## Perennial Plants

**Aquilegia canadensis** (Native Columbine)

Perennial herb with short-lived fibrous roots and a vertical underground stem. Popular choice in gardens for its hardiness, three to five year lifespan, and easy regeneration by seed. Resistant to powdery mildew and broadmites; waxy leaves shed water-based pesticides. Unpalatable to livestock but sometimes browsed by deer. A favorite of hummingbirds.

**Sunlight:** Full sun, partial shade, or full shade  
**Soil Type:** Slightly acidic to slightly alkaline, sandy, well-drained, not too rich  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist  
**Height:** 1-2’  
**Color:** Red, yellow  
**Bloom Time:** April-May

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**Asclepias tuberosa** (Butterfly weed, Milkweed)

A wonderful horticultural plant for landscaping to attract butterflies, particularly monarchs. This perennial herb has woody rootstocks and hairy, erect stems that grow in clumps. Easily propagated by both seed and rhizome cuttings, which will usually bloom in their second year. Ideal in semi-dry habitats where it can spread without disturbing nearby plant species. Milkweed may be burned in the fall to eliminate dead stalks and stimulate new, taller-growing plants.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Sandy, well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry  
**Height:** 3’  
**Color:** Orange, sometimes red or yellow  
**Bloom Time:** May-June

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**Aster novae-angliae** “Purple Dome” (Aster, New England aster)

Attractive to birds and butterflies. Low-lying, bushy mounds are terrific for fall-blooming borders. Pinch plants before July to maintain a cushion effect and divide plants every two to four years. Excellent for cutting. Susceptible to powdery mildew, but will be much less affected if grown in moist, rich soil.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry  
**Height:** 18-24”  
**Color:** Purple  
**Bloom Time:** September-October
# Perennial Plants

## Baptisia sphaerocarpa (False Indigo, Yellow wild indigo)

Tolerates drought and poor soils. Over time, plants form slowly expanding clumps with deep and extensive root systems, and should not be disturbed once established. After bloom, plants resemble shrubs and can be trimmed to maintain round plant appearance. Best as a specimen or in small groups. Attracts butterflies.

**Sunlight:** Full sun (best) to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry  
**Height:** 2-3’  
**Color:** Yellow  
**Bloom Time:** May-June

## Chelone glabra (Turtlehead)

Native wildflowers beautifully adapted to garden settings, especially when paired with the pink-flowered *Chelone oblique*. Thrives in moist and wet soils, making it especially suited to shorelines and along ponds. Also great for cutting. Pinch back stems in spring to reduce mature plant height, especially when plants are grown in lots of shade; divide in spring. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies, particularly the Baltimore checkerspot butterfly.

**Sunlight:** Partial Shade  
**Soil Type:** Rich, acidic; tolerates neutral or basic pH  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet to Moist  
**Height:** 1-3’  
**Color:** White, Purple  
**Bloom Time:** August - October

## Chrysogonum virginianum “Pierre” (Gold Star)

Easily grown from seed and may self-seed in a garden. Spreads by stolons to form an attractive ground cover, about 3-4” tall, that is easily controlled. Flowering stems add to plant height. Remove spent flower stems for best ground cover appearance. No serious insect or disease problems and only low susceptibility to mildew.

**Sunlight:** Partial to full shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, rich, organic, well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry, tolerates wet  
**Height:** up to 1’  
**Color:** Yellow  
**Bloom Time:** March-June
### Perennial Plants

**Coreopsis Rosea “Limerock Ruby” (Pink Coreopsis, Pink Tickseed)**

Plants form a bushy mound of fern-like green foliage, bearing ruby-red flowers with yellow “eyes” from summer through fall (Trim plants in July to promote repeat blooming). Excellent for edging borders and in containers. Heat and humidity tolerant. Attractive to songbirds and butterflies.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Sandy/rocky, well-drained, poor soils  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to Dry  
**Height:** 1.5’  
**Color:** Pink, red  
**Bloom Time:** July-September

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**Coreopsis verticillata “Crème Brulee” (Tickseed)**

A long blooming perennial that forms a spreading mound of bright green fern-like leaves. Tolerant of poor soils. Shear plants lightly in August to encourage renewed blooming. Attracts birds and butterflies.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, Sandy, well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Dry  
**Height:** 2’  
**Color:** Yellow  
**Bloom Time:** June-July

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**Dicentra eximia “Luxuriant” (Bleeding Heart)**

A long-blooming, handsome, bushy perennial with light green, ferny leaves and clusters of drooping pink to red flowers. Plant forms three foot wide mounds, colonizing slowly by rhizomes, and will naturalize by self-seeding in favorable environments. Mixes particularly well in gardens with aquilegia Canadensis (Native Columbine). Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.

