



DRAGONFLY
NURSERIES



WHOLESALE NATIVE PLANT NURSERY IN WAKEFIELD, RI

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PLACE AN ORDER

For up to date plant availability and ordering instructions, visit dragonflynurseries.com/plant-list-orders/

Photos in this catalog provided by [Dragonfly Nurseries](#) and [Tupelo Design Studio](#)





Welcome to Dragonfly Nurseries

This is the first online catalog for our nursery. We hope you find it a helpful guide to purchasing native plants.

Dragonfly Nurseries is a woman-owned nursery dedicated to cultivating and expanding access to ecotypic plants native to the New England region. Rooted in both professionalism and ecological responsibility, we work with local seed companies, strengthening native plant networks and protecting regional genetic diversity.



Our work begins with carefully sourced seed and extends to the landscape. We grow native perennials, grasses, shrubs, and trees that sustain pollinators, support wildlife, and foster healthy ecosystems throughout the region.

Guided by a commitment to sustainability, the company uses peat-free potting soil, recycled plastic pots, and grows plants without neonicotinoids. This reflects Dragonfly's dedication to community and the land.



As a wholesale grower, Dragonfly Nurseries serves landscape professionals, municipalities, state and federal agencies, environmental organizations, and Indigenous nations and tribes working toward ecological restoration, stewardship, and conservation. Through contract growing and early project coordination, we help ensure local seed sources, appropriate quantities and sizes, and healthy, ecologically sound plants delivered on time.

At the heart of Dragonfly Nurseries is a belief in community and cultural resilience. This catalog represents more than a list of plants — it is an invitation to cultivate landscapes that are regionally rooted, ecologically vibrant, and enduring.

PLANT WITH PURPOSE



Designing with Native Plants: Begin with Place

Feeling overwhelmed by the thought of using native plants in residential design?
Wondering where to begin?

Don't begin with plants. Begin with place.

The landscape is a dynamic living system shaped by ecology, culture, memory, and time. A place-based design approach asks us to slow down and observe before making decisions about plants. What was this land historically? Was it a forest, meadow, wetland, farmland? How does it function within the broader ecological context? Is it situated in an urban neighborhood, a suburban fringe, or a rural landscape? Where does water linger after rain? How does sunlight shift across the day and through the seasons? What can soil and drainage patterns reveal about long-term success? These observations guide plant decisions far more effectively than beginning with a species list. Designing with native plants is not simply decorative; it is ecological alignment.

Design begins with listening to clients, to communities, and to the site itself. Understanding land use, cultural context, maintenance capacity, and environmental conditions establishes a foundation for meaningful connection and contribution. Rather than imposing form onto a site, the process works to reveal and amplify existing ecological processes while shaping spaces that invite engagement and stewardship.





Clarity of intention is essential. A small pollinator garden at the entry requires a different structure and maintenance strategy than a meadow-inspired alternative to turf or a backyard habitat corridor. A highly visible front yard may demand more care than a loosely managed ecological zone such as a meadow. Native design succeeds when ecological function aligns with client goals and long-term stewardship capacity.

We often apply an 80/20 framework: approximately eighty percent site-appropriate native species form the ecological backbone of a planting, supporting biodiversity and reinforcing regional identity. The remaining twenty percent may include thoughtfully integrated ornamental species that provide structure, rhythm, familiarity, and concentrated seasonal interest.

Collaboration strengthens the design process depending on whether it is a residential garden, restoration or park. Engagement with clients, ecologists, engineers, artists, and community stakeholders integrates scientific understanding with cultural and creative insight. The intersection of art and science enables landscapes that are environmentally sound, socially active, and adaptable in a changing climate.

From intimate gardens to public spaces, the goal remains consistent: to craft environments rooted in local history yet oriented toward a sustainable and thriving future. Native landscapes are living systems, not static installations. They require observation, seasonal editing, and adaptive stewardship. When plants are matched to place and supported by clear management goals, they establish more successfully, require fewer inputs, and grow increasingly resilient over time.

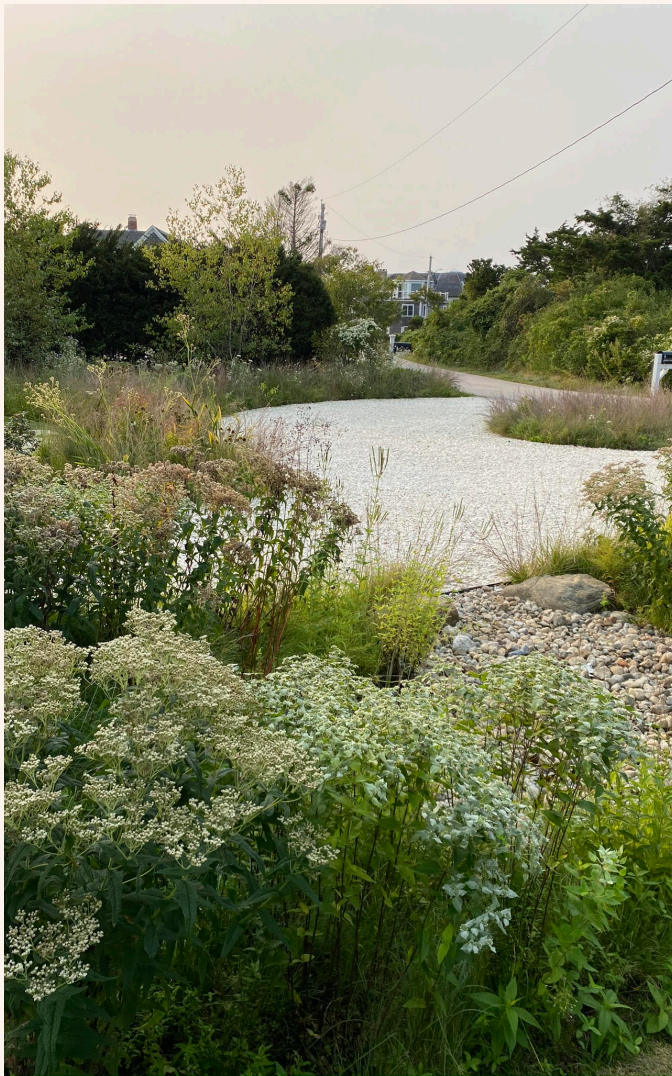
Designing with native plants is not about limitation. It is about working with the land's inherent character and fostering reciprocal relationships between human and non-human communities. When we begin with place, landscapes emerge as purposeful, welcoming, ecologically grounded, and built to endure.



