

## **Rain gardens help us use all the water we're given**

### **Plants for rain gardens**

A purposely created low spot on a property can intercept run-off water or accept water directed to it from downspouts, sump-pumps and other sources. When that spot is planted with species that love occasional flooding, the ground there can accept even more since a good deal is drawn into plants. There it's used in photosynthesis and cools the area as it's released as water vapor.

Plants' water use is not to be sneered at. A large tree can draw up over 1,000 gallons of water each day.

Some wetland native perennials can use gallons per day as individuals, tens of gallons as colonies.

Slowing run-off and directing water through the natural filter of soil and plants is a very important part of keeping up the quality of a community's drinking water. Although municipal- and industrial water treatment facilities are very important, water quality engineers are demonstrating that individuals treating the flow from residential properties can make a significant difference in the level of pollutants found in an area's lakes and streams. ([EPA report forecasts a 5 - 20% improvement...](#))

(<http://www.epa.gov/sciencematters/january2011/rainbarrels.htm> ) So it shouldn't be surprising that many communities in Europe and an increasing number in the U.S. and Canada are requiring rain gardens as part of new property development.

Check with your city or locality's planning board. Some will help you grade the edge of your property to create a rain garden, and provide you a list of suitable plants tailored to your region.

### **What to plant**

On the following pages are some of our favorite perennials and shrubs for rain gardens, sunny and shady.

All are hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 5 and many are perennial even in colder zones. Some plants appear on both the sunny and shady list because they do occur naturally in a wide range of light conditions.

### **In the charts' height column**

Most plants height varies with environmental conditions, many in this list have a very wide range. In general, in sites with steadier moisture and more sun, the plant can be expected to reach the top of its range.

### **In the charts ' notes column, re "marginal" and "emergent"**

Most of these plants will live in occasionally flooded soil. On our lists "marginal" refers to plants that live along the edge of water and may be occasionally flooded. "Emergent" indicates a plant that can live for days or even weeks while submerged in shallow water as long as that flooding happens only or primarily during the growing season.

### **In the notes column, re "Clump"**

Tends to form a clump which spreads at a relatively slow pace, as compared to fast-spreading running root "invasives." It's worth noting that many if not most plants suited to really wet ground have running roots and so may be called invasive. Choose plants noted "clump" if a running habit is intolerable. However, recognize that some clump forming plants spread aggressively by seed. Further, consider the value of a shallow running root in a wetland: A surface-rooting colony has more physical stability -- like a wide raft, it's tip-proof. Also, since plant roots all need oxygen to survive and the surface of wet soil returns most quickly to aerobic conditions after a flood, these plants don't have to "hold their breath" so long as those with deeper roots. Some of this type of plant are even better behaved in a wetland than in the average garden. Queen of the prairie (*Filipendula rubra*) is a prime example. In a normally moist garden it runs, extending roots far and wide and popping up at wide intervals almost as if it's in search of something. However, in a moist ditch, rain garden or at the edge of a pond it forms a dense, majestic clump.

### **Paucity of shade species?**

The shady list is short. We've purposely left out species which have a very short growing season. Although such plants as toothwort (*Dentaria diphylla* and *D. laciniata*) are wonderful in a wet woodland garden, they can fall short in a space whose main purpose is to take up water. They go dormant earlier in summer than species such as skunk cabbage and jack in the pulpit which continue photosynthesizing into summer, using more water.

## Perennials for sunny to half-shady rain gardens

4 to 6 or more hours direct sun every day:

