

# Pollinator Plants for Stormwater Management

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## Table of Contents

Project Overview .....	1
Stormwater Site Assessment.....	2
Plant Palette List Criteria .....	4
Plant Palette Key .....	5
Quick Reference Key .....	6
Pollinator Plant Selection Guide .....	7
Herbaceous Perennials .....	7
Shrubs .....	11
Trees.....	14
Grasses .....	17

## Pollinator Plants for Stormwater Management

Stormwater management is an integral part to improving water quality in Maryland streams, rivers, and bays. Stormwater infrastructure is designed to either direct water runoff to engineered systems for infiltration or detained on site to slow down runoff. The most cost-effective way to reduce and treat stormwater runoff is through green infrastructure which relies on plants, soils, and natural systems to reuse, slow, or infiltrate stormwater on site.

In most situations, the designer or contractor selects plants from an approved list but the list of plants is often limited, which makes it difficult to design diverse and attractive sites. Plants included on the list should be aesthetically pleasing, easy to maintain and meet the cultural considerations for the site. A group of plants often not included on stormwater management plant lists are pollinator plants. Pollinator plants can be weedy in appearance and may require more maintenance to keep them in their space. However, they can be used effectively in stormwater projects that are in less visible areas such as the edges of parks or by selecting species that do not readily go to seed, and by avoiding invasive plants.

**Objective:** Develop a pollinator plant selection guide for three stormwater management areas: a parking lot island, building foundation planting, and open field.

### Introduction to Stormwater Management

**What is stormwater?** Precipitation that accumulates in natural and/or constructed storage and stormwater systems during and immediately following a storm event.

**What is stormwater management?** To reduce the amount of stormwater runoff into waterways and allow water to drain more naturally in urban ecosystems.

#### Why is managing stormwater important?

- Urban areas have vast amounts of hard surfaces (streets, parking lots, rooftops) which increases stormwater runoff
- Runoff carries sediment, chemicals, debris, toxins, and pollutants to waterways
- Pollutants in waterways affect ecosystem balance and human activities

#### Bioretention

- The daily activities of people cause pollutants to collect on impermeable surfaces and get washed into waterways during rain events. These pollutants include dirt, oil, fertilizers, yard waste and litter. Pollutants poison streams and rivers
- A micro-bioretention system captures contaminants in stormwater runoff by directing the stormwater to pass through a mixture of plant material, sand, soil, and organic matter.
- A well designed bioretention systems should drain within 24-48 hours after a rain event.

#### Stormwater retention ponds

- Retention ponds are small permanent pools that collect stormwater, reducing the transfer of sediment and pollutants into the watershed.
- In addition to collecting stormwater, a retention pond can be aesthetically pleasing and provide wildlife habitat.

## Stormwater Site Assessment



Kentland Community Center, Landover, MD.

### Site 1: Stormwater Swales, Parking Lot Island

Issue	Need
Erosion	Plants that are suited for slopes; quick to establish and fibrous root system
Heat Island Effect	Heat tolerant plants
Security	Low growing plants
Weeds	Utilize plants that are quick to establish






## Site 2: Large Bioretention Swales



Issue	Need
Erosion	Plants that are quick to establish and fibrous root system
Inundated soils	Plants must be able to withstand water between six inches and one foot deep
Building view	Plants that are aesthetically pleasing

## Site 3: Wet Pond

Issue	Need	
Permanent water pool	Plants must be able to withstand constant inundation of water of one foot or greater in depth	
Available labor	Low maintenance plants	

## Plant Palette List Criteria

Plant selection based on these requirements:

1. **Native:** ~80%-100% native plant material
2. **Growth Habit:** Aggressive spread and establishment to compete with invasives
3. **Wildlife Attraction:** Attractive to native wildlife and pollinators (bees, butterflies, birds, hummingbirds)
4. **Aesthetic Value:** Aesthetically-pleasing and attractive to visitors
5. **Low Maintenance**
6. **Deer Tolerance/Resistance**
7. **Soil Tolerance:** Survivability in extreme dry/wet conditions


























