



Ten Easy Native Plants for Sunny Gardens

Rainscapes.org



Winter

New England Aster

Aster nova-angliae or *Symphotrichum nova-angliae*

This 4-6 foot tall plant blooms from August to October. It requires moist soil with full to partial sunlight. It attracts butterflies in fall especially the migratory Monarch butterfly. 'Purple Dome' is a smaller cultivar that reaches a height of 2 feet. Aromatic Aster (*Aster oblongifolius*) is similar and blooms through November.



Winter

Blazing Star

Liatris spicata

This 3-5 foot plant blooms from July to August. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight. It attracts butterflies and birds. 'Kobold' is the most typical cultivar that reaches a height of 3 feet. *Liatris spicata* alba is a white flowering version that has good ornamental value.



Winter

Butterfly Milkweed

Asclepias tuberosa

This 1-3 foot tall plant blooms from May to July. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight. It attracts butterflies including the Monarch. No readily available cultivars.

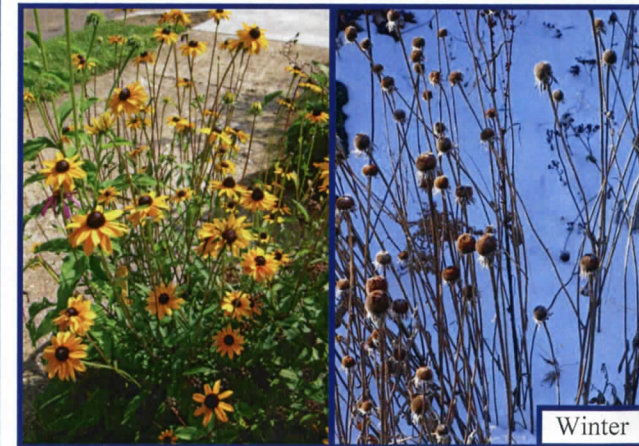


Winter

Switch Grass

Panicum virgatum

This 3-6 foot tall plant blooms from July to October. Its tolerant of dry, moist, and wet soils with full to partial sunlight. Its great for erosion control. "Shenandoah" is a smaller cultivar that reaches 3' and is redder in color.



Winter

Black Eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta or *Rudbeckia fulgida*

This 1-3.5 foot tall plant blooms from June to October. It requires dry to moist soils with full to partial sunlight. This plant is the Maryland State flower. "Goldsturm" is a smaller more compact cultivar that reaches 2 feet.



Purple Cone Flower
Echinacea purpurea

This 2-3 foot tall plant blooms from June to August. It requires moist soil with full to partial sunlight. Its seed attracts goldfinches in fall. There are over 30 different cultivars of this plant. The cultivars range in size and have flower colors ranging from white to purple. 'Kims Knee High' is a smaller cultivar that reaches a height of 1 -2'.



Bluestar

Amsonia tabernaemontana

This 2-3 foot tall plant blooms in May. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight. It has a pretty yellowish-orange fall color. 'Blue Ice' is a smaller cultivar that reaches a height of 12 -15 inches. This cultivar has a longer blooming flower that's more vibrant in color than regular Bluestar.



Moss Phlox
Phlox subulata

This 6" tall plant blooms from April to June. It requires dry soil and full sunlight. Its a great evergreen groundcover that's great for slopes. Many different cultivars exist with flower colors ranging from white to purple.



Sea Oats

Chasmanthium latifolium

This 2-3 foot tall grass blooms from July to September. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight or shade. Its a very tough hardy grass. "River Mist" is a cultivar that has variegated foliage.



Tickseed Coreopsis
Coreopsis verticillata

This 1-3 foot tall plant blooms from June to October. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight. It Can spread creating a nice groundcover. "Moon Beam" is a smaller cultivar that can bloom all summer.



Ten Easy Native Plants for Shady Gardens

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Winter

Christmas Fern

Polystichum achrostichoides

This .5-2 foot tall fern is an evergreen ground cover. It requires moist soil with full to partial shade. It grows in clumps and is great for stabilizing a shady hillside. It's impartial to soil types. It makes a great border for a pathways since it will outline the path year round.



Winter

Coral Bells

Heuchera americana

This 1-3.5 foot tall plant blooms from April to June. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial shade. It is semi-evergreen and a favorite food of deer. Many cultivars exist with different leaf and flower colors. "Caramel" is a cultivar with caramel colored leaves which can handle sunnier and hotter locations.



Winter

Evergreen Wood Fern

Dryopteris intermedia

This 2.5 foot tall fern is an evergreen groundcover. It's Tolerant of dry, moist, and wet soil with full to partial shade. *Dryopteris marginalis* is an alternative that is similar to the *Dryopteris intermedia*.



Winter

Blue Wood Sedge

Carex glaucoidea

This .5-2 foot tall plant blooms from May to July. Its tolerant of dry and moist soils with full to partial shade. It's a semi-evergreen clump former that is a great alternative to Liriope.



Winter

White Wood Aster

Eurybia divaricata

This .5-3 foot tall plant blooms from July to October. It requires dry to moist soils with full to partial shade. This plant is a prolific spreader so make sure to plant it where you don't mind it spreading.



Woodland Phlox
Phlox divaricata

This 1.5 foot tall plant blooms from April to June. It requires moist soil with full to partial shade. This plant has aromatic showy flower in spring and then goes dormant in summer. It's semi-evergreen in winter showing only basal leaves. "White Perfume" is a smaller denser cultivar with white flowers.



Eastern Columbine
Aquilegia canadensis

This 0.5-3 foot tall plant blooms mostly in April but flowers can last through July. It requires dry to moist soil with partial shade. This long lived perennial can re-seed and spread throughout the rest of your garden. "Little Lanterns" is a cultivar that is shorter in stature and has a more intense flower color.



Green and Gold
Chrysogonum virginianum

This 0.5-1 tall semi-evergreen groundcover blooms from March to June. It requires dry to moist soil with full to partial sunlight or shade. In moist soil this plant will bloom intermittently until the end of summer.



Golden Groundsel
Packera aureus or *Senecio aureus*

This 0.5-2.5 foot tall plant blooms from April to June. It requires moist to wet soil with full to partial sunlight or shade. This long blooming semi-evergreen plant is a prolific spreader.



Mountain Stonecrop
Sedum ternatum

This 0.5 foot tall plant blooms from April to June. It requires moist soil with full to partial shade. This evergreen groundcover is great for rock gardens.