Recommended Native Plants for Gardeners
The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College
Compiled by Carolyn Summers

Sun Perennials

Groundcovers (including creeping shrubs)

- Anemone canadensis: Canada anemone
- Antennaria neglecta: pussy-toes
- Arctostaphylos uva-ursi: bearberry
- Aster pilosum ‘Schneegitter’: snowy aster
- Coreopsis rosea [T]: rose coreopsis
- Fragaria virginiana: wild strawberry
- Geranium maculatum: wild geranium
- Heuchera americana: alum-root
- Houstonia caerulea: bluets
- Juniperus communis: creeping juniper
- Juniperus horizontalis: horizontal juniper
- Oenothera fruticosa: sundrops
- Phlox subulata: moss phlox
- Polemonium reptans: Jacob’s ladder
- Sedum ternatum: stonecrop
- Viola adunca: Labrador violet
- Viola conspersa: American dog-violet
- Viola cucullata: blue marsh violet
- Viola pedata: bird’s-foot violet
- Viola sororia: common violet

Low growing sun-lovers for rock gardens, etc.

- Aquilegia canadensis: wild columbine
- Aster linariifolius: stiff leaf aster
- Campanula rotundifolia: bluebells-of-Scotland
- Hypoxis hirsuta: yellow stargrass
- Penstemon hirsutus ‘Pygmaea’: hairy beard-tongue
- Potentilla tridentata: three-toothed-cinquefoil
- Lyrate [E]: lyre-sage
- Silene caroliniana var. pensylvanica: wild pink
- Sisyrinchium angustifolium: blue-eyed grass

Short-medium height, average to dry meadow or mixed border

- Asclepias incarnata: swamp milkweed
- Asclepias tuberosa: butterfly-weed
- Aster lateriflorus: calico aster
- Eupatorium rugosum: white snakeroot
- Monarda fistulosa: wild bergamot
- Monarda punctata: dotted horsemint
- Phlox paniculata: garden phlox
- Pycnanthemum tenuifolium: willow-leaf mountain-mint
- Rudbeckia fulgida: black-eyed Susan
- Scutellaria incana [E]: showy skullcap
- Solidago odora: sweet goldenrod
- Solidago ohioensis [T]: Ohio goldenrod

Key:  T = threatened in NYS, E = endangered in NYS, Extirp. = extirpated from NYS

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### Moist meadow/border, good for rain gardens; require moisture during drought

- *Aster novi-belgii* New York aster
- *Chelone glabra* turtleheads
- *Eupatorium perfoliatum* boneset
- *Helenium autumnale* sneezeweed
- *Lobelia syphilitica* great lobelia
- *Mimulus ringens* monkeyflower
- *Monarda didyma* bee-balm
- *Onoclea sensibilis* sensitive fern
- *Phlox maculata* wild sweet-william
- *Physostegia virginiana* obedient plant
- *Senecio aureus* golden ragwort

### Tall meadow, mixed border, average-moist

- *Asclepias syriaca* common milkweed
- *Aster novae-angliae* New England aster
- *Aster umbellatus* flat-top white aster
- *Eupatorium maculatum* spotted Joe-pye-weed
- *Eupatorium purpureum* Joe-pye-weed
- *Helianthus decapetalus* thin-leaf sunflower
- *Heliopsis helianthoides* ox-eye sunflower
- *Rudbeckia triloba* brown-eyed Susan
- *Senna hebecarpa* wild senna
- *Solidago rugosa ‘Fireworks’* rough goldenrod
- *Thalictrum pubescens* tall meadow-rue
- *Verbena hastata* blue verbena
- *Veronicastrum virginicum* Culver’s root
- *Vernonia noveboracensis* ironweed

### Moist meadows, streams and pond edges, rain gardens; these plants require more moisture according to the amount of sun they receive.

- *Caltha palustris* marsh marigold
- *Gentiana andrewsii* bottle gentian
- *Iris versicolor* blue flag
- *Lilium superbum* Turk’s cap lily
- *Lobelia cardinalis* cardinal-flower
- *Zizia aurea* golden alexanders

### Shrubbery perennials, average to dry

- *Amsonia tabernaemontana v. salicifolia* willow-leaved blue star
- *Ceanothus americanus* New Jersey tea
- *Porteranthus stipulatus* [Extirp.] American ipecac
- *Porteranthus trifoliatus* Indian physic

Carolyn Summers, SCAS member and our consultant, is a landscape architect with years of experience in the environmental and landscape design field, working for nonprofit and government agencies. She is author of [Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East](#). An adjunct professor at Westchester Community College, she consults at its Native Plant Center.

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