

List of Native Plants for Partial and Full Shade Rain Gardens

NATIVE PLANTS FOR SHADY RAIN GARDENS												
Half Shade Rain Garden	Full Shade Rain Garden	Common Name	Scientific Name	Class	Height in Ft.		Flower Color	Bloom Period	Sun/Shade	Soil Moisture Needs		COMMENT
					Min Hgt.	Max Hgt.				Excessively wet in spring, fall & after a rain but often dry in summer	Soggy or marshy most of year	
X		Purple giant hyssop	Agastache scrophulariaefolia	Forb	4.00	7.00	purple	FALL	HALF SUN	X		
X	X	Wild garlic	Allium canadense	Forb	0.50	2.00	pink	SUMMER	ANY	X		
X	X	Columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	Forb	1.00	2.00	orange-red	SUMMER	ANY	X		
	X	Jack in the pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum	Forb	1.00	3.00	brown-purple	SPRING	LT/HV SHADE	X		Red berries.
X	X	Wild ginger	Asarum candense	Forb	0.30	0.80	brown	SPRING	F/P SHADE	X		
X	X	Lady fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Fern	2.00	3.00	none		F/P SHADE	X		Rhizomatous.
X	X	Bellflower	Campanula americana	Forb	3.00	5.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X	X	Only bellflower with a flattened instead of bell-shaped corolla. Striking in flower. Biennial.
X		Awne d graceful sedge	Carex davisii	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green		F/P SUN	X	X	Grass-like leaves up to 1/2" wide growing in 2.5-3' high clumps. Seeds are shaped like mini-footballs. Foliage may go dormant in hot dry summers.
X	X	Fescue oval sedge	Carex festucea	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green		ANY	X	X	
X	X	Bladder sedge	Carex intumescens	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	X	X	Elongated, dark green leaves, flowers borne in spikes.
X	X	Grass sedge	Carex jamesii	Sedge	0.30	0.50	green		ANY	X	X	
X	X	Hop sedge	Carex lupulina	Sedge	1.00	4.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	X	X	Elongated, narrow leaves; large, cylindrical flower spikes up to 2.5 inches long.
X		Sallow sedge	Carex lurida	Sedge	1.50	3.00	green	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	Seedheads resemble small sweetgum balls. Less prone to summer dieback.
X	X	Field oval sedge (Troublesome sedge)	Carex molesta	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	X		
X		Palm sedge	Carex muskingumensis	Sedge	2.00	3.00	yellow	SPRING	F/P SUN	X	X	Easy to grow. Does well in some shade. Tends to flop in too much shade. A dense, clump-forming sedge which is grown for its foliage effect. Very attractive. Needs consistently moist soil but is drought tolerant for a sedge when fully established.
X	X	Larger straw sedge (Spreading oval sedge)	Carex normalis	Sedge	2.50	3.50		SUMMER	ANY	X		
X		Narrow-leaved cattail sedge	Carex squarrosa	Sedge	1.50	2.00	green		ANY	X	X	Grass-like leaves; showy, thimble-shaped seedheads remain on plant all summer; foliage may become less attractive or die back in summer.
X	X	Slender sedge (Narrow-leaved oval sedge)	Carex tenera	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SPRING	ANY	X	X	
X		White turtlehead	Chelone glabra	Forb	2.00	4.00	cream	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	Rhizomatous.
X		Pink turtlehead	Chelone obliqua	Forb	2.00	4.00	pink	FALL	F/P SUN	X	X	Bright pink flowers in September.
X	X	Stout woodreed	Cinna arundinacea	Grass	3.00	5.00	gray-green	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X	X	Perennial grass that may grow 5 ft tall & has foot long gray-green panicles.
X	X	Red-osier dogwood	Cornus sericea/stolonifera	Shrub	7.00	9.00	white	SPRING	F/P SUN	X	X	Will tolerate a fair amount of shade.
X	X	American filbert	Corylus americana	Shrub	5.00	12.00	inconspicuous	SPRING	ANY	X		Suckers.
X	X	Toothwort	Dentaria laciniata	Forb	0.50	1.00	pink/white	SPRING	F/P SHADE	X		A woodland spring wildflower
X		Amethyst shooting star	Dodecatheon amethystinum	Forb	0.67	1.50	violet	SPRING	F/P SUN	X		Spring ephemeral. Won't absorb much water. Mostly special interest use.
X		Shooting star	Dodecatheon meadia	Forb	1.00	2.00	white	SPRING	F/P SUN	X	X	Same as above.
X	X	Virginia wild rye	Elymus virginicus	Grass	2.00	4.00	blue green	SPRING	F/P SHADE	X		Re-seeds
	X	White trout lily	Erythronium albidum	Forb	0.50	0.83	white	SPRING	LT/HV SHADE	X		Spreads
X	X	Sweet joe pye weed	Eupatorium purpureum	Forb	3.00	8.00	pink	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X		
X	X	Common strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	Forb	0.40	0.70	white	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X		Too small to absorb much water. Good groundcover but may not produce fruit in full shade.
X		Dotted st. john's wort	Hypericum punctatum	Forb	1.00	2.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X		
X		Great st. john's wort	Hypericum pyramidatum	Forb	2.00	5.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X		
X		Common winterberry	Ilex verticillata	Shrub	6.00	10.00	greenish white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	Red berries, more in sun.
X		Cardinal flower	Lobelia cardinalis	Forb	2.00	5.00	red	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	

