



Native Plant Profiles – from A to Z

Allegheny Vine – *Adlumia fungosa* – The foliage and flowers of this plant are similar to bleeding heart, but it grows into a vine. Its flowers range from pale to dark pink. Leave seed heads for winter interest and for the birds, or deadhead to prolong bloom.

Alumroot, Maple-Leaved – *Heuchera villosa* – This alumroot 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.

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

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

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

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. It is an easy-to-grow, adaptable shrub. With birds frequently nesting in it, this shrub has a high wildlife value.

Aster, Aromatic – *Symphyotrichum oblongifolium* – This plant has violet flowers with a yellow disk and aromatic foliage. It is not as tall as the New York and New England asters (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii* & *Symphyotrichum novi-angliae*) and is great for the home garden. It spreads by rhizomes and tolerates dry soil.

Aster, Big-Leaved – *Eurybia macrophylla* – This woodland aster has an unusually low-growing, fuzzy leaves and purple flowers on taller stems. It can form a dense, spreading groundcover and prefers woodland conditions.

Aster, Blue Wood – *Symphyotrichum cordifolium* – This late-season lavender-colored aster grows well in woodlands in a shade or border planting in sun or shade mix. It reseeds in sun or shade and is easy to pull where it is not wanted.

Aster, Calico – *Symphyotrichum lateriflorum* – This delicate, branching aster has numerous flowers that 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*, *Aster umbellatus* – This tall, white aster grows well in sunny, moist areas. It can grow 4 to 5 feet tall, so it works best in the back of a border or in an informal meadow setting.

Aster, Heath – *Symphyotrichum ericoides* – This tough aster grows well in dry sunny sites. It is a prolific bloomer with bright white flowers. Its height depends on growing conditions and competition, but typically ranges from 1 to 3 feet.



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Aster, New England – *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* – This aster has a dense dome of purple flowers on tall stems that bloom in late summer into fall. Hairy leaves help identify this plant from New York aster (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*). It is one of our most common and showy asters.

Aster, New York – *Symphyotrichum novi-belgii* – This aster has purple flowers with a yellow disk on tall stems that bloom in late summer into fall. Lower leaves die back as the season progresses, so trim the front few stems early in the season or plant behind lower growing plants.

Aster, Smooth Blue – *Symphyotrichum laeve* – This aster has violet flowers that bloom in late summer into fall for a mixed sunny border, meadow or woodland edge. It is a personal favorite of Preserve members.

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

Asters – *Symphyotrichum sp.* – Asters are the stars of our late summer and fall gardens, creating color up until, and sometimes after, the first few frosts. They are essential plants for pollinators, providing late season nectar for butterflies and bees as they prepare for winter, and in winter their seeds help to sustain birds.

Azalea, Atlantic – *Rhododendron atlanticum* – A shorter plant, 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 cannot miss this when it is in bloom—the colors, ranging over a spectrum of yellow, gold and orange, bring color to a woodland garden. It requires moist, acidic, well-drained soil.

Azalea, Pinxterbloom – *Rhododendron periclymenoides* – The first of the native azaleas to bloom and an easy favorite, it has large pink to white flowers bloom in spring before the leaves emerge. It likes rich, acidic, well-drained soil.

Azalea, Swamp – *Rhododendron viscosum* – You might smell what you think is honeysuckle and then see that it is actually swamp azalea in bloom. Like many other rhododendrons, it needs acidic soil but this one can also take wet soil.

Azalea, Sweet – *Rhododendron arborescens* – This azalea can grow to 15 feet tall and wide and needs moist, acidic well-drained soil high in organic matter. Its flowers have a strong pleasant fragrance.

Baneberry, White; Doll's Eyes – *Actaea pachypoda* – It has pleasing white flowers which become poisonous but eye-catching berries. These shiny round white fruits have a black dot in the middle, which give it the name Doll's Eyes.

Barbara's Buttons – *Marshallia grandiflora* – Pink flowers 12-to-18 inches long emerge from attractive clumping foliage in late spring or early summer. It needs moist, well-drained soil in full or partial sun. It could be combined with other low growers such as blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*), nodding onion (*Allium cernuum*), 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



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cooking and medicinal preparations. Although not overly showy, the flowers are light pink to lavender, bloom from June until September, are a feast for many pollinators, and are deer-resistant.

Bayberry, Northern – *Myrica pensylvanica* – This tough shrub 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* – This dense evergreen groundcover thrives in poor or sandy soils. The dense, shiny leaves turn red over the winter. It can form large clumps in sun or part shade and is good for soil stabilization.

Beardtongue, Foxglove – *Penstemon digitalis* – An attractive and reliable meadow or perennial border plant, this beardtongue has white tubular flowers rise above clumping foliage. It naturalizes, but not aggressively. It is a 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 (*Rudbeckia* sp.) begin to bloom.

Beardtongue, Hairy – *Penstemon hirsutus* – A lower-growing beardtongue with pale lavender flowers, this is not as common along the roadsides as foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon 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* sp.) or eastern columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*).

Beebalm, Basil; White Bergamot – *Monarda clinopodia* – This beebalm is similar to others except the flowers are white, flowers are sparser and less showy, and it is more suited to a meadow than the garden border. Visited by native pollinators and, like all beebalms, is a host plant for several butterflies.

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

Beebalm; Oswego Tea – *Monarda didyma* – Another of the top-three hummingbird plants, this is a bright red, moisture-loving plant like cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*). It is 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, butterflies and clearwing moths love beebalm.

Beebalm; Wild Bergamot – *Monarda fistulosa* – This lavender beebalm grows 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 (*Phlox paniculata*), downy skullcap (*Scutellaria incana*) and purple hyssop (*Agastache scrophulariifolia*).

Beech, American – *Fagus grandifolia* – This stately tree grows well 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.



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Bellflower, American – *Campanulastrum americanum* – This tall bellflower is a self-seeding biennial that blooms the second year. The flowers are surprising because they are not bell-shaped but open and flat and look very much like a borage flower. It is quite showy with bluish-purple flowers and grows in shade to part sun, blends well in a cottage garden.

Bellwort, Large-Flowered; Merry Bells – *Uvularia grandiflora* – The larger flowered of the two bellworts, with gracefully nodding bright yellow flowers. Not a common plant, it is a treat to come across when it is flowering in wooded areas with rich moist soils. If you are planting this in a new woodland garden, it is best to enrich the soil with extra organic matter. Because of its larger root system, it is more robust than perfoliate bellwort (*Uvularia perfoliata*).

