



CONNECTICUT NATIVE PLANT & SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING GUIDE

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EXTENSION

By Victoria Wallace
and Alyssa Siegel-Miles,
UConn Extension

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**Plants are native to
northeastern U.S.
unless otherwise noted.**

**All plants are hardy in
the state of CT
(USDA zones 5b to 7a).**

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SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT			
MOISTURE/WATER NEEDS:	Dry = D	Medium = M	Wet = W
SUNLIGHT NEEDS:	Full Sun = 	Part Sun = 	Full Shade = 
WILDLIFE/POLLINATORS ATTRACTED/SUPPORTED:	Birds = 	Bees = 	Butterflies and moths (larval or adult stages) = 
DEER RESISTANT:		*Note that no plant is deer-PROOF. Plants that are less palatable to deer and less likely to be eaten are labeled as deer resistant in this document. Plants with only <i>moderate</i> deer resistance are noted. In harsh winters or other times of scarcity, deer may eat any plant that is accessible to them.	
GRASSES AND COVER CROPS:	Warm Season = WS	Cool Season = CS	Summer Annual = SA Winter Annual = WA

GLOSSARY:

- Allelopath:** a plant that produces and releases chemicals that inhibit the germination or growth of nearby plants (or other organism).
- Bunch-type grasses** (also known as bunchgrasses): grow in clumps. Produce tillers from the crown of the plant, with minimal lateral spreading.
- Catkin:** cylindrical flower cluster/spike, with inconspicuous or no petals; plants with catkins are usually wind-pollinated.
- Cool Season Grasses:** grasses that thrive in areas with cold winters and hot summers, including Northeast U.S., with optimum growth in the cool temperatures of spring (with fertilization) and fall. Cool season grasses start growth in early spring when soil temperatures reach 40-45°F (4.5-7°C) and reach optimal growth at air temperatures between 60-75°F (15.5-24°C). Cool season grass species include Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, fine fescue, tall fescue, and creeping bentgrass.
- Dioecious:** having separate male and female plants. Both male and female plants needed for fruit production. Seeds and fruit on female plants only.
- Forbs:** herbaceous flowering plants; other than grasses.
- Monoecious:** having both male and female organs in the same individual.
- Nativar:** a cultivar of a native plant.
- Rhizomatous (sod-forming) grasses:** produce either rhizomes (underground “stems”) or stolons, which extend laterally, enabling the grass to develop a firm sod. Rhizomatous grasses form a tight-knit and dense turf.
- Rhizome:** an underground, elongated stem (or shoot) that grows horizontally. Adventitious roots arise from the nodes.
- Stolon:** an elongated stem (or shoot) that grows along the surface of the ground, from which leaves and adventitious roots develop at the nodes, producing a dense stand of turf/plants.

Front Cover Photographs: (clockwise from top left) *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, *Aronia arbutifolia*, *Clethra alnifolia* ‘Ruby Spice’, *Viburnum acerifolium*, *Prunus pumila* var. *depressa*, *Juniperus virginiana*, *Rhus aromatica* ‘Gro-Low’, *Vaccinium corymbosum*, *Asclepias syriaca*, *Coreopsis lanceolata*; (center) *Chionanthus virginicus*.

Photographs on front cover are by Alyssa Siegel-Miles, Victoria Wallace, and Jessica Lubell-Brand.

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Chamaecrista fasciculata

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Achillea millefolium

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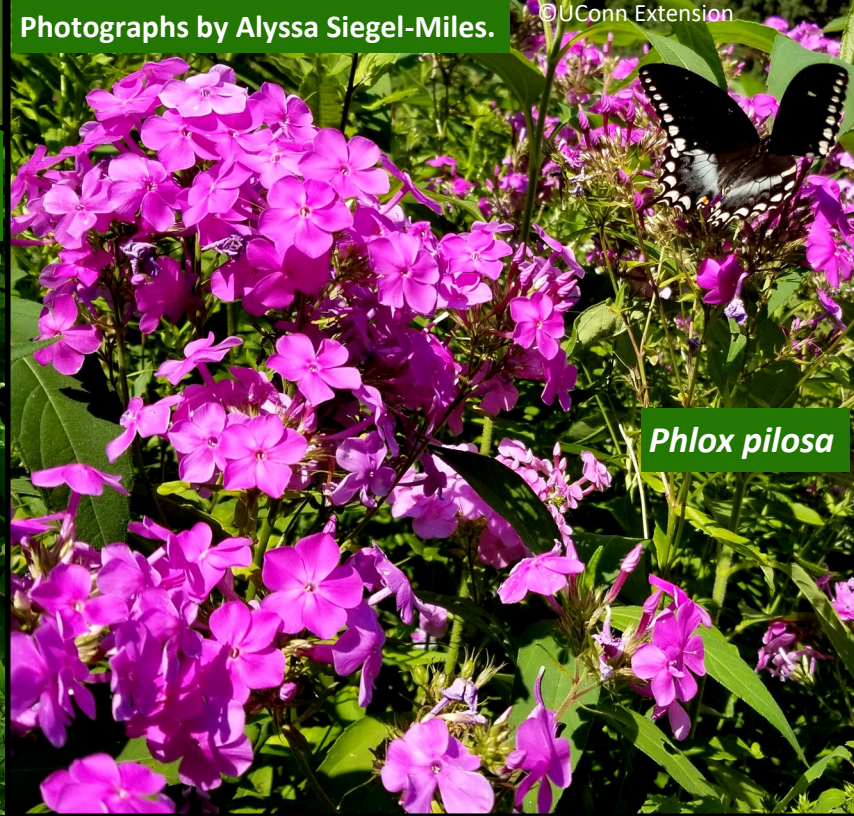
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Eurybia divaricata

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Phlox pilosa



Tradescantia ohiensis

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NATIVE FORBS THAT GROW EASILY FROM SEED

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RESIST
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	yarrow	white, pink, red	June - Sept.	3'	D M		  	Perennial. Thrives in poor, well-drained soils. Salt tolerant. Fragrant, showy flowers. Good cut flower.	
<i>Ageratina altissima</i>	white snakeroot	white	Sept. - frost	3-5'	M W		 	Perennial. Prolific self-seeder; deadhead if unwanted. Prefers part shade in moist, rich soils; tolerates moderately dry soils.	
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	partridge pea	yellow	June - Sept.	1-3'	D	 	  	Annual. Seed late March-May. Used for erosion control. Improves soil fertility (fixes nitrogen). Readily self-seeds.	
<i>Coreopsis grandiflora</i>	large tickseed	yellow	June - August	1.5- 2.5'	D M W		  	Short-lived perennial. Rabbit resistant. May self-seed and spread by rhizomes, forming colonies.	
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower	pale purple	June - July	2-3'	D M W	 	 	Perennial. Mixes well with grasses. Showy, fragrant, good cut flowers. Self-seeds freely.	
<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	white wood aster	white	August-October	1-3'	D M		 	Perennial. Attracts many pollinators. Self-seeds. Naturalize for best effect. Appears delicate; tough, vigorous.	
<i>Helianthus mollis</i>	downy sunflower	yellow	July - Sept.	2-4'	D M	 	  	Perennial. Plants spread by rhizomes and self-seeding to form colonies.	
<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>	mountain mint	white, pink	July - Sept.	1-3'	M W	 	 	Perennial. Attracts butterflies and honeybees. Attractive silver-blue foliage. Best flowering in full sun.	
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	downy phlox	pink	May - July	1-2'	D M		  	Perennial. Attracts hummingbirds. Showy, fragrant, saucer-shaped flowers. Likes mulch in summer.	
<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>	calico aster	white	Sept.-October	2-3'	D M	 	 	Syn. <i>Aster lateriflorus</i> . Perennial. Self-seeds. Attracts and supports native bees and predatory/parasitic insects.	
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	blue	May - July	2-3'	D M	 	 	Perennial. Tolerates part shade but with fewer blooms. Prefers moist, acidic, sandy soil. Self-seeds aggressively.	
<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	spiderwort	blue to violet	May - July	1.5-3'	M		 	Perennial. Long-blooming for native plant, shade, or wild gardens or meadows. Unattractive mid-summer foliage.	
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue vervain	purplish-blue	July - Sept.	2-6'	M W		 	Perennial. Preferred nectar source for hover flies, bee flies. <i>Verbena stricta</i> is a good alternative for drier soils.	
<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	New York ironweed	purple	August-Sept.	4-8'	M W		 	Perennial. Aggressively self-seeds. Use for back of borders, meadows, pollinator gardens.	

Others: *Amsonia* spp. (21), *Anemone canadensis* (17), *Andropogon gerardii* (19), *Aquilegia canadensis* (25), *Asclepias tuberosa* (9), *Bouteloua curtipendula* (38), *Carex pensylvanica* (15), *Chrysogonum virginianum* (11), *Coreopsis lanceolata* (19), *Deschampsia cespitosa* (15), *Desmodium canadense* (19), *Dicentra eximia* (9), *Elymus canadensis* (38), *Eupatorium perfoliatum* (38), *Eragrostis spectabilis* (15), *Lobelia cardinalis* (21), *Monarda punctata* (19), *Muhlenbergia capillaris* (9), *Panicum virgatum* (25), *Phlox subulata* (13), *Rudbeckia* spp. (21, 23), *Ruellia humilis* (13), *Sanguinaria canadensis* (13), *Scutellaria incana* (9), *Solidago* spp. (17).



Aruncus dioicus

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Baptisia australis

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Heliopsis helianthoides
'Tuscan Sun'

©UConn Extension



Agastache foeniculum

©UConn Extension



Asclepias tuberosa
with
monarch
butterfly
caterpillar

©UConn Extension



Liatris spicata

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Dicentra eximia

Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Victoria Wallace.

NATIVE PERENNIALS FOR GARDEN BEDS

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>	DEER RESIS.
<i>Actaea racemosa</i>	black cohosh	white	June - July	4-6'	M			Architectural texture. Prefers moist, fertile soils. Slow to establish. Shelter from strong winds. Foliage may scorch if soil dries. Butterfly larval host plant (e.g., spring azure, holly blue).	
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>	goat's beard	creamy white	April - May	4-6'	M W			Thrives in shady, moist spots in borders, woodland edge. Long lasting blooms. Do not allow to dry out. Also for rain gardens.	
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterfly milkweed	orange	June - August	1-2.5'	D M			Essential food source for Monarch butterfly caterpillars. Good cut flower. May re-seed. Good soil drainage essential.	
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	anise hyssop	lavender - purple	June - Sept.	2-4'	D M			Good cut flower. May re-seed. Good soil drainage is essential. Attracts hummingbirds; nectar supports native bees.	
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	blue false indigo	blue, purple	May - June	3-4'	D M			Does not respond well to transplanting. Attractive seed pods in fall. Tolerates poor soils. In shade, may require staking.	
<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	fringed bleeding heart	rose pink	April - July	1-1.5'	M			Prefers moist, rich soils. Good soil drainage is essential for plant survival. Intolerant of wet soils in winter and dry soils in summer. Will self-seed in optimal conditions.	
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	pink-lavender	March - July	1-3'	M W			Deadheading prolongs bloom. Native to dry or moist woods; woodland edges; dappled meadows. Thrives under variety of conditions - rich, acidic. Seeds attract doves, bobwhite quail.	
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	yellow	June - August	3-6'	D M			Attracts hummingbirds. Long summer bloom; good cut flower. Remove spent flowers to extend bloom season.	
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	blazing star	red-purple	July - August	2-4'	D M			Tolerant of drought, also clay soil. Intolerant of wet soils in winter. Adds architectural texture to the garden.	
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	pink muhly grass	pink, red	Sept.-Nov.	2-3'	D M			Clump forming. Best grouped or <i>en masse</i> for late season color. Tolerates poor soils. May be grown from seed. WS.	
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	beard-tongue	white	April - June	1-3'	D M			Good cut flower. Drought tolerant. Root rot can occur in wet, poorly-drained soils.	
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	christmas fern	—	—	1-2'	D M			Clumping fern that will not spread; clumps will increase in size over time. Mass on slopes to combat soil erosion.	
<i>Scutellaria incana</i>	downy skullcap	purplish-blue	June - Sept.	2-3'	D M			Drought tolerant. Attractive wildflower that creates interest in the garden. Ideal for shady spots.	
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	white, blue	June - August	4-7'	M W			Takes several years to establish. Also used in rain gardens. Deadhead flowers to extend bloom period. Cut back after flowering for new foliage growth and fall bloom.	