**Sunlight:** Shade  
**Soil:** Acidic, rich, humusy, well-drained, rocky  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist  
**Height:** 1.5’  
**Color:** Pink  
**Bloom Time:** April-September
**Perennial Plants**

**Echinacea purpurea “Double Decker” (Purple coneflower)**

A totally unique form of this popular perennial. Second-year plants produce a large magenta-pink daisies with a second smaller flower produced on top of each dark brown central cone. Blooming starts in midsummer and continues for weeks. Coneflowers are sturdy and carefree perennials. Flowers are very attractive to butterflies. Adapts to a wide variety of soil conditions. First-year plants usually exhibit the typical single blooms before becoming double in the second year.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Tolerates wide pH range and a variety of soils
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist to dry soil
- **Height**: 1.5-3’
- **Color**: Purple
- **Bloom Time**: July-October

**Echinacea “Harvest Moon” (Big sky Coneflower)**

Hardy, well-branched, strong, and bushy, the big sky coneflower is ideal for sunny borders or growing in mixed containers. The fragrant blooms are excellent for cutting and last well into fall. Exceptionally hardy, coneflowers can thrive in hot and dry conditions as well as cold conditions. Deer resistant and attractive to butterflies.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Well-drained, tolerates variety of soils
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist to dry soil
- **Height**: 1.5-3’
- **Color**: Purple
- **Bloom Time**: July-October

**Eupatorium maculatum “Gateway” (Joe Pye Weed)**

Bold, “architectural” specimen plants with large umbrella-like heads of rosy-purple flowers perfect for borders and bouquets. Often found in damp meadows and thickets. The fragrant flowers are very attractive to butterflies. No serious disease or insect problems but the leaves may scorch if soils are allowed to dry out.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun
- **Soil Type**: Fertile, humusy, sand/clay, wide pH range
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist
- **Height**: 5’
- **Color**: Pink
- **Bloom Time**: July-September
### Perennial Plants

**Gaillardia “Fanfare” (Blanket Flower)**

Long-blooming and drought-tolerant, blanket flowers are an easy-care favorite of gardeners as specimens, in masses and in bouquets. They attract butterflies and are resistant to deer and rabbits. Remove faded flowers to encourage constant blooming.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun
- **Soil Type:** Tolerates wide pH range and a variety of soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist to Dry
- **Height:** 12-16”
- **Color:** Orange, yellow
- **Bloom Time:** June-October

![Gaillardia “Fanfare”](image)

**Gaura lindheimeri “Crimson Butterfly”**

This hardy tap-rooted plant tolerate poor soils as well as high heat, humidity, and some drought. Remove spent flower spikes to prolong bloom period. Less likely to become leggy than other cultivars, crimson butterflies nonetheless benefit from close planting or support from adjacent perennials.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun
- **Soil Type:** Best in sandy or loamy, well-drained soils but tolerates wide pH range and a variety of soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** 12-18”
- **Color:** Pink
- **Bloom Time:** May-September

![Gaura lindheimeri “Crimson Butterfly”](image)

**Geranium maculatum “Espresso” (Cranesbill, Wild Geranium)**

Striking reddish-brown foliage keeps its color all season long, making the cranesbill an excellent groundcover in shaded areas with dry soil. Long bloom time and attractiveness to butterflies, birds, and bees are also benefits of the cranesbill.

- **Sunlight:** Partial shade to full shade
- **Soil Type:** Acidic, rich
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** usually 12-15”, up to 2’
- **Color:** Purple
- **Bloom Time:** April-July

![Geranium maculatum “Espresso”](image)
### Perennial Plants

**Heuchera micrantha** “Palace Purple” (Coral Bells)

A clump-forming perennial with a 12” tall basal mound consisting of maple or ivy-like purplish leaves. Leaves may turn bronze-green in hot summers. Excellent for borders and in containers. 1991 *Perennial Plant of the Year.*

- **Sunlight:** Full sun (only with moist soil) to partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Organic, well-drained
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** 1-2’
- **Color:** Bluish or pinkish white
- **Bloom Time:** June-July

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**Iris cristata** “Alba” (White Dwarf Crested Iris)