| Plant name  | height:               | color:                     | blooms in:          | notes:   |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <i>Aconitum</i> species (monkshood)   | 2-5'                  | blues                      | July-August         | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Acorus calamus</i> (sweet flag)  | 2-3'                  | tiny                       | July                | emergent and marginal<br>rush-like leaves                                      |
| <i>Ajuga reptans</i> (ajuga)  | 6-10"                 | blue, white,<br>pink       | May                 | marginal;<br>many with variegated leaves                                       |
| <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> (columbine)   | 2-4'                  | many                       | June                | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Aruncus dioicus</i> (goatsbeard)   | 3-4"                  | white                      | June-July           | marginal, clump, best in half shade  |
| <i>Asclepias incarnata</i><br>(swamp/marsh milkweed)  | 36-48"                | lilac                      | June-July           | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i><br>(New England aster)   | 3-5'                  | white, lilac<br>red violet | September           | marginal   |
| <i>Astilbe</i> species (false goats beard)  | 12-36"                | white, pinks               | June, July, Aug.    | marginal, clump, needs half shade  |
| <i>Astrantia</i> species (masterwort)   | "                     | white                      |                     | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Calla palustris</i> (bog arum)   |                       | white                      | June-July           | red berries follow; marginal and<br>emergent                                   |
| <i>Caltha palustris</i> (marsh marigold)  | 12-18"                | yellow                     | May-June            | marginal, emergent, clump<br>summer dormancy                                   |
| <i>Camassia cusickii</i> (Indian turnip)  | 18"                   | blue                       | May-June            | marginal, clump (bulb)   |
| <i>Chelone obliqua</i> (turtlehead)   | 2-3'                  | pink, white                | July-August         | marginal   |
| <i>Cimicifuga</i> species<br>C. racemosa (bugbane)<br>C. simplex (autumn bugbane)   | 3-5'<br>3-4'          | white<br>white             | June<br>August-Sept | best in half shade<br>marginal<br>marginal, clump                              |
| <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> (fireweed)   | 4'+                   | pink, white                | June                | marginal   |
| <i>Eupatorium</i> species<br>E. maculatum (Joe Pye weed)<br>E. perfoliatum (boneset)  | 2-6'<br>2-4'          | purple<br>white            | July<br>July        | marginal and emergent<br>marginal and emergent                                 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i><br>(grass-leaved/flat-topped goldenrod)  | 4-6'                  | yellow                     | August-Sept.        | marginal   |
| <b>Ferns: <i>Osmunda</i> species</b><br>Osmunda matteucia, Ostrich fern<br>Osmunda regalis, Royal fern<br>Osmunda claytoniana, Interrupted fern | 2-4'<br>3-4'+<br>1-2' |                            |                     | marginal, best in half shade<br>marginal and emergent, clump<br>marginal, acid |
| <i>Filipendula hexapetala</i><br>(dropwort, meadowsweet)  | 18-24"                | white                      | June                | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Filipendula rubra</i> (Queen of prairie)   | 3-5'                  | pink                       | July                | marginal   |
| <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i> (Q. o' meadow)   | 2-4"                  | white                      | June                | marginal   |
| <b>Gentiana</b><br>G. andrewsii (bottle gentian)<br>G./Gentianella quinquefolia (stiff gentian)   | 18-24"<br>24"         | blue<br>purple             | July<br>August      | marginal, clump<br>marginal, biennial  |
| <i>Helenium autumnale</i><br>(Helen's flower, sneezeweed)   | 3-4'                  | orange,<br>red-o, yellow   | July-August         | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Heemerocallis</i> species (daylily)  | 1-6'                  | no blues                   | June-July           | marginal   |
| <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i><br>(hardy hibiscus)  | 3-5'                  | white, red,<br>pink        | July-August         | marginal, clump  |
| <i>Hosta</i> sun tolerant species<br>H. plantaginea, H. undulata  | 12-24"                | white, lilac               | July-August         | marginal, clump<br>best in part shade  |

## Perennials for sunny to half-shady rain gardens (Cont'd.)

4 to 6 or more hours direct sun every day:

|   |        |                            |                 |   |
|---|--------|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Iris species  | 24-36" | many                       | May, June, July | most can't take standing water during winter; clump               |
| Japanese I. kaempferi, Rabbit-ear I. laevigata, sweet flag I. pseudacorus, Siberian I. sibirica, wild blue, I. versicolor |        |                            |                 |   |
| <b>Liatris</b> (blazing star)   |        | all: pink, rose, or purple | August-Sept.    | marginal, clump   |
| L. ligustylis (meadow blazing star)   | 3-5'   |                            | July-August     | marginal, clump   |
| L. pycnostachya (prairie blazing star)  | 3-5'   |                            | July            | marginal, clump   |
| L. spicata (blazing star)   | 2-4'   | purple, white              |                 |   |
| <b>Lobelia species</b>  | 18-36" | red, blue                  | July, August    | marginal, clump   |
| (L. cardinalis: cardinal flower; L. siphilitica, Great blue lobelia)  |        |                            |                 |   |
| <b>Lysimachia</b> (loosestrife; not related to the outlawed purple loosestrife)   |        |                            |                 |   |
| L. ciliata (fringed loosestrife)  | 2-3'   | yellow                     | June            | marginal  |
| L. nummularia (golden coins)  | 4"     | yellow                     | June            | marginal  |
| L. punctata (garden loosestrife)  | 2-3'   | yellow                     | June-July       | marginal  |
| L. quadrifolia (whorled/prairie loosestrife)  | 1-3'   | yellow                     | June-July       | marginal  |
| L. terrestris (swamp candles)   | 1-3'   | yellow                     | July-August     | marginal  |
| <b>Mentha aquatica</b> (water mint)   |        | violet                     | June            | marginal and emergent   |
| <b>Monarda species</b> (bee balm)   | 2-3'   | red, pinks                 | June-July       | marginal  |
| <b>Myosotis scorpioides</b> (creeping forget me not)  | 4-6"   | blue                       | June-August     | marginal and emergent/floating                                    |
| <b>Phalaris arundinacea</b> (ribbon grass)  | 2-3'   | green/grain                | July            | marginal  |
| <b>Physostegia virginiana</b> (obedient plant)  | 1-3'   | pink, white                | July-August     | marginal  |
| <b>Polygonum species</b>  |        |                            |                 |   |
| knotweed, border jewel: P. affine   | 10"    | white                      | June, July      | seed heads pink/red; marginal                                     |
| P. Bistorta 'Superbum' snakeweed,   | 18-24" | white/pink                 | July            | marginal and emergent   |
| <b>Primula species</b>  | 1-2'   | all                        | May-June        | marginal, clump   |
| Candelabra primroses P. beesiana, P. japonica   |        |                            |                 |   |
| <b>Pycnanthemum virginianum</b> (mountain mint)   | 2-3'   | white                      | June            | marginal  |
| <b>Ranunculus acris</b> (swamp buttercup)   | 1-3'   | yellow                     | May-June        | marginal, clump   |
| <b>Rudbeckia laciniata</b> (green-headed coneflower)  | 3-8'   | yellow                     | July-August     | marginal  |
| <b>Sagittaria latifolia</b> (arrowhead)   | 24-36" | white                      | July            | arrow shaped leaves; emergent and marginal                        |
| <b>Sambucus ebulus</b> (dwarf elder)  | 3-4'   | white                      | June            | marginal, clump   |
| <b>Silphium perfoliatum</b> (cup plant)   | 6-12'  | yellow                     | July-August     | marginal, clump   |
| <b>Silphium terebinthinaceum</b> (prairie dock)   | 6-12'  | yellow                     | July-August     | height is in flower stem, lvs. basal marginal and emergent, clump |
| <b>Solidago uliginosa</b> (bog goldenrod)   | 2-5'   | yellow                     | August - Sept.  | marginal  |
| <b>Teucrium chamaedrys</b> (germander)  | 1'     | purple                     | July            | marginal  |
| <b>Thalictrum species</b> (meadow rue)  | 2-6'   | white, pinks               | June-July       | marginal; best in half shade, clump                               |
| <b>Trollius europaeus</b> (globeflower)   | 18-36" | yellow                     | May-July        | marginal, clump   |
| <b>Typha species</b> (cat-tail) (T. angustifolia, T. minima)  | 1-5'   | tiny                       |                 | emergent and marginal   |

## Perennials for sunny to half-shady rain gardens (Cont'd.)

4 to 6 or more hours direct sun every day:

|   |      |        |             |                 |
|---|------|--------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Verbena hastata</i> (blue/hoary vervain)           | 2-6' | purple | July        | marginal, clump |
| <i>Vernonia novaboracensis</i><br>(New York ironweed) | 3-7' | purple | August      | marginal, clump |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i><br>(culver's root)    | 3-5' | white  | July-August | marginal, clump |
| <i>Viola sororia</i> (common violet)                  | 6"   | purple | May         | marginal        |
| <i>Zizia aurea</i> (golden Alexanders)                | 1-3' | yellow | May-June    | marginal        |