Native Plants in Formal Borders

Structure, Symmetry, and Ecological Integrity in Residential Landscapes

Foundation plantings and formal borders have long been associated with clean lines, symmetry, and a sense of architectural order. Traditionally dominated by evergreen hedges and highly manicured ornamentals, these spaces are often viewed as incompatible with the dynamic character of native plantings. Yet this traditional approach is changing.



A thoughtful mix of approximately 80% native plants and 20% ornamental species allow residential landscapes to reflect both ecological responsibility and refined design. When selected for form, habit, predictability and repeatability, native plant cultivars can support structured, elegant gardens without sacrificing environmental value.

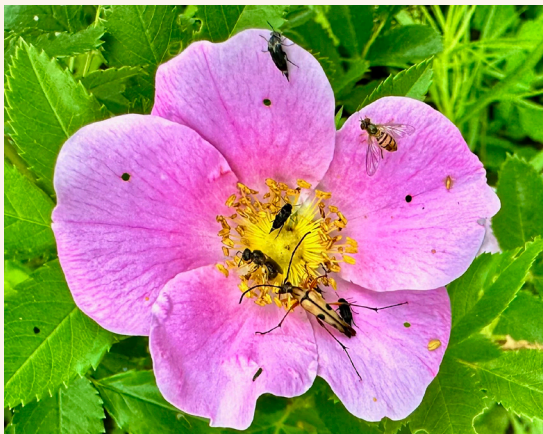
Native plants can provide the framework and aesthetic structure in a traditional formal garden. Many native cultivars have strong architectural qualities, dependable growth habits, and seasonal consistency that make them ideal candidates for more formal compositions. The key lies in intentional selection and placement.

In formal settings, plants are chosen not only for bloom, but for silhouette, density, and the way they repeat across a space. Native cultivars selected for compact growth, sturdy stems, and consistent form can perform beautifully within symmetrical layouts, linear borders, and foundation plantings.



The following native species provide structure and reliability in formal landscape designs (among many others).

- **Heuchera macrorhiza** — Valued for its refined foliage structure and rich color, this species performs exceptionally well in neat groupings. Its mounded habit creates crisp edging or layered foundation plantings.
- **Baptisia australis** — With its rounded, architectural form and sturdy spring blooms, Baptisia provides mass and presence. Its shrub-like habit anchors borders while maintaining a clean silhouette throughout the season.
- **Echinacea pallida** — An upright, sculptural presence that offers strong vertical accents. Its airy yet disciplined structure integrates seamlessly into repetitive planting schemes.
- **Liatris microcephala** — Tall and narrow, this species introduces rhythm and repetition, ideal for reinforcing symmetry or punctuating linear beds.
- **Allium cernuum** — Its architectural, nodding blooms soften formal geometry without disrupting order. Used in measured drifts, it brings movement to structured layouts.
- **Symphyotrichum oblongifolium** — Compact and rounded, this species excels in edging or mass plantings. Its dependable shape maintains clarity in more structured borders.



Ecological Value within Refined Design

By selecting native cultivars for habit and performance, designers can achieve the visual discipline of traditional formal gardens while supporting pollinators, improving soil health, and reducing maintenance inputs.

Structure does not require lack of creativity. Symmetry does not exclude biodiversity. When native species are chosen intentionally and arranged with care, they deliver both balance in design and ecological integrity.

Formal landscapes can evolve beyond purely ornamental traditions. With thoughtful planning and maintenance, native plants can hold their shape, repeat with purpose, and elevate residential gardens into spaces that are at once polished and profoundly connected to place.



Rethinking the Lawn: Making Room for Alternatives

The traditional lawn has long been a defining feature of the home landscape. A well-kept stretch of turfgrass calms the eye, offering a smooth, unified green surface that visually anchors a garden. It provides open space for recreation, children's play, pets, and gatherings. Turf has a role especially where durability, accessibility, and open space are important.

But not every corner of a residential landscape needs to be lawn.

Large expanses of turf can demand significant mowing, watering, fertilizing, and maintenance often in places where grass struggles in shade, poor soil, or dry conditions. Rethinking where lawn is truly needed opens the door to more ecologically supportive, and visually interesting alternatives.

One of the most versatile and beautiful lawn alternatives are native sedges (*Carex* species). Sedges resemble fine-textured grasses but are botanically different and often far better suited to challenging conditions.

Species such as *Carex pensylvanica*, *Carex praegacilis*, *Carex radiata* and other regionally appropriate *Carex* species form soft, flowing green groundcovers that fill gaps, green up early in spring, and gently weave through garden beds. Their texture brings a meadow-like character to small spaces while remaining tidy and manageable.



Why Sedges Work

- Create a neat, meadow-inspired look even in compact yards
- Replace lawn where turf struggles especially in shade
- Adapt to sun or shade and varied soil conditions
- Require less mowing and irrigation once established
- Support biodiversity by providing habitat and ecological value

Sedges can be used as a full lawn substitute or as a base layer in a meadow-style planting. By adding native perennials and spring bulbs, you can build seasonal color and pollinator interest into what was once a monoculture of turf.





Other Flowering Native Alternatives for Lawns

Beyond sedges, many low-growing native plants can function as partial lawn replacements or living ground covers, depending on site conditions.