MANY other plants in this document are also suitable for garden beds.

Asarum canadense

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Pachysandra procumbens

Opuntia humifusa

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Photographs by Victoria Wallace, Alyssa Siegel-Miles, and Jessica Lubell-Brand.

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*Arctostaphylos
uva-ursi* 'Massachusetts'

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Penstemon digitalis (pg. 9)

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*Chamaepericlymenum
canadensis*

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LOW-GROWING GROUND COVERS

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States. All are perennials unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> 'Massachusetts'	bearberry, kinnikinnick	white	April - May	0.5-1'	D M			Salt tolerant. Four seasons of interest. Do not fertilize. Roots dislike disturbance. Slow to establish. Requires excellent soil drainage. Likes infertile, acidic, sandy soils and slopes.	
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	wild ginger	inconspicuous	April - May	0.5-1'	M W			Low mat-forming; Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Prefers acidic soils, consistent moisture. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>	green and gold	yellow	May - October	0.5-1'	M W			Spreads vigorously to form an attractive ground cover, but is easily controlled. Prefers moist, acidic, organically rich soils. Grows easily from seed and may self-seed in good conditions.	
<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	bunchberry	white	May - July	0.25-0.75'	M			Prefers moist, organically rich, acidic soils in part shade including sun-dappled conditions in close to full shade. Showy foliage in fall. Rabbit resistant.	
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	marginal shield fern	---	---	1.5-2'	D M			Tolerates dry shade once established. Thrives in rocky, woodland settings. Protect from wind.	
<i>Iris cristata</i>	dwarf crested iris	pale blue	April	0.5-1'	D M			Spreads quickly; forms dense colonies. Snails and slugs may cause damage. Dry to moist soils. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	creeping juniper	---	---	0.5-1.5'	D M			Evergreen shrub. Drought tolerant. Erosion control. Requires well drained soils. Dark blue, berry-like cones persist in winter.	
<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	Virginia bluebells	blue	March - April	1.5-2'	M W			One of the easiest spring ephemerals to grow. Dormant in summer; overplant with annuals or perennials (e.g., ferns).	
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	prickly-pear	yellow	June - July	0.5-1'	D			Syn. <i>Opuntia compressa</i> . Evergreen. Attractive, edible fruit. Grow in rock gardens, stone walls, sandy slopes, dry prairies.	
<i>Packera aurea</i>	golden ragwort	yellow	April	1-2'	M W			Semi-evergreen for moist, shady, rich, acidic areas. Tolerates seasonal flooding. Spreads by seed and roots.	
<i>Pachysandra procumbens</i>	Allegheny spurge	white	March - April	0.5-1'	D M			Good air circulation beneficial - avoid overhead watering; thin plants periodically. Showy, fragrant flower. Mass on slopes.	
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	wild blue phlox	white, purple	March - May	0.5-1'	M			Native to moist, rich, deciduous woods. Flowers attract swallowtails, gray hairstreaks, and western pygmy blue butterflies.	
<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>	creeping phlox	purple, violet	July - Sept.	0.5-1'	D M			Tolerant of drought, air pollution. Prefers acidic, rich, shady, organic soils, continuous moisture. Spreads by stolon & seed.	



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Phlox subulata

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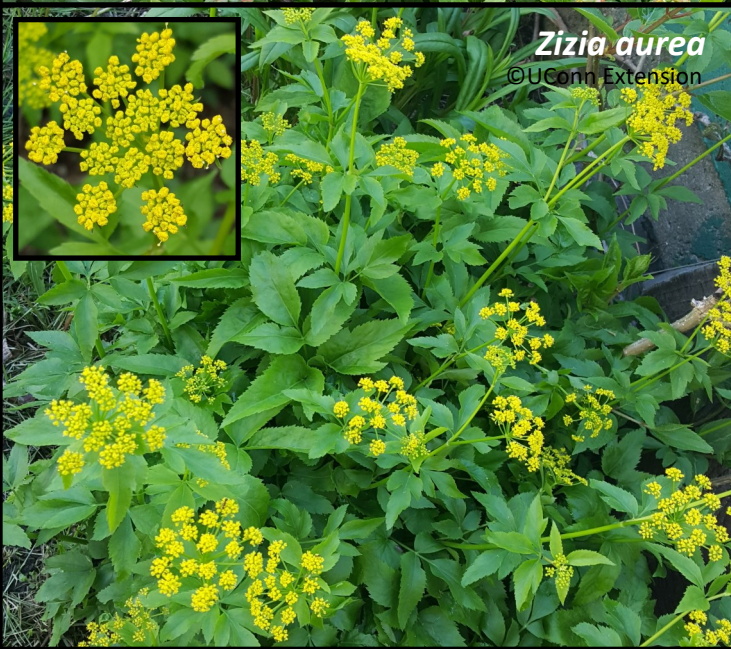


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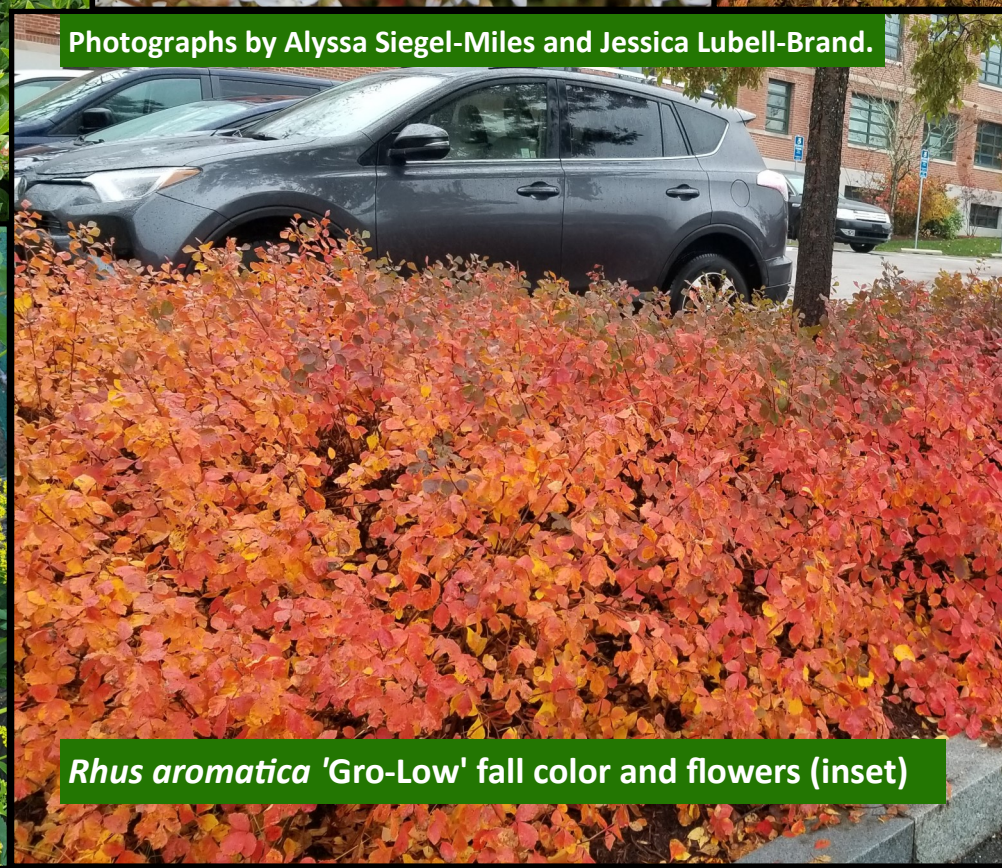
Two different *Sedum* groundcovers - in flower (left) and foliage (right)*Vaccinium angustifolium*

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*Zizia aurea*

©UConn Extension

Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Jessica Lubell-Brand.

*Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-Low' fall color and flowers (inset)

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LOW-GROWING GROUND COVERS

All plants listed are perennials and native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	moss phlox	purple, pink, red, white	March - May	0.5'	D M		  	Tolerant of salt, drought, erosion, and air pollution. Requires good soil drainage. Grows well in sandy soils, sunny borders, slopes, draped over rock walls. May self-seed. Shear stems after flowering by 1/2 for denser growth and light rebloom.	
<i>Prunus pumila</i> var. <i>depressa</i>	creeping sand cherry	white	late May - June	1.5'	D M	 	 	Widely adaptable to full sun sites. Orange fall color. Dark red cherries provide important forage for many animal species. Fruits persist June through August.	
<i>Rhus aromatica</i> 'Gro-Low'	fragrant sumac	yellow (small)	April - June	1.5-2'	D M	 	 	Low-growing shrub. If stems die back, cut dead stems to 6" for regrowth. Drought tolerant. Showy red fruit in fall; fast spreader.	
<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	wild petunia	laven-der, blue	May - October	1.5-2'	M	 	 	Blooms throughout summer. Can be an aggressive grower. Readily reseeds. Host plant for larvae of common buckeye butterfly.	
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	bloodroot	white	March - April	0.5-0.75'	M		 	Spreads rapidly. Mulch with a thin layer of deciduous leaves during the winter. Groundcover for around the base of trees. Seeds dispersed by ants. Rhizome poisonous - may be fatal if ingested.	
<i>Sedum</i> spp.	stonecrop	pink, purple	August - October	0.25-0.5'	D		 	Many groundcover cultivars; most are not native to U.S. Tolerant of rabbits, drought, and air pollution. Soil must be well-drained.	
<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	wood lily	white, pink	April - June	1-1.5'	M		 	Benefits from mulch in fall. Prefers moist, acidic, humus-rich soil. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Does not transplant well.	
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	large-flowered bellwort	yellow	April - May	1.5-2'	M			Good cut flower. Effective <i>en masse</i> under trees or along wood margins. Prefers humus-rich soils and good drainage. Benefits from compost and leaf mulch in winter. Favored by deer.	
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	lowbush blueberry	white	May - June	1-2'	M	 	  	Shrub. Edible fruit. Glossy foliage turns maroon-purple in fall. Ideal soil is moist, high in organic matter, and well-drained; pH must be very acidic (4.5 to 5.5). Use mulch.	
<i>Waldsteinia fragarioides</i>	barren strawberry	yellow	April - May	0.5'	M	 	  	Syn. <i>Geum fragarioides</i> . Evergreen foliage turns bronze in winter. Salt tolerant. Can substitute for grass and aid in transitioning turf areas to ground cover. Spreads slowly by rhizomes.	
<i>Xanthorhiza simplicissima</i>	yellowroot	purple; insignificant	April - May	0.5-2.5'	D M W		 	Spreading shrub. Excellent fall color. Performs best in woodlands, moist areas. Drought tolerant. Adapts to wide variety of conditions. Stabilizes slopes.	
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden Alexander	yellow	May - June	1.5-2'	M	 	 	Showy flowers. Will re-seed in optimal conditions. Beautiful <i>en masse</i> . Attracts beneficial bees, wasps, flies.	

Thymus spp.

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Deschampsia cespitosa

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Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles
and Victoria Wallace.

Carex pensylvanica

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Achillea millefolium with turfgrasses

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Festuca brevipila
lawn

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Mown *Achillea millefolium*

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LOW-MAINTENANCE & ALTERNATIVE LAWN OPTIONS

Not adapted to close mowing (less than 3"), but all may be maintained at a 3-4" height of cut, except where noted.