## Perennials for shady rain gardens

2-4 hours direct sun each day (may be full sun in spring)

| Plant name  | height: | color:       | blooms in:       | notes:                             |
|---|---------|--------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Acorus calamus</i> (sweet flag)  | 2-3'    | tiny         | July             | emergent & marginal; fragrant leaf |
| <i>Actaea species</i> (baneberry)   |         |              |                  |                                    |
| <i>A. pachypoda</i> (doll's eyes, white b.)   | 2'      | white        | May-June         | marginal, clump, white berries     |
| <i>A. rubra</i> (red baneberry)   | 2-3'    | white        | May-June         | marginal, clump, red berries       |
| <i>Ajuga reptans</i> (bugle, ajuga)   | 6-10"   | blue, pink   | May              | marginal                           |
| <i>Anemone canadensis</i><br>(Canada anemone)   | 2'      | white        | May, June        | marginal                           |
| <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> (columbine)   | 2-4'    | many         | June             | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Arisaema species</i> (jack in pulpit)  | 6-24"   | tiny         | June             | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Astilbe species</i> (false goats beard)  | 12-36"  | white, pinks | June, July, Aug. | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Carex species</i> (___ sedge)  | 1-2'    |              |                  | marginal; some variegated, clump   |
| <i>Chelone obliqua</i> (turtlehead)   | 2-3'    | pink, white  | July-August      | marginal                           |
| <i>Cimicifuga species</i>   |         |              |                  |                                    |
| <i>C. racemosa</i> (bugbane)  | 3-5'    | white        | June             | marginal                           |
| <i>C. simplex</i> (autumn bugbane)  | 3-4'    | white        | August-Sept      | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i><br>(yellow lady's slipper)   | 10"     | yellow       | June             | marginal; protected, clump         |
| <i>Erythronium spp.</i> (trout lily)  | 6"      | yellow       | April-May        | marginal; summer dormancy          |
| <b>Ferns: <i>Osmunda species</i></b>  |         |              |                  |                                    |
| Ostrich fern  | 2-4'    |              |                  | marginal, invasive                 |
| Royal fern  | 3-4'+   |              |                  | marginal and emergent              |
| Interrupted fern  | 1-2'    |              |                  | marginal, acid                     |
| <i>Hosta species</i>  | 12-36"  | lilac        | July             | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>H. sieboldiana</i> , <i>H. glauca</i> , <i>H. undulata</i>   |         |              |                  |                                    |
| <i>Ligularia species</i> (leopard plant)  | 3-5'    | yellow       | June-July        | marginal, clump                    |
| <b>Lilium</b>   |         |              |                  |                                    |
| <i>L. canadense</i> (wild lily)   | 3-4'    | orange       | July             | marginal                           |
| <i>L. michiganense</i> (Michigan lily)  | 4-5'    | orange       | July             | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>L. philadelphicum</i> (wood lily)  | 2-3'    | orange       | July             | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Lobelia species</i>  | 18-36"  | red, blue    | July, August     | marginal, clump                    |
| ( <i>L. cardinalis</i> : cardinal flower; <i>L. siphilitica</i> , <i>L. grandiflora</i> : Great blue lobelia) |         |              |                  |                                    |
| <i>Mertensia virginica</i> (Virginia bluebells)   | 18"     | blue         | May              | marginal, clump                    |
| <i>Monarda species</i> (bee balm)   | 2-3'    | red, pinks   | June-July        | marginal                           |
| <i>Myosotis scorpioides</i><br>(creeping forget-me-not)   | 3-6"    | lt. blue     | June-July        |                                    |
| <i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> (sensitive fern)  | 2-3'    | none         |                  | marginal                           |

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## Perennials for shady rain gardens (Cont'd.)

2-4 hours direct sun each day (may be full sun in spring)

|   |                             |  |                                    |  |
|---|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Rodgersia species (rodgersia)<br>R. aesculifolia, R. pinnata  | 2-3'                        | white, pinks                             | June-July                          | marginal, clump  |
| Symplocarpus foetidus<br>(skunk cabbage)  | 12-18"                      |  |                                    | marginal and emergent  |
| Thalictrum species (meadow rue)<br>T. aquilegifolium (columbine meadow rue)<br>T. dasycarpum (tall meadow rue)<br>T. dioicum (early meadow rue)<br>T. rochebrunianum (lavender mist m.r.) | 2-3' to 6'<br>3-5'<br>to 8' | violet<br>white<br>green<br>violet, pink | May-June<br>June<br>June<br>August | marginal, clump<br>marginal, clump<br>marginal, clump<br>marginal, clump |
| Trollius europaeus (globeflower)<br>T. ledbourii  | 18-36"<br>2-3'              | yellow<br>yellow                         | May-June<br>June-July              | marginal, clump<br>marginal, clump                                       |