For Sunny Areas

Yarrow (Achillea millefolium) is a tough, adaptable perennial that thrives in full sun and well-drained soil. Its finely textured foliage forms a soft mat, while flat-topped flower clusters provide summer color and valuable nectar for pollinators. Yarrow tolerates drought and occasional foot traffic, making it suitable for informal open areas.

Wild Strawberry (Fragaria virginiana) forms a dense, spreading groundcover in sun to part shade. In spring it produces delicate white flowers followed by small, flavorful berries. Its low habit helps suppress weeds while providing both ornamental and ecological value.

Silky Aster (Symphyotrichum sericeum) is a compact prairie species well suited to sunny, dry sites. Its silvery foliage adds fine texture through the season, and in late summer to fall it produces violet-purple flowers that support late-season pollinators.

Narrowleaf Blue-Eyed Grass (Sisyrinchium angustifolium) is a small, grass-like perennial that performs well in sunny meadows or open landscapes. Starry blue flowers appear in late spring, adding delicate seasonal color while maintaining a tidy, clumping form.

For Shaded Woodland Conditions

Creeping Mint (Meehania cordata) is an excellent option for shaded areas where turfgrass often fails. This woodland native forms a lush carpet of heart-shaped foliage and produces charming violet-blue flowers in spring. It spreads gently under trees and along woodland edges without becoming aggressive.



Common Blue Violet (Viola sororia) is a familiar and adaptable woodland groundcover. Its heart-shaped leaves form low colonies, and violet-blue spring flowers provide early nectar for pollinators.

Violet Wood Sorrel (Oxalis violacea) brings soft texture and delicate pink-violet flowers to shaded or lightly wooded settings. It spreads slowly from bulbs and mixes well with other woodland natives.

Wild Ginger (Asarum canadense) forms a dense, low groundcover with large, velvety leaves that help suppress weeds in deep shade. Its unusual maroon flowers are hidden beneath the foliage and are pollinated by ground-dwelling insects.



Other Lawn Alternatives to Consider

While sedges and native groundcovers are good choices, they are only part of a broader strategy. Depending on site conditions and lifestyle needs, homeowners might consider:

- Native meadow plantings
- Expanded garden beds with shrubs and perennials
- Mulched play spaces or defined activity zones
- Layered woodland plantings in shaded areas

The key is intentional design: keep lawn where it serves a clear purpose for play, gathering, or visual rest and transition less-used areas into plantings that reduce maintenance and increase ecological benefit.

A landscape does not have to be all lawn or no lawn. By balancing turf with alternatives like native sedges, flowering groundcovers, and woodland species, we can create home landscapes that are functional, beautiful, and environmentally responsive while supporting the broader ecosystem.



Dragonfly Nurseries Availability List & Cultural Plant Guide

For up to date plant availability and ordering instructions, visit dragonflynurseries.com/plant-list-orders/

Latin Name	Common Name	Eco 59 - Provenance	Exposure			Soil Moisture				Appearance			Comments	Highlights
			Full Sun	Part Sun/Shade	Shade	Dry	Med.	Moist	Wet	Bloom Time	Color	Height & Spread		
<i>Achillea millifolium</i>	Yarrow	X	X			X	X	X		S	Wh	1'-3' ht./2'-3' spr.	Weedy tendency, roots tend to sucker, meadows, mass plantings	    
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Anise hyssop		X	X		X	X			S, F	Pu, P, O, R	12-24" ht./24-48" spr.	Well drained soils, suitable for mass home garden plantings, rain gardens and meadows, provides nectar for hummingbirds and seeds for birds (i.e. finches)	    
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding onion		X	X			X	X		S	P, Pu, Wh	1-2' ht./12-18" spr.	Likes moist soil but can tolerate occasional dry soil, perennial borders, rock gardens, meadows; can be toxic to birds	 
<i>Amsonia hubrectii</i>	Hubricht's Bluestar		X	X			X	X		Spr	B	2-3' ht./2-3' spr.	Water to establish then draught tolerant but prefers some moisture; fall foliage color when in full sun	 
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Ever-lasting		X			X	X			S	Wh	1-3' ht.	Tolerates a variety of soils, can be aggressive via rhizomes, host to American Lady and Painted Lady butterflies	    