This dwarf crested iris is a low-growing, rapidly spreading plant which features unique white flowers with gold crests borne on 6” tall stems. Spreads quickly and forms a low, seasonal groundcover ideal for shady conditions.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun (in moist soil) to partial shade.
- **Soil Type:** Acidic, rich, well-drained
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** 1’
- **Color:** White
- **Bloom Time:** April and May

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**Liatris microcephala** “Dwarf Blazing Star” (Gayfeather, Tiny-headed Liatris)

Naturally compact, clumping grass-like leaves with feathery purple flowers on tall spikes characterize the gayfeather, making it excellent for a sunny border and in containers. Drought tolerant once established. Attractive to butterflies, hummingbirds, and other birds. Clumps may be easily divided every 3-4 years in the spring.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Tolerates wide pH range and a variety of soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** 1.5’
- **Color:** Purple
- **Bloom Time:** July-August
### Perennial Plants

#### Lobelia cardinalis “Fried Green Tomato”  
(Cardinal Flower)

Relatively easy to grow, the cardinal flower boasts tomato-red blooms on maroon/olive green foliage, appearing 6-8 weeks, beginning in July. Cardinal flower will bloom its second year, forming a large rosette the first year, and has a 24-30” spread. Hummingbirds and butterflies are attracted to cardinal flowers; deer often damage young plants. Particularly attractive at the edge of a woodland garden.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Humusy; sand, loam, or clay; wide pH range
- **Soil Moisture:** Wet to Moist soil
- **Height:** 2.5-3’
- **Color:** Red
- **Bloom Time:** July - September

#### Mertensia virginica (Virginia Blue Bells)

Great for wooded areas, pink buds with light blue flowers appearing in April, blooming into summer. Grows 1-2’. Likes shade and will become dormant in the heat of summer. Best grown in masses. Suffers no serious insect or disease problems.

- **Sunlight:** Partial shade to full shade
- **Soil Type:** Rich, sometimes rocky, near-neutral pH (6.8-7.2)
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist
- **Height:** 1-2’
- **Color:** Pink then blue
- **Bloom Time:** March-April

#### Monarda didyma “Raspberry Wine”  
(Beebalm)

Beebalm is a traditional favorite for the perennial border, with a striking display of richly colored flowers through the summer months. This selection produces deep wine-red flowers, arranged in large, shaggy heads. Foliage is delightfully fragrant, and reportedly much more resistant to powdery mildew than most older varieties. A favorite of both butterflies and hummingbirds. Beebalm spreads quickly so reduce clump size in early spring, if desired. Garden selections all have been bred from native North American wildflower species. Flowers are edible.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Acidic, rich, well-drained
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist, tolerates wet soils
- **Height:** 3’
- **Color:** Pink, Red
- **Bloom Time:** July-September
### Perennial Plants

**Oenothera berlanderi “Siskiyou” (Evening Primrose)**

As its common name implies, the evening primrose opens its flowers in the evening, closing them again each morning, with the exception of the pink evening primrose, which opens its flowers in the morning and closes them in the evening. This sprawling perennial is quite hardy and drought-resistant and will easily form colonies in a variety of conditions, though it cannot withstand complete soil dryness and will often go dormant in the summer. Attracts birds, especially finches, and various mammals.

**Sunlight:** Full sun, foliage persists in partial shade but won’t bloom  
**Soil Type:** Readily adapts to variety of well-drained soils  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry  
**Height:** 1-2’  
**Color:** Pink, White  
**Bloom Time:** February-July

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**Osmunda cinnamomea (Cinnamon Fern)**

A robust, upright grower. The fronds of cinnamon fern occur in groups, rising from a shallow, black rootstock. Fertile fronds appear first as silvery, furry fiddleheads, ultimately becoming stiff, erect, and covered with specialized pinnae, which turn their upper portions into a thick spike of fruit dots – turning from green to chocolate brown. Sterile fronds bend outwards forming a vase-shaped circle enclosing the cinnamon fronds.

**Sunlight:** Full sun (only when kept moist) to full shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, sand/loam/clay  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to wet  
**Height:** 2-3’  
**Color:** Green  
**Bloom Time:** Non-flowering

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**Osmunda regalis (Royal Fern)**

Royal Fern is one of the largest and most spectacular species for the garden. It forms an upright clump with tall, arching fronds of bright green divided leaves. Old leaves should be pruned to the ground in late winter. Deciduous. Received a Royal Horticultural Society Award of Garden Merit (1993).

