placing it near the house so that you can enjoy it.

Gentian, closed; Gentian, bottle – *Gentiana andrewsii* – Cherished for their blue flowers, bottle gentian flowers look and stay tightly closed to the human eye, but the bees make their way completely inside the flower—keep your eye out for wiggling flowers. After being pollinated, the edges of the petals turn pink, which tells the bees to move on to another flower. It grows well in moist soil and a mix of sun, and is ideal in a border planting. In the wild, they are found in woodlands with rich soil and dappled sun.

Gentian, fringed – *Gentianopsis crinita* – Described as America's loveliest wildflower, this gentian is a rare beauty, with striking blue fringed-edged flowers. This biennial blooms in late summer. Two plants are necessary for pollination and reseeding.

Geranium, wood – *Geranium maculatum* – A dependable, easy-to-recommend perennial has large pink flowers that are quite showy in late spring. Its five-lobed leaves make a nice clump, and its seed heads resemble a crane's bill. It grows in sun or shade in average soil moisture, though it prefers part shade. With luck, it will reseed.

Gerardia, purple – *Agalinis purpurea* – A reseeding annual with pale purple or pink flowers. Grows in wet areas and blooms in August or September. It is rarely used in the garden; instead, consider putting it in a rain garden or near a pond.

Ginger, wild – *Asarum canadense* – A groundcover can add an attractive, uniform, almost elegant look to a shaded area. Plants fill in to make a dense mat of heart shaped leaves a few inches above the ground. It works well with spring ephemerals that vanish as leaves are starting to emerge in late spring.

Globe-flower, spreading – *Trollius laxus* – A rare find in the wild, this plant has light yellow flowers—actually sepals—that bloom above fringed-looking foliage. It prefers moist areas in part shade.

Goat's Beard - *Aruncus dioicus* - Large, feathery white plumes on a shrub-like perennial that grows in part shade. A significant pollinator plant as it blooms in the quiet period after spring and before the summer bloomers begin their display. In addition, it fills that difficult niche of non-spring blooming shade plants. Does well in dappled shade and can handle full sun if kept moist.

Golden-alexander – *Zizia aurea* – Golden Alexander has a soft, almost lacy appearance, with yellow flowers reminiscent of Queen Anne's lace. Easy to establish, it's both an important plant for native pollinators and a larval food of the black swallowtail butterfly. An excellent meadow plant for moist areas and habitat restoration, since it will reseed and spread. However, because it does reseed freely, in more formal settings consider pulling "volunteers."

Goldenrod, bluestem; Goldenrod, wreath – *Solidago caesia* – A wonderful low to mid-sized goldenrod with a singular appearance: narrow leaves and flowers along the stem in the leaf axils. One of the few goldenrods that grows well in the shade.

Goldenrod, flat-topped – *Euthamia graminifolia* – This aggressive goldenrod is suited for meadows and large



spaces.

Goldenrod, gray – *Solidago nemoralis* – Gray goldenrod is one of our shorter goldenrods, usually less than 2 feet high, and blooms over a longer time than most goldenrods—from August through October. It spreads easily, so is best suited for meadows and informal gardens.

Goldenrod, showy – *Solidago speciosa* – As its name implies, this is one of our most spectacular goldenrods. Later-blooming than other varieties, its large, showy plumes are worth the wait. It grows well in poor, dry soils and becomes aggressive in rich, moist soil.

Goldenrod, stiff – *Solidago rigida* – One of the clumping, less-aggressive goldenrods, this variety is tall and erect with large gray-green leaves. It works well at the back of a border. It is both a favorite for monarch butterflies and a late-season food source for birds.

Goldenrod, sweet – *Solidago odora* – One of the earliest-blooming goldenrods, this is another clumping, well-behaved variety that is tough and adaptable. Its licorice-scented leaves make it easy to identify and a favorite for teas.

Goldenrod, wrinkle-leaf – *Solidago rugosa* – This goldenrod will surprise you with its unique bloom. It is bushy to about 3 feet. Its blooms are delicate and resemble sprays of fireworks. This delightful late-bloomer attracts many pollinators.

Goldenrod, zig-zag – *Solidago flexicaulis* – Another goldenrod for shade with a charming, distinctive flower pattern. In gardens, it forms a small bush to up to 24 inches high depending on soil and light. In the wild, it grows more singularly and stays about 12 to 16 inches tall.

Grass-pink – *Calopogon tuberosus* – A pretty little orchid with a 1-inch-wide pink flower. It grows well where it is wet—even in a few inches of water—and in full sun.

Grass, Indian – *Sorghastrum nutans* – A 2-foot-tall grass with 6-foot-tall flower stems, this plant self-sows with abandon, so its best use may be converting waste areas into naturalized areas.

Grass, switch – *Panicum virgatum* – An attractive native substitute for exotic ornamental grasses. Deer resistant, clump forming and can take a range of soil and light conditions.

Green-and-gold; Goldenstar – *Chrysogonum virginianum* – This is a low, tidy groundcover, often used in the front of flowerbeds. It has cheery yellow flowers that peak in mid- to late spring and then bloom sporadically throughout the summer. It is very adaptable and does best in well-drained, part-sun locations.

Groundnut – *Apios americana* – This is a twining vine in the bean family. The flowers are somewhat similar in shape to wisteria, but are pink to brownish-burgundy and fragrant. Can be aggressive, needs its own space or consider training on a trellis. Grows well in shade. Often grown for its tubers, which were an important source for native Americans and early New World settlers.

Groundsel-tree – *Baccharis halimifolia* – An extremely adaptable deer-resistant shrub that has showy flowers



is well loved by pollinators, and provides seed heads in the fall. It is best used in informal settings.

Hackberry – *Celtis occidentalis* – This drought-and-wind-tolerant, medium-sized tree is an important host plant for several butterflies and a prolific producer of berries for migrating and overwintering birds. Interesting bark, elm-like leaves. Berries reseed but seedlings can be pulled in spring or allowed to grow and then cut back every spring. Caterpillars prefer the young leaves.

Hairy lespedeza – *Lespedeza hirta* Lespedeza species are wild meadow plants that are useful to bees, butterflies and birds. They are not suited as a border plant in an ordered perennial garden. As with most pea family plants, it adds nitrogen to the soil. The flowers are smaller than the ones on round-headed bush clover flowers and are crowded at the top to the plant. A butterfly and moth host plant, it is common in Pennsylvania in dry, sunny areas.

Harebell – *Campanula rotundifolia* – Harebell is a small, delicate and long-blooming showy wildflower with bright violet flowers. It needs dry soil. Consider planting it in a crevice of a rock wall or with other small-scale plants such as wild pink (*sp.*) or blue-eyed-grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*).

Hazelnut, beaked – *Corylus cornuta* – This shrub is similar to the filbert variety (*Corylus americana*)—the only way to tell the difference is in the covering of the nuts.

