Selecting plants that fit the moisture and light conditions of a location is a critical part to a successful landscape. (see Landscape Design, pg 2) The following lists offer some suggestions for plants that fit various conditions. These lists are by no means all-inclusive. Homeowners should consult books, magazine articles, and web sites. County extension services and master gardeners are also good resources.

The plant materials below are listed by their italicized botanical names (genus, species and cultivar, if applicable) followed by the common name. Whenever possible, use the botanical name when purchasing a plant, as it is the most accurate and will ensure you are buying the right species.

**NATIVE vs. NON-NATIVE SPECIES:**
Native plants are defined as plants originating in a particular location, such as Minnesota or the North Central United States. Non-native species have been brought into an area and naturalized. The Norway maple is a good example of a tree that has been naturalized in Minnesota, yet originated in Europe. Native species may be harder, less invasive and less prone to disease and insect problems. However, there are many non-native species that have become adapted to climate as well as resistant to pests and diseases, which make good choices.

Native vs non-native species, con’t next page
Some native plants develop deeper root structures, allowing for better water infiltration. A deeper root structure also provides stabilization along lake or stream banks which help us to improve the quality of our lakes, streams and wetlands. Native prairie plants often times develop roots that penetrate to a depth 2-3 times that of the plant’s height.

A NATIVE PLANT THAT IS 2 FT TALL, LIKELY HAS A ROOT STRUCTURE AT LEAST 6 FT DEEP. TYPICAL LAWN GRASS HAS A ROOT STRUCTURE THAT REACHES ONLY 4-6 INCHES.

## TREES & SHRUBS
Choosing a shrub that physically fits into a location is important. Pay attention to its mature size as noted on the plant information tag. You may also want to double check with the nursery staff as sometimes cultural influences such as light, moisture, soil condition and pruning will have an effect on the mature size a shrub can reach.

### Deciduous Trees & Shrubs under 25 feet tall
- **Acer spicatum** ........................................ Mountain Maple
- **Amelanchier laevis** ................................. Allegheny Serviceberry
- **Amelanchier canadensis** ......................... Serviceberry (clump form)
- **Amelanchier x grandiflora ‘Autumn Brilliance’** ................ Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry
- **Carpinus caroliniana** ............................... Blue Beech
- **Chionanthus virginicus** .......................... White Fringe Tree
- **Crataegus crus-galli inermis** ..................... Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn
- **Cornus sericea** ....................................... Pagoda Dogwood
- **Cornus alternifolia** ................................. Redosier Dogwood
- **Hydrangea paniculata ‘Grandiflora’** .......... Pee Gee Hydrangea Tree
- **Prunus americana** .................................. Wild Plum
- **Syringa reticulata amurensis japonica** ...... Japanese Tree Lilac
- **Viburnum dentatum** ............................... Arrowwood Viburnum
- **Viburnum trilobum** ................................. American High Bush Cranberry

### Evergreen Trees & Shrubs under 25 feet tall
- **Juniperus scopularum** .............................. Rocky Mountain Juniper
- **Juniperus virginiana** .............................. Eastern Red Cedar (height can be taller than 25 ft.)
- **Thuja occidentalis ‘Techny’** ..................... Techny Arborvitae
SHRUBS THREE TO FOUR FEET TALL

Deciduous shrubs for SUNNY & DRY Areas

- **Amorpha canescens** ........................................... Lead Plant
- **Ceanothus americanus** ........................................ New Jersey Tea
- **Diervilla lonicera** ............................................. Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle
- **Physocarpus opulifolius ‘Dart’s Gold’** ............................ Dart’s Gold
  (height can be > 3-4 ft)
- **Prunus pumila** .................................................. Dwarf Sandcherry
- **Rosa arkansana** .................................................. Prairie Rose
- **Symphoricarpos orbiculatus** .................................... Coralberry
- **Vaccinium angustifolium** ....................................... Lowbush Blueberry
  Note: Requires acidic soil for best results.