Bellwort, Perfoliate; Merry Bells – *Uvularia perfoliata* – This bellwort is smaller than large-flowered bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*) and the flowers are a pale yellow. It is more commonly found than the larger flowered bellwort but grows in the same moist wooded areas.

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

Blackeyed Susan; Coneflower, Yellow/Orange – *Rudbeckia fulgida* – The most common blackeyed Susan, this clumping perennial blooms over a long period, late into the fall.

Blackgum; Tupelo, Black; Sourgum – *Nyssa sylvatica* – This medium-size tree tops out around 50 feet. In the fall, its foliage is spectacular—a range of reds, oranges and purples. It prefers moist to wet soil but will grow in drier conditions. Great for pollinators and birds alike, it produces numerous flowers followed by blue-black fruits.

Blazing Star – *Liatris spicata* – Blazing stars grow well in the sun in moist to average soil but will also tolerate occasional wet soil at the edge of a runoff area. They are excellent nectar plants for butterflies, and birds feed on the seeds in the fall. Because the purple flowers are arranged on a vertical spike and has grass-like leaves, it adds a different shape and texture to the garden.

Blazing Star, Northern – *Liatris scariosa* – Different than the more common blazing star (*Liatris spicata*), northern blazing star has bright, shaggy, button-like pink-purple flowers. It will grow in dry, tough places and does not like moist conditions. It provides late season color.

Bleeding Heart, Fringed – *Dicentra eximia* – This part shade plant has attractive pink flowers and mounded, lacy foliage that blooms all summer if kept moist. It is also deer-resistant.

Bloodroot – *Sanguinaria canadensis* – This plant is one of the earliest spring bloomers—its 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 Vervain – *Verbena hastata* – With purple flowers on tall spikes, blue vervain is unlike the well-known verbena hybrid found in garden centers. The flower spikes are pointed, unlike the non-native purpletop vervain (*Verbena bonariensis*). Butterflies and other pollinators flock to vervain (*Verbena sp.*). This variety likes moist soil.



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

Blueberry, Highbush – *Vaccinium corymbosum* – This is the native blueberry 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, Lowbush; Blueberry, Low Sweet – *Vaccinium angustifolium* – At 2 feet tall, lowbush is shorter than highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*). 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.

Blueflag, Northern; Blueflag, Harlequin – *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 bluebells and bee balm, in late spring.

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

Bluestem, Big; Turkey Foot – *Andropogon gerardi* – This tall grass is drought-tolerant and has a high wildlife value. It is useful in meadows or at the back of a perennial garden.

Bluestem, Little; Bunchgrass – *Schizachyrium scoparium* – This native grass is easy 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. It is drought-resistant and lower growing than many native grasses.

Boneset – *Eupatorium perfoliatum* – An interesting plant, which has a long history with herbalists. The stem grows through the leaves, which was thought to be a sign that it would help in healing bones. It is not as spectacular as the Joe Pye weeds (*Eutrochium sp.*) but has white flowers that are popular with native pollinators and butterflies. It stays under 4 feet tall.

Boneset, Hyssop-Leaved; Thoroughwort – *Eupatorium hyssopifolium* – This finely textured plant has large clusters of white flowers, which bloom in late summer into fall. It attracts butterflies, pollinators and birds that eat the seeds. It grows in well-drained soils, including sandy and dry conditions and is often used in meadows.

Bowman's Root – *Porteranthus trifolius*, *Gillenia trifoliatis* – Delicate white flowers float above toothed, three-lobed foliage in early summer. It is more robust and has larger flowers than American ipecac. A tough, drought-resistant shrub-like plant for sun or light shade, this graceful plant blends nicely in the shade garden.



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

Buckeye, Red – *Aesculus pavia* – This is a small tree with red flowers that appear in late spring when the hummingbirds migrate. It is an important nectar source. Foliage drops early and leaves an interesting skeleton, with large buckeyes on the branches.

Burnet, Swamp; Burnet, American – *Sanguisorba canadensis* – This a large-scale plant, both in terms of leaves and flower stems, and is suited to moist to wet conditions. The late summer- to fall-blooming period is a plus, as it extends the visual interest in a meadow along with the dependable asters.

Bush Clover, Hairy – *Lespedeza hirta* – Bush clovers (*Lespedeza sp.*) 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 plants in the pea family, 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.

Bush Clover, Narrow-Leaved – *Lespedeza angustifolia* – Bush clovers (*Lespedeza sp.*) are wild meadow plants that are useful to bees and birds but they are not considered as a flowering addition to a perennial border. As with most plants in the pea family, it adds nitrogen to the soil. Plant it in a wild area or meadow to support butterflies and improve your soil. This perennial is rare in Pennsylvania and grows from 2 to 3 feet tall. It has creamy white flowers at the top of each stalk.

Bush Clover, Round-Headed – *Lespedeza capitata* – Bush clovers (*Lespedeza sp.*) 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 plants in the pea family, 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; Pleurisy Root – *Asclepias tuberosa* – The cheerful orange flower 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. Too 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, but, when given moist conditions while it establishes itself, it will grow in average conditions. It is slow to leaf out in spring.

Cardinal Flower – *Lobelia cardinalis* – With bright red, long-lasting flowers, this is one of our top three plants for hummingbirds—along with beebalm (*Monarda didyma*) and trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*). Cardinal flowers are typically tall but narrow, making them 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. You can use a very fine-textured compost before the seeds fall and, if conditions are moist, the seeds will germinate and produce more plants for next year.

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



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chestnut tree that is resistant to the blight.

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

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

Chokeberry, Red – *Aronia arbutifolia* (*Photinia pyrifolia*) – This plant's white flowers bloom in spring and are followed by vibrant fall foliage and lots of red berries, which are loved by birds. It grows taller than wide, so consider planting it with something shorter to avoid a leggy look.

Chokeberry, Red – *Photinia pyrifolia* (*Aronia arbutifolia*) – This is a tough shrub with flowers and handsome fruit. It is a great addition when creating a natural habitat for pollinators and birds; plentiful fall fruit attracts migrating birds. It has exceptional fall color and a suckering habit.

Cohosh, Black; Bugbane; Fairy Candles – *Actaea racemosa* (*Cimicifuga racemosa*) – This plant blooms 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* – This plant 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. It does best in rich, moist soil.

Columbine, 'Corbett' Eastern Yellow – *Aquilegia canadensis* – A natural variant of Eastern Red Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) this plant was discovered in Maryland. It has pale yellow flowers, grows a bit shorter and can reseed.