Hazelnut; Filbert – *Corylus americana* – A full, mounding shrub in sun, more rangy in shade. Many of us at the Preserve begin to get excited about spring when tiny red flowers bloom on the twigs in March. The unusual nuts are covered with hairy, leaf-like husks that turn from green to yellow in the summer. Nuts are edible if you get to them before the squirrels. Easy-to-grow shrub in average to dry soil.

Hepatica, round-lobed – *Hepatica americana* – A cheery precursor of spring, hepaticas are our earliest blooming wildflowers and perhaps our most beautiful. Deep violet-blue flowers emerge on a downy stalk as late winter turns to early spring. The round lobed leaves remain all year, with the previous year's leaves protecting the flower buds and new leaves emerging after flowering. A delicate plant, it may not return if soil and light conditions do not suit it.

Hepatica, sharp-lobed – *Hepatica acutiloba* – A cheery precursor of spring, hepatica blooms in woodlands in March. Delicate violet, pink, purple or white flowers emerge on a downy stalk as late winter turns to spring. Sharp lobed leaves remain all year, with the previous year's leaves protecting the flower buds and new leaves that emerge after flowering. A delicate plant, it may not return if soil and light conditions do not suit it.

Hog-peanut – *Amphicarpaea bracteata* – Often grown in an edible plant garden or for its high wildlife value, hog-peanut is a low growing vine that fixes nitrogen in the soil. Can be aggressive.

Holly, American - *Ilex opaca* - Although slow growing, American holly has many qualities that make it an exceptional tree for the home landscape. An evergreen that grows in a dense, pyramidal form, it provides cover and nesting for birds. Red berries stay on the tree until late winter when they provide needed nutrition for birds. As an added bonus, the shiny deep green leaves and berries provide home grown holiday decorations.

Honeysuckle, trumpet – *Lonicera sempervirens* – Long tubular orange-red to salmon colored flowers begin



blooming as the hummingbirds return. In full sun, it blooms throughout most of the summer; in partial shade, it blooms profusely in May and then sporadically. The long tubular flowers are visited by hummingbirds, butterflies and long-tongued bees, and it is a larval host to spring azures and snowberry clearwing moths. It is not an aggressive vine, growing to about 20 feet in length and unlikely to damage a trellis or house. One of the top-three plants for hummingbirds—along with cardinal-flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) and bee-balm (*Monarda didyma*).

Hop-hornbeam – *Ostrya virginiana* – A pest-resistant, medium-sized tree with high wildlife value. A good basic pest-free, medium-sized tree. Naturally found in full sunlight to partial shade, it tolerates moist or dry conditions. Seed clusters resemble cones and are a winter food source for birds. Larval host for several butterflies, and the shaggy bark provides winter seed storage for nuthatches.

Hornbeam; Ironwood, Musclewood – *Carpinus caroliniana* – Easily identified by its bark, ironwood has a smooth, gray trunk that ripples and resembles straining muscled arms. Often found in the wild as an understory tree in the vicinity of water, it will grow into a neat, dense canopy if grown in the open. It is a small tree with good fall color and hop-like seed heads.

Huckleberry, black – *Gaylussacia baccata* – Similar to blueberries in leaf, flower shape and brilliant fall leaf color, but shorter (1 to 2 feet tall). It grows in sun or shade, though it prefers part shade, and can form ground-covering thickets in woodlands. Berries are dark blue, less acidic than blueberries, and have a slight crunch, making them attractive to humans and wildlife alike. It is also an important a host plant for butterflies and a nesting site for birds.

Hydrangea, wild – *Hydrangea arborescens* – A hardy shrub that grows wild on wooded slopes, it grows best when protected from the midday sun. The flowers start out as greenish white, then turn white and fade to brown. Consider cutting it back in the spring, since flowers grow from the tips of new growth.

Hyssop, purple giant – *Agastache scrophulariifolia* – This giant hyssop has an abundance of showy, lavender flowers that bloom over a long period. Bees and butterflies love it, and birds pick at the seed heads all winter. The spiked flower shape works well as a nice contrast with purple coneflowers (*Echinacea purpurea*) and *Phlox sp.*

Hyssop, yellow giant – *Agastache nepetoides* – A tall plant (up to 8 feet) with yellow flower spikes that bloom in succession over the several months during the summer. The flowers attract numerous butterflies and the plant is usually avoided by deer. Because of its size and rough look, it is best planted in a wild meadow or at the back of a border. It reseeds freely.

Indian-tobacco – *Lobelia inflata* – Small pale blue to violet flowers on a late summer blooming annual. Not a showy plant but an important one for small pollinators. Drought tolerant and deer resistant, it was historically used as a medicinal plant.

Indigo, blue false – *Baptisia australis* – A beloved plant with striking violet-blue flowers and a bluish cast foliage. By its second or third year, if given enough light and space, the plant resembles a small shrub. Attractive seed heads remain on the plant throughout the season. Deer resistant and low maintenance.

Indigo, wild – *Baptisia tinctoria* – A shorter, yellow-flowered version of blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*)



that blooms later. A butterfly host and nectar plant that is drought tolerant and thrives in harsh conditions, this indigo pairs well with butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*).

Inkberry – *Ilex glabra* – An adaptable, problem-free evergreen shrub that can grow in wet or dry locations, in full or part sun. It thrives in acidic soil but will do well in higher pH conditions. A useful substitute for the non-native boxwood, it can be shaped and pruned for size. Females have black berries that attract birds in winter.

Ipecac, American – *Gillenia stipulata*, *Porteranthus stipulatus* – Delicate white flowers float above toothed five-lobed foliage in early summer. A tough, drought-resistant shrub-like plant for sun or light shade. Graceful, it blends nicely in the shade garden. Occasionally reseeds, creating new plants for other areas of the garden.

Iris, dwarf crested – *Iris cristata* – This low-growing iris spreads by rhizomes and makes a nice, small-scale woodland groundcover. Large for the size of the plant, the soft blue to violet flowers have a delicate complexity. Preferring some morning sun, it does not grow well in hot sun or complete shade. It grows well where the soil is moist but well drained, yet also tolerates dry conditions once established.

Ironweed, upland & New York – *Vernonia glauca* & *Vernonia noveboracensis* – Both ironweeds have beautiful magenta-purple flowers on very tall stems, making them good for habitat meadows or at the back of borders. Its flowers seem to be always covered with butterflies. Keep in mind that its roots are dense and, once established, it is difficult to move. This characteristic could make it a wonderful plant to hold soil on a slope mixed with Joe-pye-weed (*Eutrochium sp.*), another impressive root grower. Both of these plants will reseed and increase in a meadow planting.

Jacob's-ladder, spreading – *Polemonium reptans* – A stalwart of the spring garden that provides a nice show of light blue flowers. It is not fussy about light or soil, is easy to transplant, and reseeds just enough to be helpful. It goes well with the wood poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*), another stalwart that tolerates a range of conditions and provides a long blooming season.