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada anemone	X	X	X			X	X		Spr	Wh	12-24" ht.	Fast spreading which thrives in moist soils; attracts early season pollinators like bees; excellent ground cover	    
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Red columbine		X	X		X	X			Spr	R, Y	1-3' ht.	Attracts pollinators like hummingbirds and butterflies; can be used in borders, woodland gardens, pollinator gardens, etc.	  
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>	Goat's beard			X			X	X	X	Spr	Wh	4-6' ht./2-3' ft spr.	Could use in borders, woodland garden, rain gardens as specimen or mass planting; non-toxic to pets; pruning not necessary just to remove blooms	  
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed		X					X	X	S	P	24-42" ht./12-24" spr.	Great plant for mixed borders, meadow plantings; tall and clumping; attracts pollinators	  
<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	Showy Milkweed	X	X	X		X	X			S	Pu/P	3' ht. & spr.	Can handle dry sites; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies	  
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common milkweed		X	X		X	X			S	P	3' ht. & spr.	Great plant for meadows and open spaces; Monarch butterflies lay their eggs and it is the larvae's sole source of food	  
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly weed		X			X	X			S	O	2' ht.		   
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Whoreld Milkweed		X	X		X	X			S, early Fall	Wh	2' ht.	Skinny whorled leaves; deer and rabbit resistant; nectar attracts many kinds of insects	  
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Blue Wild Indigo	X	X	X			X			Spr - Early S	Pu	3' ht. & spr.	Nitrogen fixer; long-lived perennial; attracts bees; good for meadows; structural plant	   
<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	Fasle aster		X	X			X	X	X	Late S - Fall	Wh/Pale Pu	3' ht. & spr.	Tall late season bloomer; attracts bees and butterflies; meadow plant; good rain gardens; cut back for busier growth; may self sow	   
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold		X	X			X		X	Spr	Y	1-2' ht. & spr.	Wetland plant; early spring bloom; ideal pond and rain garden edge; likes cool moist sites; important early season pollinator plant	 
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Turtlehead		X	X				X	X	Late S - Fall		2' ht. & spr.	Meadow plant; excellent for rain gardens; late season nectar source; spreads by rhizomes; supports butterflies; prefers moist soils	    
<i>Coreopsis rosea</i>	Pink tickseed		X	X			X	X	X	S	P	2-3' ht. & spr.	Moist meadow plant; spreads into colonies; long blooming; good in rain gardens; deadhead for more blooms; fine textured foliage	    
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Whorled tickseed	X	X	X		X	X			S	Y	3' ht. & spr.	Drought tolerant once established; long bloom season; spreads by rhizomes; cut back after first bloom for rebloom; can naturalize	    
<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	Canadian honewort			X	X		X	X		Spr - Early S	Wh	2-3' ht. & spr.	Woodland understory plant; parsley family; delicate umbels; often self seeds; can spread in rich soils; supports small native pollinators	 
<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>	Swamp loosestrife		X					X	X	S	M	3-4' ht. & spr.	Wetland shrub like perennial; great for pond edges; stems can arch and root; excellent cover habitat; can dominate small sites; cut back to manage	   
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Showy tick-trefoil		X	X			X	X		S	P/Pu	2' ht. & spr.	Nitrogen fixing legume; prairie/meadow plant; seed pods stick to clothing (tickseed); good in restoration projects; drought tolerant once established	   
<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	Fringed bleeding heart			X	X			X		Spr - S	P/Rose/Wh	12-18" ht. & spr.	Woodland perennial; long bloom season; prefers rich moist soil; good shade garden plant; can go semi-dormant in heat/drought	    
<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>	Flat-topped aster		X	X				X		S - F	Wh	1-3' ht. & spr.	Early bloomer in the Aster family; flowering in July; spreads by rhizomes and seed; wet-to-moist, sandy prairies in full sun; larger animals (swamp sparrows, wild turkey, deer and rabbits) also enjoy the foliage of the plant	  