**Sunlight:** Full sun (only when kept moist) to full shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, sand/loam/clay  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet to moist, tolerates year-round shallow water.  
**Height:** 2-3’  
**Color:** Green  
**Bloom Time:** Non-flowering
**Perennial Plants**

*Rudbeckia speciosa* “Viette’s Little Suzy”  
(Black-eyed Susan)

Beautiful dwarf variety of this popular, easy-to-grow perennial. Tough, hardy, and deer-resistant with a long blooming period and excellent fall foliage color. Wonderful for fronts of sunny borders or for mass planting as a ground cover. Also nice in containers. Pairs well with *Echinacea purpurea* (purple coneflower). Divide in spring every 4-5 years as needed.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun or partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Tolerates variety of well-drained soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry
- **Height:** 2’
- **Color:** Yellow
- **Bloom Time:** June-October

*SILENE virginica* (Fire Pink, Scarlet catchfly)

A short-lived perennial with long narrow leaves and bright red flowers, the fire pink is very attractive to butterflies, hummingbirds, and other birds including juncos, sparrows, and larks.

- **Sunlight:** Partial shade
- **Soil Type:** Acidic, rocky, poor soils preferred
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist to Dry
- **Height:** 1’
- **Color:** Red
- **Bloom Time:** April-August

*Solidago rugosa* “Fireworks” (Wrinkle Leaf Goldenrod)

‘Fireworks’ is a compact, heavy-flowering goldenrod that is relatively easy to grow and provides good color and contrast for a garden border or in a bouquet. Remove spent flowers to encourage additional bloom. Leaf rust is an occasional problem. May need to be divided every two to three years to control growth. Flowers visited by bees and butterflies, seeds eaten by birds. Deer-resistant.

- **Sunlight:** Full Sun
- **Soil:** Tolerates a wide variety of well-drained soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Wet
- **Height:** 1-4’
- **Color:** Yellow
- **Bloom Time:** August-October
## Perennial Plants

### Solidago “Little Lemon Dansolitlem” (Goldenrod)

One of the most compact forms of goldenrod, the Little Lemon is great as a border in groups or masses and can also be grown in containers. Good drought tolerance. Cut back flowers after initial bloom to encourage a second fall bloom. Watch for powdery mildew and leaf spot. Attractive to bees and butterflies.

**Sunlight:** Full sun  
**Soil Type:** Tolerates a wide variety of well-drained soils.  
**Soil Moisture:** Dry to Moist  
**Height:** 9-18”  
**Color:** Yellow  
**Bloom Time:** July-August

### Stylophorum diphyllum (Golden Wood Poppy)

A wildflower occurring most often in moist woodlands and along streambanks. Works well in gardens singly or in small clusters. No serious insect or disease problems. Will naturalize easily by self-seeding in optimum conditions.

**Sunlight:** Partial shade to full shade  
**Soil Type:** Rich, humusy, loamy  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to wet  
**Height:** 9-12”  
**Color:** Yellow  
**Bloom Time:** April-June

### Tiarella cordifolia “Brandywine” (Foamflower)

A strong grower with glossy leaves and excellent bronze in fall and winter. Long-blooming, best grown in a cool shaded location, where it can create large colonies. Particularly well suited as groundcover, edging, and in containers.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to full shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, humusy, well-drained  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist  
**Height:** 1’  
**Color:** White, light pink  
**Bloom Time:** April-July
### Tiarella cordifolia “Running Tapestry” (Foamflower)

Foamflowers are native wildflowers and close cousins to the Coral-bells. Plants form a spreading mat of scalloped green leaves, turning bronze in colder months and remaining evergreen in mild winter regions. Short sprays of airy white flowers appear in early summer. An excellent woodland groundcover, preferring rich, moist soil. Runners are produced in summer and trail around the plant, rooting to form new plantlets. These can be easily moved in early spring to start a new patch.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to full shade
- **Soil Type**: Acidic, humusy, well-drained
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist
- **Height**: 1’
- **Color**: White
- **Bloom Time**: April-July

### Tradescantia virginiana “Bilberry Ice” (Virginia Spiderwort)

A beautiful hybrid selection often seen in garden borders. Individual blossoms last for only one or two days, but new blossoms appear daily throughout the spring blooming period. Plants should be trimmed back after the first flush of flowers is over to rejuvenate the foliage and encourage repeat bloom in late summer. Happiest in a sunny, moist site but will tolerate partial shade. Divide clumps every 2 to 3 years in spring. Relatively pest free. Flowers are attractive to butterflies.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Humusy, circumneutral (pH 6.8-7.2) preferred, but very adaptable to wide range of soil types.
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist to Dry
- **Height**: 1-2’
- **Color**: Blue, purple, rarely white
- **Bloom Time**: April-July

### Vernonia noveboracensis (Ironweed)

In a sunny, moist site ironweed will form a bold, impressive clump of dark green leaves with large clusters of purple flowers in late summer and fall. Well suited to border conditions and for cutting; may need staking. Easily divided in spring and attractive to butterflies.