All species listed are perennials and native to northeastern U.S. unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>	DEER RES.
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	yarrow	white	June - Sept.	2-3'	D M		 	Commonly grown as garden ornamental; can persist when mown and maintained as lawn. Mow with rotary mower on high setting.	
<i>Carex stipata</i>	awl sedge	green, golden	May - June	1.5-3'	M W	 	 	Tolerates drier conditions in shaded locations. Sprawling habit; spiky seed heads. Beneficial to grasshoppers, birds, ducks. Foliage is eaten by caterpillars of several skippers and other butterflies.	
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania sedge	insignificant	May	1'	D M W			Lawn substitute for dry soils in shady areas; Can be left unmown or mow 2-3 times a year to 3-4". Cascading growth habit. Tolerates heavy shade and wet soil. Plugs are best; does not grow well from seed.	
<i>Carex praegracilis</i>	clustered field sedge	green	May	2'	M W	 		Salt tolerant. Also useful for meadows, green roofs, bio-swales, erosion control. Tolerates moderate drought, flooding, poor soils, heat, cold, shade and moderate foot traffic. Spreads by rhizomes and may self-seed in optimum conditions.	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	tufted hair grass	gold, silver, purple	July - Sept.	2-3'	M W	 		Bunch-type grass; clump-forming with a mounding habit. Grows in average, medium, well-drained soils. Tolerates range of soil conditions. Acid soil, salt, and heavy metal tolerant. May retain green color in mild winters. CS.	
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	purple lovegrass	purple-red	July - August	1-2'	D M		 	Performs best if left unmown in sandy or gravelly loam in hot, dry locations. Very drought tolerant. Excellent late summer color. Excellent dried flower. Crucial food source for many butterflies and native songbirds. WS.	
<i>Festuca brevipila</i>	hard fescue	green	May - June	1-2'	D M	 		Syn. <i>Festuca longifolia</i> . Drought tolerant. Improved drought tolerance if left unmown. Does well in shade or full sun; persists in soils of low fertility. Clump-forming. Not Native to U.S. CS.	
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	red fescue	yellow	May - July	1-3'	M	 		Spreads by rhizome or stolons. Has distinct subspecies; may tolerate mild foot traffic. Slow to recuperate when damaged. Can tolerate lawn height of cut or be left unmown. CS.	
<i>Thymus</i> spp.	thyme	purple	June - Sept.	0.5'	D M		 	Evergreen; fragrant foliage. Tolerates low fertility soils. Thrives in sandy or rocky soils with excellent drainage. Can be seeded into a low-maintenance/input lawn. Not Native to U.S.	
<i>Trifolium repens</i> 'Pirouette' or 'Pipolina'	micro-clover	white	May - June	0.25-0.5'	M			Less aggressive than straight species of white clover. Clump-forming with moderate stolon activity. Limited erosion control value. Combine with turfgrasses. Legume (nitrogen fixing); can support reduced fertilizer applications. Not Native to U.S.	



Solidago spp.



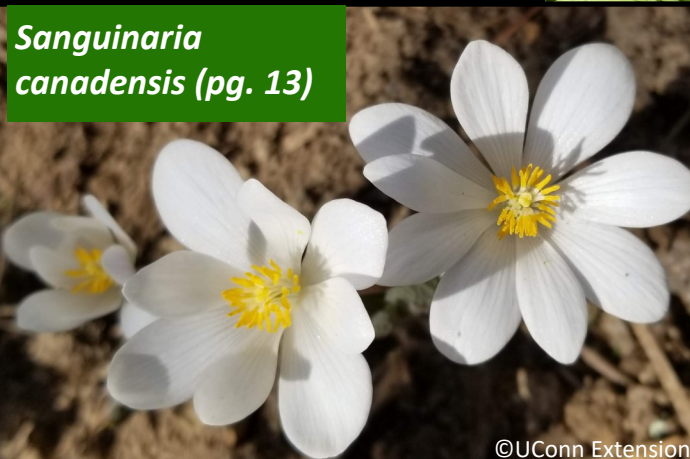
Maianthemum canadense

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Matteuccia struthiopteris

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Sanguinaria canadensis (pg. 13)

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Onoclea sensibilis

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Asclepias syriaca

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Podophyllum peltatum

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Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles,
Victoria Wallace, and Jessica Lubell-Brand.

AGGRESSIVE GROUND COVERS: SOLUTION PLANTS

These plants function as “living mulch.” They generally will monopolize a landscape bed, choking out and outcompeting other species (except where noted) which can provide helpful solutions for tough spots! Some are taller than what has traditionally considered “ground covers.”
All plants listed are native to northeastern United States.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	windflower	white	April - June	1-2'	D M W			Spreads vigorously by rhizomes. Most aggressive in sunny, moist soils; grows more slowly in dry, shady locations. Good cut flower. Attracts predatory/parasitoid insects.	
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	purple, white	June - August	3-5'	D M		 	Thrives in poor soils, roadsides, and waste places. Spreads vigorously by rhizomes and seed; forms colonies. Monarch butterfly larvae host plant. Flowers are fragrant.	
<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	hay-scented fern	—	—	1.5-2'	D M W			Spreads vigorously by rhizomes; forms colonies and can dominate. Tolerates full sun if moisture is consistent. Grows in a wide range of soils - dry or poor, rocky soils. Fragrant foliage.	
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	meadow strawberry	white	April - May	0.5-.75'	D M W		  	Edible berries in summer. Prefers full sun and organically rich, sandy loams. Drought tolerant. Use for erosion control on slopes. After fruiting, may go dormant in hot summer months.	
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Canada mayflower	white	May - June	0.5'	D M W			Spreads by rhizomes; forms carpet-like colonies. Native to deciduous woods, floodplains, and bog margins. Red berries in fall are eaten by birds and small mammals.	
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	ostrich or fiddlehead fern	—	—	3-6'	M W			Clumps form a colony over time. Fiddleheads edible. Moist soils best. Plant with spring wildflowers that go dormant (e.g., trilliums, bloodroot, trout lilies, <i>Dicentra</i> spp.).	
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	sensitive fern	—	—	0.5-3'	M W			Roots colonize, but are usually shallow. Native to moist woodlands, floodplains, stream banks, swamps, marshes. Shelters salamanders and frogs.	
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper	greenish white	May - August	30'	M			Vine. Ornamental fall foliage and fruit (fruit toxic to humans). Tolerates full shade; best fall leaf color in sun. Groundcover, erosion control on slopes, or climber for fence or large trellis.	
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	mayapple	white	April - June	1-2'	D M W		  	Rhizomes spread quickly, forming dense mats in damp, open woods. Leaves, roots, seeds poisonous if ingested in large quantities; fruit is edible and used in jams.	
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	yellow	August - October	4-5'	D M		  	Can rapidly colonize an area. Goldenrods are the most beneficial native perennial to native butterflies/moths [4].	
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	rough goldenrod	yellow	Sept. - October	3'	D M W		  	Can rapidly colonize an area by creeping rhizomes and self-seeding. Goldenrods do not cause allergies or hay fever.	

Other aggressive ground covers/solution plants: *Rhus glabra* (31), *Rhus typhina* (31).



Rudbeckia hirta



Desmodium canadense



Symphyotrichum novae-angliae

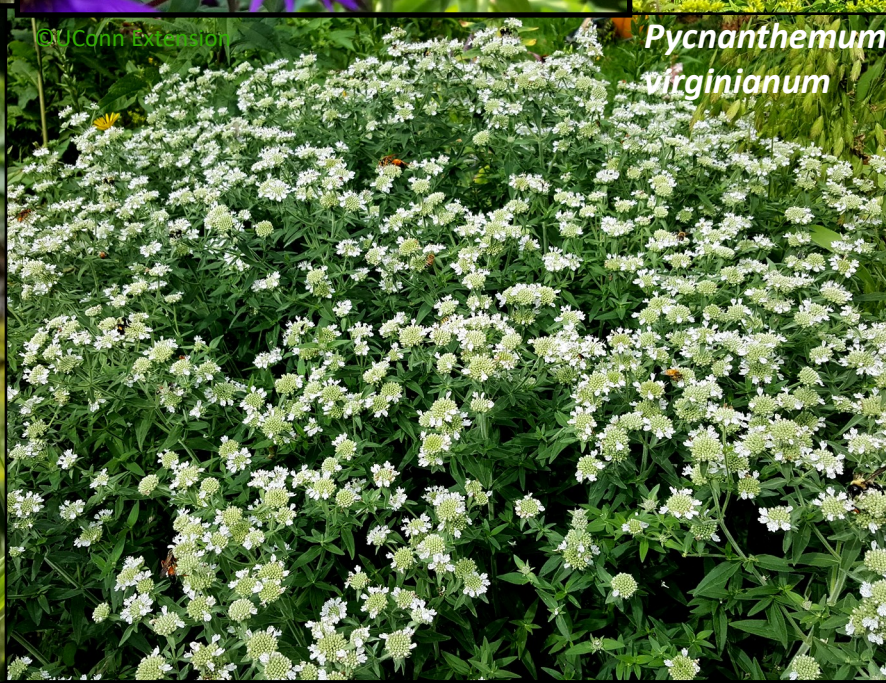


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A thriving meadow at Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, Mystic CT with *Eutrochium purpureum*, left (pg. 21) and *Panicum virgatum*, right (pg. 25)



Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Victoria Wallace.



Pycnanthemum virginianum



Sorghastrum nutans

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NATIVE FORBS FOR MEADOWS

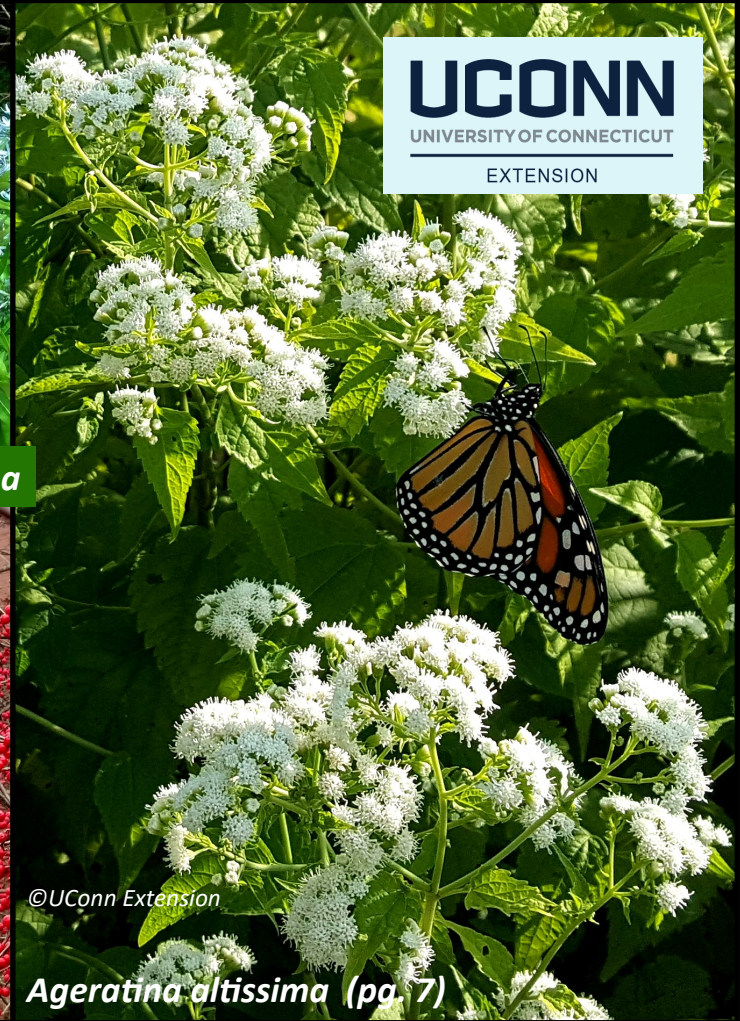
All plants listed are perennials and native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>	DEER RESIST.
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	purplish-red	Sept. - February	4-5'	D M		 	Drought tolerant. Cut stems to base-late winter. Good fall color. Likes infertile soils. Good for erosion control. Self-seeds. WS.	
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	lanceleaf coreopsis	yellow	May - July	1-2'	D M	 	 	Short-lived perennial in a garden bed setting. Deadhead to extend flowering; cut back hard in late summer when plants become unkempt. Divide every 2-3 years to encourage robustness.	
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	showy tick-trefoil	rose-purple, lavender	July - August	2-6'	M	 	  	Fixes nitrogen in the soil (legume). Plentiful flowers. More attractive when planted in large groups, not single specimens. Attracts hummingbirds; butterfly host plant.	
<i>Echinacea paradoxa</i>	yellow coneflower	yellow	June - August	2-3'	D M		  	Very drought tolerant. Attracts goldfinch and other birds. <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> and <i>E. angustifolia</i> are other good options.	
<i>Liatris scariosa</i>	northern blazing star	pink - purple	August - Sept.	2-4'	D M		  	Large, dense flower spikes. Prefers dry, sandy or rocky soils. Adds vertical accent and late summer to fall bloom.	
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	spotted beebalm	yellow, purple, white	June - August	1-3'	D M		 	Showy bracts; aromatic foliage. Attracts and supports many pollinators. Good cut flower. Drought tolerant. Best in sandy soils with consistent moisture. Alternate options: <i>M. didyma</i> , <i>M. fistulosa</i> .	
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	American mountain mint	white	July - Sept.	2-3'	M	 	 	Fragrant foliage. Self-seeds. Attracts many beneficials, including honeybees, cuckoo bees, sweat bees, solitary wasps, tachinid flies, wedge-shaped beetles, and pearl crescent butterflies.	
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	prairie dropseed	pink, brown	August - October	2-3'	M			Adds winter interest. Slow to establish. Can be sown by seed but does not freely self-seed. WS.	
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	showy goldenrod	yellow	July - Sept.	2-3'	D M	 	 	Attracts numerous pollinators. Does not cause allergies or hay fever and is not overly aggressive like some goldenrods.	
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	brown-yellow	Sept.-February	3-5'	D M		 	Prefers infertile soils. Attractive blue-green foliage. Orange-yellow fall color. Cut stems to ground late winter. Salt tolerant. WS.	
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	purple, blue	August - Sept.	3-6'	D M W		  	Syn. <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> . Showy, good cut flowers. Nectar source for monarch butterflies. Larval host plant for pearl crescent and checkerspot butterflies. <i>S. lateriflorum</i> is also good for meadows.	
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed Susan	yellow	June - Sept.	2-3'	D M	 	  	Biennial (short-lived perennial). Use for early meadow establishment. Self-seeds freely.	