Ecoregion 59 is the Northeastern Coastal Zone: epa.gov/eco-research/ecoregions

Spr=Spring, S=Summer, F=Fall, W=Winter Interest (Seed Heads, Stems, Berries, etc.)
Wh=White, B=Blue, P=Pink, Pu=Purple, O=Orange, Y=Yellow, R=Red, F=Fall color, M=Magenta



Pollinator power plant



Favorable home garden species



Favorable to wildlife (birds, etc.)



Deer & rabbit resistant




























































































Landscape - spreads easily

Latin Name	Common Name	Eco 59 - Provenance	Exposure			Soil Moisture				Appearance			Comments	Highlights
			Full Sun	Part Sun/Shade	Shade	Dry	Med.	Moist	Wet	Bloom Time	Color	Height & Spread		
Echinacea pallida	Pale Purple Coneflower	X	X			X	X			Early S	P	18-24" ht. and spr.	Excellent nectar plant for bees & hummingbirds; drought tolerant once established; leaves provide food for the Ottoo-skipper larva; easy-to-establish	
Echinacea paradoxa	Yellow Coneflower		X			X	X			S	Y	3' ht. and spr.	The most fragrant of all the coneflowers with distinctive yellow blooms; can easily cross-pollinate with each other; good for prairie/native gardens	
Echinacea purpurea	Purple coneflower		X	X		X	X			S- early F	Pu	4' ht. and spr.	Seed heads feed birds if left standing; found in meadows & prairies; drought-tolerant perennial; flowers may release slight fragrance in strong sunlight	
Eupatorium coelestinum	Blue mist flower	X	X	X			X	X		F	Bl	1' ht. and 2' spr.	Fuzzy blue flowers atop attractive red stems; great cut flowers; found in old fields, meadows, and along stream banks; Naturalizes readily	
Eupatorium hyssopifolium	Hyssop-leaved thoroughwort	X	X	X				X		F	Wh	3' ht. and spr.	End of growing season blooms; good for meadows; prefers drier growing conditions, can handle wet so long as well-drained; host plant for Clymene moth	
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Common bonset		X	X				X	X	S-F	Wh	24-48" ht. and spr.	Wet meadow plant; strong late season nector source; medicinal plant; good for rain gardens; spreads by rhizomes, can self seed; best in moist soils	
Eurybia divericata	White wood aster			X	X	X	X			Late S & F	Wh/Y centers	18-36" ht. and spr.	Woodland aster; excellent late-season pollinator plant; dry shade tolerant; naturalizes by rhizomes; good groundcover in shade; can spread into colonies	
Fragaria virginiana	Virginia strawberry	X	X	X	X	X				Spr- early S	Wh/fall leaf color	6" ht. / 3-10" spr.	Edible fruit; use plants for best results/spreads by runners easily; good for meadows/fields, moist ground, edge of woods, hillsides; fruit ripens late Spr/early S	
Geranium maculatum	Wild geranium			X	X			X		Spr-S	Pu	12"ht. / 10-12" spr.	Woodland plant but does well in sun; dissected leaves, beautiful pinkish-purple flowers, readily spreads, forms nice cover in borders	
Geum triflorum	Prairie smoke		X	X		X	X	X		Spr- early S	P/Reddish/Silver seed heads	6-18" ht. and spr.	Prairie plant; drought tolerant; distinctive seedheads; early season blooms; good for rock gardens; deep roots; low maintenance	
Gillenia trifoliata	Bowman's root		X	X		X	X	X		Late Spr-S	Wh/P	24 -48" ht. and spr.	Airy woodland edge; delicate starry flowers; great for mixed borders; clump forming; prefers well drained soils; drought tolerant once established; medicinal plant	
Helenium flexuosum	Common Sneezeweed		X	X			X	X	X	S-F	Y	24-60" ht. and spr.	Wet meadow plant; strong late season nectar source; can spread in moist soils; good rain garden plant; cut back early summer to reduce height	
Heliopsis helianthoides	False sunflower		X			X	X			S-F	Y	36-72" ht. and spr.	Long bloom season; prairie plant; spreads by rhizome; great cut flower; can be tall; drought tolerant once established; seedhead feeds birds	
Hepatica acutiloba	Sharp Lobed Liverleaf	X		X	X		X			Early Spr	Wh/P/Lavender	4-8" ht. and spr.	Spring ephemeral; woodland plant; early pollinator value; slow-growing; prefers rich litter soils; clump forming; excellent for a shade garden	
Heuchera macrorrhiza	Coral bells			X	X		X			Late Spr-S	Wh/P	10-24" ht. and spr.	Woodland perennial; attractive foliage; clump forming; drought tolerant once established; great for edging; prefers well drained soils	
Hibiscus moscheutos	Swamp rose mallow		X					X	X	S-F	P/Wh/R	48-84" ht. and spr.	Wetland perennial; huge flowers; late season bloom; needs consistent moisture; dies back fully in winter; can spread slowly; excellent rain garden focal plant	
Iris cristata	Crested iris		X	X			X	X		Spr	Pu	6-12" ht. and spr.	Woodland iris; spreads by rhizomes, good groundcover; early spring bloom; prefers humus-rich soil; excellent shade tolerant plant; low maintenance	
Iris versicolor	Northern blue flag		X	X			X	X	X	Late Spr-S	Pu	24-36" ht. and spr.	Wetland iris; excellent rain garden plant; spreads by rhizomes; showy flowers; good for pond edges; stabilizes soil	
Liatis microcephala	Smallhead blazing star		X			X	X			S	Pu	18-36" ht. and spr.	Corm perennial; drought tolerant; excellent butterfly plant; strong bee nectar source; prefers well-drained soil; cut flower; seedheads for birds	
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	X	X	X				X	X	S	R	24-48" ht. & 12-18" spr.	Wetland perennial; hummingbird plant; needs consistent moisture; shortlived but self seeds; great in a rain garden; prefers rich soil; protect from drought	
Lobelia siphilitica	Blue cardinal flower		X	X			X	X	X	S-F	Bl/Pu	24-48" ht. & 12-24" spr.	Moist meadow plant; strong pollinator value; attracts bumble bees; can self seed; good rain garden plant; clumping habit; tolerates wetter soils	
Lobelia siphilitia 'Mistassinica'	Blue cardinal flower		X	X			X	X	X	S-F	Bl/Pu	24-48" ht. & 12-24" spr.	Cultivated selection; moist garden plant; strong bee plant; long bloom; may reseed; good for rain gardens; upright growth; easy care in moist soils	
Lobelia spicata	Pale spiked lobelia	X	X	X			X	X		S	Bl/Lavender/Wh	12-24" and spr.	Meadow perennial; clumping form; tolerates average soils; drought tolerant once established; good border plant; deadhead for longer bloom	
Matteuccia struthiopteris	Ostrich fern			X	X			X	X			36-72" ht. and spr.	Large architectural fern; spreads by rhizomes; forms colonies; prefers rich soils; great for woodland gardens; can be aggressive in ideal conditions; edible fiddleheads	
Meehania cordata	Creeping mint			X	X		X			Spr-S	Bl/Pu	3-6" and spr. widely	Woodland groundcover; spreads fast; mint family; good for shade gardens; erosion control; strong early pollinator plant; can be aggressive	
Mertensia virginica	Virginia Blues			X	X		X	X		Spr	P to B	12-24"ht. and spr.	Spring ephemeral; woodland plant; goes dormant after flowering; spreads by seed; excellent naturalizing plant; good companion with ferns	