Columbine, Eastern Red – *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, looks especially nice with Jacob's ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) and golden alexander (*Zizia aurea*).

Coneflower, Green-Headed; Coneflower, Cutleaf – *Rudbeckia laciniata* – This plant has cone-shaped greenish-yellow centers and down-curving yellow petals. It is a tall, dramatic plant that seems to always be covered by pollinating butterflies and insects. It is an impressive plant for the back of a flowerbed.

Coneflower, Prairie; Coneflower, Grey-Headed – *Ratibida pinnata* – This coneflower makes a good meadow or perennial border plant. The flower petals bend backward giving it a different, wilder look. It is natural to mix with other coneflowers and blackeyed Susans for a flowering meadow or perennial bed. A butterfly and pollinator magnet, it likes dry soil and grows 3 to 5 feet tall.

Coneflower, Purple – *Echinacea purpurea* – Coneflowers are long-blooming, reliable garden plants for the border or meadow. They are a butterfly favorite and a dependable food source for goldfinches. Consider dead-heading some of your plants to keep the bloom going and letting some go to seed to attract birds.



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Coneflower, Thin-Leaved – *Rudbeckia triloba* – This is a late-blooming coneflower that has sprays of small yellow flowers. It reseeds itself and tolerates almost any condition but deep shade.

Coneflowers – *Rudbeckia sp.* – All coneflowers are nectar plants for butterflies and other pollinators and add reliable color to a border or meadow. They are host plants for several butterflies, and goldfinches relish their seeds. Except for the taller green-headed coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), they can be mixed with coreopsis and coneflowers to make a meadow for summer bloom.

Coralberry; Indian Currant – *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* – Adaptable to dry or rocky conditions, this plant looks more like a dense berry plant than a formal shrub. The berries last well into the autumn. Another good habitat plant, it creates thickets for shelter.

Cranberrybush, American – *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.

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

Cucumber Tree – *Magnolia acuminata* – The hardiest of our native magnolia trees, cucumber tree grows north into Ontario. Its flowers are not as flashy as those of other magnolias, but it has interesting seedpods that look like small cucumbers. Can grow into an attractive large, hardy shade tree.

Culver's Root – *Veronicastrum virginicum* – This plant is 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. It is 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 microhabitat. It will self-seed vigorously. It is better suited to a wild meadow than as a border.

Dogwood, Flowering – *Cornus florida* – This is the dogwood variety that we all know and love. It has 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, whose berries are too big for birds and which does not support butterflies.

Dogwood, Gray; Dogwood, Swamp – *Cornus racemosa* – Tolerant of most soils, this dogwood grows well in part shade to full sun. It colonizes readily, so should be planted where you want to naturalize the tree or in any situation where it has room to run. Alternatively, it produces many runners that can be given to friends.

Dogwood, Pagoda; Dogwood, Alternate-Leaf – *Cornus alternifolia* – A graceful understory tree that does well in part to full sun. Its horizontal branches often grow in tiers, giving the tree a layered appearance. It has white flowers followed by purple fruits that are relished by wildlife.



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Dogwood, Red-Osier; Dogwood, Red Twig – *Cornus sericea* – Often grown for its striking red foliage in winter, this, like all dogwoods, is 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-Leaf – *Cornus rugosa* – Like all dogwoods, this has with 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.

Downy Rattlesnake Plantain – *Goodyera pubescens* – This orchid 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.

Dutchman's Breeches – *Dicentra cucullaria* – This plant has 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. It is an important plant to provide nectar for queen bumblebees. Consider planting it with other spring ephemerals and plants that will fill in later such as ferns and cohosh.

Elder, American; Elderberry, Black – *Sambucus canadensis* – This is an excellent plant for naturalizing at woodland edges and 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 just about every list of the top 10 plants for birds.

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

False Dragonhead; Obedient Plant – *Physostegia virginiana* – This is 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.

Fern, Christmas – *Polystichum acrostichoides* – This is a 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* – This fern is lovely and dependable and grows well in moist soils with 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; Fern, Broad Swamp – *Dryopteris clintoniana* – This fern grows well 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.

Fern, Glade – *Diplazium pycnocarpon* (*Athyrium pycnocarpon*) – This fern prefers moist, shady spots but is



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tolerant of dry shade. It spreads sideways when happy.

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, Maidenhair – *Adiantum pedatum* – This is a very popular fern. The stalks form almost a complete circle, with a cascade of segments radiating outward that make it look like a Christmas wreath. It is delicate-looking, but easy to grow. Consider planting it in drifts with our speckled-leaf Allegheny spurge (*Pachysandra procumbens*).

Fern, Marginal Wood – *Dryopteris marginalis* – This is an easy-to-grow evergreen fern that is 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* – This fern has glossy, bright green and attractive fronds that range from 18 to 24 inches in length. It tolerates moist to wet conditions.

Fern, New York – *Thelypteris noveboracensis* – This is an aggressive fern that grows well in moist soil in part sun to part shade.

Fern, Ostrich – *Matteuccia struthiopteris* – This fern 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 if happy. It is dramatic and easy to grow. This is the best fern for edible fiddleheads.

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

Fern, Sensitive – *Onoclea sensibilis* – This is an easy-to-grow fern that does well in wet sites or along the edge of a pond. It will tolerate drier soils but will grow more slowly and be sensitive to sun exposure.

Fern, Walking – *Asplenium rhizophyllum*, *Camptosorus rhizophyllum* – This fern likes moist, mossy limestone rocks, in the shade—plant them in crevices.

Fire-Pink; Royal Catchfly – *Silene virginica* – Despite its name, fire-pink's flowers are bright red. This plant continually replaces nectar throughout the day for the hummingbirds that pollinate it. It likes well-drained soil and, if you are lucky, will reseed, and you can divide larger clumps.

Foamflower – *Tiarella cordifolia* – This plant is 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. It works well with alumroot and coralbells (*Heuchera sp.*), both of which offer some different cultivars for mixed leaf interest.

Foxglove, Purple False – *Agalinis purpurea* – This reseeding annual has pale purple or pink flowers. It 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.

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



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spring, a 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, Bottle; Gentian, Closed – *Gentiana andrewsii*, *Gentiana clausa* – Gentians are cherished for their blue flowers. Bottle gentian flowers look and stay tightly closed to our eyes, but the bees make their way totally 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. They grow well in moist soil and a mix of sun and in a border planting. Woodlands with rich soil and dappled sun are its usual home.

Gentian, Fringed – *Gentiana 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.

