

## Beginner-friendly Native Plants – SHADE Gardens

**Virginia bluebells** (*Mertensia virginica*): morning sun to shade; average to moist soil; blue flowers turning pink March to April; 2 feet tall; 1.5-foot spread; ephemeral

**Celandine poppy** (*Stylophorum diphyllum*): partial sun to shade; yellow flowers April/May; medium wet to medium dry soil; 12 inches high; 12-inch spread; will spread by seed

**Wild geranium** (*Geranium maculatum*): light shade to partial sun; medium to medium dry soil; pink flowers April to June; 1-2 feet tall; 12-18-inch spread

**Jacob's ladder** (*Polemonium reptans*): full sun to shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; blue flowers April to June; 12 inches high; 12-inch spread

**Wild columbine** (*Aquilegia canadensis*): full sun to shade; medium to dry soil; red/yellow flowers April to June; 2 feet tall; 18-inch spread; spreads easily by seed

**Woodland phlox** (*Phlox divaricata*): partial sun to shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; blue flowers April to June; 12 inches tall; 1-foot spread

**Solomon's plume** (*Maianthemum racemosum*): full sun to shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; small white flowers April to June; 2 feet tall; 12-inch spread

**Common blue violet** (*Viola sororia*) and **Downy yellow violet** (*Viola pubescens*): full sun to partial shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; purple/yellow flowers April to June; 4 inches tall; spreads easily; edible

**Foamflower** (*Tiarella cordifolia*): part sun to shade; medium soil; white/pink flowers May-June; 1 foot tall; 1 foot wide

**Largeleaf waterleaf** (*Hydrophyllum macrophyllum*): shade to part shade; average soil; white flowers May-June; 12-18 inches tall; 12-inch spread

**Alumroot coral bells** (*Heuchera americana*): full sun to shade; salt and drought tolerant; white flower May to June; 12-18 inches high; 1-2-foot spread; evergreen

**Great blue lobelia** (*Lobelia siphilitica*): full sun to part shade; average to wet soil; blue flowers July to September; 2-3 feet tall; 1-foot spread

**Sweet Joe Pye weed** (*Eutrochium purpureum*): partial to full shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; pink flowers July to September; 4-7 feet tall; 2-3-foot spread

**Blue-stemmed goldenrod** (*Solidago caesia*): full sun to part shade; dry soil; yellow flowers September to October; 1-3 feet tall, 1-foot spread

**Short's aster** (*Symphyotrichum shortii*): partial sun to shade; medium to medium dry soil; blue/violet flowers August to October; 3 feet tall; 18 inches wide; spreads easily from seed

**Ferns:** All require shade to part shade; moist soil

**Ostrich fern** (*Matteuchia struthiopteris*) 4 feet tall

**Maidenhair fern** (*Adiantum pedatum*) 2 feet tall

**Lady fern** (*Athyrium felle-femina*) 12 inches tall

**Christmas fern** (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) 1-2 feet tall, evergreen

**Gray's sedge** (*Carex grayi*): full sun to full shade; medium to wet soil; flowers April-May; 2-3 feet tall; 1-foot spread

**Plantain sedge** (*Carex plantaginea*): partial to full shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; blooms April to June; 12 inches tall and wide

**Rose sedge** (*Carex rosea*): partial to full shade; dry soil; blooms in May; up to 1 foot tall; less than 1-foot spread; may be used as specimen or ground cover

**Wild ginger** (*Asarum canadense*): **groundcover**; dappled to full shade; medium wet to medium dry soil; red flowers bloom under leaves in May-June; up to 1 foot tall and wide

**Stonecrop** (*Sedum ternatum*): **groundcover**; full sun to shade; medium wet to medium dry well-drained soil; white flowers from April to June; 8 inches tall; 6-12 inches wide

**Virgin's bower** (*Clematis virginiana*): **vine**; full to partial sun; medium soil; white flowers bloom in July to September; up to 9 feet tall; alternative to sweet autumn clematis

**Wild hydrangea** (*Hydrangea aborescens*): **shrub**, morning sun to shade; medium wet to medium dry; drought intolerant; white flowers from June to September; 3-5 feet tall; 3-5-foot spread

**Eastern wahoo** (*Euonymus atropurpureus*): **shrub**, partial sun to shade; medium soil; small dark purple flowers June-July; fall red berries; 12-20 feet tall; 10 feet wide; alternative to burning bush with beautiful fall red color and rosy pink seed capsules

The **Dayton Area Wild Ones (DAWO)** is a regional chapter of **Wild Ones**, a national organization that teaches about the benefits of using native plants to create natural landscapes. The primary goals of DAWO are to educate and support homeowners as they develop their own native landscapes, to educate the public, and to enhance public spaces in our local communities.

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