Other meadow plants: *Achillea millefolium* (7, 15), *Agastache foeniculum* (9), *Ageratina altissima* (7), *Asclepias* spp. (9, 17, 21), *Carex praegracilis* (15), *Chamaecrista fasciculata* (7), *Elymus canadensis* (38), *Eutrochium purpureum* (21), *Panicum virgatum* (25), *Pycnanthemum muticum* (19), *Scutellaria incana* (9), *Tradescantia ohiensis* (19), *Vernonia noveboracensis* (19).

*Eutrochium purpureum*

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Amsonia tabernaemontana

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Ageratina altissima (pg. 7)

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Veronicastrum virginicum
(pg. 9)Photographs by Jacob Ricker
and Alyssa Siegel-Miles.*Ilex verticillata* (pg. 27)

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Asclepias incarnata

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NATIVE PERENNIALS FOR RAIN GARDENS

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RESIST.
<i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i>	blue star	light blue	April - May	2-3'	M	 	  	Good fall color. Native to south-central U.S. Also grown in borders, gardens, or open woodlands. Best <i>en masse</i> . 2011 Perennial Plant Association's Plant of the Year.	
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	eastern blue star	blue	May	2-3'	M	 	  	Good cut flower and fall color. Tolerates some drought. Native to central U.S. Cut stems after flowering to promote bushy growth. Best flowering in full sun; may require staking in part shade.	
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	white, pink	July - August	4-5'	M W		  	Attracts hummingbirds. Essential food source for monarch butterfly caterpillars. Showy, fragrant, flowers. Deep taproots - best left undisturbed once established. Foliage is slow to emerge in spring.	
<i>Carex crinita</i>	fringed sedge	green	May - June	1-3'	M W			Useful in moist garden areas or for naturalizing. Tolerant of standing water. Spreads by rhizomes to form large colonies. Also valuable for wetland restoration and soil retention.	
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	white turtlehead	white w/ pink tinge	August - October	2-3'	M W		 	Thrives in moist to wet, rich soils in part shade. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Also grown in woodland, bog, or wildflower gardens; by ponds or water garden peripheries.	
<i>Chelone lyonii</i>	pink turtlehead	pink	July - Sept.	2-4'	M W	 	 	Native to southeastern U.S. Pinch stems in spring to encourage bushiness, especially if in very shady areas. Does not need staking in full sun. Compost enhances growth. Will self-seed in moist soils.	
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	Joe Pye weed	mauve pink	July - Sept.	5-7'	M W	 	 	Syn. <i>Eupatorium purpureum</i> . Prefers moist soils that do not dry out. Cut plants to ground in late winter. Several improved cultivars are available, such as 'Gateway' or <i>E. dubium</i> 'Little Joe'.	
<i>Filipendula rubra</i>	queen of the prairie	pale pink	June - August	6-8'	M W		  	Attracts hummingbirds. Fragrant foliage. Showy, fragrant flowers. Intolerant of drought.	
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	sneezeweed	yellow	August - October	3-5'	M W		 	Can remove spent flowers to encourage additional bloom. Does not cause sneezing. Intolerant of dry soils.	
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	swamp mallow	white, pink	July - Sept.	3-7'	M W		  	Nectar source for hummingbirds, other pollinators. Tall stems provide over-wintering sites for beneficial insects. Birds use stem fibers for nesting material. Preferred pollen source - native bees.	
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower	red, white	July - Sept.	2-4'	M W	 	 	Pollinated by hummingbirds. Prefers part shade. Needs constant moisture. Will self-seed in optimal conditions.	
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	orange coneflower	yellow, orange	June - October	2-3'	D M		 	Prefers consistent moisture; some drought tolerance once established. Good cut flower. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Plant in upper, dryer sections of rain garden.	

Other plants for rain gardens: *Ageratina altissima* (7), *Aruncus dioicus* (9), *Carex stipata* (15), *Carex pensylvanica* (15), *Carex praegracilis* (15), *Clethra alnifolia* (27), *Cornus racemosa* (27), *Eupatorium perfoliatum* (38), *Ilex verticillata* (27), *Lindera benzoin* (40), *Matteuccia struthiopteris* (17), *Packera aurea* (11), *Panicum virgatum* (25), *Salix discolor* (31), *Sanguinaria canadensis* (13), *Spiraea alba* (7), *Symphytotrichum novae-angliae* (19), *Vaccinium corymbosum* (27), *Veronicastrum virginicum* (9).



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Zinnia elegans

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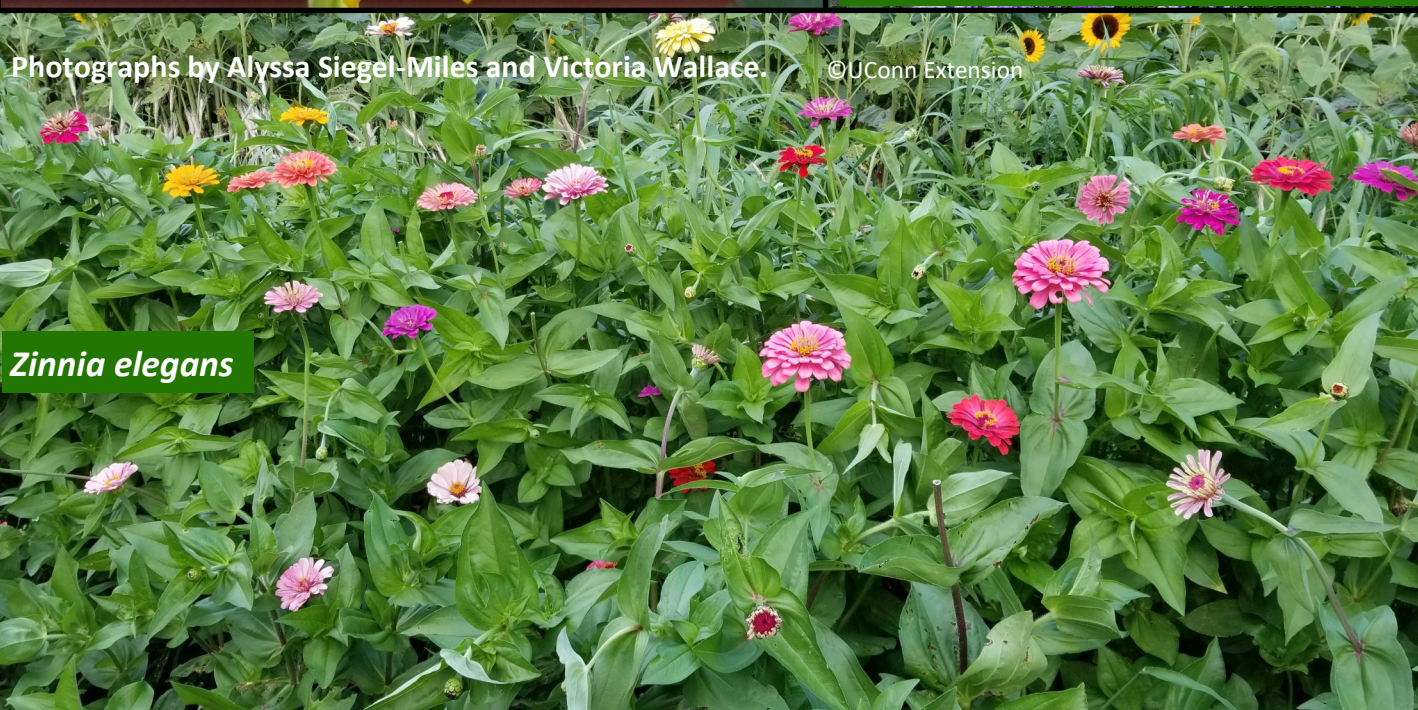
Helianthus annuus

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Tagetes spp. and Lobularia maritima

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Lobularia maritima

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Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Victoria Wallace.

Zinnia elegans

All plants listed are not native to the U.S., except where noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Anethum graveolens</i>	dill	yellow	August - Sept.	3-5'	M		 	Attracts lacewings, tachinid flies, hoverflies, and lady beetles. Larval host plant for the black swallowtail butterfly. Fragrant. Edible. Self-seeds aggressively.	
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	calendula or pot marigold	yellow, orange	May - June	1-2'	M	 	 	Attracts small native solitary bees. Attracts aphids, providing a food source for beneficials. Fragrant. Edible, somewhat bitter foliage and flowers. May reseed. Start seed indoors or sow directly in garden.	
<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	cilantro	white	May - August	1.5-2'	M	 	 	Attracts hoverflies and many beneficials. Fragrant. Edible. Attracts swallowtail butterflies. Plants bolt in hot summer weather. Seeds may be planted directly in garden or in pots.	
<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	cosmos	white, pink	June - frost	1-4'	M		 	Attracts hoverflies and lacewings. Deadhead spent flowers to prolong bloom. May self-seed. Avoid rich, fertile soils. Direct seed or start seeds indoors.	
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	yellow	June - July	4-6'	D M		 	Attracts hoverflies, ladybugs, lacewings. Fragrant. Edible. Self seeds freely. Remove spent flowers before seed production to avoid self-seeding. Larval host plant for swallowtail butterfly.	
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	sunflower	yellow, red	July - August	3-10'	D M		  	Attracts hoverflies, ladybugs, lacewings. Tolerates poor, somewhat dry soils. Plant seeds directly in garden; fast grower. Native to North America, including Connecticut.	
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alyssum	white, pink	April - June	0.5-0.75'	M		 	Attracts hoverflies and other beneficials. Fragrant. Moderate drought tolerance. One of the easiest annuals to grow. May be cut back after first bloom to encourage more flowering.	
<i>Tagetes</i> spp.	marigold (yellow)	yellow	June - frost	0.5-1'	M	 	 	Attracts hoverflies, ladybugs. Attracts spider mites, providing a food source for beneficials. Fragrant. Pinch young plants to promote bushy growth.	
<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	zinnia	pink, yellow	June - frost	1-4'	M		  	Habitat plant - attracts many beneficial insects. Grows easily in humus-rich, evenly moist, well-drained soils. Pinch young plants to promote compact, bushy form. Maintain good air circulation to prevent fungal leaf diseases.	

Many beneficial insects rely on plants as a food source (nectar and pollen) or shelter. Many natural enemies are omnivores, requiring nectar and pollen as well as insects in their diet. Habitat and “banker plants” provide alternative food sources for omnivorous beneficial insects to support populations when insect pests are limited.

In order to attract beneficial predators and pollinators to create landscape biodiversity, the inclusion of habitat and banker plants is critical. Landscapes with a diverse selection of plant species that incorporate a variety of flowering plants, with an emphasis on native trees, shrubs, and perennials of varying sizes are less likely to have major pest problems than homogeneous landscapes.



Dianthus spp.