Evergreen shrubs for SUNNY & DRY Areas

- **Juniperus communis depressa** ................................. Oldfield Common Juniper
- **Juniperus horizontalis** ......................................... Creeping Juniper

Deciduous shrubs for SUNNY & MOIST Areas

- **Aronia melanocarpa** ............................................ Black Chokeberry
  (height can be > 3-4 ft)
- **Ilex verticillata cultivars** ..................................... Winterberry
  (height can be > 3-4 ft)
  Note: Requires male and female plants for berries
- **Salix purpurea ‘Nana’** .......................................... Purpleosier Willow
- **Symphoricarpos albus** .......................................... Snowberry

Deciduous shrubs for SHADY & DRY Areas

- **Amelanchier stolonifera** ........................................ Running Serviceberry
- **Hydrangea arborescens ‘Annabelle’** ............................ Annabelle Hydrangea
- **Symphoricarpos orbiculatus** .................................... Coralberry
- **Ribes alpinum** .................................................... Alpine Currant

Deciduous shrubs for SHADY & MOIST Areas

- **Clethra alnifolia cultivars** ...................................... Summersweet
- **Dirca palustris** .................................................. Leatherwood
- **Ledum groenlandicum** .......................................... Labrador Tea
- **Symphoricarpos albus** .......................................... Snowberry

Evergreen shrubs for SHADY & MOIST Areas

- **Thuja occidentalis ‘Hertz Midget’** ............................. Hertz Midget
- **Tsuga canadensis ‘Gracilis’** ..................................... Gracilis Hemlock
- **Tsuga canadensis ‘Coles Prostrate’** ............................ Coles Prostrate Hemlock
GROUND COVERS

Ground covers are plants that spread rapidly and grow close to the soil level. They are good choices for areas that need erosion control and/or are difficult sites for other types of plants. Ground covers can also replace turf grass in areas that are difficult to maintain, eliminating the need to mow. It is important to note that some can be very invasive – a characteristic that may or may not be desirable in a ground cover.

Ground Covers for SHADY Areas

Asarum canadensis ..........................Wild Ginger
Aster macrophyllus ..............................Big Leaf Aster
Cornus canadensis ..............................Bunch Berry
Note: Needs acid soil
Galium odoratum ..............................Sweet Woodruff
Hosta species and cultivars ..................Hosta or Plantain Lily
Lamiastrum galeobdolon .......................Lamiastrum
Mitchella repens ..............................Partridgeberry
Note: Needs acid soil

Ground Covers for SUNNY Areas

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi ..........................Bearberry
Note: A broadleaf evergreen; prefers acid soil
Gaultheria procumbens ..........................Wintergreen
Note: A broadleaf evergreen; prefers acid soil, grows in partial shade
Sedum ..............................................Sedum
Waldsteinia fragarioides ..........................Barren Strawberry
Note: A broadleaf evergreen
ORNAMENTAL & NATIVE GRASSES

There has been a surge of interest in the use of ornamental and native prairie grasses in home landscapes and it’s easy to see why. They are easy to care for, have almost no disease or pest problems, have low nutrient requirements and grow quickly. Grasses can also add winter interest to landscapes with their persistent seed heads, varied colors, and textured leaves and stems.

Grasses for SHADY & DRY Areas

Bromus ciliatus .......................... Fringed Brome
Bromus kalmii ............................ Kalm’s Brome
Carex pennsylvanica ...................... Pennsylvania Sedge
Carex sprengelii .......................... Long Beaked Sedge
Deschampsia caespitosa ................... Tufted Hairgrass
Elymus hystrix ............................. Bottlebrush Grass
Hakonechloa macra ....................... Hakonechloagrass
Luzula multiflora .......................... Woodrush
Luzula parviflora .......................... Greater Woodrush

Grasses for WATER GARDENS & MOIST Areas

Acorus calamus .......................... Sweet Flag
Calamagrostis acutiflora .................. Feather Reed Grass
Carex crinita ............................... Fringed Sedge
Carex comosa .............................. Bottlebrush Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea ....................... Fox Sedge
Hierochloe odorata ...................... Sweet Grass
Juncus effusus ............................ Soft Rush
Molinea caerulea .......................... Moorgrass
Panicum virgatum ........................ Switchgrass
Note: Aggressive
Scirpus cyperinus ........................ Woolgrass
Scirpus atrovirens ........................ Dark Green Bulrush
Spartina pectinata ........................ Cordgrass

Grasses, continued next page
GRASSES for EROSION CONTROL  *(may be invasive)*

*Calamagrostis canadensis* ...........................................Canada Bluejoint Grass

*Hierochloe odorata* ..................................................Sweet Grass

*Panicum virgatum* ....................................................Switchgrass

*Note: Aggressive*

*Spartina pectinata* .....................................................Cordgrass