- **Sunlight**: Full Sun
- **Soil Type**: Tolerates wide pH range and a variety of soils.
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist, tolerates dry
- **Height**: 4-8’
- **Color**: Purple
- **Bloom Time**: August-October
## Emergent Plants

### Acorus americanus (Sweet Flag)

A hardy, fast-growing perennial swamp or bog plant with sweet, spicy-scented leaves. Spadix-like flowers appear in June and July, followed by dark berries. Found at water’s edge.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun, partial shade.
- **Soil Type**: Suited to a wide variety of saturated soils
- **Soil Moisture**: Wet to moist
- **Height**: 2’
- **Color**: greenish-yellow
- **Bloom Time**: June-July

### Calamagrostis canadensis (Blue Jointgrass)

A tall, long-lived, cool season native grass useful for wetland restoration and enhancement as well as shoreline and streambank stabilization. Jointgrass provides food for deer as well as habitat for small mammals, waterfowl, and other birds.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to full shade
- **Soil Type**: Nutrient rich, saturated soils
- **Soil Moisture**: Thrives in nutrient-rich, moist to wet soils.
- **Height**: 3-6’
- **Color**: Purplish blue
- **Bloom Time**: June-August

### Hibiscus moscheutos (Marsh Hibiscus, Rose Mallow)

A beautiful, shrubby perennial often found along edges of salt marshes and in wetlands. Clumps of hibiscus start to grow late in the season and have a long, late-summer blooming period.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Moist, alkaline
- **Soil Moisture**: Wet to moist
- **Height**: 3-6’
- **Color**: White, Purple
- **Bloom Time**: July-September
Emergent Plants

$Iris versicolor$ (Blue Flag)

A hardy lakeshore perennial herb loved by gardeners for its bright, showy flowers and strong, shoreline-stabilizing roots. No known insects or diseases negatively impact the species, but it is easily over-taken by aggressive rhizomatous emergents.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, rich  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet to moist, with high organic content  
**Height:** 3-6’  
**Color:** Blue, purple  
**Bloom Time:** May-June

$Juncus effusus$ (Soft Rush, Common Rush)

A slow-spreading, clump-forming, grass-like perennial which emerges from a stout branching rootstock. An excellent choice for shoreline protection, water filtration, and pollution tolerance, soft rush also provides food and habitat for waterfowl and other bird species.

**Sunlight:** Full sun  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, sand, loam, or clay  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet to moist  
**Height:** 2-3’  
**Color:** Dark green  
**Bloom Time:** June-September

$Pontederia cordata$ (Pickerelweed)

Pickerelweed forms large colonies along shallow shorelines, acting as a wave buffer and providing food and cover for waterfowl (particularly geese), muskrats, and other small mammals. Often used for water gardening, Pickerelweed can grow to 4 feet tall with a 6 inch flowered spike, and its vegetative portion is seldom damaged by insects, diseases, birds, or mammals.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Sand, loam, or clay  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to wet; thrives when permanently inundated in up to 12 inches of freshwater.  
**Height:** 4’  
**Color:** purple to blue  
**Bloom Time:** May-October
### Shrubs and Trees

#### Aronia arbutifolia (Red Chokeberry)

A deciduous, colonizing shrub with numerous, slender stems and brilliant red fall color. Easily transplanted and established, red chokeberry works well in mass plantings and in borders, and is also useful for bank stabilization. Fruit and foliage are important for wildlife.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun, tolerates some shade
- **Soil Type:**
- **Soil Moisture:** Wet to dry
- **Height:** 1.5-13’
- **Color:** White, purple-tinged
- **Bloom Time:** March-May