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Coreopsis verticillata

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Polystichum acrostichoides (pg. 9)



Sedum
'Autumn Joy'

©UConn Extension



Tiarella cordifolia

©UConn Extension



Aquilegia
canadensis

©UConn Extension



Panicum
virgatum

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Schizachyrium
scoparium

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SALT TOLERANT & COASTAL-AREA PERENNIALS

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All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>	DEER RES.
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	columbine	red, pink, white	April - June	1-1.5'	D M			Prefers moist, average to rich soils. Water well during periods of drought. Leaf miners only significant pest. If seen, simply cut foliage to ground and discard. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	threadleaf tickseed	yellow	June - Sept.	2-2.5'	D M			Drought tolerant. Reblooms in September if sheared lightly in August. Self-seeds. Good plant for areas with poor, dry soils. Attracts beneficial syrphid flies, yellow-collared scape moth.	
<i>Dianthus</i> spp.	cheddar pinks	pink-red, white	late June - August	0.5-1'	D M			Drought tolerant; many cultivars. Makes a good ground cover or front of border plant. Not native to U.S. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	candytuft	white	July - Sept.	0.5-1'	D M			Evergreen. Well-drained soil is important for plant health. Slow spreader. Not native to U.S. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Limonium carolinianum</i>	sea lavender	pale purple	July - Sept.	1-2'	M W			Native habitat is irregularly flooded, high salt marshes. Grows in clay, loam, and sand soils. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switchgrass	amber	July - February	2-4'	D M W			Attractive as an accent, screen, or massed. Wide range of soil condition tolerance. Attractive amber seedheads. Good fall color. Also appropriate for meadows and rain gardens. WS.	
<i>Puccinellia distans</i>	alkaligrass	green	June - July	1-2'	M W			Bunching habit. Used for erosion control, roadsides, disturbed sites. Can be left unmown or mown as turf. Extremely salt tolerant; will outcompete other turfgrasses in salty soils.	
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	purplish-bronze	August - February	2-4'	D M			Beautiful inflorescence. Cut to the ground in late winter to early spring. Tolerant of sandy or droughty, infertile soils. Bronze-orange fall foliage color. WS.	
<i>Sedum</i> 'Autumn Joy'	autumn joy stonecrop	pink, copper	August - Nov.	2'	D M			Late season resource for pollinators. Divide every 3-4 years to maintain compact growth habit. Older plants may split in center if not divided. Not native to U.S.	
<i>Spartina patens</i>	saltmeadow cordgrass	yellow	April - May	1-3'	W			Used for beach front stabilization. Native habitat includes salt marshes, sea beaches, edges of wetlands. May also be grown in freshwater environments; the size of the plant will be larger.	
<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	seaside goldenrod	yellow	August - October	1-6'	D M			Sandy soils. Does not spread aggressively. Native to coastal dunes, maritime wet grasslands, tidal marshes.	
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	foam-flower	white, pink	May	0.5-1'	M			Forms attractive ground cover - grow <i>en masse</i> . Good fall color. Maintain even, steady moisture; do not allow to dry out or become water-logged. Spreads by stolons and seed.	

 Other salt tolerant plants: *Achillea millefolium* (7, 15), *Andropogon gerardii* (19), *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (11), *Eutrochium purpureum* (21), *Phlox subulata* (13), *Prunus serotina* (33), *Sorghastrum nutans* (19), *Waldsteinia fragarioides* (13).

Diervilla lonicera

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Comptonia peregrina

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Chaenomeles speciosa

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Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles, Jacob Ricker, Jessica Lubell-Brand, and Laura Parker Gray.

Vaccinium corymbosum
fall color

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Clethra alnifolia 'Ruby Spice'

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Aronia melanocarpa

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SALT TOLERANT AND COASTAL-AREA SHRUBS

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	red chokeberry	white-pink	April	6-10'	M	 		Suckers form colonies; can be removed to prevent spread if desired. Excellent fall color; edible red fruit in winter. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	black chokeberry	white	May	3-6'	M W	 	  	Tolerates many soils types, including wet; root suckers form colonies. Used for hedges, rain gardens, naturalizing. Excellent fall color.	
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	groundsel bush	white	August - October	6-12'	D M	 	  	Prefers sandy soil. Silvery, plume-like flat seed pods in fall. Showy fruit. Dioecious. Fast grower. Short-lived; wood is brittle. Self-seeds.	
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	buttonbush	white	June	5-12'	M W	 	  	Grows well in wet soils. Adapts to wide range of soils except dry. Pruning unnecessary. Fruit attractive in winter. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	flowering quince	orange, red, pink	March-April	3-10'	D M	 	 	Blooms on old growth. Prune to shape as needed, in spring after flowering. Avoid heavy pruning. Not native to U.S.	
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	summer-sweet	white; pink	July - August	4-8'	D M W	 	  	Prefers part shade and moist, rich acidic soil. Fragrant flowers; good fall color. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>	sweetfern	yellow (small)	April - May	2-5'	D M	 		Thrives in dry, infertile soils. Difficult to transplant; best container grown. Good for naturalizing and embankments. Fragrant foliage.	
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	white	May - June	10-15'	D M W	 	  	Most drought tolerant of the native shrub dogwoods. Spreads by root suckers to form thickets. Good fall color.	
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	bush honeysuckle	yellow	June - July	3-4'	D M	 	  	Good fall color. Spreads quickly; root suckers may be transplanted. Prune, if needed, right after flowering. Fruit valuable for songbirds.	
<i>Hypericum prolificum</i>	shrubby St. John's wort	yellow	June - August	3-5'	M	 	  	Tolerant of aerial salt spray. Tolerates both brief flooding and mild drought. Adapts to many soil conditions. Butterfly larvae host plant.	
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	winterberry	greenish-white	June - July	6-10'	M W		  	Prefers moist, rich, acidic soils. Dioecious - both male and female needed for showy red fruit production. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	bayberry	yellow-green	May	5-10'	D M W	 		Tolerates drought, erosion, wet soils. Roots form suckers. Best <i>en masse</i> . Showy fruit-winter interest. Dioecious. Widely adaptable.	
<i>Prunus maritima</i>	beach plum	white	April - June	6-10'	D M		 	Dense, suckering. Edible fruit in August. Native to coastal, sandy, infertile soils. Short-lived species. Protect from insects and diseases.	
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	highbush blueberry	white	May - June	6-12'	D M W		  	Native to swamps but does well in dry, acidic, poor, sandy soils. Use mulch. Edible fruit. Good fall color. Can be used as a hedge.	
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	northern arrowwood	white	May - June	6-10'	M	 	 	Adaptable; forms colony. Showy fruit. High susceptibility to Viburnum leaf beetles [1]. Monitor for eggs after the first frost in fall or winter.	

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Amelanchier canadensis

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Liquidambar styraciflua

Photographs by Alyssa Siegel
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*Viburnum
dentatum* (pg. 27)

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Vaccinium stamineum (pg. 37)
fruit, foliage, and flowers

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Prunus virginiana

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Sassafras albidum (pg. 33)

SALT TOLERANT AND COASTAL-AREA TREES

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	downy serviceberry	white	March-April	15-25'	M			Remove root suckers to produce a more tree like form; otherwise will become shrubby. Attractive fall color, fragrant flower; edible red berries. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	shadblow serviceberry	white	April-May	25-30'	M			Attractive fall color, fragrant flower. Edible red berries. Tolerates air pollution. Multi-stemmed tree or large shrub. Larval host for striped hairstreak butterfly. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Allegheny serviceberry	white	April	15-40'	D M			Attractive fall color, fragrant flower; edible red berries. Prefers moist, well-drained, neutral to slightly acidic soils, but is adaptable to dry, poor, alkaline, compacted soils.	
<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i>	Japanese false-cypress	—	—	3-20'	M			The species (60' x 20') is rarely available in the nursery trade, but many small, medium, and large cultivars, from 3' to 20' tall, are available. Wind tolerant. Not native to U.S.	
<i>Cupressus nootkatensis</i> 'Pendula'	weeping Alaskan cedar	—	—	35'	M			Syn. <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> . Evergreen. Grow in average to acidic, well-drained soils. 'Pendula' more common in the trade than the species. Royal Hort. Society & Cary Award winner. Native to N.W. U.S.	
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	ginkgo	green	April	50-80'	D M			Tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions. Dioecious - fruit from females have unpleasant odor. Good fall color. Not native to U.S.	
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> f. <i>inermis</i>	honey-locust	green-yellow, white	May-June	30-70'	D M			Good street and parking lot tree. Tolerant of drought, air pollution, clay soil. <i>F. inermis</i> is a thornless and nearly seedpod-free variety. Native to southeast U.S.	
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	common juniper	—	—	variable	D M			Evergreen. Drought tolerant. Showy fruit. Grows in nutrient-poor soils. Wind tolerant. Select disease-resistant cultivars.	
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	eastern red-cedar	—	—	30-65'	D M			Evergreen. Adapts to poor, droughty soils; pH adaptable. Very tough; screening, naturalizing, coastal planting. Best drought resistance of any conifer native to U.S. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	sweet gum	yellow-green	April - May	60-80'	M			Excellent shade, lawn or park tree. Tolerate a wide range of soils, including poor drainage and occasional flooding. Good fall color. Spiky fruit may be considered messy. Takes time to establish.	
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	chokecherry	white	April - May	20-30'	D M			Often forms thickets; parts of plant are toxic to animals. Tolerates salt spray. Prefers rich, moist soils, but will grow under a wide variety of soil types. Good fall color. Best flowering in full sun.	
<i>Quercus alba</i>	white oak	yellow-green	May	50-80'	D M			Prefers rich, moist, acidic, well-drained soils. Tolerant of drought, rocky or clay soils. Large shade tree, street or lawn tree. Needs a large space in which to grow. Brown to dark red fall color.	

*Chionanthus virginicus**Acer rubrum* emerging seed pods (samaras)

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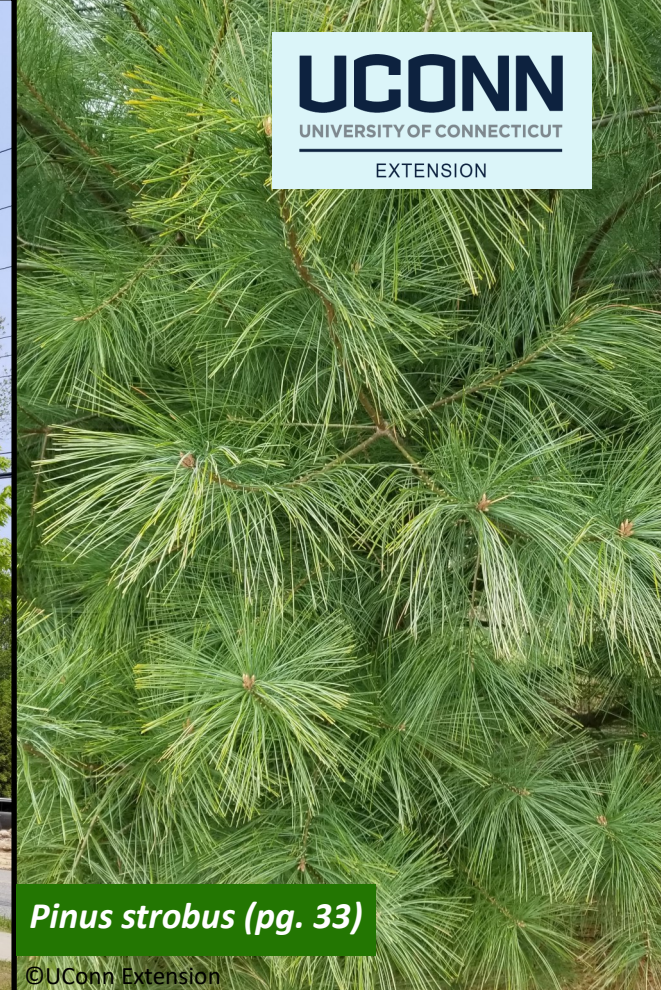
*Acer saccharum*

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Asimina triloba flower

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*Pinus strobus* (pg. 33)

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Rhus glabra (pg. 38)

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TOUGH NATIVE TREES FOR CT LANDSCAPES