Latin Name	Common Name	Eco 59 - Provenance	Exposure			Soil Moisture				Appearance			Comments	Highlights
			Full Sun	Part Sun/ Shade	Shade	Dry	Med.	Moist	Wet	Bloom Time	Color	Height & Spread		
Mimulus ringens	Monkey flower	X	X	X				X	X	S	Lavender/Pu	18-36" ht./2-24" spr.	Wet meadow plant; good rain garden perennial; spreads by rhizome; attracts bees and butterflies; tolerates flooding; can self-seed; cut back bloom to tidy	
Monarda bradburiana	Eastern beebalm		X	X				X	X	Late Spr-S	P/Lavender	12-24" ht./18-24" spr.	Early of monardas; drought tolerant; less prone to mildew; spreads with rhizomes; fragrant foliage; great for native borders	
Monarda fistulosa	Wild bergamot	X	X			X	X	X		S	Lavender/Pu	24-48" ht./18-36" spr.	Prairie perennial; spreads readily; drought tolerant; cut back after flowering; needs airflow to reduce mildew; wildlife value high	
Monarda media	Purple bergamot	X	X				X	X		S	Pu/ M	24-48" ht./18-36" spr.	Hybrid bee balm; fragrant foliage; spreads with rhizomes; can naturalize; prefers consistent moisture; prone to mildew in poor airflow situations	
Monarda punctata	Spotted beebalm		X	X		X	X			S	P/Pu	12-30" ht./12-24" spr.	Drought tolerant ; sandy / dry soils; strong native bee plant; aromatic foliage; spreads by seed; great meadow plant; long bloom;	
Oclemena acuminata	Whorled wood aster	X	X	X	X		X	X		S-F	Wh/Lavender	24-48" ht./18-30" spr.	Woodland aster; shade tolerant; naturalizes by rhizomes and seed; good for woodland edges; supports native bees; low maintenance	
Parthenium integrifolium	Wild quinine		X			X	X	X		S	Wh	24-48" ht./18-30" spr.	Prairie perennial; drought tolerant; strong stems; long bloom; good for butterflies; tough low maintenance plant; good for dry meadow gardens	
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper		X	X	X		X	X		S	R fall color, B/ black berries	vines spr. widely	Vigorous native vine; wildlife berries; excellent fall color; can climb structures/trees; aggressive spreader; good groundcover on slopes;	
Penstemon calycosus	Long-sepal beardtongue		X	X			X	X		Spr-S	Lavender/P	18-36" ht./12-18" spr.	Clump forming perennial; excellent bee/hummingbird plant; prefers well drained soil; drought tolerant once established; deadhead for longer bloom	
Penstemon digitalis	Beardtongue	X	X	X		X	X	X		Late Spr-S	Wh/Pale P	24-48" ht./18-24" spr.	Sturdy native perennial; easy garden plant; drought tolerant when established; clum forming; can self seed; cut back after bloom	
Penstemon smallii	Small's penstemon		X	X			X	X		Late Spr-S	P/Pu	18-36" ht./12-18" spr.	Hummingbird plant; drought tolerant; prefers well drained soil; clumping habit; great border plant; deadhead for longer bloom; good meadow plant	
Phlox divaricata	Blue woodland phlox	X	X	X			X	X		Spr	Bl/Lavender	12-18" ht./12-24" spr.	Woodland spring bloomer; fragrant flowers; spreads slowly; good shade ground cover; prefers rich soil; goes dormant in heat/drought	
Phlox paniculata 'Jeana'	Garden phlox		X				X	X		S-F	P/Lavender	36-60" ht./24-36' spr.	Mildew resistant cultivar; long bloom; needs airflow; deadhead for longer bloom; prefers consistent moisture; great cut flower; strong garden performer	
Podophyllum peltatum	May apple			X	X		X			Spr	Wh	12-18" ht./spr. widely	Woodland colony plant; spreads by rhizomes; spring ephemeral; fruit edible when fully ripe; excellent groundcover for shade	
Pycnanthemum flexuosum	Virginia mountain mint		X	X		X	X			S-F	Wh	24-48" ht./18-36" spr.	Attracts wasps/bees/butterflies; mint family; spreads by rhizomes; drought tolerant once established; aromatic foliage; good meadow plant	
Pycnanthemum muticum	Clustered mountain mint	X	X	X			X			S-F	Wh/Silvery bracts	24-36" ht./18-36" spr.	Silver bracts, spreads readily; aromatic foliage; great mass planting plant; drought tolerant once established; can dominate beds;	
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Narrowleaf mountain mint	X	X	X			X			S	Wh	18-36" ht./12-24" spr.	Fine textured foliage; aromatic; spreads by rhizomes; drought tolerant; great for hot dry site; can naturalize	
Rudbeckia hirta	Black eyed susan	X	X			X	X	X		S-F	Y, dark center	12-36" ht./12-24" spr.	Short-lived perennial/biennial; reseeds freely; drought tolerant; meadow plant; seedheads feed birds; easy to grow; great for mass planting	
Salvia azurea	Blue sage		X			X	X			Late S-F	Bl	36-60" ht./24-36" spr.	Deep roots; drought tolerant; late-season nectar prairie plant; prefers well drained soil; can flop if soil too rich; cut back early summer for sturdier stems	
Salvia lyrata	Lyreleaf sage		X	X			X	X		Spr-early S	Bl/Pu	6-18" ht./12-18" spr.	Rosette forming perennial; spreads by seed; good groundcover; drought tolerant; early season pollinator plant; can naturalize quickly	
Scutellaria incana	Hoary skullcap		X	X		X	X			S-F	Bl/Pu	24-48" ht./18-24" spr.	Mint family; aromatic foliage; clump forming; drought tolerant once established; good meadow / border plant; long bloom	
Sisyrinchium angustifolium	Blue eyed grass		X	X			X			Spr-early S	Bl	6-18" ht./6-12" spr.	Clump forming iris relative; meadow plant; small flowers open in the sun; can self seed; good edging plant; prefers consistent moisture; low maintenance	
Smilacina racemosa	False solomon seal			X	X		X	X		Spr-early S	Wh/R berries	18-36" ht. and spr.	Woodland perennial; arching stems; spreads by rhizomes; berries for birds; good understory / shade garden plant; prefers rich soil; food / medicine plant	
Solidago arguta	Forest goldenrod	X	X	X	X	X	X			Late S-F	Y	24-60" ht./18-36" spr.	Shade tolerant goldenrod; major late season nectar source; woodland edge plant; spreads by rhizomes and seed; easy naturalizer	
Solidago caesia	Bluestem goldenrod	X	X	X	X	X	X			Late S-F	Y	18-36" ht./18-24" spr.	Woodland golden rod; flowers/long stems; spreads modestly; low maintenance; supports late-season bees; good companion w/ asters; naturalizes gently	
Solidago juncea	Early goldenrod	X	X	X		X	X	X		S-early F	Y	18-48" ht./18-30" spr.	Earlier blooming goldenrod; drought tolerant once established; spreads by rhizomes; meadow plant; supports beneficial insects; good for mass plantings	