Giant Hyssop, Purple – *Agastache scrophulariifolia* – This giant hyssop (*Agastache* sp.) 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 as a nice contrast with purple coneflowers and garden phlox.

Giant Hyssop, Yellow – *Agastache nepetoides* – The flower spike can grow up to 8 feet high, but only a few flowers open at any one time. It blooms over several months during the summer and attracts butterflies. It is also deer tolerant. Because of its size and rough look, it is best planted in a wild meadow. It reseeds freely.

Globeflower – *Trollius laxus* – A rare find in the wild, this plant has light yellow flowers—actually sepals—that bloom above fringed-looking foliage. If you have a moist area in part shade, you could help propagate this plant.

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

Golden Ragwort – *Packera aurea* – A bright yellow spring bloomer. It pairs well with golden alexander (*Zizia aurea*), another golden spring bloomer, to make a meadow as these have similar naturalizing habits. It is a tough perennial that will grow just about anywhere.

Goldenrod, Grass-Leaved – *Solidago graminifolia*, *Euthamia graminifolia* – This aggressive goldenrod is suited for meadows and large spaces.

Goldenrod, Gray – *Solidago nemoralis* – This is one of our shorter goldenrods (usually growing to 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*, *Oligoneuron rigidum* – One of the clumping, less-aggressive goldenrods,



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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; Goldenrod, Anise-Scented – *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, Wreath; Goldenrod, Blue-Stemmed – *Solidago caesia* – A wonderful low to mid-sized goldenrod with a singular appearance: narrow leaves and flowers along the stem in the leaf axils. It is one of the few goldenrods that grows well in the shade. This is a favorite, along with Zig-Zag goldenrod (*Solidago flexicaulis*) and 'Fireworks' (*Solidago rugosa*).

Goldenrod, Wrinkleleaf; 'Fireworks' – *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* – This goldenrod grows well in shade and has 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.

Goldenstar; Green-and-Gold – *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. Very adaptable, it 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. It grows well in shade. It can be aggressive, so it needs its own space or should be trained on a trellis. Traditionally, it was grown for its tubers, which were an important source for Native Americans and early New World settlers.

Groundsel – *Baccharis halimifolia* – This extremely adaptable deer-resistant shrub has showy flowers that are well loved by pollinators and seed heads in the fall. It is best used in informal settings.

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

Hardhack; Steeplebush – *Spiraea tomentosa* – Similar to meadowsweet but with pink blossoms. Both are pollinator magnets.

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

Hazelnut, American; Filbert – *Corylus americana* – Full and mounding in sun, this shrub is more leggy in shade. Tiny red flowers bloom on the twigs in early spring. The unusual nuts are covered with hairy, leaf-like husks that turn from green to yellow in the summer. Its nuts are edible if you get to them before the squirrels.



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This shrub grows well in average to dry soil.

Hazelnut, Beaked – *Corylus cornuta* – Similar to American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*), the only way to tell the difference is in the covering of the nuts.

Hepatica, Round-Lobed – *Hepatica americana* – This hepatica is similar to the sharp-lobed variety (*Hepatica acutiloba*) but with rounded leaves. Its flowers are a consistent deep violet-blue.

Hepatica, Round-Lobed; Liverwort – *Anemone americana* – Hepaticas are lovely small-blooming plants that herald spring. This is similar to the sharp-lobed variety (*Hepatica acutiloba*) but with rounded leaves.

Hepatica, Sharp-Lobed – *Hepatica acutiloba* – Hepaticas are our earliest blooming wildflowers and perhaps our most beautiful. Delicate violet, pink, purple or white flowers emerge on a downy stalk as late winter turns to early spring. Leaves remain all year, with the previous year's leaves protecting the flower buds and new leaves emerging after flowering.

Hepatica, Sharp-Lobed; Liverwort – *Anemone acutiloba* – A cheery precursor of spring, this hepatica blooms in woodlands in March. It keeps its leaves all winter, making it easy to find in spring. It is a delicate plant and may not return if soil and light conditions do not suit it.

Hog-Peanut, American – *Amphicarpaea bracteata* – This plant is often grown in edible gardens or for its high wildlife value. It is a low-growing vine that fixes nitrogen in the soil and can be aggressive.

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 part shade, it blooms profusely in May and then sporadically. Hummingbirds, butterflies and long-tongued bees, frequent the long, tubular flowers. 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.

Hornbeam, American; Musclewood – *Carpinus caroliniana* – Easily identified by its bark, this 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.

Hornbeam, Eastern Hop; Ironwood – *Ostrya virginiana* – This pest-resistant, medium-sized tree is naturally found in full sun to part shade, though it tolerates moist or dry conditions. Its seed clusters resemble cones and are a winter food source for birds. It is a larval host for several butterflies, and the shaggy bark provides winter seed storage for nuthatches.

Huckleberry, Black – *Gaylussacia baccata* – This bush is similar to blueberries in leaf- and flower-shape and brilliant fall leaf color but is shorter (1 to 2 feet tall). It grows in sun or shade, though it prefers part shade. It grows into ground-covering thickets in woodlands. Its berries are dark blue, less acidic than blueberries, and have a slight crunch—some people even prefer them to blueberries. It is also edible for wildlife and a host plant for butterflies and nesting site for birds.

Hydrangea, Wild – *Hydrangea arborescens* – This native hydrangea grows wild on wooded slopes. It is a hardy shrub that is happy when protected from the midday sun. Its flowers start out as greenish white, then



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turn white and fade to brown. Consider cutting it back in the spring, since flowers grow from the tips of new growth.

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

Indian Tobacco – *Lobelia inflata* – This has much smaller blue flowers than great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*). It is native to upland sites and is more drought-tolerant.

Indigo, Blue False – *Baptisia australis* – The violet-blue of the flowers is striking and even the foliage has a bluish cast. It can take two years to reach full size, which is more the size of a shrub than a perennial. The seed heads are heavy and can cause the plant to flop a bit, so cut off a few if needed to maintain the form of the plant.

Indigo, Yellow Wild – *Baptisia tinctoria* – This is a shorter, yellow-flowered version of blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*) but 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* – This adaptable, evergreen shrub grows well 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 – *Porteranthus stipulatus*, *Gillenia stipulatis* – Delicate white flowers float above toothed five-lobed foliage in early summer. It is a tough, drought-resistant shrub-like plant for sun or light shade. Graceful, it blends nicely in the shade garden. It reseeds occasionally, creating new plants for other areas of the garden.