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	red	March - April	40-80'	D M W		  	Adaptable; tolerant of many conditions. Relatively fast growing. Red-orange showy fall color. Ornamental bark. Shallow roots.	
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	yellow-green	April	40-90'	M		 	Great fall color. Requires root space; great for parks. High heat, pollution, compaction intolerant. Native maples are important early food sources for bees; host plants to 284 caterpillars [4].	
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	pawpaw	purple	May	15-30'	M W		 	Edible fruit; tastes like banana/custard. Will spread by suckers. More than one (genetically distinct) plant required for fruit set.	
<i>Betula lenta</i>	sweet birch	brown, green	April - May	40-70'	M		 	Best in deep, rich, moist, acidic soils, in full sun; tolerates light shade. Sensitive to soil compaction. Good fall color (yellow).	
<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch	brown, green	April - May	40-70'	M W		 	Most adaptable, heat tolerant birch. Tolerates poor drainage. Ornamental bark provides winter interest. Less prone to storm damage than other native birches. Native to southeast U.S.	
<i>Betula populifolia</i>	gray birch	brown, green	April	20-40'	M W		 	Ornamental bark provides winter interest. Intolerant of high heat, pollution. Fast growing; short-lived. Spreads by suckers. Alternate option to consider: <i>Betula papyrifera</i> .	
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	ironwood	white, green	April	20-30'	M		 	Slow-growing. Prefers fertile, moist, acidic soil. Attractive bark. Sensitive to drought, heat, compaction. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Carya ovata</i>	shagbark hickory	yellow-green	April - May	70-90'	M		 	Adaptable to sand, clay. Showy, edible fruit. Good fall color. Deep taproot. Large trees may produce litter-twig, leaf, fruit (nut) drop.	
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	redbud	purple-pink	April - May	20-30'	M W		 	Showy flowers appear before foliage. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Avoid very dry, hot locations. Use as specimen or in small groups. Protect from strong wind. Good fall color (yellow).	
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	Atlantic white cedar	—	—	30-50'	M W			Evergreen, narrow, columnar tree. Prefers full sun; sandy, peaty, moist to wet soils. Bluish-green needles. Preferred food for deer.	
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	American fringetree	white	May - June	12-20'	M		  	Small tree or large shrub. Air pollution tolerant. Adapts well to urban settings. Fragrant flowers. Good fall color (yellow). Dioecious. Fruit Aug.-Sept. when both male and female plants present; valued by birds. Male flowers showier. Native to Southern U.S.	
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	white	May - June	15-25'	M		 	Small tree or large shrub. Fragrant flowers. Part shade best. Good fall color. Attractive horizontal branching.	
<i>Cornus florida</i>	dogwood	white, pink	April - May	15-30'	M		  	Prefers cool, moist, acidic soil and part shade. Select disease resistant cultivars. Ornamental fruit, bark - 4 season interest. Good fall color (red). Leaf litter decomposes rapidly, improving soil. Used for abandoned strip mines and urban forestry projects.	
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American beech	yellow-green	April - May	50-80'	M		 	Best growth in moist, well-drained, acidic soils. Intolerant of wet or compacted soil. Prefers sun; will tolerate shade. Golden bronze foliage in fall. Forms colonies via root suckers in the wild.	



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Liriodendron tulipifera

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Physocarpus opulifolius (pg. 37)

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Prunus serotina

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Rhus typhina
(pg. 38)

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Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Jessica Lubell-Brand.

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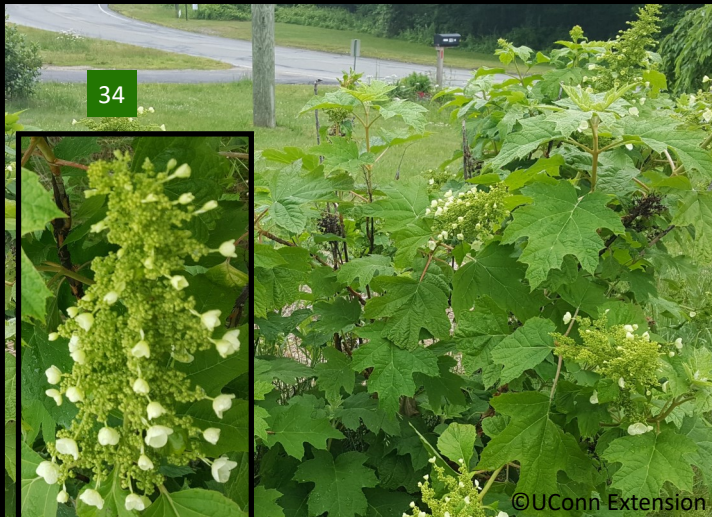
Nyssa sylvatica fall color

TOUGH NATIVE TREES FOR CT LANDSCAPES

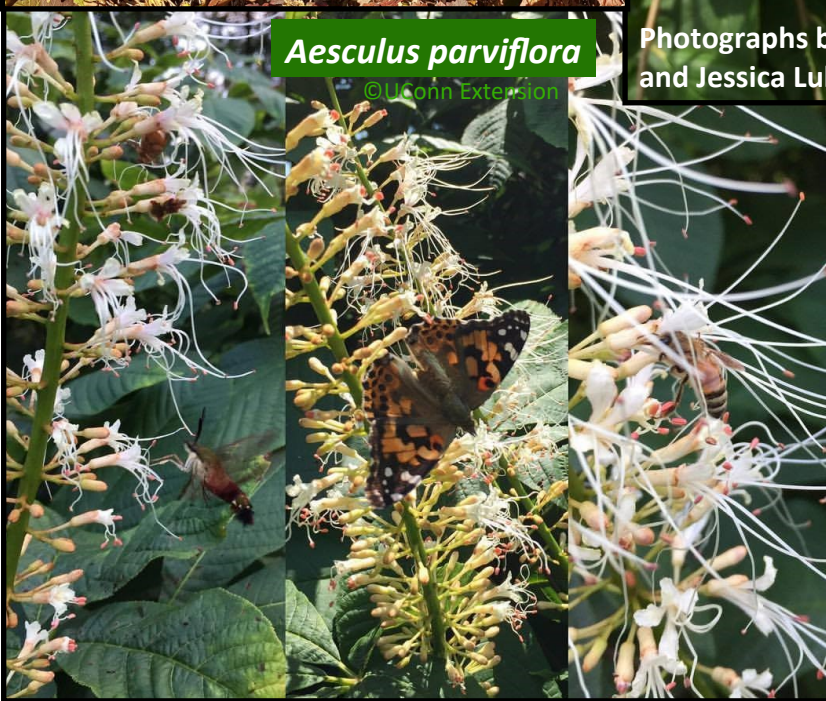
All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American holly	white	May	15-30'	M			Evergreen. Slow-growing. Dioecious. Females have attractive red berries. Male that blooms at same time needed for fruit set.	
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	black walnut	yellow-green	May - June	75-100'	M			Ornamental, edible nuts mature in autumn (large crops typically on 15+ yr. old trees). Allelopathic. Nut litter can be messy.	
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	tulip tree	yellow, orange	May - June	70-90'	M			Large shade, lawn tree. Not recommended as a street tree. Fast-growing; susceptible to limb breakage in storms. Good fall color.	
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	sweetbay magnolia	white	May - June	10-35'	D M W			Soil must be acidic. Fragrant foliage, flowers; fruit and foliage ornamental. Not a heavy bloomer. Good specimen tree.	
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	black tupelo	yellow-green	May - June	30-50'	M W			Adaptable to varying conditions. Tolerates brief flooding. Good lawn or street tree. Slow-growing. Site in location suitable for eventual size; difficult to transplant. Dioecious. Good fall color.	
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	hop-hornbeam	red-brown, green	April	25-40'	D M			Native habitat is dry woodland understory. Tolerates dry soils in part shade, once established. Slow-growing. Avoid roadside— NOT salt tolerant. Fruit appears similar to fruit of hops. Ornamental bark.	
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	sourwood	white	June - July	25-30'	M			Good specimen, lawn tree. Excellent red fall color. Not pollution or drought tolerant. Slow-growing. Native to southeastern U.S.	
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	eastern white pine	—	—	50-80'	M			Evergreen. Prefers moist, well-drained, slightly acidic soil. Good specimen for parks or other large spaces. Fast-growing.	
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	black cherry	white	May	60-90'	D M			Exceptional wildlife value; butterfly larval host. Fast-growing; adaptable. Edible fruit matures in August. Fragrant foliage. Used for reclamation of surface mine spoil. Will self-seed.	
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	swamp white oak	yellow-green	April - May	50-60'	D M W			Good lawn or street tree. Some drought tolerance but prefers swampy, low spots. Tolerates compaction and temporary flooded conditions. Good fall color. Oaks may be considered messy.	
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	northern red oak	yellow-green	May	60-100'	D M W			Best growth in well-drained, slightly acidic, sandy loam. Tolerates urban conditions: dry, acidic soil; air pollution; salt. One of the most shade tolerant and quick-growing oaks; can be transplanted.	
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	black oak	yellow-green	April - May	50-60'	D M			All oaks have exceptional wildlife value. Good lawn or street tree. Slow-growing. Oaks have a taproot; most are difficult to transplant.	
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	sassafras	yellow-green	April - May	30-60'	D M			Aromatic. Long tap root; difficult to transplant. Spreads by suckers; may colonize. Allelopathic. Dioecious. Excellent fall color.	
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	arborvitae	—	—	20-50'	M			Evergreen. Best in full sun. Easily transplanted. Susceptible to drought injury. Avoid exposed, windy sites. Air pollution, heat tolerant when sited correctly. Protect young plants from deer.	
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American linden	white, yellow	June	50-80'	D M			Wide-spreading branches form dense crown. Fragrant, nectar-rich flowers. Best growth in moist, well-drained, loamy soils.	



Hydrangea quercifolia flower, foliage, and exfoliating bark (above) and fall color (below)



Photographs by Alyssa Siegel-Miles and Jessica Lubell-Brand.



TOUGH NATIVE SHRUBS FOR CT LANDSCAPES

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EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES.
<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	bottlebrush buckeye	white	June - July	8-12'	M			Multi-stemmed; suckering. Requires large space - spreads. Good erosion control, soil stabilization. Pest resistant. Native to SE US.	
<i>Alnus incana ssp. rugosa</i>	speckled alder	purple, green	March	15-25'	M W			Wide tolerance to soil types. Fast grower. Forms thickets. Root nodules fix nitrogen. Good erosion control-water edges.	
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea	white	May - July	3-4'	D M			Good cut flower. Drought tolerant. Best with good drainage. Useful for hard-to-grow areas such as dry, rocky slopes and banks. Difficult to transplant.	
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	silky dogwood	yellow - white	May - June	6-12'	M W			Copious blue fruits, red fall color. Adaptable to a range of cultural situations. Can be used as hedge or in rain garden.	
<i>Cornus sericea</i>	red-osier dogwood	white	May - June	6-9'	M W			Use as hedge, screen or in rain garden. Good fall color. Red stems provide winter interest.	
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American hazelnut	red, brown	March - April	10-16'	D M			Great for dry, infertile sites. Edible nuts. Hedge. Good fall color. Forms thickets; remove suckers if spread undesired. Dioecious.	
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	beaked filbert	yellow (small)	April	4-8'	M			Edible and ornamental nuts; important food source for hares, birds, squirrels, many other animals. Good fall color.	
<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	American smoketree	yellow, pink	May - June	15-30'	D M			Adaptable to wide range of soils. Prefers well-drained, low fertility. Tree or large shrub. Best in groups. Excellent fall color. Ornamental bark. Moderate deer resistance. Native to S.E. U.S.	
<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>	shrubby cinquefoil	yellow	June - Sept.	2-4'	D M			Syn. <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> . Abundant, long-lasting blooms. Very tough; good for parking lots. Good erosion control.	
<i>Eubotrys racemosa</i>	sweetbells	white	May - June	5-12'	D M W			Found in wet areas but performs well in much drier soils. Bell-shaped flowers; red fall color. Suckers form colonies.	
<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	dwarf fothergilla	white	May	2-3'	M			Dense, compact; spreads by suckers. Good fall color. Fragrant flowers. Native to S.E. U.S. Alternate option: <i>F. major</i> (6-10').	
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	common witchhazel	yellow	October - December	15-20'	D M W			Long-lived; best in rich, moist, well-drained sites. Tolerates wet and poor soils, pollution. Avoid extremely dry conditions. Provides winter interest. Unique, fragrant flowers.	
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	oakleaf hydrangea	white, purplish	May - July	6-8'	M			Thrives in moist soils; use mulch. Protect young plants from winter injury. Good massed; informal hedge. Native to south-eastern U.S. Alternate option: <i>H. arborescens</i> .	
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	inkberry	insignificant	May - June	5-8'	M W			Evergreen. Cultivars (e.g. 'Shamrock') more compact than species. Prefers rich, moist, acidic soils. Use for hedge, rain garden. Dioecious. Suckers form colonies. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia sweetspire	white	June	3-6'	M W			Multi-stemmed. Spreads by suckers; forms colony. Best <i>en masse</i> . Grows in areas with poor drainage. Spectacular fall color. Good erosion control. Native to eastern U.S. south of New York.	

*Viburnum
acerifolium*

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Lindera benzoin

©UConn Extension

Kalmia latifolia 'Carol'

©UConn Extension

Yucca filamentosa

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Photographs by Jessica Lubell-Brand and Alyssa Siegel-Miles.