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			Full Sun	Part Sun/Shade	Shade	Dry	Med.	Moist	Wet	Bloom Time	Color	Height & Spread		
<i>Solidago odora</i>	Sweet goldenrod	X	X	X		X	X			Late S-F	Y	24-60" ht. / 18-36" spr.	Aromatic anise scented leaves; excellent late season nectar; spreads by rhizomes; drought tolerant; meadow plant; supports native bees and butterflies	   
<i>Solidago patula</i>	Round leaved goldenrod	X	X	X	X		X	X		Late S-F	Y	24-60" ht. / 18-36" spr.	Wetland goldenrod; great rain garden plant; tolerates saturated soils; spreads by rhizomes; good for pond edges; supports butterflies and bees	   
<i>Solidago puberula</i>	Downy goldenrod	X	X			X	X			Late S-F	Y	12-36" ht. / 12-24" spr.	Dry site goldenrod; drought tolerant; sandy rocky soils; strong late season nectar plant; meadow plant; spreads by rhizomes and seed; low maintenance	   
<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Seaside goldenrod	X	X				X	X		F	Y	36-84" ht. / 24-36" spr.	Very late bloom; major fall nectar source; salt tolerant; tough coastal plant; can self seed; strong upright form; drought tolerant once established	   
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy goldenrod		X			X	X			Late S-F	Y	24-72" ht. / 18-36" spr.	Bold upright goldenrod; drought tolerant; spreads by rhizomes; great cut flower; supports beneficial insects; good for prairie plantings; can naturalize	   
<i>Sium suave</i>	Hemlock waterparsnip		X	X				X	X	S	Wh	24-60" ht. / 18-36" spr.	Wetland umbel; prefers saturated soil; spreads by seed; caution with ID (looks like carrot family plants); good for wet restorations; wildlife habitat plant	  
<i>Symphotrichum cordifolium</i>	Heart leaved aster	X	X	X			X			Late S- F	Bl/Lavender	24-48' ht. / 18-36" spr.	Woodland edge aster; airy blooms; can selfseed; spreads by rhizome; supports native bees; good for naturalizing; pinch back bushier form	   
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	Smooth aster	X	X	X		X	X			F	Bl/Lavender	24-48" ht. / 18-30" spr.	Prairie aster; drought tolerant; strong late season nectar; clump forming to spreading; great cut flower; low maintenance; full sun best	   
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster		X				X	X		F	M	36-72" ht. / 24-36" spr.	Support monarchs; can spread by rhizomes; pinch in early S to reduce height; can mildew in shade; excellent meadow plant; leave stems for winter habitat	  
<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	Aromatic Aster		X			X	X			F	Bl/Pu	12-36" ht. / 18-36" spr.	Drought tolerant; aromatic foliage; excellent fall foliage; forms mounds; spreads by rhizomes; great for dry borders; deer resistant; low maintenance	   
<i>Symphotrichum puniceum</i>	Swamp Aster		X	X				X	X	Late S-F	Lavender/Pu	36-72" ht. / 24-36" spr.	Wetland aster; excellent rain garden plant; strong late pollinator value; can be tall (pinch or stake); spreads by rhizomes; supports butterflies; good for pond edges	   
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Heartleaf foamflower			X	X		X	X		Spr	Wh	6-12" ht. / 12-24" spr.	Woodland ground cover; spreads by runners; good shade garden plant; prefers rich moist soils; low maintenance; pairs well with ferns and phlox	   
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue vervain	X	X	X			X	X	X	S-F	Pu/Bl violet	24-72" ht. / 18-30" spr.	Wet meadow plant; verticle flower spikes; can self seed; good rain garden plant; drought tolerant once established; supports beneficial insects	   
<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	NY ironweed	X	X				X	X		Late S-F	Pu	48-96" ht. / 24-48" spr.	Tall wet meadow plant; strong stems; can form colonies; great for rain gardens; cut back early summer to reduce height; dramatic landscape plant	   
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root		X	X			X	X		S	Wh	36-84" ht. / 24-36" spr.	Tall prairie perennial; strong verticle form; clump forming; prefers consistent moisture; drought tolerant once established; deer resistant; great cut flower	   
<i>Xanthorhiza simplicissima</i>	Yellowroot			X	X		X	X		Spr	Y	12-36" ht. / spr. widely	Suckering unnderstory shrub; excellent slope stabilizer; shade tolerant; spreads readily; roots yield a yellow dye; good for woodland edges	  
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexander	X	X	X			X	X		Spr-early S	Y	18-36" ht. / 18-24" spr.	Carrot family; host for black swallowtail; clump forming to self seeding; good meadow plant; tolerates partial shade; great companion for woodland sage	   
Rushes, sedges, grasses														
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Blue Stem	X	X			X	X	X		Late S, Fall	F, R	4-8' ht.	Provides cover/nesting/seeds for songbirds, nesting and seeds; meadow, erosion control, grassland and upland coastal restoration; clumping growth habit	   
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broomsedge		X				X	X		Late S, Fall	Gold, O	2-4' ht.	Offers cover for birds and small animals; good for restoration, erosion control, fall and winter interest for home landscapes; adaptive to many soils	  
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Sideoats Grama		X			X	X			Spr		2' ht. & spread	Warm season bunchgrass; drought tolerant; good erosion control; seed for birds; low maintenance, winter interest seed heads	 
<i>Carex albicans</i>	White tinged sedge			X	X	X	X			Spr		1-2' ht. & spread	Woodland groundcover sedge; dry shade solution; spreads slowly by rhizomes; low maintenance; good under trees; erosion control in shade	  
<i>Carex gracillima</i>	Graceful sedge			X	X		X	X		Spr		1-2' ht. & spread	Woodland sedge; clumping to slowly spreading; handles moist shade; good for rain garden edges; soft arching foliage; groundcover substitute	  
<i>Carex muskingumensis</i>	Palm sedge		X	X			X	X		Spr		1' ht. & spread	Wet meadow sedge; palm like foliage; prefers consistent moisture; great in rain gardens; good in shade and part shade; stabilize soil	  
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvasia sedge			X	X	X	X			Spr		1-2' ht. & spread	Native lawn alternative; dry shade groundcover; spreads rhizomes; low mow to no mow; excellent under trees; erosion control; can form colonies	  
<i>Carex radiata</i>	Eastern star sedge			X	X		X	X		Spr		2-3' ht. & spread	Woodland sedge; tufted to spreading habit; prefers rich moist soils; good in shade; gentle groundcover; good under shrubs and trees; stabilizes soil	  



