

# Native Plants for Landscaping Residential Yards – Southern Indiana

Groundcover (Approx 50%)	Sunlight	Moisture	Height	Bloom/Season
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> – <b>Prairie Dropseed</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	2'-3'	Pinkish, August to September
<i>Callirhoe involucrate</i> – <b>Purple Poppy Mallow/Wine Cups</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	6"-12"	Rose-Purple, May-early August
<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> – <b>Missouri Sundrops</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	12"-18"	Yellow, May-June
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i> – <b>Fox Sedge</b>	Full	Moist, Wet	2-3'	Bronze seed heads in Fall
<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i> – <b>Ohio Spiderwort</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'-3'	Blue to Rose Blue, May-July
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> - <b>Columbine</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	2'-3'	April-May
<i>Iris cristata</i> – <b>Dwarf Crested Iris</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	6"	Pale Purple, April
<i>Iris virginica</i> – <b>Southern Blue Flag Iris</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	1'-3'	Violet Blue and Yellow, May
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i> – <b>Bottle Gentian</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	2'	Blue, August-October
<i>Antennaria spp.</i> - <b>Pussytoes</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	1'-6"	White, April
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> – <b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'-3'	White, May
<i>Packera obovata</i> – <b>Roundleaf Ragwort/Groundsel</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Wet	0.5-2'	Yellow, April
<i>Penstemon hirsutis</i> – <b>Hairy Beardtongue</b>	Full, Partial, Shade	Dry, Moist, Wet	18"	Purple, May
<i>Schizachryium scoparium</i> – <b>Little Bluestem</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	2-4'	Purplish Bronze, August-February
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i> - <b>Blue-eyed grass</b>	Partial, Full	Moist	1'	Blue, early Summer
<i>Allium cernuum</i> – <b>Nodding Onion</b>	Partial, Full	Moist	1-1.5'	Pink, June-August
<i>Scutellaria leonardii</i> – <b>Small Skullcap</b>	Partial, Full	Medium, Dry	4"	Purple, May-June
<i>Anemone canadensis</i> – <b>Meadow Anemone</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	1-2'	White, Late April-Early June
<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i> – <b>Celandine Poppy</b>	Partial, Shade	Moist, Saturated	12-18"	Yellow, April-June
<i>Heuchera americana</i> - <b>Maple-leafed Alum Root</b>	Partial, Shade	Moist	1-2'	Bronzy foliage, White flowers Aug-Oct
<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> – <b>False Solomon's Seal</b>	Shade, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'	Late April – early June
<i>Asarum canadense</i> – <b>Wild Ginger</b>	Shade, Partial	Dry, Moist	1'	Purple (inconspicuous), May-June
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i> – <b>Common Oak Sedge</b>	Shade, Partial	Dry, Moist	0.5-1'	insignificant
<i>Carex blanda</i> – <b>Common Wood Sedge</b>	Shade, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'	insignificant
<i>Blephilia hirsuta</i> – <b>Hairy Wood Mint</b>	Shade, Partial	Dry, Moist	1-2.5'	Pinkish-purple, May-September
<i>Geranium maculatum</i> – <b>Wild Geranium</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist, Dry	12"	Pink, May-June
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> – <b>Ostrich Fern</b>	Shade, Partial	Wet, Moist, Dry	3-4'	Foliage plant
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> – <b>Sensitive Fern</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist, Saturated	12"	Foliage plant
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> – <b>Lady Fern</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist	1-3'	Foliage plant
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i> - <b>Virginia Waterleaf</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist	2-3'	Blue/White/Purple, Late Spring
<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i> – <b>Zigzag Goldenrod</b>	Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Solidago caesia</i> – <b>Blue-stemmed Goldenrod</b>	Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Spigela marilandica</i> - <b>Indian Pink</b>	Partial	Moist	1-2'	Red and Yellow
<i>Sedum ternatum</i> – <b>Woodland Stonecrop</b>	Partial	Moist	6"-12"	White, Late Spring-Early Summer
<i>Euonymus obovatus</i> – <b>Running Strawberry Bush</b>	Shade	Moist	12"	Insignificant blooms, great Fall color