Iris, Dwarf-Crested – *Iris cristata* – A low-growing iris that spreads by rhizomes, it makes a nice, small-scale groundcover with soft blue to violet flowers. The flowers are flashy for the size of the plant. Preferring the morning sun, it does not grow well in hot sun or complete shade. It makes a wonderful woodland groundcover where the soil is moist but well drained, yet also tolerates dry conditions once established.

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

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 dubium* sp.), another impressive root grower. Both of these plants will reseed and increase in a meadow planting.

It has a large, cream-colored flower with purple spots on a 16-inch plant. It is a woodland lily that prefers rich, moist but well-drained soil.

Jacob's Ladder – *Polemonium reptans* – This is a stalwart of the spring garden. While providing a good show



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of light blue flowers, it is not fussy about light or soil, is easy to transplant, reseeds just enough to be helpful and goes well with the wood poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*). Its attractive foliage fades during the summer, but it can be sheared to encourage new growth.

Joe Pye Weed, Coastal; Joe Pye Weed, Little – *Eutrochium dubium* – This is the shortest of the Joe Pye weeds. As with all Joe Pye weeds, deadheading does not produce new blooms, so consider leaving its seed heads for the birds. Its stems are hollow, so cutting them back in fall can damage or destroy the plant due to freezing and thawing.

Joe Pye Weed, Hollow – *Eutrochium fistulosum* – This large, dramatic plant can grow up to 7 feet tall. Its massive pink flower heads become covered with butterflies in late summer. A tough plant, it prefers full sun and average-to-moist, well-drained soil. Its roots will form a thick mass, so consider putting it where it will not have to be moved. Its stems are hollow, so cutting them back in fall can damage or destroy the plant due to freezing and thawing.

Joe Pye Weed, Spotted – *Eutrochium maculatum* – This tough, useful plant has large, showy blooms that make it a favorite of butterflies and bees. It grows tall and is a staple plant in the native garden. Its roots will form a thick mass, so consider putting it where it will not have to be moved. It prefers average to moist soil, can tolerate some shade and tolerates standing water better than other varieties. Its stems are hollow, so cutting them back in fall can damage or destroy the plant due to freezing and thawing.

Joe Pye Weed, Sweet – *Eutrochium purpureum* – This Joe Pye weed can tolerate both shade and drought but prefers moist, part-shade conditions. It gets its name its flowers' vanilla-like scent. As with all Joe Pye weeds, it is often covered with butterflies. Its stems are hollow, so cutting them back in fall can damage or destroy the plant due to freezing and thawing.

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

Lily, Canadian – *Lilium canadense* – A tall plant that grows well in wet areas, this 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* – This lily can have up to 40 large orange flowers arrayed on a single plant. It works well in perennial border gardens and wetland meadows.

Lobelia, Great Blue – *Lobelia siphilitica* – This blue lobelia grows and seeds vigorously. A hardy, adaptable plant, it will bloom in sun or shade. Much more vigorous but less stately than *Lobelia cardinalis*, it is an important native bumblebee plant.

Loosestrife, Narrow-Leaved – *Lysimachia lanceolata* – A clumping plant that prefers moist or average conditions, it grows less than 2 feet tall, with cheerful nodding flowers in summer. It is an easy plant for sun or part shade that can spread aggressively in moist soil.

Lupine, Carolina – *Thermopsis caroliniana* – With spikes of yellow flowers on grayish-green stems, this lupine adds a dramatic touch to the early summer garden. It is tidy enough for a border and can add a small



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rounded shrub appearance to a wilder garden.

Magnolia, Sweetbay – *Magnolia virginiana* – A favorite small tree, it is fortunate that sweetbay blooms a few flowers at a time over a long period in the summer. The fragrance of the flowers is such that one wants to stand near them and inhale, especially in early evening when the fragrance strengthens, presumably to attract late day and evening pollinators. It has shiny leaves on open multi-stem trunks. Plant wild ginger underneath.

Magnolia, Umbrella – *Magnolia tripetala* – This show-stopping tree has 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. It often grows as 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; Wild Mandrake – *Podophyllum peltatum* – This plant grows well in woodland areas and will spread a bit each year. It blooms as the bluebells are finishing and after other woodland ephemerals. Keep in mind that Mayapple can crowd out other woodland species, so it should have its own space. Its seeds are a favorite of box turtles.

Meadowsweet – *Spiraea alba* – This attractive shrub grows well in wet meadows and difficult damp spots but is also tolerant of dry soils, though in drier conditions the blooms will be smaller. It spreads rather aggressively by the roots, so consider tending it so it does not roam.

Milkweed, Common – *Asclepias syriaca* – This milkweed is enjoyed for its fragrant flowers. It works well in meadows or large sunny areas that needs to be filled, since constant runners make it impractical for small spaces. When planting this, consider that it might be too aggressive for a confined garden.

Milkweed, Purple – *Asclepias purpurascens* – The large, flat oval-shaped leaves add another texture to your garden. It has showy pink flowers in the summer. This monarch butterfly favorite is not invasive.

Milkweed, Red-Ring; Milkweed, White – *Asclepias variegata* – This milkweed blooms in dry shade and is a rare, important butterfly and pollinator plant. Its flowers bloom late and are white with a red ring at the base.

Milkweed, Swamp – *Asclepias incarnata* – This milkweed is showy and rose pink and blooms as common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) blossoms fade. As the name implies, it prefers moist areas, although it has been known to reseed and thrive in dry locations. It forms clumps easily and is not aggressive. It seems to be the preferred milkweed for monarch butterflies.

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.

Mint, Creeping – *Meehania cordata* – An unassuming ground cover until it explodes with blue violet flowers above the foliage. Best used as a moist woodland groundcover, but 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.



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Mint, Downy Wood – *Blephilia ciliata* – This clump-forming woodland plant has lavender flowers in whorls around the stem. It grows well in dry to average soils and needs just a few hours of sun for best blooms. It is well loved by pollinators. Not as aggressive as many mints, it has been described as a “gentle colonizer.”

Mint, Hairy Wood – *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.

Mist Flower; Hardy Ageratum – *Conoclinium coelestinum* (*Eupatorium coelestinum*) – This blue-purple delight is easy to grow and provides nice patches of color over a long-blooming period (late summer into fall). If growing conditions are favorable (full sun and rich soil) 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.

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

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

Mountain Laurel – *Kalmia latifolia* – A beautiful evergreen shrub, it grows fine in shade or sun (more flowers in sun) but is very particular about soil conditions—it must have very acidic, well-drained soil. Its corrugated buds open to white or pink cup-shaped flowers from May to June.

Mountain Mint, Hoary – *Pycnanthemum incanum* – This plant makes a nice 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.