*Rosa
virginiana*

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TOUGH NATIVE SHRUBS FOR CT LANDSCAPES

All plants listed are native to northeastern United States unless otherwise noted.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES	DEER RES
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	mountain-laurel	white, pink, red	late May - June	5-12'	M	 	 	Evergreen. Solution plant for dry, acidic shade locations. Requires a cool, moist, acidic, organic soil for best performance. Avoid windswept sites. CT state flower.	
<i>Leucothoe fontanesiana</i>	dog hobble, drooping laurel	white	May	2-3'	D M		  	Evergreen. Good fall color; winter interest. Spreads by suckers; forms colonies. Erosion control; stabilizes banks. Provide winter mulch. Alt. option: <i>L. axillaris</i> . Native to southeast U.S.	
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	spicebush	yellow	March - April	6-12'	M W	 	  	Used as hedge, in rain gardens, woodland borders. Good fall color (best in full sun). Butterfly larval host plant. Fragrant.	
<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>	American honeysuckle	yellow	April - June	5-8'	M	 	  	Valuable pollinator support species. Thrives in fertile, well-drained soil. Used in restoration of natural areas.	
<i>Myrica gale</i>	sweet gale	yellow	March - May	3'	D M W	 		Dense; candelabra shoots. Scented lime green foliage. Found in wet areas but performs well in much drier soils. Dioecious.	
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	eastern ninebark	white, pink	May - June	5-8'	D M	 	  	Attractive fall color and bark. Insect, disease resistant. Mass in borders; use as hedge. Erosion control. Mod. deer resistance.	
<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	rosebay rhododendron	pink, white	June - July	5-15'	M		  	Evergreen. Maintain moist soil; well-drained soil essential. Shallow root system; mulch recommended to retain moisture. Alternate option: <i>R. viscosum</i> .	
<i>Rosa virginiana</i>	Virginia rose	pink	June - August	5-6'	D M	 	  	Good choice for dry, sandy locations. Rose hips edible; persist into winter. Good fall color. Alternate option: <i>R. palustris</i> .	
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	elderberry	white	June - July	5-12'	M W	 	  	Good as informal hedge or massed. Attractive, edible fruit. Spreads by root suckers. Provides erosion control.	
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	meadow-sweet	white	June - August	3-4'	M W	 	  	Good for naturalistic landscaping. Native to wet meadows; swamps. Butterfly larval host. Alternate option: <i>S. tomentosa</i> .	
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	deerberry	white	April - June	3-6'	D M	 	  	Bluish foliage, red fall color. Dense mounded habit. Adaptable to dry, infertile full sun sites. Showy fruit. Drought tolerant. Moderate deer resistance.	
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	maple leaf viburnum	white	June	3-6'	D M		 	Maple-like leaves. Black fruits; good fall color. Colonizing. Can be used as hedge. Prefers moist loams; tolerates wide range of soils.	
<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	witherod viburnum	creamy white	May - June	5-12'	M W	 	  	Less susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle than many other native viburnums. Can be hedged. Fragrant flower. Good fall color and persistent fruit. Alternates: <i>V. nudum</i> , <i>V. trilobum</i> .	
<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	Adam's needle	creamy white	June - July	4-8'	D M		 	Fragrant, spectacular flowers. Architectural foliage. Use in parking lots, rock gardens, borders. Salt tolerant. Native to southeast U.S.	

PLANTS FOR RECLAMATION AREAS

Plants listed have the ability to prevent soil erosion, fix nitrogen, improve soils, and/or extract toxins from the soil. All are native to N.E. U.S. except where noted.

EXTENSION

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOW. COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MAT. HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>	DEER RES.
<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>	red top	silver-red	June - July	2-3'	M W			Perennial grass. Valuable species to recapture very acidic sites, land polluted by heavy metals, such as mine spoils. and locations with poor soil quality. Provides erosion control. Not Native to U.S.	
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	sideoats grama	purplish	July - August	1.5-2.5'	D M	 	 	Perennial grass. Tolerates wide range - sandy to clay soils. Good erosion control. Self-seeds in optimum growing conditions. Attractive inflorescence into fall. Good fall color. Also forage grass.	
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wild rye	green	July - Sept.	2-5'	D M	 	 	Perennial grass. Self-seeds. Good ground cover for dry, sunny slopes. Foliage and flower/seed spikes lend aesthetic interest. CS.	
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	American boneset	white	July - Sept.	4-6'	M W	 		Perennial. Needs constant moisture. Pair with native grasses; colonizes moist, recently disturbed sites. Quick growth stabilizes the soil surface.	
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	sheep fescue	green	May - June	1-2'	D M	 		Perennial grass. Bunch-type. Does well in full sun or shade. Drought tolerant; improved drought tolerance when left unmown or planted in shade. Tolerates soils of low fertility. Not Native to U.S. CS.	
<i>Scolochloa festucacea</i>	tall fescue	green	May - June	2-3'	D M W			Perennial grass. Syn. <i>Festuca arundinacea</i> . Dense root system minimizes soil erosion. Establishes quickly. Does well in sandy, dry soils; strong drought and heat tolerance. Can tolerate wet soils. Good salt tolerance and roadside value. Not native to U.S. CS.	
<i>Rhus typhina</i> ; <i>Rhus glabra</i>	staghorn sumac; smooth sumac	greenish - white	June - July	10-20'	D M	 	  	Shrub. Showy fruit provides winter interest and supports beneficial wildlife. Excellent fall color. Aggressively forms thickets by self-seeding and root suckering. Dioecious. Provides erosion control on slopes or in hard-to-cover areas with poorer soils.	
<i>Salix discolor</i>	pussy willow	green - yellow	March - April	6-15'	M W	 	  	Shrub. Dioecious. Male trees produce showy catkins on leafless stems in early spring. Cost-effective stabilizer for disturbed landscapes, phytoremediation, erosion control, and biomass production [2]. Also useful for garden settings. Nectar-rich, early season flowers for many pollinators.	
<i>Salix nigra</i>	black willow	greenish - yellow	March - April	30-60'	M W	 	  	Tree. Tolerates flooding, silting. Shallow, spreading root system stabilizes soils; effective for erosion control. Prefers full sun. Highly resistant to several toxic metals; accumulated more metals than other species [3]. Not recommended for residential landscapes-weak wood; pests.	
<i>Senna hebecarpa</i>	wild senna	yellow	July - August	4-6'	M		  	Perennial. Versatile. Attractive flower, foliage, and seed pods in fall. Good fall color. Horizontal root system provides strength against winds. Can be used as a hedge. Host plant for sulphur butterflies. Fixes nitrogen.	

Other Plants for Reclamation Areas: *Alnus incana* ssp. *rugosa* (35), *Asclepias syriaca* (17), *Carex crinita* (21), *Chamaecrista fasciculata* (7), *Cornus amomum* (35), *Cornus florida* (31), *Cornus racemosa* (27), *Dactylis glomerata* (34), *Festuca rubra* (15), *Lolium perenne* (34), *Lonicera canadensis* (40), *Lotus corniculatus* (39), *Panicum virgatum* (25), *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (17), *Prunus serotina* (33), *Quercus rubra* (33), *Schizachyrium scoparium* (25), *Sorghastrum nutans* (19).

PASTURE CROPS

Not native to U.S. unless noted. Proper fertilization is imperative to maintaining high quality forage in pastures. Performing a soil test before selecting and planting pasture plants is essential to accurately determine the nutrients needed and pH of the soil. Information about soil testing is available at www.soiltest.uconn.edu.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>
<i>Bromus biebersteinii</i>	meadow brome	green	June	2-5'	D M			Perennial grass. Pasture, hay; highly palatable. Adapted to broad range of soil conditions. Thrives in fertile, well-drained soils. Good erosion control. CS.
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	orchard grass	green	May - Sept.	1.5-4'	D M W			Perennial grass. Quick spring establishment. Valuable for high nutritional yield. Recovers quickly after grazing or mowing. More coarse, less palatable as it matures. Mixes well with legumes. Maintain soil pH 6.0-7.0. CS.
<i>Lolium perenne</i> (forage-type)	perennial ryegrass	green	May - July	1-2'	M W			Perennial grass. Quick establishment; high yield. Valuable for grazing, hay, or silage and soil stabilization. Good source of protein. Wide range of adaptability; thrives on fertile, well-drained soils. Compatible with legumes.
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	birdsfoot trefoil	yellow	June - Sept.	0.5-2'	D M			Perennial legume. Green chop, hay, and pasture. Seed in combination with grass. Non-bloating. Less productive than alfalfa on fertile well-drained soils; performs well on soils too shallow or too poorly drained for alfalfa. Also used in roadside mixtures to help with soil stabilization. May become weedy or invasive if not properly managed.
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	alfalfa	purple, yellow	May - October	2-3'	D M			Perennial legume. Harvested as hay; nutritious forage. Grown with grasses. Caution required due to high bloat hazard. Prevent self-seeding; potential invasiveness. Deep taproot loosens compacted soil; also good cover crop. For soil pH > 6.5. Moderate salt tolerance.
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	timothy	green	July	2-4'	M W			Perennial grass. Thrives in cool, moist areas. Tolerates acidity, wetness, and some flooding. Avoid sandy soils. Best pH 5.4-6.2. Use for hay, silage and pasture. Harvest for hay before blooming to preserve protein quality. Grow with alfalfa, trefoil, or clover. Also used for erosion control. CS.
<i>Poa pratensis</i> (forage-type)	Kentucky bluegrass	green	May - July	1-2.5'	M W			Perennial grass. Rhizomes form dense sod. Highly palatable. Tolerates close and frequent grazing; a component of continuously grazed permanent pastures. Heat limits production in summer. Provides erosion control. CS.
<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	alsike clover	pale pink	June - Sept.	2-4'	M W			Perennial legume. NOT for horses. Bloat potential for cattle. Uses: hay, pasture, cover crop - soil improvement. Preferred for very wet or acidic soils. Grows well in mixtures with low growing grasses (e.g., timothy), red clover.
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	red clover	pink-purple	May - Sept.	0.5-2'	M W			Biennial legume or short-lived perennial. Quick-growing, high quality forage. Maximum yields in soil with pH of 6.0+. Will grow moderately well in slightly acid and poorly drained soils. Thick, well-branched taproot. Select disease resistant varieties. May be planted alone or with grasses. May be planted as a cover crop under silage corn. Should be inoculated.

Other plants for pastures: *Agrostis gigantea* (38), *Avena sativa* (41), *Bouteloua curtipendula* (38), *Elymus canadensis* (38), *Fagopyrum esculentum* (41), *Festuca ovina* (38), *Scolochloa festucacea* (forage-type) (38), *Secale cereal* (41), *Sorghum bicolor* (forage-type) (41), *Trifolium incarnatum* (41), *Trifolium repens* (41), *Triticum aestivum* (41).



Field of *Avena sativa* and *Pisum sativum*



Avena sativa and *Pisum sativum*
(above and below)



Pisum sativum



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Field of *Fagopyrum esculentum*

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Photographs by Victoria Wallace.

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Fagopyrum esculentum foliage and flowers



COVER CROPS

All cover crops listed are not native to the U.S. Cover crops are used to slow erosion, improve soil health, enhance water availability, smother weeds, help control pests and diseases, increase biodiversity and bring a host of other benefits to a farm, home, vegetable garden, or other growing area. Most cover crops must be cut down when they begin to flower to prevent them from spreading unwanted seed. Legume cover crops are used to: fix atmospheric nitrogen for use by subsequent crops; reduce or prevent erosion; produce biomass and add organic matter to the soil; and attract beneficial insects.