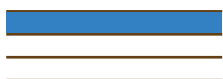




Photo credits: Adelaide Figurskey

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## Stormwater Management Plant Palette Key

Plant range				Landscape Value					
N	=	Native		↑	Height	→	Spread		Suitable for slopes
zones x - x		USDA Cold Hardiness Zone		Stormwater Sites			Light Range		
Wildlife Attractant				1	Parking Lot Island			Full sun	
	Bees			Butterflies		2	View From Building		Part shade
	Birds			Hummingbirds			Open Field		Shade
Flower Color									
	Blue				Pink				White with pink tinge
	Burgundy				Purple				White, yellow-red centers
	Greenish white				Red				Yellow
	Greenish yellow				Silvery pink				Yellowish green
	Light pink				White				Violet blue
Wetland Indicator Status Rating									
Indicator status (abbreviation)				Ecological description (Lichvar and Minkin, 2008)					
OBL	Obligate			Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands					
FACW	Facultative Wetland			Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands					
FAC	Facultative			Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or nonhydrophyte					
FACU	Facultative Upland			Occasionally is a hydrophyte, but usually occurs in uplands					
FAC	Upland			Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands					
Hydrologic Zones									
									
Shallow water	Regularly inundated			Periodically inundated		Infrequently inundated		Upland slope, seldom or never innundated	
Inundated below the normal pool to a depth of one foot.	Shoreline of a pond or stormwater wetland.			Periodic inundation after storms, saturated to partly saturated soils.		Periodic inundation by floodwaters that quickly recede.		Outer buffer of a pond or stormwater wetland. Withstand high runoff.	

# Plant Selection Quick Reference Key

The diagram shows a vertical form for plant selection. At the top is a large box labeled "Plant Picture". Below it is a section for "Scientific name" and "Common name". This is followed by a row of fields: "N" (Native to MD), "zones 3 - 8", "2-3' ↑", and "1.5' →". Below this is a row for "FAC" (Wetland Indicator Status) and three hydrologic zone icons. The next row contains "1, 2" (Stormwater Site) and three light range icons. The following row shows four wildlife attractant icons. The bottom section is a large box for "Comments: bloom time, deer resistance, notable tolerances, level of maintenance."

Labels pointing to the form fields:

- Plant Picture
- Scientific name
- Common name
- N=Native to MD
- USDA Cold Hardiness Zone
- Plant height (ft)
- Plant width (ft)
- Hydrologic zones
- Wetland Indicator Status
- Flower color
- Stormwater Site
- Light range
- Wildlife Attractant
- Suitable for slopes (erosion control)

Comments: bloom time, deer resistance, notable tolerances, level of maintenance.








*Aquilegia canadensis*  
Eastern Columbine

N zones 3 - 8 2-3' ↑ 1.5' →

FAC   

1, 2   

Blooms April-May. Deer resistant. Tolerates rabbit, drought, and dry soil. Freely self-seeds. Medium maintenance (remove flowering stems after bloom).



*Asclepias incarnata*  
Swamp Milkweed

N zones 3 - 6 4-5' ↑ 2-3' →

OBL  

2, 3   

Blooms July-August. Deer resistant. Tolerates clay soil and wet soil. Low maintenance (best left undisturbed after establishment).



*Asclepias syriaca*  
Common Milkweed

N zones 3 - 9 2-3' ↑ 1' →

FACU  

1, 2   




Blooms June-August. Deer resistant. Tolerates drought, erosion, and dry soil. Low maintenance. Grown easily from seed and will self-seed. Spreads rapidly by rhizomes.



*Caltha palustris*  
Marsh Marigold

N zones 5 - 8 1.5' ↑ 1.5' →

OBL  

2, 3   




Blooms April-June. Deer resistant. Tolerates wet soil. Low maintenance.



*Chelone glabra*  
White Turtlehead

N zones 3 - 8 2-3' ↑ 2.5' →

OBL  

2, 3   




Blooms August-October. Deer resistant. Tolerates erosion and wet soil. Low maintenance (consider pinching back stem ends in spring).