Mountain Mint, Narrow-Leaf – *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.

Mountain Mint, Short-Toothed – *Pycnanthemum muticum* – An excellent plant to add to a wild meadow, this mountain mint spreads easily. It is a nectar plant for bees, since its flowers are attractive over a long period. A key plant for the pollinator garden, like all mountain mints, it is visited by many native bees and butterflies. It is one of the highest wildlife value plants that you can add to your garden.

Mountain Mint, Slender – *Pycnanthemum virginianum* – This mountain mint is similar to the narrow-leaf variety (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*) except 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. Deer do not like mountain mint!

Nannyberry – *Viburnum lentago* – This viburnum can be formed into a large shrub or a single-trunk tree. It has flowers in flat clusters and red fruits that turn blue-black. Like all viburnums, it is an excellent nectar source and host plant that provides well-timed, nutritious berries for birds. It tolerates dry soils.



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New Jersey Tea – *Ceanothus americanus* – This shrub has a high wildlife value, 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. It often needs deer protection to establish itself.

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

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

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. This variety is called bur oak because of its acorns' spiny caps.

Oak, Chestnut – *Quercus montana (prinus)* – 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 good fall color, as well as pointed tips to the leaves and 1-inch acorns.

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

Oak, Shumard's – *Quercus shumardii* – This adaptable oak has exceptional wind resistance, moderate size and good fall color.

Oak, White – *Quercus alba* – One of the most adaptable oaks, these are large with a broad crown. They are considered a perfect large specimen tree, with round tips to the leaves and 1-inch acorns.

Oaks – *Quercus sp.* – Doug Tallamy, professor and chair of the department of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware, found that 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. As a landscaping tree, most are stately, long-growing trees with good fall color. They are relatively slow-growing but well worth the wait.

Pawpaw – *Asimina triloba* – This plant's large, simple leaves and large luscious fruit add a tropical flare to any temperate garden. For best fruiting, plant two trees of different genetic stock. If space allows, they will slowly spread into a nice tropical-looking grove.

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

Petunia, Carolina Hardy – *Ruellia caroliniensis* – This plant adds a nice bit of color and gives a soft, informal look to a garden, but it seeds itself indiscriminately.



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Petunia, Hardy; Petunia; Smooth Wild – *Ruellia strepens* – This plant is very similar to Carolina hardy petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*).

Petunia, Wild – *Ruellia humilis* – This variety is better behaved than the Carolina hardy petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*). It has lavender flowers that bloom over two months in the summer.

Phlox, Creeping Blue – *Phlox stolonifera* – This phlox is a slow-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-size phlox growing about 1½-feet tall, it looks like summer phlox (*Phlox paniculata*) but blooms earlier. It is mildew-resistant and can take full sun or part shade in a moist site.

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, Wild Blue – *Phlox divaricata* – This phlox makes a wonderful woodland or border plant. It has pale blue flowers and the familiar phlox flower shape, but on lower, delicate foliage.

Pinkroot; Indian Pink – *Spigelia marilandica* – This is a nice shade plant favored by hummingbirds. It has 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.

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

Pitcher Plant – *Sarracenia sp.* – A bog garden necessity, this is 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.

Prairie Dropseed – *Sporobolus heterolepis* – This large, mounding grass has a beautiful, arching appearance and narrow, glossy medium-green leaves. It is one of the few low-growing native grasses for sunny conditions.

Prickly Ash; Toothache Tree – *Zanthoxylum americanum* – A large, tough shrub or small tree, it can grow into a thicket, serving as a dense, safe haven for birds. It has interesting bark with large prickles. Birds quickly consume its small red berries in the fall.

Prickly Pear Cactus, Eastern – *Opuntia humifusa* – It is surprising to see a cactus growing here with our cold winters, but prickly pear grows in 45 of the 48 continental states. It is useful for very dry difficult sites and provides interest. The fruit and leaves are both edible, but use gloves—the spines are painful.



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Purple Lovegrass – *Eragrostis spectabilis* – This plant gets its name from the 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 flourishes in sandy soils.

Purpletop Grass – *Tridens flavus* – This clumping, warm-season grass grows well in partial shade. Red-to-purple spikes add interest and feed for birds. It is a larval host to numerous skipper butterflies.

Pussytoes, Field; Prairie Everlasting – *Antennaria neglecta* – This groundcover plant has silvery-green leaves and flowers resemble tiny cat feet. They are often grown to fill in space in rock gardens and other dry, difficult places.

Pussytoes; Pussytoes, Plantain-Leaf; Woman's Tobacco – *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* – This tall perennial dislikes heat and dryness, so it grows best in moist soil with some shade, especially from afternoon sun.

Raspberry, Purple-Flowering – *Rubus odoratus* – The showiest of our native raspberries, this has 2-inch purple to pink flowers on thorn-less, arching stems. It has a 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* – 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. It is loved by pollinators and is deer-resistant.

Redbud – *Cercis canadensis* – Flowers of this well-loved tree cover its branches in the spring before the leaves emerge so the tree appears to have pink branches. It is a small, understory tree with large, heart-shaped leaves.

Rhododendron, 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.

Robin's Fleabane – *Erigeron pulchellus* – Fleabanes are related to asters and feature the same yellow-centered flowers. This one has large, showy flowers that bloom lavender or white. It will naturalize in optimal conditions (average to dry and sunny) to become a compact ground cover.

Rose Mallow – *Hibiscus moscheutos* – One of our largest native wildflowers, this plant's 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. Consider leaving the stalks standing through winter; many species of birds will rip threads from the stalks to build nests with in the spring.

Rose, Carolina; Rose, Pasture – *Rosa carolina* – This no-maintenance rose has beautiful pink flowers and a high wildlife value. Tolerating average to dry soil, it spreads by root suckers to form a small thicket. Its thorns



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are plentiful.

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.

Sage, Lyre-Leaved – *Salvia lyrata* – This plant can self-seed into a groundcover that can be mowed. It is important because it blooms in late spring/early summer when little else is blooming, its lavender flowers attracting butterflies, hummingbirds and bumblebees. It grows well in tough conditions.

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

Sea Oats, Northern – *Chasmanthium latifolium* – An inland-growing variety of sea oats, this grows along riverbanks and near woodlands. It is a very adaptable plant that grows in moist sun and dry shade. It roots deeply, and its seeding can be aggressive. Its seed heads are decorative and provide nice winter interest and food for birds. Its seeds can also be cut for arrangements and thus prevent unwanted spread.