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER TIME	MATURE HEIGHT	WATER NEEDS	SUNLIGHT NEEDS	WILDLIFE ATTRACTED	NOTES <i>*Glossary of abbreviations is on pg. 3</i>
<i>Avena sativa</i>	oats	green - blue	summer	1-4'	D M		 	Annual. Suppresses weeds, stabilizes soil, pulls up excess nutrients, adds biomass. Mixes well with clover, pea, vetch, other legumes or other small grains. For winter cover, sow by early Sept. CS.
<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i>	common buckwheat	white	July – Sept.	5'	M	 	 	Annual. Quick-growing green manure. Grown as grain crop, soil improver, wildlife cover, weed suppressor, topsoil loosener. Rejuvenates low-fertility soils. Sow late May-July; till 1 month after germination, after flowering. WS.
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	field peas	purple, white	spring or fall	3-4'	M	 	 	Annual. Legume. High nitrogen fixer. Sow in spring or fall to reduce weeds. Grow alone or mixes well with vetch, oats, or rye; grasses provide vertical support. Flowers provide early and long-blooming nectar for bees. SA or WA.
<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	oilseed radish	white, pale violet	June - August	0.5-1'	D M		 	Annual. Reduces compaction. Long taproot aerates soil, draws nutrients to the surface. Use as alternative to tillage. Avoid using in close rotation with other brassica family crops (increased pests, disease pressure).
<i>Secale cereale</i>	cereal ryegrass	green	May-July	6'	D M	 		Annual. Very hardy; can be seeded later into fall than other cover crops. Grows well in sandy, infertile, or acidic soil. Pair with a winter annual legume to offset nitrogen intake. Prevents soil erosion and adds organic matter. Do not allow to set seed (seeds ripen Aug-Sept). CS.
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> x <i>S. bicolor</i> var. <i>sudanese</i>	sorghum-sudangrass	yellow, brown	August - October	5-12'	D M			Annual. Most heat and drought-tolerant cover crop for Northeast U.S. Requires warm soil to germinate. Large biomass producer; reduces compaction; weed suppressor. Mow when stalks 3-4' to encourage deeper root growth.
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	crimson clover	red	May	1-3'	D M		 	Annual. Legume. Fast, vigorous grower. Nitrogen source, soil builder, erosion prevention, ground cover, forage. Grows well in combination with rye, vetches, red clover, black medic. 70-90 days to maturity. WA.
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	white clover	white	May - June	0.25-0.5'	D M W	 		Perennial. Legume. Dutch white clover most commonly available by seed. Spreads aggressively by stolons and seed. Popular for home gardens.
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	wheat	green	June-July	5'	D M	 		Annual. Widely used for temporary pasture crop. Do not allow to set seed (seeds ripen Aug-Sept). CS.
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	hairy vetch	purple	April - October	10'	D M		 	Annual. Legume. Nitrogen source, weed suppressor, topsoil conditioner. Sow spring, late summer or fall. Grow alone or mix with grain, grass, or field peas. Vigorous spring growth of fall-seeded vetch out-competes weeds. SA or WA.

Other cover crops: *Elymus canadensis* (38), *Lotus corniculatus* (39), *Medicago sativa* (39), *Senna hebecarpa* (38), *Trifolium hybridum* (39), *Trifolium pratense* (39).

NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES AND VENDORS

Inclusion in this document does not equate endorsement. Those vendors that are listed as having "natives available" also sell non-native species.

EXTENSION

COMPANY NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBSITE	PRODUCTS
Atlantic Golf & Turf	27 Industrial Blvd., Turners Falls, MA	(413) 863-4444	www.atlanticgolfandturf.com	Wholesale. Seed. Natives available.
Ballek's Garden Center	90 Maple Ave., East Haddam, CT	(860) 873-8878	www.balleksgardencenter.org	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Bell Nurseries	1301 Hartford Tpke., North Haven, CT	(203) 248-5086	www.bellnurseriesct.com/	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Blue Moon Farm Perennials	173 Saugatucket Rd., Wakefield, RI	(401) 284-2369	bluemoonfarmperennials.com	Retail. Container plants. Primarily natives.
Broken Arrow Nursery	13 Broken Arrow Rd., Hamden, CT	(203) 288-1026	www.brokenarrownursery.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Canterbury Horticulture	351 Brooklyn Rd., Canterbury, CT	(866) 287-0893	www.canterburyhorticulture.com	Wholesale. Container plants. Natives available.
Eden's Natives	Tolland, CT	(860) 325-2012	EdensNativePlantNursery on FB	Retail. Container plants. Local eco-type natives.
Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery	212 Grassy Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT	(203) 263-6626	www.earthtonesnatives.com	Retail. Container plants. Exclusively natives.
Ernst Seeds	8884 Mercer Pike, Meadville, PA	(1-800) 873-3321	www.ernstseed.com	Retail. Seed. Natives available.
Farmer's Daughter	716 Mooresfield Rd., S. Kingstown, RI	(401) 792-1340	www.thefarmersdaughterri.com	Retail. Seed & container plants. Natives available.
F.M. Brown's	205 Woodrow Ave., Sinking Spring, PA	(1-800) 334-8816	www.fmbrown.com	Retail. Seed. Conservation grasses; cover crops.
Garden in the Woods	180 Hemenway Rd., Framingham, MA	(508) 877-7630	www.nativeplanttrust.org	Retail. Container plants. Exclusively natives.
Harts Seed	304 Main St., Wethersfield, CT	(1-800) 326-HART	www.hartseed.com	Retail. Seed. Natives available.
Judge's Farm Perennials	3 Old Shore Rd., Old Lyme, CT	(860) 434-0822	www.judgesfarm.com	Wholesale. Container perennials. Natives available.
Lavoie Horticulture	East Granby, CT	(413) 355-0200	www.lavoiehorticulture.com	Retail. Seed and container plants. Natives available.
Monrovia	41 Floydville Rd., Granby, CT	(860) 844-6051	www.monrovia.com	Wholesale. Container plants. Natives available.
Nasami Farm	128 North St., Whately, MA	(413) 397-9922	www.nativeplanttrust.org	Retail. Container plants. Exclusively natives.
Native	2940 Redding Rd., Fairfield CT	(203) 658-7475	www.anativeplantnursery.com	Retail. Container plants. Exclusively natives.
Natureworks	518 Forest Rd., Northford, CT	(203) 484-2748	www.naturework.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
New England Wetland Plants	820 West St., Amherst, MA	(413) 548-8000	http://newp.com	Wholesale. Seed & container plants. Natives focus.
North Creek Nurseries	388 North Creek Rd., Landenberg, PA	(610) 255-0100	www.northcreeknurseries.com	Wholesale. Container plants & plugs. Natives focus.
Perennial Harmony Garden Center	East Lyme, CT	(860) 961-4439	www.perennialharmony.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Planters' Choice Nursery	Newtown, CT and Watertown, CT	(203) 426-4037	www.planterschoice.com	Wholesale. Container plants. Natives available.
The Plant Group Perennial Nursery	117 Pond Rd., Route 207, Franklin, CT	(1-800) 864-2670	www.plantgrouppernursery.com	Wholesale. Container perennials. Natives available.
Prides Corner Farms	122 Waterman Rd., Lebanon, CT	(1-800) 437-5168	www.pridescorner.com	Wholesale. Container plants; B&B. Natives available.
Rhody Native	Kingston, RI	(401) 874-5807	http://rhodynative.org	Wholesale. Retail options. Exclusively natives.
Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouse	437 North St., Greenwich, CT	(203) 869-3418	www.sambridge.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Sprucedale Gardens	20 E. Quasset Rd., Woodstock, CT	(860) 974-0045	www.sprucedalegardens.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Summer Hill Nursery	888 Summer Hill Rd., Madison, CT	(203) 421-3055	www.summerhillnursery.com	Wholesale. Container plants. Natives available.
Toadshade Wildflower Farm	53 Everittstown Rd., Frenchtown, NJ	(908) 996-7500	www.toadshade.com	Retail. Mail-order container plants. Exclusiv. natives.
Warner Nursery	76 Riverside Rd., Simsbury, CT	(860) 651-0204	www.warnernursery.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.
Wild Seed Project	Portland, Maine; info@wildseedproject.net		www.wildseedproject.net	Retail. Seed. Exclusively natives.
Winterberry Gardens	2070 West St., Southington, CT	(860) 378-0071	www.winterberrygardens.com	Retail. Container plants. Natives available.

WEBSITES:

UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources Plant Database. <http://hort.uconn.edu/>

UConn Integrated Pest Management Program. <http://ipm.uconn.edu>

UConn Home and Garden Education Center. <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu>

CT NEMO. Rain gardens; stormwater management. <http://nemo.uconn.edu>

Center for Land Use Education and Research. <http://clear.uconn.edu>

CT Sea Grant. <https://seagrant.uconn.edu>

CT Agricultural Experiment Station. Pollinator Resources. <https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/Publications/Publications/Pollinator-Information>

Pollinator Pathways CT Native Plant Lists. www.pollinator-pathway.org

Native Plant Trust Plant Search. <https://plantfinder.nativeplanttrust.org/Plant-Search>

Go Botany. Simple and Advanced Plant ID. <https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/>

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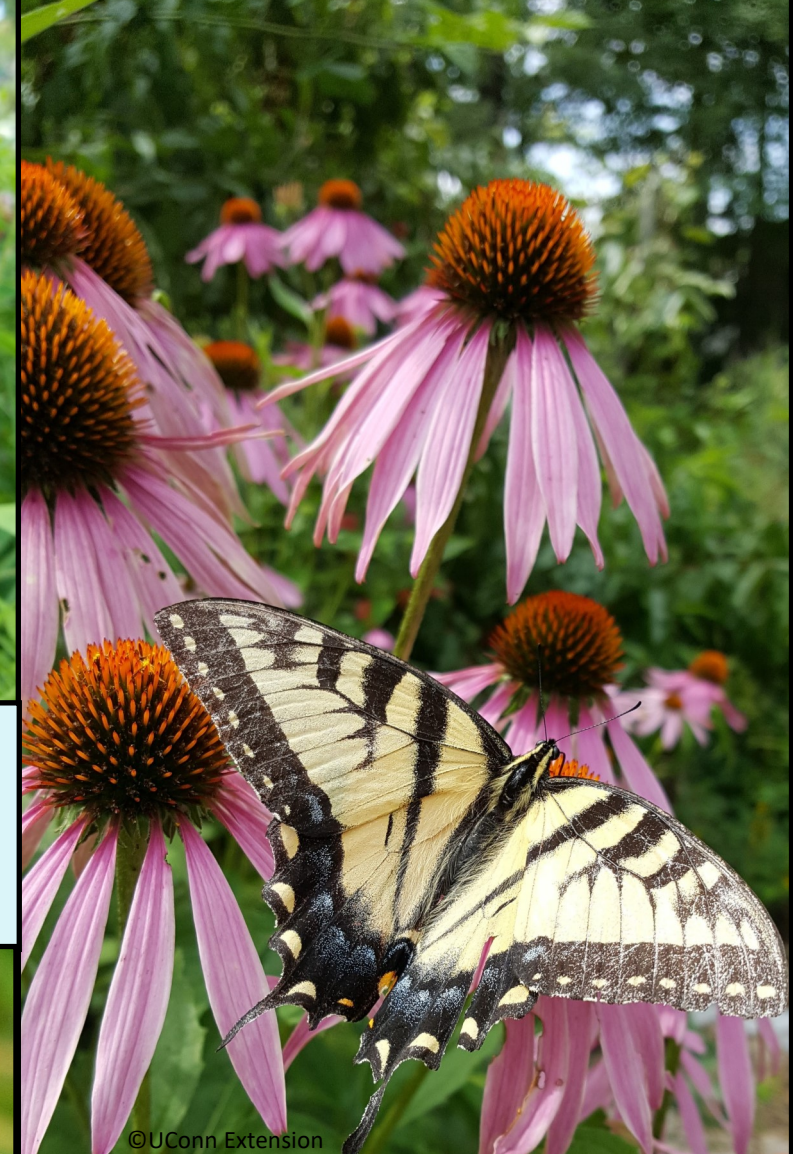
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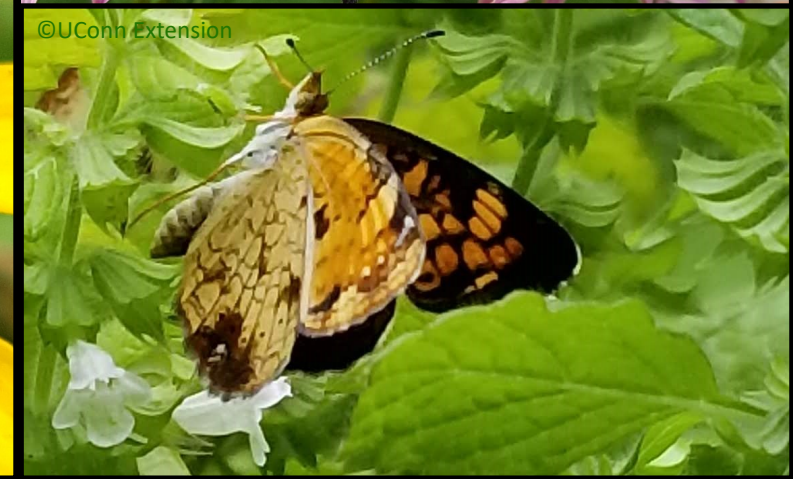
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