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X		Indian tobacco	Lobelia inflata	Forb	0.50	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	X		Not showy.
X		Great blue lobelia	Lobelia siphilitica	Forb	1.00	4.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	
		Ostrich fern	Matteuccia struthiopteris	Fern	3.00	4.00			ANY	X	X	Aggressive
X	X	Sensitive fern	Onoclea sensibilis	Fern	1.00	1.00			ANY			Very aggressive
X	X	Interrupted fern	Osmunda claytoniana	Fern	3.00	4.00			LT/HV SHADE	X		
X		Wood betony	Pedicularis canadensis	Forb	0.50	1.50	yellow/purple	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	
X		Marsh betony	Pedicularis lanceolata	Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow	FALL	F/P SUN	X	X	
X		Ditch stonecrop	Penthorum sedoides	Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	
X		Smooth phlox	Phlox glaberrima	Forb	2.00	3.00	purple	SPRING	F/P SUN	X		
X	X	Jacob's ladder	Polemonium reptans	Forb	0.75	2.00	blue	SPRING	ANY	X		
X	X	Solomon seal	Polygonatum biflorum	Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow green	SPRING	ANY	X		Blue berries.
X	X	Starry solomons plume	Smilacina stellata	Forb	0.67	2.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X		Red berries.
X		Indian current coralberry	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus	Shrub	2.00	5.00	cream	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X		Spreads by runners on the surface. Small upright shape. Not likely to crowd out larger plants.
X		Marsh fern	Thelypteris palustris	Fern	1.50	2.50			F/P SUN	X	X	Perennial herb with slender, creeping, black rhizomes.
X		Spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis	Forb	2.00	3.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	
X		Culvers root	Veronicastrum virginicum	Forb	3.00	4.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X	X	
X	X	Arrowwood	Viburnum dentatum	Shrub	6.00	15.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	X	X	Blue berries, more in sun.
X		American cranberrybush	Viburnum trilobum	Shrub	8.00	12.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	X		Red berries, more in sun.
RESOURCES:												
USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center			www.npwrc.usgs.gov									
Missouri Botanical Garden			www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp/									
Prairie Moon Nursery 2003 catalog			www.prairiemoonnursery.com									
The Plant Farm			www.theplantfarm.ca/									
Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) Botany Collection; List of plant species at Site M in Cass County.			www.inhs.uiuc.edu/cbd/collections/botany/botanylinks.html									
The Flower Factory 2003 catalog												
Spence Restoration Nursery			spencenursery.com/plantlist.html									
The Vegetation of Wisconsin John Curtis												