Joe-pye-weed, coastal; Joe-pye-weed, little – *Eutrochium dubium* – This is the shortest of the Joe-pye-weed family. Drought and heat tolerant but grows best in moist soil with full or part sun. Deadheading does not produce new blooms, so consider leaving its seed heads for the birds.

Joe-pye-weed, hollow – *Eutrochium fistulosum* – Large, dramatic plant that can grow up to 7 feet tall. Its massive pink flower heads become covered with butterflies in late summer. Prefers full sun, average to moist, well-drained soil, but is drought and heat tolerant. A tough plant. Roots will form a thick mass, so best to put it where it will not have to be moved. Their stems are hollow, cutting them back in fall can damage or destroy the plant due to freezing and thawing.

Joe-pye-weed, spotted – *Eutrochium maculatum* – A staple in the native plant garden, Joe-Pye weed is a tough, useful plant with large showy blooms that it is a favorite of butterflies and bees. Spotted Joe-Pye can tolerate some shade and standing water better than other Joe-Pyes..

Joe-pye-weed, sweet – *Eutrochium purpureum* – A Joe-Pye that can tolerate both shade and drought better than others but prefers moist, partially shaded conditions. Named sweet Joe-Pye weed due to its flowers'



vanilla-like scent. As with all Joe-Pyes, it is often covered with butterflies.

Laurel, mountain – *Kalmia latifolia* – One of our most beautiful evergreen shrubs with corrugated buds that open to white or pink cup-shaped flowers from May to June. It grows well in shade or sun (more flowers in sun) but is very particular about soil conditions-it must have very acidic, well-drained soil.

Leatherwood – *Dirca palustris* – An easy-to-grow, hardy shrub that is deer-resistant and grows in sun or shade. Its subtle yellow flowers bloom in early spring before the leaves appear, its drupes ripen in summer, and then its leaves put on a yellow fall show. Becomes a densely rounded shrub in full sun.

Lily, Canada – *Lilium canadense* – A tall plant of wet areas, Canada lily has yellow to red downturned flowers with chocolate-colored spots. If it is happy, up to 20 blooms can form on a single stalk. Adaptable, it will grow in dry conditions with somewhat less prolific flowering.

Lily, turk's-cap – *Lilium superbum* – A spectacular lily in bloom, the large flowers have backward curved petals and sepals, resembling a cap said to be worn by early Turks. With up to 40 large orange flowers arrayed on a tall plant, it adds a dramatic touch to a perennial border garden. It is also a good wetland meadow plant.

Lobelia, great blue – *Lobelia siphilitica* – A reliable, easy to grow plant that blooms in sun or shade. Blue flowers in late summer are an important bumblebee resource. Hardy and adaptable, it can reseed freely but seedlings are easy to control and identify,.

Loosestrife, false; Seedbox – *Ludwigia alternifolia* – Seedbox has summer-blooming yellow flowers up to ¾-inch wide and fiery red foliage in the fall, but most people grow it for its finely honed square seed pods. Grows in wet areas and reseeds randomly.

Loosestrife, lanceleaf – *Lysimachia lanceolata* – A clumping plant that has cheerful small yellow flowers in summer. It grows less than 2 feet tall and prefers moist or average conditions. It is an easy plant for sun or part shade that can spread aggressively in moist soil.

Lovegrass, purple – *Eragrostis spectabilis* – Purple lovegrass gets its name from its reddish-purple flowers that appear to float above the plant. A warm season grass with good fall color, it can grow in dry to moist conditions, but needs a well-drained habitat. It is one of the few plants that likes sandy soils.

Magnolia, cucumber – *Magnolia acuminata* – The hardiest of our native magnolia trees, cucumber tree grows northward into Ontario. Its flowers are not as flashy as those of other magnolias, but it has interesting seed pods that look like small cucumbers. As it matures it becomes an attractive large, hardy shade tree.

Magnolia, sweetbay – *Magnolia virginiana* – A favorite small tree which blooms a few flowers at a time over a long period in the summer. Sometimes grown solely for the pleasing fragrance of the flowers which is especially strong in early evening—presumably to attract late day and evening pollinators. Shiny leaves on open multi-stem trunks add to its appeal. Consider planting wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) underneath it.

Magnolia, umbrella – *Magnolia tripetala* – A show-stopping tree with paddle-shaped leaves that can be 24 inches long. It has large (6 to 10 inches) creamy white flowers in spring and 3- to 4-inch cone-like fruits which



mature into nutritious red berries in the fall. Often an understory or edge tree.

Marsh-marigold – *Caltha palustris* – The bright yellow flowers and rich green leaves add a cheerful note in spring when trees have yet to leaf out. The plant goes dormant after seeds ripen. It absolutely needs moisture to survive, so consider planting it by a runoff stream or pond edge where it will be wet but not under water.

Mayapple – *Podophyllum peltatum* – Always a delight to see in the woods, mayapple grows well in woodland areas and will spread a bit each year. It blooms as the Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) are finishing and after other woodland ephemerals. As the colony grows it can become an attractive woodland ground cover and may crowd out other species. Its seeds are a favorite of box turtles.

Meadow-rue, tall – *Thalictrum pubescens* – A beautiful tall, delicate plant, its flowers are soft open plumes of white that bloom in summer. Consider mixing this plant with bee-balm (*Monarda didyma*) and Culver's-root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*), since all three like moist soil and partial shade.

Meadow-sweet – *Spiraea alba* – An attractive shrub for wet meadows and difficult damp spots. It is also tolerant of dry soils, although in drier conditions the blooms will be smaller. It spreads rather aggressively by the roots, so consider tending it so it does not roam.

Meehania, heart-leaved – *Meehania cordata* – This is an unassuming groundcover until it explodes with blue violet flowers above the foliage. It is best used as a moist woodland groundcover, but it will grow in deep shade or even in sun if it is kept moist. Unlike other mints, it is a non-aggressive spreader. It grows low enough to work under small trees or shrubs that are open enough to let dappled sunlight reach the plant.

Milkweed, common – *Asclepias syriaca* – Often planted for its usefulness to monarch butterflies and fragrant flowers, common milkweed works well in meadows or large sunny areas. Aggressive runners make it impractical for small spaces unless the area is confined by barriers or mowing.

Milkweed, purple – *Asclepias purpurascens* – Showy pink flowers and large, flat oval-shaped leaves add a add color and texture to the garden. It is an excellent pollinator plant, monarch butterfly host and non-invasive.

Milkweed, swamp – *Asclepias incarnata* – A showy, rose-pink milkweed that blooms as common milkweed blossoms fade. As the name implies, it prefers moist areas, although it has been known to reseed and thrive in dry locations. Clump forming, non-aggressive. Often seems to be the preferred milkweed for monarch butterflies.