*Cimicifuga racemosa*  
Black Cohosh

N zones 3 - 8 4-6' ↑ 2-4' →

FAC   

2, 3   




Blooms June-July. Deer resistant and tolerates rabbits. Keep plant sheltered from strong winds. A slow-to-establish plant. Low maintenance.



*Dicentra cucullaria*  
Dutchman's Breeches

N zones 3 - 7 1' ↑ 1' →

FAC   

2   




Blooms in March. Deer resistant. Tolerates rabbit and clay soil. Goes dormant by summer. Intolerant of wet soils in winter. Medium maintenance.



*Dodecatheon meadia*  
Shooting Star

N zones 4 - 8 1.5' ↑ 1' →

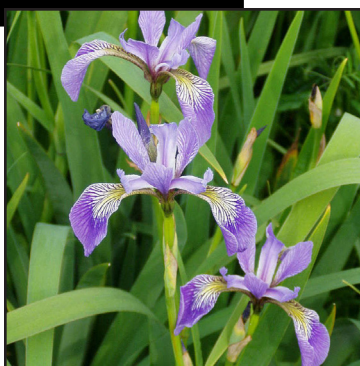
FACU  

1, 2   







Blooms April-May. Deer resistant. Avoid wet, poorly-drained soils, particularly in winter. Slow growing and difficult to grow from seed. Medium maintenance.





*Iris versicolor*  
Blue Water

N zones 3 - 9 2.5' ↑ 2.5' →

OBL		
1, 2, 3		
		
		

Blooms May-June. Deer resistant. Tolerates wet soil and may be grown in shallow standing water. Low maintenance.



*Lobelia cardinalis*  
Cardinal Flower

N zones 3 - 9 2-4' ↑ 1-2' →

FACW			
2, 3			

Blooms July-September. Deer resistant. Requires constant moisture. Tolerates rabbit, wet soil, and periodic flooding. Low maintenance.



*Lobelia siphilitica*  
Great Blue Lobelia

N zones 4 - 9 2-3' ↑ 1.5' →










FACW			
2, 3			

Blooms July-September. Deer resistant. Tolerates heavy shade and wet soil. Low maintenance (divide in spring as needed; may self-seed).

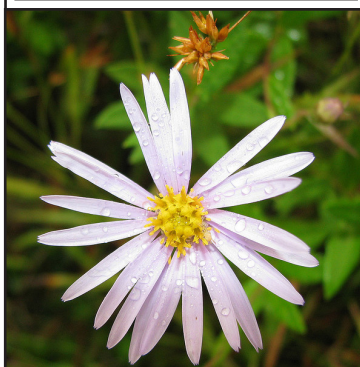


*Lupinus perennis*  
Lupine

N zones 3 - 8 .6-2' ↑ 1.5' →








FACU			
1, 2			
			

Blooms May-June. Deer resistant. Medium drought tolerance. Prefers acidic soil. Does not tolerate high alkalinity or water-logged soils. Nitrogen-fixing.



*Oclemea nemoralis*  
Bog Aster

N zones 3 - 8 .5-2' ↑ .5-1' →








OBL			
2, 3			
			

Blooms June-September. Requires consistent moisture and does not tolerate drought.



*Packera aurea*  
Golden Ragwort

N zones 3 - 8 .5-3' ↑ 1.5' →

FACW			
1, 2, 3			
			

Blooms in April. Freely self-seeds. Tolerates wet conditions. Medium maintenance (remove flowering stems after bloom/seed dispersal).



*Penstemon digitalis*  
Foxglove Beardtongue

N zones 3 - 8 3-5' ↑ 2' →






FAC			
1, 2			

Blooms April-June. Deer resistant. Tolerates drought, dry soil, and clay soil. Avoid wet, poorly drained soils. Medium maintenance.



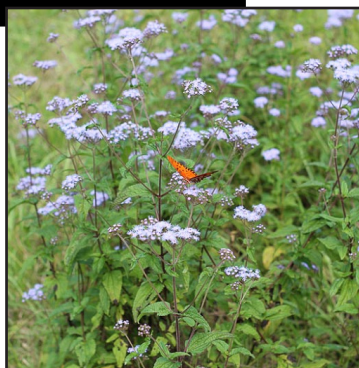
*Pontederia cordata*  
Pickerel Weed

N zones 3 - 10 2-4' ↑ 2' →

OBL		
2, 3		
		

Blooms June-October. Medium maintenance (rhizomes spread rapidly to form colonies).





