























Wisconsin Native Plants for Shady Raingardens

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sunniness		Class	Height		Color	Bloom	Sun/Shade	Dry*	Soggy**	Image	COMMENT
		Partial	Full		Min	Max							
Purple giant hyssop	Agastache scrophulariaefolia	Yes		Forb	4.00	7.00	purple	FALL	HALF SUN	Yes			
Wild garlic	Allium canadense	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.50	2.00	pink	SUMMER	ANY	Yes			
Columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	Yes	Yes	Forb	1.00	2.00	orange-red	SUMMER	ANY	Yes			
Jack in the pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum		Yes	Forb	1.00	3.00	brown-purple	SPRING	LT/HV SHADE	Yes			Red berries.
Wild ginger	Asarum candense	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.30	0.80	brown	SPRING	F/P SHADE	Yes			
Lady fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Yes	Yes	Fern	2.00	3.00	none		F/P SHADE	Yes			Rhizomatous.
Bellflower	Campanula americana	Yes	Yes	Forb	3.00	5.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes	Yes		Only bellflower with a flattened instead of bell-shaped corolla. Striking in flower. Biennial.
Awned graceful sedge	Carex davisii	Yes		Sedge	2.00	3.00	green		F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Grass-like leaves up to 1/2" wide growing in 2.5-3' high clumps. Seeds are shaped like mini-footballs. Foliage may go dormant in hot dry summers.









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Fescue oval sedge	Carex festucacea	Yes	Yes	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green		ANY	Yes	Yes		
Bladder sedge	Carex intumescens	Yes	Yes	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	Yes	Yes		Elongated, dark green leaves, flowers borne in spikes.
Grass sedge	Carex jamesii	Yes	Yes	Sedge	0.30	0.50	green		ANY	Yes	Yes		
Hop sedge	Carex lupulina	Yes	Yes	Sedge	1.00	4.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	Yes	Yes		Elongated, narrow leaves; large, cylindrical flower spikes up to 2.5 inches long.
Sallow sedge	Carex lurida	Yes		Sedge	1.50	3.00	green	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Seedheads resemble small sweetgum balls. Less prone to summer dieback.
Field oval sedge (Troublesome sedge)	Carex molesta	Yes	Yes	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	Yes			
Palm sedge	Carex muskingumensis	Yes		Sedge	2.00	3.00	yellow	SPRING	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Easy to grow. Does well in some shade. Tends to flop in too much shade. A dense, clump-forming sedge which is grown for its foliage effect. Very attractive. Needs consistently moist soil but is drought tolerant for a sedge when fully.
Larger straw sedge (Spreading oval sedge)	Carex normalis	Yes	Yes	Sedge	2.50	3.50		SUMMER	ANY	Yes			









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Narrow-leaved cattail sedge	Carex squarrosa	Yes		Sedge	1.50	2.00	green		ANY	Yes	Yes		Grass-like leaves; showy, thimble-shaped seedheads remain on plant all summer; foliage may become less attractive or die back in summer.
Slender sedge (Narrow-leaved oval sedge)	Carex tenera	Yes	Yes	Sedge	2.00	3.00	green	SPRING	ANY	Yes	Yes		
White turtlehead	Chelone glabra	Yes		Forb	2.00	4.00	cream	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Rhizomatous.
Pink turtlehead	Chelone obliqua	Yes		Forb	2.00	4.00	pink	FALL	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Bright pink flowers in September.
Stout woodreed	Cinna arundinacea	Yes	Yes	Grass	3.00	5.00	gray-green	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes	Yes		Perennial grass that may grow 5 ft tall & has foot long gray-green panicles.
Red-osier dogwood	Cornus sericea/stolonifera	Yes	Yes	Shrub	7.00	9.00	white	SPRING	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Will tolerate a fair amount of shade.
American filbert	Corylus americana	Yes	Yes	Shrub	5.00	12.00	inconspicuous	SPRING	ANY	Yes			Suckers.
Toothwort	Dentaria laciniata	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.50	1.00	pink/white	SPRING	F/P SHADE	Yes			A woodland spring wildflower