Milkweed, white – *Asclepias variegata* – A milkweed that blooms in dry shade. Late-blooming flowers are white with a red ring at the base. Rare, important butterfly and pollinator plant.

Milkweed, whorled – *Asclepias verticillata* – Though not as showy as other milkweeds, this variety blooms later than other milkweeds, making it an often-used host for monarchs. It is short (under 2 feet), with grass-like foliage. If you are lucky, it will spread into a nice clump.

Mistflower – *Conoclinium coelestinum* (*Eupatorium coelestinum*) – A blue-purple delight that is easy to grow and provides nice patches of color over a long-blooming period—from late summer into fall. It prefers full sun



and rich soil, and, if growing conditions are favorable, it can spread aggressively. Clumps expand more slowly in partial shade and are easy to transplant. This plant makes a good garden filler among plants of similar height.

Monkey-flower, Allegheny – *Mimulus ringens* – This little wildflower likes damp, sunny areas such as wet meadows, and reseeds aggressively. Its lavender flowers bloom in summer to early fall and it is a larval host for Baltimore checkerspot and Ohio buckeye butterflies.

Mountain-mint, hoary – *Pycnanthemum incanum* – A silvery accent for borders and meadows. Mountain mints attract pollinators while adding a long season of flower beauty. Compared to other mountain mints, this one is more layered, has bigger florets and attracts larger pollinators. It is also very deer resistant.

Mountain-mint, narrow-leaved – *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* – A shorter mountain mint, the foliage on this variety is narrow and has a delicate appearance. It works well in meadows and its attractive flowers provide a nectar source for pollinators. It is also very deer resistant.

Mountain-mint, short-toothed – *Pycnanthemum muticum* – One of the highest wildlife value plants that you can add to your garden. It is an excellent plant to add to a wild meadow, as it spreads and will keep up with other spreaders. A key plant for the pollinator garden, it blooms over a long period and is visited by many native bees, butterflies, and other small insect pollinators. Flowers bloom over a long period. It is also very deer resistant.

Mountain-mint, Virginia – *Pycnanthemum virginianum* – Narrow, delicate foliage similar to narrowleaf mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*), although it is somewhat taller, stouter and blooms a bit later. Thin-leaved mountain mints make a refreshing tea, while hoary and short-toothed are used as a pest deterrent. It is also very deer resistant.

Musquash-root – *Cicuta maculata* – Also known as spotted water hemlock, musquash-root resembles Queen Anne's lace with clusters of small white flowers that can be up to 6 inches across. Musquash-root is extremely toxic and should not be touched, it differs from Queen Anne's lace by being taller (up to 6 feet) and having smooth stems with purple dots (Queen Anne's lace has hairy stems). It is a summer-blooming plant that flowers for about four weeks.

Nannyberry – *Viburnum lentago* – A high wildlife value shrub with three season interest: creamy white flowers in the spring, edible blue-black berries in late summer, and orange to brilliant red fall color. Like all viburnums, it is an excellent nectar source and host plant that provides well-timed, nutritious berries for birds. can be pruned to a large shrub or small tree and easily tolerates dry soils.

Ninebark – *Physocarpus opulifolius* – A tough shrub with arching stems that bloom in that important niche between spring and summer. It is a favorite of pollinators, and its arching branches create cover and nesting sites for birds. It will grow in wet or dry soil.

Oaks – *Quercus* sp. – Oaks support 534 species of butterflies and moths as well as over 100 species of birds and mammals—by far the greatest number of any of our native plants (according to Doug Tallamy, professor and chair of the department of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware). As a landscaping tree, most are stately, long-growing trees with good fall color. They are relatively slow-growing



but well worth the wait.

Oak, bear; Oak, scrub – *Quercus ilicifolia* – A small tree or shrub that tends to form thickets, can also be trained into a single trunk. It thrives in poor soils and is shade intolerant.

Oak, bur – *Quercus macrocarpa* – Described as the most majestic of oak trees, it can live longer than 500 years. It grows in almost all types of soil. Called bur oak because of its acorns' spiny caps.

Oak, chestnut – *Quercus montana* – Sometimes called rock oak because it can thrive in dry rocky soil. It also grows well in average soil conditions and makes a nicely-shaped landscape tree.

Oak, scarlet – *Quercus coccinea* – As the name implies, this oak has vibrant fall color and leaves often remain on the tree throughout winter. It has pointed tips to the leaves and 1-inch acorns.

Oak, shumard – *Quercus shumardii* – An adaptable oak with exceptional wind resistance, moderate size and good fall color.

Oak, white – *Quercus alba* – A classic native oak, large with a broad crown. A perfect large specimen tree, round tips to the leaves and 1-inch acorns. One of the most adaptable oaks.

Obedient-plant – *Physostegia virginiana* – A tall plant with striking pink, unusual tubular flowers. Perhaps calling it obedient matches its habit of the bloom, which stays in place if twisted, though its habit of spreading aggressively in moist soil and sun belies that name. However, in dry soil it spreads slowly, and its shallow roots make it easy to pull out if it spreads too far. It is deer-resistant and popular with hummingbirds and butterflies.

Onion, nodding – *Allium cernuum* – Nodding white to pink flowers on a 1-foot-high stalk. Deer resistant and drought tolerant, this tough plant nicely accents other summer bloomers. Important small pollinator plant, also visited by hummingbirds.

Pawpaw – *Asimina triloba* – A garden favorite understory tree that is grown both for its tropical appearance and large, luscious fruit. The fruit is the largest native edible fruit in North America. For best fruiting, plant two trees of different genetic stock. If allowed, will slowly spread into a nice tropical-looking grove.

Pepperbush, sweet – *Clethra alnifolia* – An attractive, small shrub with fragrant summer flowers and a high wildlife value. It grows well in moist-to-wet acidic soil, in shade or part shade but tolerates more sun if the soil is wet enough. Butterflies love it, and it makes an attractive alternative to the non-native butterfly bush. Slow to leaf out in spring.

Persimmon – *Diospyros virginiana* – Persimmon is tolerant of moist to dry conditions and can grow into quite a large tree. Its grandest hour is in the fall when the fruit is ripe, the leaves have fallen and the large salmon colored fruits are silhouetted against the clear blue sky. Edible fruit, easy to grow. It fruits only on the female tree—consider buying two.

Petunia, Carolina hardy – *Ruellia caroliniensis* – Adds a nice bit of color and gives a soft, informal look to a garden, but it reseeds indiscriminately. It grows well in difficult conditions and can provide reliable coverage in



a contained space, but deep roots make it difficult to remove.

Petunia, fringed-leaved – *Ruellia humilis* – Lavender flowers bloom over 2 months in the summer. Tolerates a wide range of conditions, is especially drought tolerant. Best for naturalizing as it reseeds freely

Petunia, limestone hardy – *Ruellia strepens* – This plant adds a nice bit of color and gives a soft, informal look to a garden. It reseeds indiscriminately.