*Eupatorium coelestinum*  
Mistflower

N zones 5 - 10 3' ↑ 3' →

FAC 

1, 2, 3   

Blooms July-October. Spreads aggressively by rhizomes and is self-seeding. Will grow in wet areas. Medium maintenance (cut back tall plants in summer to prevent flopping).



*Eupatorium perfoliatum*  
Common Boneset

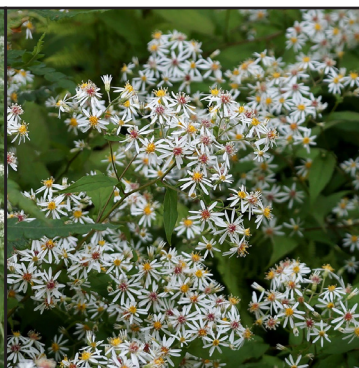
N zones 3 - 8 4-6' ↑ 3-4' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms June-October. Deer resistant. Requires constant moisture. Does well in sandy and clay soils. Low maintenance (may flop and require staking).



*Eurybia divaricata*  
White Wood Aster

N zones 3 - 8 2.5' ↑ 2.5' →

FACW 

2, 3   



Blooms August-September. Tolerates drought, heavy shade, dry soil, and shallow-rocky soil. Low maintenance.



*Eutrochium purpureum*  
Joe Pye Weed

N zones 4 - 9 5-7' ↑ 2-4' →

FACW 

1, 2, 3   

Blooms July-September. Deer resistant. Low maintenance (cut plants to ground in late winter).



*Geranium maculatum*  
Wild Geranium

N zones 3 - 8 2' ↑ 1.5' →

FACU 

1, 2   

Blooms April-May. Deer resistant. Tolerates rabbit, drought, and dry soil. Medium maintenance (foliage may yellow in heat and need to be sheared).



*Heuchera americana*  
American Alumroot

N zones 4 - 9 1-2' ↑ 1.5' →

FACU 

1, 2   



Blooms June-August. Tolerates drought. Low maintenance (can remove stems of faded flowers to encourage additional bloom).



*Hibiscus moscheutos*  
Swamp Rose Mallow

N zones 5 - 9 3-7' ↑ 2-4' →

OBL 

2, 3   

Blooms July-September. Grows well in heat and humidity. Low maintenance (pinch back growing tips to create bushy plants; deadhead flowers; cut back stems in late autumn).



*Iris cristata*  
Dwarf-Crested Iris

N zones 3 - 9 0.75' ↑ 1' →

FAC 

1, 2   

Blooms in April. Deer resistant. Slugs and snails can be significant problems. Can be used as a seasonal groundcover. Spreads rapidly by branching rhizomes. Medium maintenance.








*Rudbeckia hirta*  
Black-Eyed Susan

N zones 3 - 7 2-3' ↑ 1-2' →

FACU 

1, 2, 3   

Blooms June-September.  
Tolerates deer, drought and  
clay soil. Can self-seed. Low  
maintenance.



*Rudbeckia laciniata*  
Cutleaf Coneflower

N zones 3 - 8 2-9' ↑ 2-3' →

FACW 

2, 3   


Blooms July-September.  
Can spread aggressively  
and tolerates deer. Medium  
maintenance.



*Solidago drummondii*  
Goldenrod

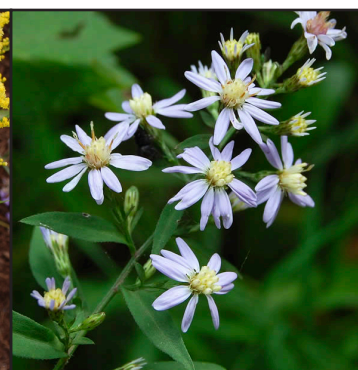
N zones 5 - 8 2-3' ↑ 2-3' →

FACU 

2, 3   

Blooms August-September.  
Tolerates deer, drought  
and poor soil textures. Low  
maintenance.