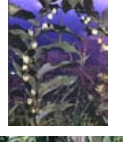



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Amethyst shooting star	Dodecatheon amethystinum	Yes		Forb	0.67	1.50	violet	SPRING	F/P SUN	Yes			Spring ephemeral. Won't absorb much water. Mostly special interest use.
Shooting star	Dodecatheon meadia	Yes		Forb	1.00	2.00	white	SPRING	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Same as above.
Virginia wild rye	Elymus virginicus	Yes	Yes	Grass	2.00	4.00	blue green	SPRING	F/P SHADE	Yes			Re-seeds
White trout lily	Erythronium albidum		Yes	Forb	0.50	0.83	white	SPRING	LT/HV SHADE	Yes			Spreads
Sweet joe pye weed	Eupatorium purpureum	Yes	Yes	Forb	3.00	8.00	pink	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes			
Common strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.40	0.70	white	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes			Too small to absorb much water. Good groundcover but may not produce fruit in full shade.
Dotted st. john's wort	Hypericum punctatum	Yes		Forb	1.00	2.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes			
Great st. john's wort	Hypericum pyramidatum	Yes		Forb	2.00	5.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes			





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Common winterberry	Ilex verticillata	Yes		Shrub	6.00	10.00	greenish white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Red berries, more in sun.
Cardinal flower	Lobelia cardinalis	Yes		Forb	2.00	5.00	red	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Indian tobacco	Lobelia inflata	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.50	3.00	green	SUMMER	ANY	Yes			Not showy.
Great blue lobelia	Lobelia siphilitica	Yes		Forb	1.00	4.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Ostrich fern	Matteuccia struthiopteris			Fern	3.00	4.00			ANY	Yes	Yes		Aggressive
Sensitive fern	Onoclea sensibilis	Yes	Yes	Fern	1.00	1.00			ANY				Very aggressive
Interrupted fern	Osmunda claytoniana	Yes	Yes	Fern	3.00	4.00			LT/HV SHADE	Yes			
Wood betony	Pedicularis canadensis	Yes		Forb	0.50	1.50	yellow/purple	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		

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Marsh betony	Pedicularis lanceolata	Yes		Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow	FALL	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Ditch stonecrop	Penthorum sedoides	Yes		Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Smooth phlox	Phlox glabberima	Yes		Forb	2.00	3.00	purple	SPRING	F/P SUN	Yes			
Jacob's ladder	Polemonium reptans	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.75	2.00	blue	SPRING	ANY	Yes			
Solomon seal	Polygonatum biflorum	Yes	Yes	Forb	1.00	3.00	yellow green	SPRING	ANY	Yes			Blue berries.
Starry solomons plume	Smilacina stellata	Yes	Yes	Forb	0.67	2.00	yellow	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes			Red berries.
Indian current coralberry	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus	Yes		Shrub	2.00	5.00	cream	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes			Spreads by runners on the surface. Small upright shape. Not likely to crowd out larger plants.
Marsh fern	Thelypteris palustris	Yes		Fern	1.50	2.50			F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		Perennial herb with slender, creeping, black rhizomes.

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Spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis	Yes		Forb	2.00	3.00	blue	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Culvers root	Veronicastrum virginicum	Yes		Forb	3.00	4.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes	Yes		
Arrowwood	Viburnum dentatum	Yes	Yes	Shrub	6.00	15.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SHADE	Yes	Yes		Blue berries, more in sun.
American cranberrybush	Viburnum trilobum	Yes		Shrub	8.00	12.00	white	SUMMER	F/P SUN	Yes			Red berries, more in sun.

* Excessively wet in spring, fall & after a rain but often dry in summer

** Soggy or marshy most of year

This list is compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources with assistance from:

USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center
 Missouri Botanical Garden
 Prairie Moon Nursery 2003 catalog
 The Plant Farm
 The Flower Factory 2003 catalog
 Spence Restoration Nursery
 The Vegetation of Wisconsin by John Curtis
 Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) Botany Collection
 Many photos courtesy of UW Herbarium.