Phlox, creeping – *Phlox stolonifera* – A slowly spreading shade groundcover. It provides a spring display of soft light blue flowers that light up a shady area. It is attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds.

Phlox, meadow – *Phlox maculata* – A perfect mid-sized phlox that grows about 1½-feet tall. It looks like summer phlox (*Phlox paniculata*) but blooms earlier. Mildew-resistant with good air circulation and avoidance of overhead watering. It prefers moist or average soil in full sun or part shade.

Phlox, moss – *Phlox subulata* – A familiar and dependable spring bloomer for rock gardens or hillsides with well-drained soil. This low growing native plant has been so popular that many colors are available. It can be naturalized in lawns.

Phlox, summer – *Phlox paniculata* – A perennial standard that features a range of pinks, white and lavender tones. A long season of color and attraction to butterflies makes this an important plant to include in a perennial border. It grows to about 4 feet high, so considering trimming a few in the front in June to extend the blooming period.

Phlox, wood – *Phlox divaricata* – A wonderful woodland or border plant with pale blue flowers that light up a shady spot. The familiar phlox flower shape, but on lower, delicate foliage.

Pinkroot; Wormgrass – *Spigelia marilandica* – A personal favorite of many, with spikes of red flowers topped by yellow petals. Its main blooming period occurs in early summer, followed by sporadic blooms throughout the rest of the year. This is a nice shade plant favored by hummingbirds.

Pinxter-flower – *Rhododendron periclymenoides* – The first of the native azaleas to bloom and an easy favorite. Large pink to white flowers bloom in spring before the leaves emerge. Likes rich, acidic, well-drained soil.

Pitcher-plant – *Sarracenia sp.* – A bog garden necessity. A carnivorous plant whose colorful tubes wait to attract insects, which are then devoured to provide nutrients for the plant. The flowers are noteworthy and long lasting.

Plantain, downy rattlesnake – *Goodyera pubescens* – A striking orchid with evergreen leaves that grows wild in mixed, mostly dry Pennsylvania woodlands. Growing flat on the ground, the leaves show off their prominent white veins against their dark green background. In the summer, it blooms white on a straight stalk that rises from the center of the leaves.

Plantain, robin's – *Erigeron pulchellus* – Large, showy flowers that bloom lavender or white with yellow-centered flowers. Will naturalize in optimal conditions (average to dry and sunny) to become a compact



groundcover.

Poppy, wood – *Stylophorum diphyllum* – Bright yellow flowers bloom over a long spring season and into summer. Easily grown, it tolerates a wide range of light conditions and will spread easily. In moist conditions the foliage will remain throughout the season and it will bloom sporadically. Pairs well with Jacob's-ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) and complements many spring ephemerals while outlasting them in bloom.

Possum-haw – *Viburnum nudum* – An attractive native viburnum with glossy leaves and a rounded multistem form. Creamy white flowers in spring give way to attractive berry clusters that range in color from pink to blue to bluish purple. Excellent fall color. Like all viburnums, it is an excellent nectar source and host plant and provides well-timed nutritious berries for birds.

Prickly-ash, northern – *Zanthoxylum americanum* – A large, tough shrub or small tree which can grow into a thicket, which serves as a dense, safe haven for birds. Inconspicuous fragrant flowers are a pollinator favorite. Interesting bark with large spines. Birds quickly consume its small red berries in the fall.

Purpletop Grass – *Tridens flavus* – A clumping, warm-season grass that can grow in partial shade. Red to purple spikes add interest and food for birds and small mammals. It is a larval host to numerous butterflies and moths.

Pussytoes, field – *Antennaria neglecta* – Pussytoes are groundcover plants with silvery leaves. The flowers resemble tiny cat feet and are a favorite of children. Fuzzy, silvery green leaves create a ground hugging carpet. They often grown to fill in space in rock gardens and other dry, difficult places.

Pussytoes, plantain-leaved – *Antennaria plantaginifolia* – This groundcover plant has silvery-green leaves and flowers resemble tiny cat feet. They often grow to fill in space in rock gardens and other dry, difficult places. They are often grown to fill in space in rock gardens and other dry, difficult places. This variety is very similar to field pussytoes (*Antennaria neglecta*) but has broader leaves.

Queen-of-the-prairie – *Filipendula rubra* – A tall perennial with large clusters of plume-like pink flowers. It requires moist to wet soil and can form large clumps and is most suitable for a wet, sunny meadow.

Ragwort, golden – *Packera aurea* – A hardy, semi-evergreen groundcover that will grow in sun or shade and moist or dry conditions. Yellow flowers on 1 to 2 foot stems emerge above the foliage in May, creating a stunning display. Dense, low-growing shiny foliage expands into a large clump that can be easily transplanted.

Raspberry, purple-flowering – *Rubus odoratus* – The showiest of our native raspberries, with nearly 2-inch purple to pink flowers on thorn-less, arching stems. Very high wildlife value. The large fuzzy leaves and stems are attractive at the back of a border or to add variety to a meadow habitat for birds.

Rattlesnake master – *Eryngium yuccifolium* – Also called rattlesnake master, this striking plant has yucca-like leaves topped with flowers that look like spiked white balls. It grows well in dry soil and, in the right conditions, will reseed. Favored by numerous pollinators and is deer-resistant.

Redbud – *Cercis canadensis* – Pink flowers of this well-loved tree cover the branches in the spring before the



leaves emerge so the tree appears to have pink branches. A small, understory tree with large, heart-shaped leaves.

Rose-mallow, swamp – *Hibiscus moscheutos* – One of our largest native wildflowers, hibiscus blooms are 5 to 8 inches in diameter and vary in color from red to pink to white. The dramatic flowers stand out in sunny wet spots or runoff areas in your yard. In the wild they grow in swampy and boggy areas, but some gardeners have found success with average moisture conditions. We recommend leaving the stalks standing through winter; many species of birds will rip threads from the stalks for nest building in the spring.

Rose, pasture – *Rosa carolina* – A no-maintenance rose with beautiful pink flowers and a high wildlife value. Rose hips persist into the winter, providing winter interest and bird food. It tolerates average to dry soil and spreads by slowly enlarging clumps to form a small thicket. Its thorns are plentiful.

Rose, Virginia - *Rosa virginiana* - Beautiful pink flowers on a no maintenance rose. Expands into a thicket and can be used as a wildlife friendly hedge, providing food and cover for birds. Deep red foliage in the fall, rose hips provide winter interest and food for birds.

Rose, swamp – *Rosa palustris* – As the common name implies this, this rose needs swampy conditions—acidic, rich, boggy-to-wet soil but not standing water. It flowers best in full sun.

Rosebay – *Rhododendron maximum* – This quintessential rhododendron features broad evergreen leaves and 4-inch wide pink to white flowers in June to July. It tolerates part shade to sun and can grow 15 to 20 feet high in areas protected from wind. It is a great screening plant.