*Symphyotrichum cordifolium*  
Heart-Leaved Aster

N zones 3 - 8 2-5' ↑ 2' →

FACU 

2, 3   

Blooms August-September.  
Can aggressively self-seed. Low  
maintenance.



*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*  
New England Aster

N zones 4 - 8 3-6' ↑ 2-3' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms August-September.  
Ideal conditions can self-seed  
aggressively. Tolerates clay soils  
Low maintenance.



*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*  
New York Aster

N zones 4 - 8 1-1.5' ↑ 1-2' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms August-September.  
Tolerates deer and rabbit. Low  
maintenance.



*Vernonia noveboracensis*  
New York Ironweed

N zones 5 - 9 4-6' ↑ 3-4' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms August-September.  
Tolerates deer and wide range  
of soils. Can aggressively self-  
seed. Low maintenance.



*Zizia aurea*  
Golden Alexander

N zones 3 - 8 2-3' ↑ 2' →

FAC 

2, 3   

Blooms May-June. Ideal  
conditions can aggressively self-  
seed. Medium maintenance.





*Aesculus parviflora*  
Bottlebrush Buckeye

N zone 4- 8 8-12' ↑ 8-15' →

FAC 

2, 3   

Blooms June-July. Tolerates deer, rabbit, and erosion. Doesn't tolerate drought. Low maintenance.



*Aronia arbutifolia*  
Red Chokeberry

N zones 4 - 9 6-8' ↑ 3-4' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms april. Tolerates erosion and clay soils. Colonizes in ideal conditions. Low maintenance.




*Aronia melanocarpa*  
Black Choke Berry

N zone 3 - 8 3-6' ↑ 3-6' →

FAC 

2, 3   

Blooms May. Colonizes in ideal conditions. Low maintenance.



*Cephalanthus occidentalis*  
Button Bush

N zone 5 - 9 5-12' ↑ 4-8' →

OBL 

2, 3   

Blooms June. Tolarates erosion. Low maintenance.



*Clethra alnifolia*  
Sweet Pepperbush

N zone 3 - 9 3-8' ↑ 4-6' →

FAC 

2, 3   

Blooms July-August. Tolerate: heavy shade, erosion, and clay soils. Can colonialize in ideal conditions. Low maintenance.




*Hamamelis virginiana*  
Witch Hazel

N zones 3 - 8 15 - 20' ↑ 15 - 20' →

FACU 

2, 3   

Blooms October-December. Tolerates deer, erosion, and clay soil. Can colonialize in ideal conditions. Low maintenance.



*Ilex verticillata*  
Winterberry

N zones 3 - 9 3-12' ↑ 3-12' →

FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms June-July. Tolerates erosion and clay soils. Dioecious, requires male and female plants to produce fruit. Low maintenance.



*Ilex verticillata*  
Inkberry

N zones 4 - 9 5-8' ↑ 5-8' →
























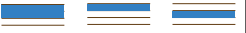






































FACW 

2, 3   

Blooms May-June. Tolerates deer, rabbit, and erosion. Dioecious, requires male and female plants to produce fruit. Low maintenance.






			
<p><i>Itea virginica</i> Virginia Sweetspire</p> <p>N zones 5 - 9 3-4' ↑ 4-6' →</p> <p>OBL </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p> </p> <p>Blooms May-June. Tolerates erosion and clay soil. Colonizes in ideal conditions. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Kalmia latifolia</i> Mountain Laurel</p> <p>N zones 4 - 9 5-15' ↑ 5-15' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p> </p> <p>Blooms May. Tolerates deer and rabbit. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Lindera benzoin</i> Spice Bush</p> <p>N zones 4 - 9 6-12' ↑ 6-12' →</p> <p>FAC </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms March. Tolerates deer, drought, and clay soil. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Myrica pensylvanica</i> Northern Bayberry</p> <p>N zones 3 - 7 5-10' ↑ 5-10' →</p> <p>FAC </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms May. Tolerates drought and erosion. Colonizes in ideal conditions. Dioecious, requires male and female plants to produce fruit. Low maintenance.</p>
			