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Carex vulpinoidea	Fox sedge		X	X				X	X	Spr - early S		2-3' ht. & spread	Wetland sedge; good for rain gardens; fast to establish; spreads by seed and short rhizomes; erosion control; habitat plant; tolerates flooding	
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted hairgrass		X	X				X	X	S	P/Pu	3' ht. & spread	Cool season bunchgrass; ornamental seed heads; meadow plant good for mass plantings; low maintenance; drought tolerant once established; winter interest	
Deschampsia 'Gold tau'	Gold Dew Tufted Hair Grass		X	X				X	X	Early S	Golden seedheads	1' ht. & spread	Ornamental cultivar; golden airy seedheads; clumping grass; low maintenance; good border plant; prefers consistent moisture; winter interest; cut back in early spring	
Eragrostis spectabilis	Purple love grass		X			X	X			late S	Green/Pu/R	2' ht. & spread	Ornamental native warm season bunchgrass; provides cover/habitat and seasonal interest; typically non-aggressive; tough ornamental grass	
Juncus effusus	Soft rush		X	X				X	X	S		24-48" ht. & spread	Wetland rush; strong erosion control; tolerates flooding; spreads by rhizomes; great for bioswales; low maintenance; cut back old stems late winter	
Muhlenbergia capillaris	Muhly Grass		X			X	X	X		F	P/Pu seedheads	24-48" ht./24-36" spr.	Ornamental bunchgrass; drought tolerant; dramatic fall color; low maintenance; prefers well drained soil; seedheads provide winter interest; good mass plantings	
Panicum virgatum	Switch grass	X	X	X		X	X	X		S-F	tan seedheads	36-72" ht./24-36" spr.	Warm season bunchgrass; drought tolerant; strong erosion control; prairie grass; seed for birds; winter interest; good screening plant; low maintenance	
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little blue stem	X	X			X	X			Late S - F	B/green, copper tones in fall	24-48" ht./18-24" spr.	Prairie bunchgrass; drought tolerant; strong fall color; erosion control; seed for birds; winter interest; prefers lean soil; low maintenance	
Sorghastrum nutans	Indian grass	X	X			X	X	X		Late S-F	green turning gold/bronze	48-96" ht./24-36" spr.	Tall prairie bunchgrass; drought tolerant; strong wildlife cover; seed for birds; winter interest; excellent for erosion control; low maintenance; best in full sun	
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie dropseed		X			X	X			S-F	green foliage, tan seedheads	18-36" ht./18-24" spr.	Tidy bunchgrass; fragrant seedheads; drought tolerant; prefers well drained soil; low maintenance; excellent edging grass; winter interest; seed for birds	
Ferns														
Adiantum pedatum	Maidenhair fern	X		X	X		X	X				1-2' ht. / 12-24" spr.	Likes part shade/shade - Nice shade garden plant; provides shelter for small birds and animals (i.e. lizards, etc.)	
Athyrium filix-femina	Lady fern			X	X		X	X				6-12" ht.	Spreading by underground rhizomes; green foliage; perfect for woodland garden; found in full to part shade in drier soils than most ferns; tolerant of full sun if site kept moist	
Cystopteris bulbifera	Bulblet bladder fern			X	X			X				2-3' ht. & spread	Woodland fern; spreads by bulblets on fronds; naturalizes easily in moist shade; prefers humus rich soils; good for woodland gardens; delicate textures; can form colonies	
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hayscented fern			X	X		X	X				2-3" ht. & spread	Vigorous woodland fern; spreads fast by rhizomes; good groundcover in shade; can be aggressive; tolerates poor soils; smells like fresh hay when crushed; erosion control	
Dryopteris marginalis	Marginal wood fern	X		X	X		X	X				1-2' ht. & spread	Dry rocky sites and drought tolerant; thick, leathery leaves stay green over winter, providing year-round interest; good stabilizing dry shaded slopes	
Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive fern			X	X		X	X	X			18 - 36" ht. & spread	Wet woodland fern; spreads by rhizome; can colonize quickly; good rain garden plant; tolerates seasonal flooding; dies back with frost; erosion control	
Osmundastrum cinnamomeum	Cinnamon Fern			X	X		X	X	X			36-60" ht. & spread	Large wetland fern; prefers saturated organic soils; spreads slowly by rhizomes, strong architectural plant, excellent for wet shade; low maintenance	
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas fern			X	X		X				Evergreen foliage	12-24" ht. / 18 -24" spr.	Evergreen fern; excellent for dry shade; clump forming; durable woodland plant; low maintenance; good understory plant; tolerates rocky soils	
Shrubs														
Baccharis halimifolia	Groundsel tree		X					X	X	End S into F	Wh flower; Y leaves	12' ht.	Adapts to various soil types, incl. high salinity; suitable for coastal/wetlands; stabilizes soil; attractive fall foliage/florals; thrives in challenging conditions; low maintenance	
Ceanothus americanus	NJ tea		X	X		X	X			S	Wh	3' ht./18-36" spr.	Rounded, compact shape; nitrogen-fixing; produces flowers on new stems, prune early in season; mature shrubs can be cut to ground in spring to encourage new growth	
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Button bush		X	X				X	X	S	Wh	12' ht./8' spr.	Deciduous shrub; tolerates flood conditions & shallow standing water for short periods; good for rain gardens or wetland restoration; waterfowl/shorebird winter food source	
Spiraea tomentosa	Steeplebush		X	X				X	X	Late S/early F	P	2-3' ht. / 2' spr.	Requires moist setting; suited for shorelines, around ponds, rain gardens, naturalized swale/detention areas; flowers occur on new wood, prune in late winter or early spring	
Spiraea alba	Meadowsweet	X	X	X			X	X	X	Mid S/early F	Wh	4' ht./1-3' spr.	Delicate shrub w/ white fuzzy spires of flowers; blooms July to September; food and host plant for many insect; used by birds for food & nesting	
Iva frutescens	Marsh Elder/High Tide Bush		X					X	X	S - F	Wh	2-12' ht.	Shrub for wet, salty areas; little to no care but can be pruned and shaped regularly; wetlands indicator plant	