Rosinweed, whorled – *Silphium trifoliatum* – A tall plant with numerous yellow flowers that is most effective in a meadow or loose border. Goldfinches love the seeds and the flowers are important for pollinator support.

Sage, lyre-leaved – *Salvia lyrata* – Lavender to blue flowers in late spring to early summer when fewer plants are blooming. Important plant for hummingbirds, bees and butterflies during the transition from spring to summer. A tough plant that self seeds freely and can be mowed into a ground cover when blooming is complete.

Sassafras – *Sassafras albidum* – In the woods sassafras is a somewhat scrubby tree with aromatic, mitten-like leaves. In the sun, it can grow to large shade tree with nice fall color, or it can be allowed to sucker into a dense, wildlife-friendly thicket. Sassafras has a long historical and medicinal history.

Saxifrage, swamp – *Saxifraga pennsylvanica* – Grows in sun or shade in wet conditions. Tall flower stems emerge in spring from attractive, large basal leaves.

Sea-oats; River-oats – *Chasmanthium latifolium* – A showy woodland grass with winter interest, very adaptable and grows in moist sun and dry shade. The seed heads are decorative and provide nice winter interest and food for the birds. It roots deeply and may reseed aggressively. Seeds can be cut for arrangements and thus prevent unwanted spread. It roots deeply and may reseed aggressively.

Sedge – *Carex lurida* – A bold sedge with a fountain-like profile reaching a foot in height. A tough, dependable sedge with striking seed heads, it grows well in sun or part sun and will tolerate muddy



conditions.

Sedge, broad-leaf – *Carex platyphylla* – A reliable woodland sedge that can be planted as a specimen or in groups as a groundcover. Deer resistant wide leaves often have a bluish cast. Plants slowly colonize from short rhizomes.

Sedge, Pennsylvania – *Carex pennsylvanica* – With delicate fountains of fine foliage, this sedge makes a lovely groundcover, especially in dappled light. Prefers moist to dry soil in shade or part sun. Often used as a lawn substitute, working well where grass does not grow under trees. Makes a beautiful no-mow lawn.

Sedge, plantain; Sedge, seersucker – *Carex plantaginea* – An attractive broadleaf sedge with crinkled leaves. Semi-evergreen growing in clumps, it is one of the smaller sedges. It prefers part shade and moist soil but will tolerate some dryness. Plants slowly colonize from short rhizomes.

Senna, wild – *Senna marilandica* – A naturalizing plant for a taller meadow. Yellow pea-shaped flowers bloom in mid- to late summer. Deer resistant, drought tolerant and an important butterfly host plant. Reseeds aggressively so will need some space.

Shadbush, smooth – *Amelanchier laevis* – Delicate white flowers cover the tree before leaves emerge, a very welcome sight after a long winter. After flowering, it forms red fruits that ripen into purple in June and July. Berries were traditionally used for pies and jellies. Taller (25 to 40') than Juneberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) with sweeter berries. The purple-to-bronze color of the emerging leaves in spring may be the only obvious key to identity. This lovely tree also offers dramatic orange to red fall color.

Shadbush; Juneberry – *Amelanchier canadensis* – Delicate white flowers cover this tree before leaves emerge, a very welcome sight after a long winter. After flowering, it forms red fruits that ripen into purple in June and July. Its berries were traditionally used for pies and jellies. It also offers dramatic orange to red fall color. Shorter (10 to 20') than smooth shadbush (*Amelanchier laevis*).

Shooting-star – *Dodecatheon meadia* – A lovely woodland spring ephemeral and an easy favorite. The flowers bloom white or pink while the petals flare backward, like an upside-down umbrella, and are quite showy. It needs moisture in the spring during growth and bloom. It goes dormant in summer.

Skullcap, downy – *Scutellaria incana* – A drought-tolerant meadow or border plant that blooms in sun to shade. The blue-purple color is a nice mid- to late-summer addition. Can be cut back to achieve a later bloom, or deadheaded to try for a second bloom from side shoots along the stem. Individual flowers grow off a central stem and bumble bees bury themselves inside.

Sneezeweed – *Helenium autumnale* – Tall stems topped with masses of yellow, daisy-like flowers. Grows and spreads easily in moist to wet areas and would work well in a rain garden or runoff area. It blooms in mid- to late-summer, working well with New England or New York asters (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* & *Symphyotrichum novae-belgii*) for late summer to fall color. Suited for the back of a tall border or a wild meadow. The name sneezeweed comes from its traditional use to make snuff, but it does not cause allergies because it is not wind pollinated.

Solomon's-seal – *Polygonatum biflorum* – White bell shaped flowers hanging from arching stems add



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interest as they wave above other woodland plants. Catbirds like to jump up and catch the seeds that form late in the summer. Consider planting with alumroot (*Heuchera sp.*), foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*) and mixed ferns for an attractive combination.

Solomon's-seal, false – *Maianthemum racemosum* – Long arching stems similar to Solomon's Seal, but the flowers bloom from the tip. White flowers in the spring form grape-like clusters of fruit in the fall, with the berry color progressing from green to white with red speckles to red. Rich green foliage, a nice addition to the shade garden.

Sourwood – *Oxydendrum arboreum* – A favorite of many of the Preserve's members, sourwood is grown for its brilliant red foliage in the fall. One of the few trees that blooms in summer, its white flowers droop in clusters resembling tassels or lilies of the valley. Prefers sun to partial shade in moist, well-drained soil.

Spicebush – *Lindera benzoin* – Spicebush is an ecosystem powerhouse that also works well in the garden. With yellow blooms in early spring before the leaves appear, it is called the forsythia of the wild. Not only decorative, it provides much needed nectar for early butterflies and insects. The leaves feed larva of numerous butterflies, including some of our most common species. Leaves turn bright yellow in the fall and the females produce copious red berries with perfect timing and nutrition for bird migration. Tolerating most conditions, it needs two hours of sunlight to bloom.

Spiderwort, Ohio & Virginia – *Tradescantia ohiensis* & *Tradescantia virginiana* – This plant has marvelous morning color and grows in difficult conditions, in sun or shade. It's rather haphazard foliage and growth habit make it more fitting for a habitat meadow than an ordered border planting. The Virginia variety can become especially aggressive.

Spikenard, American – *Aralia racemosa* – This shrub-like perennial is an impressive addition to the part-shade, woodland garden. Its greenish white flowers bloom in large clusters and turn into show-stopping clusters of red-to-purple fruits.

This shrub-like perennial is an impressive addition to the part shade-and-woodland garden. Large clusters of greenish white flowers turn into show-stopping clusters of red to purple fruits.