<b>Filler Layer (Approx 25-40%)</b>	<b>Sunlight</b>	<b>Moisture</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Bloom/Season</b>
<b>Forbs</b>				
<i>Liatris spicata</i> – <b>Marsh Blazing Star</b>	Full	Moist, Saturated	3'	Pink/Purple, August-September
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> – <b>Prairie Blazing Star</b>	Full	Moist	3-5'	Pink/Purple, July-August
<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i> – <b>Sullivant's Milkweed</b>	Full	Moist	2-3'	Pink to Purple, June-August
<i>Ratiba pinnata</i> – <b>Gray-headed Coneflower</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	5'	Yellow, June-August
<i>Verbena stricta</i> – <b>Hoary Vervain</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	2-4'	Blue. May-September
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i> – <b>Tall Coreopsis</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	2-8'	Yellow, July - September
<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i> – <b>Tall Ironweed</b>	Full	Moist, Saturated	4-6'	Purple, August - September
<i>Vernonia lettermanii</i> – <b>Dwarf ironweed</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Purple, July-August
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i> – <b>Common Boneset</b>	Full	Medium	3-5'	White, August-September
<i>Solidago rigida</i> – <b>Stiff Goldenrod</b>	Full	Dry, Medium	3-5'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Lilium michiganense</i> – <b>Michigan lily</b>	Full, Partial	Medium to Wet	2-5'	Orange, June to July
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i> – <b>Whorled Milkweed</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	1-2'	White, July-September
<i>Asclepias purpurascens</i> – <b>Purple Milkweed</b>	Full, Partial	Medium	3'	Purple, June-July
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> - <b>Mountain Mint</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'-3'	White, July-September
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> – <b>Cardinal Flower</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	2-4'	Red, July-September
<i>Filipendula rubra</i> – <b>Queen of the Prairie</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	6-8'	Pale to Deep Pink, June-August
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> – <b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	3-5'	White, April-June
<i>Baptisia australis</i> – <b>Blue False Indigo</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	3-4'	Indigo Blue, late Spring
<i>Baptisia bracteata</i> – <b>Cream False Indigo</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Cream, late Spring-early Summer
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> – <b>Pink Muhly Grass</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	3'	Rosy-Purple, late Summer-Fall
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> – <b>Purple Love Grass</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	1-2'	Purple, late Summer, Fall
<i>Monarda bradburiana</i> – <b>Bradbury's Monarda</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2'	Pink, Purple, June-July
<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i> – <b>Zigzag Goldenrod</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Solidago speciosa</i> – <b>Showy Goldenrod</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Helianthus helianoides</i> – <b>False Sunflower/Oxeye</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	3-5'	Yellow. July-September
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> – <b>Virginia Mountain Mint</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	White, July-September
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> – <b>Slender Mountain Mint</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-3'	White, July-September
<i>Chelone lyonii</i> – <b>Pink Turtlehead</b>	Full, Partial	Moist to Wet	2-4'	Pink, July-September
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> – <b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b>	Full, Partial, Shade	Dry, Moist	2-3'	White, May
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> – <b>Black-eyed Susan</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	1-3'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> – <b>Purple Coneflower</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	3-4'	Pinkish Purple, July-Sept
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> – <b>Butterfly Weed</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	2-3'	Orange, June-August
<i>Blephilia ciliata</i> – <b>Downy Wood Mint</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	1'	Lavender, June-July
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> – <b>Wild Bergamot/Bee Balm</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	2-5'	Pale Purple, July-August
<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i> – <b>Stiff Goldenrod</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	3-5'	Yellow, August-September
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i> – <b>NE Aster</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	3-6'	Blue, August-October
<i>Phlox paniculata</i> – <b>Garden Phlox</b>	Partial	Moist	2-4'	Purple, July-September
<i>Chelone glabra</i> – <b>White Turtlehead</b>	Partial	Moist, Saturated	2-3'	White, August-October

<i>Agastache foeniculum</i> - <b>Lavender Hyssop</b>	Shade, Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	2-3'	Lavender/Purple, July-September
<i>Arisaema dracontium</i> - <b>Green Dragon</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist, Saturated	1-3'	Showy in Spring - early Summer
<b>Shrubs</b>				
<i>Callicarpa Americana</i> - <b>Beautyberry</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	6'	Clusters of Purple berries in fall
<i>Arborvitae occidentalis</i> – <b>Arborvitae</b> – ‘Tater Tot’, ‘Pancake’	Full, Partial	Moist	Dwarfs – 2’	Grown for foliage
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i> – <b>Northern Bush Honeysuckle</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, moist	3’	Foliage plant – Orange to Blackish (see ‘Kodiak’ varieties)
<i>Symphocarpus obiculatus</i> – <b>Coralberry/Indian Currant</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	2-5’	Clusters of Coral/Purple berries persist winter into spring
<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i> – <b>Dwarf Fothergilla</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	3-5’	White bottlebrush flowers in spring, Orangy-Red fall foliage color
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> – <b>Winterberry Holly</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	3-12’	Winter-persistent Red berries
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> – <b>Native Hydrangea</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	3-5’	White, June-September
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> – <b>Common Ninebark</b>	Full, Partial	Moist to Dry	5-10’	White to pale Pink clustered blooms spring, interesting Fall color, bark
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> - <b>Buttonbush</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	5-12’	June-August, White spikey spheres
<i>Itea virginica</i> – <b>Virginia Sweetspire</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	4-6’	White, good Fall foliage color
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> – <b>Summersweet/Sweet Pepper Bush</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	3-8’	White, July - August
<i>Calycanthus floridus</i> – <b>Carolina Allspice</b>	Partial	Moist	5-8’	Maroon – Spring, banana-like scent
<i>Euonymus americanus</i> – <b>Strawberry Bush</b>	Partial	Moist to Dry	6-12’	Orange seed pods in Fall
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> – <b>New Jersey Tea</b>	Partial, Shade	Dry, Moist	3’	Pale Pinkish-Blue, June
<b>Thriller Layer (Approx 10-15%)</b>	<b>Sunlight</b>	<b>Moisture</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Bloom/Season</b>
<b>Forbs</b>				
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> - <b>Rattlesnake Master</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	4-5’	Greenish-white, Showy, June-Sept
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i> - <b>Common Milkweed*</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	3-5’	Pink, August-September
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i> – <b>Swamp Milkweed</b>	Full	Moist, Saturated	3-5’	Pink to Red, July-August
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> – <b>Cup Plant</b>	Full	Dry, Moist	5-7’	Yellow, July-September
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> – <b>Prairie Dock</b>	Full, Partial	Medium Wet to Medium Dry	7-9’	Yellow, July-September
<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> -- <b>Tall ironweed</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	5-8’	Purple, August-September
<i>Agastache nepetoides</i> – <b>Yellow Giant Hyssop</b>	Full, Partial	Medium	4-6’	Pale Yellow, July-September
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> – <b>Big Blue Stem</b>	Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	4-6’	Purplish-red, September-February
<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i> – <b>Spotted Joe Pye Weed</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	4-5’	Mauve, Pink, July-September
<i>Senna hebecarpa</i> – <b>Wild Senna</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	4-6’	Yellow, mid-Summer
<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i> - <b>Wingstem</b>	Partial, Full	Moist, Saturated	4-8’	Yellow, August-October