<p><i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i> Pinxterbloom azalea</p> <p>N zones 4 - 9 3-6' ↑ 4-7' →</p> <p>FAC </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms April-May. Tolerates rabbits. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Rhus aromatica</i> Fragrant Sumac</p> <p>N Zone 3 - 9 2-6' ↑ 6-10' →</p> <p>UPL </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms April. Tolerates drought, erosion, and clay soils. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Rosa carolina</i> Carolina Rose</p> <p>N Zone 4 - 9 3-6' ↑ 5-10' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>2, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms May. Stems have thorns. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Sambucus canadensis</i> American black elderberry</p> <p>N zones 3 - 9 12' ↑ 12'</p> <p>FACW </p> <p>1, 3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms June-July. Tolerates erosion, clay and wet soil. High maintenance. Cut bushes back ever other year to maintain.</p>



*Vaccinium corymbosum*  
Highbush Blueberry

N zones 4 - 8 8' ↑ 8' →

FACW 

1   




Blooms May-June. Fast grower and aggressive competitor with weeds and herbaceous species. Dark purple fruit. Susceptible to chlorosis. Medium maintenance. Prune after fruiting.



*Viburnum dentatum*  
Arrowwood Viburnnum

N zones 2 - 8 9' ↑ 8' →








































FAC 

2   


































































 

Blooms May-July. Yellow to wine-red fall color. Black, purple fruit. Insect and disease tolerant. Low maintenance.



			
<p><i>Acer rubrum</i> Red Maple</p> <p>N zones 3 - 9 70' ↑ 50' →</p> <p>FAC </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms March-April. Shade tree and street tree. Very cold hardy. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Acer saccharum</i> Sugar Maple</p> <p>N zones 4 - 8 80' ↑ 50' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April. Shade tree. Grows poorly in compacted, poorly drained soils. Intolerant of road salt. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> Canada Serviceberry</p> <p>N zones 4 - 7 30' ↑ 20' →</p> <p>FAC </p> <p>1,3   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April-May. Tolerates clay soil. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Amelanchier laevis</i> Smooth Serviceberry</p> <p>N zones 4 - 8 40' ↑ 20' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>1   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April, fragrant flowers. Street tree. Tolerates air pollution. Low maintenance.</p>
			
<p><i>Betula nigra</i> River Birch</p> <p>N zones 4 - 9 70' ↑ 50' →</p> <p>FACW </p> <p>2,3   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April-May. Shade tree. Flaky, white bark as a winter interest. Tolerates deer, heat, drought, clay soil, wet soil, and air pollution. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Cercis canadensis</i> Eastern Redbud</p> <p>N zones 2 - 9 30' ↑ 30' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April. Street tree. Naturalized areas. Tolerates deer and clay soil. Part shade best in hot summer climates. Avoid wet or poorly drained soils. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> American Fringetree</p> <p>N zones 3 - 9 20' ↑ 20' →</p> <p>FACU </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms May-June, fragrant flowers. Tolerates clay soil and air pollution. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Cornus amomum</i> Silky Dogwood</p> <p>N zones 4 - 8 12' ↑ 6' →</p> <p>FACW </p> <p>1   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms May-June. Hedge plant. Tolerates deer, erosion, and wet soil. Medium maintenance.</p>



			
<p><i>Cornus florida</i> Flowering Dogwood</p> <p>N zones 5 - 9 30' ↑ 22' →</p> <p>FACU   </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p> </p> <p>Blooms May-June. Red to maroon fall color. Lower branches droop to create landscape value. Tolerates deer and clay soil. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Gordonia lasianthus</i> Loblolly-Bay</p> <p>N zones 7 - 9 60' ↑ 15' →</p> <p>FACW   </p> <p>1   </p> <p> </p> <p>Bloom May-October. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> American Sweetgum</p> <p>N zones 3 - 9 75' ↑ 50' →</p> <p>FAC   </p> <p>1   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms March-May. Purple and red fall foliage. Fruit hangs on until January. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Magnolia virginiana</i> Sweetbay Magnolia</p> <p>N zones 5 - 9 35' ↑ 20' →</p> <p>FACW   </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms May-June. Tolerates clay soil, wet soil, and air pollution. Low maintenance.</p>
			
