



The BCLS Landscape Services Guide to Plants for Wet Areas

All of the following plants grow well in average, well-drained or damp soils, but not all of the plants will tolerate waterlogged or saturated soils. Plants marked with an asterisk (*) also will grow well in moist soils or locations that are occasionally wet (but not frequently saturated or covered with standing water for more than 24 hours). Plants indicated with two asterisks (**) will tolerate soils or locations that are moist or more frequently flooded, especially if planted 4-6" higher than the existing grade. The varieties are listed in alphabetical order (by Botanical name), and flowering plants and evergreens are indicated in accordance with the key below.

KEY: E = Evergreen B = Blue L = Lilac O = Orange P = Pink
F = Flowering/color PR= Purple R = Red W= White Y = Yellow

SHRUBS

- ** Red Choke Cherry (*Aronia arbutifolia* 'Brilliant') (F-W)
- ** Swamp Azalea (*Azalea viscosa*) (F-W/P)
 - Pinxterbloom Azalea (*Azalea nudiflora*) (F-P)
- ** Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) (F-W)
- ** Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) (F-W,P)
- ** Red Twig Dogwood (*Cornus alba Sibirica*) (red stems – winter)
 - Forsythia varieties (*Forsythia*) F-Y)
- * Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis* varieties) F-Y, O, R)
- * Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) (E)
- ** Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) (red berries in fall-winter)
- ** Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) (F-Y)
- * Taller, hardy Bamboos (*Phyllostachys* sp.) (E)
- ** French Pussy Willow (*Salix discolor*) (F-W)
- ** Shrub Willows (*Salix*) – many varieties
 - Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) (F-W)
 - Elderberry (*Sambucus* sp.)
- ** Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*) (F-W)
- * American Cranberry Bush (*Viburnum trilobum*) (F-W)

TREES

- * October Glory Red Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'October Glory')
- * Red Sunset Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Red Sunset')
- * Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*)
Shadbush (*Amelanchier* varieties) (F-W)
- ** River Birch (*Betula nigra*, incl. 'Heritage')
- * Paper White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
Other Birch varieties (*Betula* species)
- * Katsura Tree (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*)
White Fringe (*Chionanthus virginicus*) (F-W)
- * Cornelian Cherry (*Cornus mas*) (F-Y)
Hawthorn (*Crataegus*) varieties (F-W, P, R)
- ** Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styracflua*)
- * Sweet Bay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana* 'Glaucua') (F-W)
Flowering Crabapple (*Malus* varieties) (F-W, P, R)
- * Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*)
- ** Sour Gum or Pepperidge (*Nyssa Sylvatica*)
- * White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
- * Poplar varieties (*Populus*)
- ** Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- ** Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- ** Golden Twig Weeping Willow (*Salix* 'Niobe')
- ** Other Willow (*Salix*) varieties
- ** Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
American arborvitae varieties (*Thuja occidentalis* varieties) (E)

PERENNIALS (Including Ferns and Grasses)

- Bishop's Weed (*Aegopodium podagraria* 'Variegatum')
- Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*) (F-Y)
- * Goatsbeard (*Aruncus dioicus*) (F-W)
- * Astilbe varieties (*Astilbe*) (F-R, P,W)
Masterwort (*Astrantia*) (F-W, P, R)
Bergenia (*Bergenia*) varieties (F-W, P, R)

- ** Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)
- * Snakeroot (*Cimicifuga racemosa*) (F-W)
- * Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium sp.*) (P, W)
- * Meadowsweet (*filipendula*) varieties (F-W, P)
- Daylily (*Hemerocallis varieties*) (F-Y, P, R, O)
- ** Marsh Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) (F-P, W)
- * Plantain Lily or Funkia (*Hosta*) varieties (F-W, L)
- * Japanese Iris (*Iris ensata*) (F-B, W, B, PR)
- ** Yellow Flag (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- ** Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*) (F-B, W)
- ** Blue Flag (*Iris versicolor*)
- ** Ligularia (*Ligularia varieties*) (F-Y)
- ** Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) (F-R)
- ** Gooseneck Loosestrife (*Lysimachia clethroides*) (F-W)
- ** Loosestrife (*Lythrum virgatum*) (F-P/R)
- ** Mazus (*Mazus reptans*) (F-B)
- ** Virginia Bluebells (*Martaensia virginica*)
- ** BeeBalm (*Monarda didyma*) (F-R, P)
- ** Forget-Me-Not (*Myosotis sylvatica*) (F-B)
- * False Dragonhead (*Physostegia virginiana*) (F-W, P)
- * Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) (F-W)
- Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium caeruleum*) (F-B)
- Primrose (*Primula varieties*) (F-W, P, R)
- ** Rodger's Flower (*Rodgersia varieties*) (F-P/R)
- ** Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum varieties*) (F-Y, P)
- ** Spiderwort (*Tradescantia x andersonia Hybrid*) (F-B, R, W)
- ** Globe Flower (*Trollius europaeus*) (F-Y)
- ** Marsh Blue Violet (*Viola cucullata*)

FERNS (grouped together here):

- * Spinulose Woodfern (*Dryopteris austriaca spinulosa*)
- * Crested Wood Fern (*Dryopteris cristata*)
- **Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia pennsylvanica*)
- **Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
- **Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*)

GRASSES (grouped together here):

- **Sweet Flag (*Acorus gramineus 'Variegatus'*)
- * Golden Japanese Sedge Grass (*Carex morrowii 'Old Gold'*)
- * Japanese Sedge Grass (*Carex morrowii 'Variegata'*)
- Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia selloana*)
- * Tufted Hair Grass (*Deshampsia caespitosa*)
- * Fountain Grass (*Miscanthus*) – all varieties
- Red Switch Grass (*Panicum virgatum 'Haense Herms'*)
- **Ribbon Grass (*Phalaris arund.*)