Sedge, Broadleaf – *Carex platyphylla* – This reliable woodland sedge can be planted as a specimen or in groups as a groundcover. Its 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. It prefers moist to dry soil in shade or part sun. It is often used as a lawn substitute, since it works well where grass does not grow under trees. Makes a beautiful no-mow lawn.

Sedge, Seersucker – *Carex plantaginea* – This broad-leaf, semi-evergreen sedge has crinkled leaves and grows in clumps. It is one of our smaller sedges. It prefers part shade and moist soil but will tolerate some dryness. Plants slowly colonize from short rhizomes.

Sedge, Shallow – *Carex lurida* – This bold sedge flourishes in wet sites and has 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.

Seedbox – *Ludwigia alternifolia* – This plant has summer-blooming yellow flowers up to ¾-inch wide and fiery red foliage in the fall, although most people grow it for its finely honed square seedpods. It grows in wet areas and reseeds randomly.

Senna, Wild – *Senna hebecarpa* – Senna makes a good naturalizing plant for a taller meadow. Its yellow pea-shaped flowers bloom in mid- to late summer. It is deer-resistant, drought tolerant and an important butterfly host plant. It reseeds readily, so it will need some space.

Shadbush, Smooth; Serviceberry, Allegheny – *Amelanchier laevis* – This tree is so similar to shadbush (*Amelanchier canadensis*) that it takes a botanist to know the difference. The purple-to-bronze color of the emerging leaves in spring may be the only obvious key to identity.



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Shadbush; Juneberry; Serviceberry – *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. This tree also offers dramatic orange to red fall color.

Shooting Star – *Dodecatheon meadia* – This woodland spring ephemeral is very popular. 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* – This drought-tolerant meadow or border plant blooms in sun to shade. The blue-purple color is a nice mid- to late summer addition. It 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; pollinating bees like to burrow inside these flowers, making for a picture-perfect scene.

Smooth Witherod; Possumhaw – *Viburnum nudum* – One of the smaller native viburnums, this is often used in the garden. It grows well in average to wet soil. Its 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.

Sneezeweed – *Helenium autumnale* – Growing and spreading easily in moist to wet areas, this plant works well in a rain garden or runoff area. With tall stems topped with masses of yellow, daisy-like flowers, 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. It is 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* – This plant's arching stems add interest as they wave above other woodland plants. Catbirds like to jump up and catch 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* – This plant's long, arching stems are similar to Solomon's seal, but the flowers bloom from the tip. White flowers bloom in the spring and form grape-like clusters of fruit in the fall. The berry color progresses from green to white with red speckles to red. It has rich green foliage and provides a nice addition to the shade garden.

Solomon's Seal, False – *Smilacina racemosa*, *Maianthemum racemosum* – This plant has long plumes like Solomon's Seal, but the flowers bloom from the tip. White flowers in the spring give way to large clusters of red fruit in the fall. With its rich green foliage, it makes a nice addition to the shade garden.

Sourwood; Lily of the Valley Tree – *Oxydendrum arboreum* – A favorite of many Preserve 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. It prefers sun to part 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. It provides much needed nectar for early butterflies and insects. Its leaves feed larva of numerous butterflies, including



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some of our most common species. Its leaves turn bright yellow in the fall, and the females produce copious amounts of red berries, which birds consume during 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. Its rather haphazard foliage and growth habit make it more fitting for a habitat meadow than an ordered border planting. Virginia spiderwort can become aggressive.

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

Spotted Water Hemlock – *Cicuta maculata* – This plant's umbels—clusters of small white flowers—resemble Queen Anne's lace and can grow up to 6 inches across. However, these two plants can be distinguished by the shape of their leaves and stalks—for water hemlock these resemble coriander, while for Queen Anne's lace these resemble delicate ferns. This distinction is important, since the water hemlock is an extremely toxic plant. It is a summer-blooming plant that flowers for about four weeks.

Spurge, Allegheny – *Pachysandra procumbens* – This plant grows in attractive clumps in the shade, with the clumps growing larger each year. It can be used as a slow-growing groundcover if multiple plants are planted. It makes a lovely addition to the shade or part-shade garden. In the spring, it has soft clusters of flowers above attractively mottled leaves.

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, but it blooms about a week later. Its delicate white flowers resemble an elongated heart.

St. John's Wort, Great – *Hypericum pyramidatum* – A tall St. John's wort, this plant's stems branch just at the top. The flowers have a long bloom period and the seed heads are attractive for fall arrangements. A self-seeder, it should be planted with room to grow. It is also deer-resistant.

St. John's Wort, Shrubby – *Hypericum prolificum* – This tough shrub 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. It is also deer-resistant.

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.

Stonecrop – *Sedum ternatum* – This groundcover surprises with a bright haze of white flowers in late spring. It grows well in sun or shade in well-drained soil, making it ideal for rock gardens. Consider inter-planting it



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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 sedum, at a time when the sedum is looking rather plain.

Strawberry, Barren – *Waldsteinia fragarioides* (*Geum fragarioides*) – This adaptable groundcover plant 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 was the original strawberry, the native variety that was used in developing the cultivated strawberries eaten today. It will grow as a ground cover in just about any conditions and benefits wildlife, birds, butterflies and other small pollinators.

Sumac, Fragrant – *Rhus aromatica* var. *Aromatica* – This shrub's fragrant foliage, red fruit on female plants, and orange-to-red fall color make it attractive in borders and foundation plantings. A cultivar, "Grow Low," works well to cover steep banks. It is drought-tolerant and deer-resistant.

Summersweet; Sweet Pepperbush – *Clethra alnifolia* – This attractive, small shrub has fragrant summer flowers and a high habitat 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. It is slow to leaf out in spring.

Sundrops – *Oenothera fruticosa* – This showy, easy-to-grow plant has bright yellow flowers for about six weeks atop 12- to 18-inch foliage. It adds nice 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; Sundrops, Nodding – *Oenothera perennis* – This plant has similar flowers to the typical sundrops (*Oenothera fruticosa*) but is smaller. Its foliage is less upright, making it more suited for rock gardens or less-formal settings.

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

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

Sunflower, Narrow-Leaved; Sunflower, Swamp – *Helianthus angustifolius* – This is a wonderful tall sunflower for moist-to-wet areas that features 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* – This tall yellow sunflower has 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* – This rare sunflower grows in dry shade and sun. Bright and cheerful, it spreads aggressively, so consider planting it where there is room to spread.



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Swamp Saxifrage – *Saxifraga pensylvanica* – This bog plant has tall flower stems above clustered basal leaves.