Spurge, flowering – *Euphorbia corollata* – This delicate plant is a favorite in the Visitor Center garden. It has small white flowers with yellow centers and is tough and reliable, with a long bloom period. Its deep taproot makes it drought-tolerant but difficult to transplant. It is also called native baby's breath due to its similarity to the florist's staple.

Squirrel-corn – *Dicentra canadensis* – This spring ephemeral has delicate-looking leaves similar to Dutchman's-breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), but it blooms about a week later. Its delicate white flowers resemble an elongated heart. In time the foliage forms a soft green carpet, but, as a true spring ephemeral the foliage will disappear by the end of spring. Plant it with other spring ephemerals and plants that will fill in later such as ferns and cohosh.

St. John's-wort, great – *Hypericum pyramidatum* – A tall St. John's-wort, with the stems branching just at the top. The flowers have a long bloom period and seed heads are attractive for fall arrangements. Self seeding easily, it should be planted with room to grow. A fairly aggressive self-seeder, it should be planted with room



to grow. It is also deer-resistant.

St. John's-wort, shrubby – *Hypericum prolificum* – A tough shrub for massed planting that tolerates a range of soil and light conditions but prefers mostly sun. The flowers have a long bloom period and the seed heads are attractive. All St. John's worts contain a chemical that causes deer to avoid them.

St. John's-wort, spotted – *Hypericum punctatum* – This underused native garden plant grows to about 2 feet high and has bright yellow summer flowers. Not fussy about moisture, it is deer-resistant and especially valuable to native bees.

Steeple-bush – *Spiraea tomentosa* – Pink flowers on an attractive shrub for wet meadows and difficult damp spots that is also tolerant of dry soils, although in dry conditions the blooms are smaller. It spreads rather aggressively by the roots, so it needs to be tended if you do not want it to roam. An important pollinator plant.

Stonecrop, wild – *Sedum ternatum* – A groundcover that surprises with a bright haze of white flowers in late spring. It prefers partial shade and does well in rock gardens. Consider inter-planting it with butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), which emerges late in the spring; when it blooms, the butterfly weed will grow up and offer a bit of shade to the stonecrop, at a time when it is looking rather plain.

Strawberry, barren – *Waldsteinia fragarioides* – An adaptable groundcover plant that tolerates dry or moist soils and sun or light shade. It spreads by rhizomes and, once established, is drought-tolerant. It has small, yellow flowers in spring and can be a somewhat more uniform alternative to golden ragwort (*Packera aurea*).

Strawberry, wild – *Fragaria virginiana* – This is the original strawberry—the native variety used in developing the cultivated strawberries eaten today. It is an excellent groundcover in just about any conditions and benefits wildlife, birds, butterflies and other small pollinators.

Sumac, fragrant – *Rhus aromatica* var. *Aromatica* – Fragrant foliage, red fruit on female plants and orange to red fall color make this an attractive shrub for borders and foundation plantings. A cultivar, "Grow Low," works well to cover steep banks. Drought tolerant and deer resistant.

Sundrops – *Oenothera fruticosa* – A tough, showy and easy-to-grow plant, with bright yellow flowers for about six weeks atop 12- to 18-inch foliage. It adds nice early summer color to the garden and provides nectar for bees. A spreading, clumping plant, it can be easily contained by removing the edges of the clump.

Sundrops, small – *Oenothera perennis* – Small yellow flowers on wiry stems that bloom for a long period in June and July. Best for rock gardens or less formal settings.

Sunflower, false – *Heliopsis helianthoides* – A long-blooming summer to fall yellow daisy. A clumping plant, it provides cheerful blooms without rampant spreading. Growing in a range of soils, it works in a wide border or wildflower field.

Sunflower, giant – *Helianthus giganteus* – A stunning 6- to 10-foot sunflower. Works well in a moist wildflower field, or any place where height and robustness are desired.

Sunflower, swamp – *Helianthus angustifolius* – A wonderful tall sunflower for moist-to-wet areas that features



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a profuse late-season bloom. It will spread sideways, eventually forming a large clump. As with all sunflowers, it is an important host, pollinator, and food plant; this variety is especially attractive to butterflies and goldfinches.

Sunflower, thin-leaved – *Helianthus decapetalus* – A tall yellow sunflower with a spreading habit. Preferring moist areas, in the wild it is often found by stream banks or open woods. It works well in perennial borders and tolerates dry conditions once established. Goldfinches love its seeds.

Sunflower, woodland – *Helianthus divaricatus* – A rare sunflower that will grow in dry shade, but also grows in sun. Bright and cheerful, it spreads aggressively. Plant it where there is room to spread.

Sweet Fern - *Comptonia peregrina* - Although its leaves appear fern-like, sweet fern is a small shrub with aromatic leaves. It grows best in poor, well drained soil and in the right conditions will naturalize into an airy, aromatic mound. Drought resistant, it prefers partial sun and has a long history of uses, especially as a poison ivy remedy.

Sweetspire, Virginia – *Itea virginica* – A small shrub with lightly fragrant spring flowers and foliage that turns a gorgeous red to purple in fall. It grows well in sun or shade, in wet or dry habitats. It is well suited for massing and offering cover to birds. It is tolerant of a wide range of conditions.

Sycamore - *Plantanus occidentalis* - Easily recognizable, sycamore is a stately, large, and fast growing tree known for its mottled white and greenish-tan bark. The outer bark of the tree does not expand as the tree grows, resulting in peeling patches of bark. Prefers moist sites with room to expand.

Tea, New Jersey – *Ceanothus americanus* – A high wildlife value shrub which is drought-resistant, and grows well in full or part sun. Small and summer-blooming, it works well as a front edge for taller shrubs, or at the top of a wall. Deer are attracted to spring growth but ignore it the rest of the growing season. Will regrow to full size if browsed over the winter.

Thimbleweed – *Anemone virginiana* – White flowers emerge on stalks above the leaves, giving way to interesting elongated seed heads, followed by fluffy, cotton-like fluff after frost. Seed heads provide winter interest and food for birds and small mammals. Works well in dry, part sun/shade. It is not aggressive like Canada anemone (*Anemone canadensis*), but will reseed.

Threadleaf sundew – *Drosera filiformis* – A delicate-looking bog plant with purple blooms in summer. Appearances are deceiving, it is carnivorous. Long, skinny leaves, iridescent in the sun, are covered with sticky hairs that trap and digest insects.

Tickseed, lance-leaf - *Coreopsis lanceolata* – Bright yellow daisy-like flowers that bloom in late spring and early summer, lanceleaf coreopsis is a tough plant that is drought tolerant and grows well in dry sunny conditions. A pollinator magnet, one study it was found to be one of the top plants for sheer diversity of pollinators. It has a clumping habit and spreads through reseeding and runners. It is best for naturalizing and meadows or anywhere a large concentration of bright yellow flowers is desired.

Tickseed, tall – *Coreopsis tripteris* – A tall plant with with long blooming daisy-like yellow flowers. Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. It self sows freely and can form colonies, best suited for the back of a border or



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a meadow. Especially attractive to goldfinches and butterflies.