<b>Shrubs and Small Trees</b>				
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> – <b>Eastern Red Cedar ‘Taylor’</b>	Full	Moist	15-20’	Columnar, evergreen cultivar resistant to Cedar Apple Rust
<i>Veronicatrum virginicum</i> – <b>Culver’s Root</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	5-6’	Purplish White,
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> – <b>Elderberry*</b>	Full	Wet to Dry	10-15’	White flowers, dark Blue berries
<i>Rhus aromatica</i> - <b>Fragrant Sumac</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	2-6’	Yellow, April, then showy Reddish seed pods
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> – <b>Common Witch Hazel</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	15-20’	Yellow, Oct-December
<i>Viburnum nudum</i> – <b>Smooth Witherod #</b>	Full, Partial	Dry, Moist	5-12’	White, April-May, Dark Berries Fall
<i>Aesculus parviflora</i> – <b>Bottlebrush buckeye</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	8-12’ tall & wide	White June/July
<i>Aesculus pavia</i> – <b>Red or Scarlet Buckeye</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	12-30’	Red (12” spikes) April/May
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i> – <b>Serviceberry/Shadblow</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	15-20’	White, April-May, dark berries June
<i>Cornus florida</i> - <b>American Dogwood</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	25-30’	White, April-May, good Fall color
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i> - <b>Alternate leaf Dogwood</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	15-25’	White, May-June, good Fall color
<i>Cercis canadensis</i> – <b>Eastern Redbud</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	20-30’	Pink, April-May
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> - <b>Black Chokeberry</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	3-6’	White, May
<i>Lindera benzoin</i> – <b>Spicebush #</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	6-12’	Greenish yellow, Good Fall color
<i>Cornus racemosa</i> - <b>Gray Dogwood</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	6-15’	Yellowish-white, May-June
<i>Cornus sericea (C. stolonifera)</i> – <b>Red Osier Dogwood*</b>	Full, Partial	Moist, Saturated	5-15’	White berries in Fall, good winter color on young stems
<i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i> – <b>Eastern Wahoo</b>	Full, Partial	Medium	12-30’	Excellent Fall color, berries for birds
<i>Corylus americana</i> – <b>American Hazelnut #</b>	Shade, Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	To 8’	Inconspicuous, good Fall color
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> – <b>Arrowwood Viburnum #</b>	Shade, Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	6-12’	White, May-June, Dark Berries Fall
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> – <b>Blackhaw #</b>	Shade, Partial, Full	Dry, Moist	12-15’	White, May-June, Dark Berries Fall
<i>Asimina triloba</i> - <b>Pawpaw</b>	Shade, Partial	Moist, Saturated	15-30’	Insignificant, good Fall color, fruit
<b>Vines (to Climb on Structures)</b>				
<i>Wisteria frutescens</i> – <b>Native Wisteria</b>	Full	Moist	15-30’	Lilac-Purple, April-May
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i> - <b>Crossvine</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	35-50’	Orange-Red, April-May
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> – <b>Native Vine Honeysuckle</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	8-15’	Orange-Red, May-June
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i> – <b>Passionflower*</b>	Full, Partial	Moist	6-8’	Purple w White center, July-Sept
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> – <b>Virginia Creeper</b>	Shade	Medium	1’	Maroon foliage in Fall, inconspicuous berries for birds

**Key**

\* Can be aggressive or weedy

# More than one plant needed for proper pollination

Full Sun = 6 or more direct hours of sun daily

Partial Sun = 3-6 hours of sun daily, more sun preferred

Partial Shade = 3-6 hours of sun daily, more shade preferred

Shade = less than 3 hours direct sun daily

Compiled by Anne Butsch updated 11/6/2021 Note: This chart is a work in progress and is updated regularly. It is intended as a ‘starting point,’ not as a definitive list.