## Annual plants for rain gardens

| Plant name                                   | height: | color:        | blooms in:       | notes:   |
|--|---------|---------------|------------------|--|
| Colocasia esculenta (elephant ear)           | 2-5'    |               | marginal; tender |  |
| Impatiens capensis<br>(spotted touch-me-not) | 2-4'    | orange-yellow | July-frost       | good filler over summer-dormants;<br>will self-sow |
| Lantana hybrids (ham n' eggs)                | 18-24"  | yellow, pink  | June-Sept        | marginal; tender                                   |
| Ricinus communis (castor bean)               | 3-6'    | reddish       | July-August      | marginal; tender                                   |

## Shrubs for rain gardens

We usually plant woody species only around the edges of a rain garden so only their roots occupy the low space. We aren't keen on locating woody plants' stems in our rain gardens since the gardens can tend to trap floating debris, especially during winter and our way to alleviate that is to cut back hard each fall.

| Plant name   | height: | color:       | blooms in: | notes:   |
|--|---------|--------------|------------|--|
| Cornus species (dogwood)                                 | 8-10"   | tiny         | June       | marginal; colorful stems on redbtwig,<br>yellowtwig; sun to half shade |
| Lindera benzoin (spicebush)                              | 6-8'    | yellow-green | April      | red berry; sun to shade; marginal                                      |
| Physocarpus opulifolius (ninebark)                       | 3-9'    | white        | June       | marginal   |
| Salix species (pussy willow)                             | 5-15'   | yellow-green | April      | sun; marginal; invasive  |
| Sambucus canadensis (elderberry)                         | 8'+     | white        | June       | marginal   |
| Viburnum opulus, V. trilobum<br>(Cranberrybush viburnum) | 3-12'   | white        | May-June   | sun to half shade; marginal  |

## Trees for rain gardens

| Plant name                                     | height: | color: | blooms in: | notes:                        |
|--|---------|--------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Alnus species<br>(alders)                      | 30'+    |        |            | sun; marginal                 |
| Metasequoia glyptostroboides<br>(dawn redwood) | 60'+    |        |            | 4 hours sun or more; marginal |
| Populus species (poplars)                      | 30-100' |        |            | sun; marginal                 |
| Salix species (willow)                         | 30-80'  |        |            | sun; marginal                 |
| Taxodium distichum (bald cypress)              | 60'+    |        |            | sun; marginal                 |

**Common name reference, sun to part sun:**

Ajuga/Bugle, *Ajuga reptans*  
Arrowhead, *Sagittaria latifolia*  
Astilbe/False spirea, *Astilbe* species  
Bee balm/bergamot, *Monarda* species  
Bistort/great bistort/snakeweed, *Polygonum bistortum*  
Blazing star, *Liatris spicata*  
Blazing star/meadow blazing star, *Liatris ligustylis*  
Blazing star/prairie blazing star, *Liatris pycnostachya*  
Blue flag, *Iris versicolor*  
Blue vervain, *Verbena hastata*  
Bog arum, *Calla palustris*  
Bog goldenrod, *Solidago uliginosa*  
Border jewel, *Polygonum affine*  
Bottle gentian, *Gentiana andrewsii*  
Canary reed grass, *Phalaris arundinacea*  
Cardinal flower/Red birds, *Lobelia cardinalis*  
Cat-tail, *Typha* species  
Cinnamon fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea*  
Columbine, *Aquilegia canadensis*  
Creeping forget-me-not, *Myosotis scorpioides*  
Creeping jenny, *Lysimachia nummularia*  
Culver's root, *Veronicastrum virginicum*  
Cup plant, *Silphium perfoliatum*  
Daylily, *Hemerocallis* species  
Dropwort/meadowsweet, *Filipendula hexapetala*/F. *vulgaris*  
Elder/dwarf elder, *Sambucus ebulus*  
Fairy candle, bugbane, rattlesnake root, *Cimicifuga* species  
Ferns, *Osmunda* species  
Fireweed, *Epilobium angustifolium*  
Gardener's garters, *Phalaris arundinacea*  
Gentian, *Gentiana*  
Germander, *Teucrium chamaedrys*  
Globeflower, *Trollius* species  
Goatsbeard/Child of two worlds, *Aruncus dioicus*  
Golden Alexanders, *Zizia aurea*  
Golden coins, *Lysimachia nummularia aurea*  
Goldenrod, *Solidago* species, *Euthamia* species  
Grass leaf goldenrod/Flat topped goldenrod, *Euthamia graminifolia*  
Great blue lobelia, *Lobelia siphilitica*  
Greenheaded coneflower, *Rudbeckia laciniata*  
Hardy hibiscus/swamp mallow, *Hibiscus moscheutos*  
Helen's flower/sneezeweed, *Helenium autumnale*  
Hoary vervain, *Verbena hastata*  
Hosta, *Hosta*  
Interrupted fern, *Osmunda claytoniana*  
Iris, *Iris*  
Ironweed, *Vernonia* species  
Japanese iris, *Iris kampfieri*  
Joe Pye, Boneset/Thoroughwort, *Eupatorium* species  
Knotweed, *Polygonum* species  
Lobelia, *Lobelia*  
Loosestrife, *Lysimachia*  
Marsh marigold, *Caltha palustris*  
Masterwort, *Astrantia* species  
Meadow rue, *Thalictrum* species