*Note: Performs best in moist soils in full sun; invasive especially in sandy soils.*

Grasses for SUNNY & DRY Areas
(Also excellent choices for erosion control)

*Andropogon gerardii* ...............................................Big Blue Stem

*Bouteloua curtipendula* ..............................................Sideoats Grama

*Bouteloua gracilis* ...................................................Blue Grama

*Koeleria brevis* ........................................................Blue Hairgrass

*Koeleria macrantha* ..................................................Junegrass

*Schizachyrium scoparium* ............................................Little Blue Stem Grass

*Sorghastrum nutans* ..................................................Indiangrass

*Sporobolus heterolepis* ..............................................Prairie Dropseed Grass

Grasses for SHADY & MOIST Areas
(Also excellent choices for erosion control)

*Bromus ciliatus* .......................................................Fringed Brome

*Carex stipata* ..........................................................Awl Fruited Sedge

*Carex comosa* ..........................................................Bottlebrush Sedge

*Elymus hystrix* ..........................................................Bottlebrush Grass

*Glyceria striata* ..........................................................Fowl Manna Grass

*Juncus effusus* ..........................................................Soft Rush

*Deschampsia caespitosa* .............................................Tufted Hairgrass

*Luzula parviflora* .......................................................Greater Woodrush
**NATIVE WILDFLOWERS**
Planting tough, vigorous perennial wildflowers can make for an attractive, fairly low-maintenance garden. They add color and attract birds and butterflies.

### Wildflowers for SHADY & DRY Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anemone cylindrica</td>
<td>Thimbleweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aster macrophyllum</td>
<td>Big Leaf Aster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astragalus canadense</td>
<td>Canada Milk Vetch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campanula rotundifolia</td>
<td>Harebells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galium boreale</td>
<td>Northern Bedstraw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geranium maculatum</td>
<td>Wild Geranium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helianthus strumosus</td>
<td>Woodland Sunflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heuchera richardsonii</td>
<td>Alum Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polemonium reptans</td>
<td>Jacob’s Ladder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thalictrum dioicum</td>
<td>Early Meadow Rue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wildflowers for WATER GARDENS & MOIST Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anemone canadensis</td>
<td>Canada Anemone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asclepias incarnata</td>
<td>Swamp Milkweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aster umbellatus</td>
<td>Flat-Topped Aster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltha palustris</td>
<td>Marsh Marigold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelone glabra</td>
<td>Turtlehead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eupatorium maculatum</td>
<td>Joe Pye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helenium autumnale</td>
<td>Sneezeweed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liatris pycnostachya</td>
<td>Prairie Blazingstar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mimulus ringens</td>
<td>Monkeyflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pycnanthemum virginianum</td>
<td>Virginia Mountain Mint</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Wildflowers, continued next page*
Wildflowers for SUNNY & DRY Areas

*Agastache foeniculum* .....................................Anise Hyssop
*Asclepias tuberosa* ............................................Butterflyweed
*Dalea purpurea* ...................................................Purple Prairie Clover
*Echinacea angustifolia* .........................................Narrow-Leaf Coneflower
*Lupinus perennis* ...............................................Wild Lupine
*Penstemon grandiflorus* .......................................Large Flowered Beardtongue
*Ratibida pinnata* ................................................Yellow Coneflower
*Rudbeckia hirta* ..................................................Black Eyed Susan
*Solidago rigida* ...................................................Stiff Goldenrod
*Tradescantia bracteata* .........................................Spiderwort

Wildflowers for SHADY & MOIST Areas

*Adiantum pedatum* ...............................................Maidenhair Fern
*Aquilegia canadensis* ..........................................Wild Columbine
*Arisaema triphyllum* ...........................................Jack-in-the-Pulpit
*Aster umbellatus* ................................................Flat-Topped Aster
*Caltha palustris* ..................................................Marsh Marigold
*Lobelia cardinalis* ...............................................Cardinal Flower
*Lobelia siphilitica* .............................................Great Blue Lobelia
*Matteuccia struthiopteris* .....................................Ostrich Fern
*Osmunda spp* .....................................................Ferns
*Solidago flexicaulis* ...........................................Zig Zag Goldenrod

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO VIEW PLANT PHOTOS:
– Visit the University of Minnesota Extension Service’s Sustainable Urban Landscape Information Series at [www.sustland.umn.edu](http://www.sustland.umn.edu)