Tickseed, threadleaf – *Coreopsis verticillata* – A cheerful yellow daisy-like flower that prefers full sun in dry soil. The leaves are very thin, giving it a delicate look, but the species is actually a hardy, dependable perennial. It can be sheared after mid-summer bloom to encourage a second round of flowers in the fall.

Trillium, large flowered – *Trillium grandiflorum* – One of our largest and most dramatic trilliums. Large white flowers that turn pink when pollinated. Slow to establish and particularly long lived.

Trillium, nodding – *Trillium cernuum* – A nodding white flower head with petals that curve backward. Adds an unusual look to the ephemeral garden.

Trillium, toad; Toadshade – *Trillium sessile* – Similar to the yellow variety (*Trillium luteum*), this trillium features a dark wine-colored, stemless flower that appears atop beautiful mottled leaves.

Trillium, yellow – *Trillium luteum* – One of the easiest trilliums to grow, this variety has yellow flowers on mottled leaves.

Trout-lily, yellow – *Erythronium americanum* – Spring ephemerals that can cover a hillside with nodding yellow flowers over maroon speckled leaves. Nodding flowers protect the nectar and pollen from spring rains. Both leaves and flowers appear in spring and then disappear. Named trout lily because they bloom when the trout appear and their leaf spots are similar to those of brook trout.

Tulip tree, Yellow Poplar - *Liriodendron tulipifera* - One of the tallest trees in our forest, tulip tree is a stately shade tree in the home landscape. Rapid growth makes it an ideal choice for replacing recently lost trees or establishing shade. As it matures nectar rich flowers, favored by native bees and hummingbirds, appear on the top of the tree after leaves appear. Nice fall color but may lose leaves early in drought years.

Turtlehead – *Chelone glabra* – Spikes of white flowers that bloom on upright plants in late summer. The flowers are said to resemble a turtle head emerging from its shell. Bees push against a small hole on the end of the flower until they are completely inside the flower and bump around inside before exiting and flying to the next flower. Late blooms extend the garden season, tolerates sun to part shade in moist soil and tends to naturalize in a loose fashion.

Twinleaf – *Jeffersonia diphylla* – White flowers resemble bloodroot, but last for no more than a day. Distinctive foliage that makes a soft, lovely groundcover in the deciduous shade garden and lasts well into summer. After blooming the seeds form a curious looking seed pod that resembles a helmet or urn with a lid.

Valerian – *Valeriana pauciflora* – Clusters of scented pink flowers on plants that prefer very wet or pond-side conditions.

Vervain, blue – *Verbena hastata* – Small blue-violet flowers bloom from the bottom up on tall, thin spikes. Important pollinator and host plant, thrives in moist soil but will grow in average soil.

Viburnum, American cranberrybush - *Viburnum trilobum* - A show stopper in bloom with large, 2- to 4-inch wide, flat-topped white flowers. Red berries and brilliant red foliage follow in the fall. If it likes its location, it will



grow quickly into a dense 15-foot high shrub, making it an attractive screening option. Loves wet feet but survives during our dry summers.

Viburnum, arrowwood - *Viburnum dentatum* Growing in sun or part shade, arrowwood mounds into a dense round form with dark green leaves. It becomes covered with white flowers in late spring, followed by plentiful purple fruits in fall. An easy-to-grow, adaptable shrub. With birds frequently nesting in it, it's a top 10 wildlife shrub.

Viburnum, blackhaw – *Viburnum prunifolium* – This viburnum has clusters of creamy white flowers in spring followed by blue-black fruits and reddish purple foliage in fall. Best in sun, but will also grow in shade. Can be grown as a shrub or small tree. It is an extremely tough plant with a high wildlife value for native bees and birds.

Viburnum, maple-leaved – *Viburnum acerifolium* – The only viburnum that will thrive in shade, Mapleleaf is a shorter shrub with typical viburnum flowers and berries. Thrives in dry shade and, if conditions are right, may colonize. One can never have too many viburnums.

Viburnum, nannyberry - *Viburnum lentago* - Can be formed into a large shrub or a single-trunk tree. Flowers in flat clusters and red fruit that turns blue-black. Like all viburnums, it is an excellent nectar source and host plant that provides well-timed, nutritious berries for birds. Easily tolerates dry soils.

Viburnum, Possumhaw - *Viburnum nudum* One of the smaller native viburnums, often used in the garden. Average to wet soil. Attractive berry clusters range in color from pink to blue to bluish purple. Like all viburnums, it is an excellent nectar source and host plant and provides well-timed nutritious berries for birds.

Violets – *Viola sp.* – Always a welcome sight in the spring, violets can form an easy woodland groundcover. Most violets thrive in part sun to part shade, but particular varieties might have more specific sun or shade preferences. An important host plant for fritillary butterflies.

Virgin's bower – *Clematis virginiana* – A white blooming vine in late summer with interesting seed heads. It can be aggressive but blooms on new wood and can be controlled by winter pruning. Consider using it to cover a chain link fence or putting it in a hedgerow or other wild area.

Wahoo; Burning-bush – *Euonymus atropurpureus* – A native burning bush, fall is this shrub's best hour. Brilliant red leaves and showy fruit that hang on far into the winter. Plant it for the birds and for its tolerance of the soil around black walnut trees.

Winterberry – *Ilex verticillata* – Red berries cover the branches after the leaves drop in the fall for a spectacular landscape show. Bluebirds, cedar waxwings, robins and many others descend on the berries, usually sometime after the first frost. Grows in moist areas in the wild, but is adaptable in the garden setting. Both male and female plants are needed to set the fruit.

Wisteria, American – *Wisteria frutescens* – A native wisteria, less aggressive than the Japanese wisteria, but with the familiar flowers. The flowers are a bit smaller and less aromatic but last longer and have two bloom



periods, late spring and fall.

Witchhazel – *Hamamelis virginiana* – A large shrub or small tree that occupies an import niche in the garden and often becoming a nesting site for birds. As the brilliant yellow leaves drop in the fall, the branches become covered with small yellow flowers that sustain late-season pollinators. Simultaneously, last year's seed pods have ripened and begin ejecting the seeds up to 25 feet. It is also a larval host plant for the spring azure butterfly. An understory plant in the wild, it will grow in sun or shade in just about any type of soil.

Wood-mint, downy – *Blephilia ciliata* – A clump-forming woodland plant with lavender flowers in whorls around the stem. Happy in dry to average soils, it needs just a few hours of sun for best blooms. Loved by pollinators. Not as aggressive as many mints, it has been described as a “gentle colonizer.”

Wood-mint, hairy – *Blephilia hirsuta* – This mint variety is taller than downy wood mint (*Blephilia ciliata*) and prefers moist woodland conditions. Its flowers are pale and not as showy as the downy variety.