Monkshood, *Aconitum* species  
Mountain mint, *Pycnanthemum virginianum*  
New England aster, *Aster novae-angliae*  
New York ironweed, *Vernonia novaboracensis*  
Obedient plant/false dragonshead, *Physostegia virginiana*  
Ostrich fern, *Osmunda matteucia*  
Prairie dock, *Silphium terebinthinaceum*  
Primrose/cowslip, *Primula* species  
Quamas/Camas/Indian turnip, *Camassia cusickii*  
Queen of the meadow, *Filipendula ulmaria*  
Queen of the prairie, *Filipendula rubra*  
Rabbit ear iris, *Iris laevigata*  
Ribbon grass, *Phalaris arundinacea*  
Royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*  
Sensitive fern, *Onoclea sensibilis*  
Siberian iris, *Iris sibirica*  
Stiff gentian, *Gentiana quinquefolia*  
Swam milkweed/marsh milkweed, *Asclepias incarnata*  
Swamp buttercup, *Ranunculus acris*  
Sweet flag, *Acorus calamus*  
Sweet flag, *Iris pseudacorus*  
Turtlehead, *Chelone obliqua*  
Vervain, *Verbena hastata*  
Violet/Common violet, *Viola sororia*  
Water mint, *Mentha aquatica*

**Common name reference, shade**

Ajuga, bugle, *Ajuga reptans*  
Anemone, *Anemone*  
Astilbe, *Astilbe*  
Baneberry, *Actaea* species  
Bee balm, *Monarda* species  
Bugbane, *Cimicifuga* species  
Canada anemone, *Anemone canadensis*  
Cardinal flower, *Lobelia cardinalis*  
Columbine, *Aquilegia canadensis*  
Columbine meadow rue, *Thalictrum aquilegifolium*  
Creeping forget-me-not, *Myosotis scorpioides*  
Doll's eyes, *Actaea pachypoda*  
Fairy candle, *Cimicifuga* species  
False goatsbeard, *Astilbe*  
Ferns: *Osmunda* and *Onoclea* species  
Fingerflower, *Rodgersia* species  
Globeflower, *Trollius europaeus*  
Great blue lobelia, *Lobelia siphilitica*  
Groundsel, *Ligularia*  
Hosta, *Hosta*  
Jack in the pulpit, *Arisaema* species  
Lady's slipper, *Cypripedium calceolus*  
Leopard plant, *Ligularia*  
*Ligularia*, *Ligularia*  
Lily, *Lilium* species  
Lobelia, *Lobelia*  
Meadow rue, *Thalictrum* species  
Rattlesnake weed, *Cimicifuga* species  
Red baneberry, *Actaea rubra*

Rogers flower, Rodgersia species  
Sedge, Carex species  
Sweet flag/false sweet flag, Acorus calamus  
Trout lily, Erythronium species  
Turtlehead, Chelone obliqua  
Virginia bluebells, Mertensia virginica  
White baneberry, Actaea pachypoda  
Skunk cabbage, Symplocarpus foetidus

**Common name reference, annuals, shrubs, trees**

Castor bean, Ricinus communis  
Elephant ear, Colocasia esculenta  
Ham 'n eggs, Lantana hybrids  
Lantana, Lantana  
Touch-me-not/spotted touch-me-not, Impatiens capensis

Cranberrybush viburnum, Viburnum trilobum, V. opulus  
Dogwood, Cornus species  
Elder/Elderberry, Sambucus canadensis  
Ninebark, Physocarpus opulifolius  
Spicebush, Lindera benzoin  
Willow, Salix species

Alder, Alnus species  
Bald cypress, Taxodium distichum  
Dawn redwood, Metasequoia glyptostroboides  
Poplar/Cottonwood, Populus species  
Willow, Salix species