#### Baccharis halimifolia (High-tide bush, groundsel tree, eastern baccharis)

Hardy, fast-growing, disease-resistant, salt-resistant plants often used as garden shrubs and hedges and found along shorelines and marshes. Can be trained to a single tree-like trunk up to 10 feet tall. Attractive to bees, birds, and small butterflies but toxic to livestock. Rapid colonization may cause displacement of other plant species.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun
- **Soil Type:** Circumneutral (pH 6.8-7.2), rocky to sandy or loam
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist or wet, tolerates nutrient-poor soils
- **Height:** up to 10’
- **Color:** White
- **Bloom Time:** August-December

#### Cornus sericea (Redosier Dogwood)

Often incorporated into landscapes for its beauty, wind buffering, and attractiveness to wildlife. Its fleshy fruits, twigs, and foliage are a valuable source of food for wildlife including many bird species – wood ducks, eastern bluebirds, cardinals, purple finches, orioles, bobwhite quail, and wild turkeys – as well as deer, rabbits, raccoons, and other small mammals.

- **Sunlight:** Full sun, tolerates some shade
- **Soil Type:** Moist, moderately acidic or neutral, medium to coarse soils
- **Soil Moisture:** Moist to dry
- **Height:** 4.6-20’
- **Color:** White, cream-colored flowers with white berries
- **Bloom Time:** June-August
**Shrubs and Trees**

**Ilex verticillata** (Winterberry)

Deciduous holly with red fruit that persists through winter; Winterberries are important for wildlife, particularly birds, and adapt easily to a variety of habitats including wet and dry sites. Hollies are either male or female and both must be present for plants to have berries.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Acidic, sand/loam/clay
- **Soil Moisture**: Wet to dry
- **Height**: 16’
- **Color**: Red, Orange
- **Bloom Time**: June-July

**Itea virginica** (Virginia Sweetspire)

Fragrant white flower spikes cover Virginia Sweetspire in early summer. Dark green leaves turn into a very attractive crimson in the fall, sometimes lasting until December. Provides protective cover for wildlife and will spread easily if unmanaged. Very adaptable to different sun and soil conditions.

- **Sunlight**: Full sun to partial shade
- **Soil Type**: Acidic, sand/loam/clay
- **Soil Moisture**: Wet to Moist
- **Height**: 3-10’
- **Color**: White
- **Bloom Time**: May-June

**Lindera benzoin** (Spicebush)

Over 20 species of birds, as well as deer, rabbits, raccoons, and opossums have been recorded as browsing the leaves or eating the fruits of this shrub. Wood thrushes are especially fond of spicebush fruits. Difficult to transplant but relatively disease-and pest-resistant

- **Sunlight**: Best in partial shade, tolerates full sun
- **Soil Type**: Sandy, well-drained, also suitable for loam soils
- **Soil Moisture**: Moist to dry
- **Height**: 6.5-16’
- **Color**: Yellow
- **Bloom Time**: March-May
**Shrubs and Trees**

**Rosa palustris (Swamp Rose)**
Great for hedges, walls, fences, or trellises for climbing, edges for low selections, for massing, and raised beds. Found in swampy habitats and along ditches and streams. Year-round beauty and attractiveness to wildlife make it a favorite of gardeners, but it is highly susceptible (as are most roses) to pests and disease. Fruits are eaten by wildlife.

**Sunlight:** Full sun, partial shade, full shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, rich, loamy  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet  
**Height:** 8’  
**Color:** Pink  
**Bloom Time:** July-August

**Vaccinium corymbosum (Highbush Blueberry)**
The major blueberry of commerce, this plant produces clusters of dainty, bell-shaped flowers in spring followed by tasty blueberries in the summer. The highbush blueberry is often used in landscaping for food, beautification of wet areas, and to attract wildlife. The fruits provide important summer and early fall food for numerous species of birds and mammals.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Acidic, highly organic, well-drained, rocky  
**Soil Moisture:** Wet to dry  
**Height:** 6-12’  
**Color:** White, Pink  
**Bloom Time:** April-May

**Viburnum dentatum (Arrowwood)**
An adaptive multi-stemmed shrub often used for borders or as mass plantings and groupings to attract birds. Free from serious problems of disease and most insect pests, with the exception of the viburnum leaf beetle. Occasional pruning is helpful to rejuvenate and shape the plant.

**Sunlight:** Full sun to partial shade  
**Soil Type:** Loamy, neutral to acid soil  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist to Dry  
**Height:** 3-8’  
**Color:** White, Pink flowers, dark blue berries  
**Bloom Time:** April - May

References:

American Beauties www.abnativeplants.com


Heritage Perennials www.perennials.com

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center www.wildflower.org


Texas Agrilife Extension Service http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/database/index/plant_id_emergent_plants.htm