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

Switch Grass – *Panicum virgatum* – This is an attractive native substitute for exotic ornamental grasses. It is deer-resistant, forms clumps easily, and can take a range of soil and light conditions.

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

Thimbleweed – *Anemone virginiana* – This plant has white flowers with elongated seed heads that bloom atop long stalks. In fall, after the frost, the expired bloom resembles cotton-like fluff. It works well in dry sites in part sun to part shade. It is not aggressive like Canadian anemone, but it will reseed.

Threadleaf Sundew – *Drosera filiformis* – This delicate-looking bog plant has purple blooms in summer. It is carnivorous—it has long, skinny leaves covered with sticky hairs that trap and digest insects.

Tickseed, Lance-Leaf; Coreopsis, Lance-Leaf – *Coreopsis lanceolata* – This plant has bright yellow daisy-like flowers that bloom in late spring and early summer. It is a tough, drought-tolerant plant that grows well in dry sunny conditions. It is 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* – This plant is very tall and has delicate-looking, anise-scented flowers. It likes moist-to-wet soil in sun and blooms later than other tickseeds (*Coreopsis* sp.). It is suited for the back of a border or a meadow. It attracts butterflies and goldfinches.

Tickseed, Threadleaf – *Coreopsis verticillata* – This cheerful yellow daisy-like flower 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. Consider shearing it after its mid-summer bloom to encourage a second round of flowers in fall.

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

Trillium, Nodding – *Trillium cernuum* – Trillium is a prized spring ephemeral. This one is delicate white with a nodding flower head.

Trillium, Purple; Stinking Benjamin; Trillium, Wet-Dog; Birth Root – *Trillium erectum* – This attractive trillium goes by many unusual names—stinking Benjamin and wet dog refer to the odor, while birth root refers to its historical medicinal uses. However, the odor should not deter you from planting this prized trillium, as it can only be smelled up-close.

Trillium, Sessile; Toadshade – *Trillium sessile* – Similar to yellow toadshade (*Trillium luteum*), this trillium



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features a dark wine-colored, stemless flower that appears atop beautiful mottled leaves.

Trillium, White; White Wake-Robin; Trillium, Large-Flowered – *Trillium grandiflorum* – This trillium has a beautiful white flower on raised stem. Its petals turn pink after they have been pollinated.

Trout Lily, Yellow; Dogtooth Violet – *Erythronium americanum* – This spring ephemeral has nodding yellow flowers that protect the nectar and pollen from spring rains. Its leaves and flowers appear in spring and then disappear. It is named trout lily because it blooms when the trout appear and its leaf spots are similar to those of brook trout.

Tuberous Grass Pink – *Calopogon tuberosus* – This is 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.

Turtlehead – *Chelone glabra* – This plant has white balloon-like flowers with narrow holes on one end. Small bees enter the flowers through this hole and bump around inside doing their pollinating work before exiting and flying to the next flower. Its late blooms extend the garden season. It tolerates sun to part shade in moist soil and tends to naturalize in a loose fashion.

Turtlehead, Pink – *Chelone lyonii* – This moisture-loving turtlehead has a neater clumping habit than white turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*). Since it blooms later in the summer, it is useful to extend your garden's season. It tolerates a range of light conditions but may need staking if grown in shade.

Twinleaf – *Jeffersonia diphylla* – This plant's flowers resemble bloodroot, but last for no more than a day. It has distinctive foliage that makes a soft, lovely groundcover in the deciduous shade garden and lasts well into summer. After blooming, the seeds make a curious-looking seedpod that resembles a helmet or urn with a trashcan lid.

Two-Flowered Cynthia – *Krigia biflora* – This plant resembles 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.

Valerian – *Valeriana pauciflora* – This plant has clusters of scented pink flowers and prefers very wet or pond-side conditions.

Viburnum, Blackhaw – *Viburnum prunifolium* – Clusters of creamy white flowers in spring followed by blue-black fruits and reddish purple foliage in autumn. 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, Mapleleaf – *Viburnum acerifolium* – The only viburnum variety that will thrive in shade, this is a shorter shrub with typical viburnum flowers and berries. It thrives in dry shade and, if conditions are right, may colonize.

Violets – *Viola sp.* – This plant is an important host for the fritillary butterfly. Its foliage makes an easy groundcover in deciduous forests. Most violets are happy in part sun to part shade, but particular varieties might have more specific sun or shade preferences. Once established, violets make a nice woodland groundcover.



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Virgin's Bower – *Clematis virginiana* – This vine likes moist soil in full or part sun. It blooms white in late summer and has interesting seed heads. It is 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.

Virginia Bluebells – *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. Consider planting them with wood poppies (*Stylophorum diphyllum*), in sun to shade in moist soil. They are dormant in the summer.

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

Wahoo, Eastern; Burning Bush – *Euonymus atropurpureus* – This shrub has brilliant red leaves and showy fruit that from fall into the winter that birds love. It is notable for its tolerance of black walnuts.

Whorled Rosinweed – *Silphium trifoliatum* – This wild meadow plant provides a loose border look. It gets very tall and looks like many miniature sunflowers in bloom. The goldfinches love them.

Wild Pink – *Silene caroliniana* – This low-growing plant works well in the front of a border, along a path edge or in a rock garden. Its delicate pink flowers are somewhat reminiscent of old-fashioned dianthus.

Wild Pink – *Silene regia* – This tall, wild-looking plant best suited for a meadow rather than in an ordered garden border. When it flowers, it is very showy.

Winterberry – *Ilex verticillata* – This plant grows in moist areas in the wild, but is adaptable in the landscape. Red berries cover the branches after the leaves drop in the fall for a spectacular landscape show, followed by the birds. Bluebirds, cedar waxwings, robins and many others enjoy the berries, making it a great shrub for bird watching. Both male and female plants are needed to set the fruit.

Wisteria, American – *Wisteria frutescens* – This native wisteria has the familiar flowers seen on the Japanese variety but is less aggressive. The flowers are a bit smaller and less aromatic but last longer and have two bloom periods, late spring and fall.

Witch-Hazel – *Hamamelis virginiana* – This large shrub or small tree occupies an import niche in the garden, 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, the last year's seedpods ripen and project 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 Poppy – *Stylophorum diphyllum* – A useful plant, its bright yellow flowers bloom over a long spring season right into summer. It tolerates a wide range of light conditions. The plants will spread easily; side shoots will appear while the initial stem ages and gets brittle. It pairs well with Jacob's Ladder (*Polonium reptans*) and complements many spring ephemerals while outlasting them in bloom.