<p><i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Black Gum</p> <p>N zones 2 - 9 50' ↑ 30' →</p> <p>FAC   </p> <p>1,2   </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms May-June. Shade tree and street tree Tolerates clay soil and wet soil. Low maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Quercus palustris</i> Pin Oak</p> <p>N zones 4 - 8 70' ↑ 40' →</p> <p>FACW   </p> <p>1 </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April (insignificant). Shade tree. Tolerates wet soil. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Rhus glabra</i> Smooth Sumac</p> <p>N zones 2 - 9 15' ↑ 15' →</p> <p>FACW   </p> <p>2,3   </p> <p>  </p> <p>Blooms June. Tolerates rabbits, drought, erosion, dry soil, and shallow-rocky soil. Medium maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Sassafras albidum</i> Sassafras</p> <p>N zones 4 - 9 60' ↑ 40' →</p> <p>FACU   </p> <p>2,3  </p> <p></p> <p>Blooms April-May. Tolerates deer, drought, and clay soil. Medium maintenance.</p>



*Taxodium distichum*

Bald Cypress

N	zones 4 - 10	75'	↑	8'	→
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OBL		
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2			
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Blooms April. Slender purplish catkins and greenish brown cones. Needles are copper color in fall. Roots protrude upwards. Medium maintenance.








*Andropogon gerardii*  
Big Bluestem

N zones 4 - 9 8' ↑ 3' →

FAC 

1, 2   


 

Blooms June-September.  
Aggressive self seeder. Low maintenance.



*Andropogon glomeratus*  
Bushy Bluestem

N zones 5 - 9 4' ↑ 3' →

FACW 

2  



Blooms September-February.  
Attractive foliage and feathery, club-shaped flower/seed panicles. Moderate self seeder if conditions are ideal. Low maintenance.



*Andropogon virginicus*  
Broomsedge

zones 5 - 8 3' ↑ 3' →

FACU 

3   




Bloom September-November.  
In the fall, the foliage turns a reddish orange and retains this color during winter dormancy. Great competitor. Medium maintenance.



*Chasmanthium latifolium*  
River Oats

N zones 3 - 8 4' ↑ 3' →

FACU 

2   

Self-seeder and may spread aggressively. Excellent contrast and texture. Low maintenance.



*Eragrostis spectabilis*  
Purple Love Grass

N zones 5 - 9 2' ↑ 2' →

UPL 

1, 3  


 




Blooms July-August. Showy seed clusters. Self-seeding and spreads by rhizomes. Low maintenance.





*Juncus effusus*  
Soft Rush

N zones 4 - 9 4' ↑ 3' →

FACW 

2   

Blooms June-August. Low growing. Spreads by rhizomes and self-seeding. Low maintenance.



*Muhlenbergia capillaris*  
Pink Muhly Grass

N zones 5 - 9 3' ↑ 3' →

FACU 

1  


 


Blooms September-November. Resistance to deer, drought, erosion, pollution, poor soil, and salt. Low maintenance.



*Panicum virgatum*  
Switchgrass

N zones 5 - 9 6' ↑ 3' →














FAC 

1, 2, 3   

Bloom July-February. Finely-textured panicles which hover over the foliage like an airy cloud. Slowly spreads by rhizomes. Low maintenance.



<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i> Three Square Bulrush					<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i> Woolgrass				
N	zones 3 - 9	6'	↑	1.5' →	N	zones 4 - 9	6'	↑	5' →
OBL					FACW				
1,2,3									
									
Reddish brown spikelets. Salt tolerant. Low maintenance.					Showy seed clusters in fall and winter. After seeding, maintain one foot of water over seeds for two weeks with periodic flooding until the seeds are established. High Maintenance.				