

- Native Trees best for landscape use: Acer species (maples); Betula species (birch); Carpinus caroliniana (blue beech); Celtis occidentalis (hackberry); Quercus species (oaks); Tilia americana (basswood, linden)
- Conifers: Most require full to partial sun, slightly acidic soil, good air circulation; Conifers do not stop growing:
 - Large – grow 12 inches or more per year
 - Intermediate – grow 6-12 inches per year
 - Dwarf – grow 3-6 inches per year
 - Miniature -- grow less than 3 inches per year
- Native Conifers
 - Juniper: Prefers neutral to slightly acidic well-drained soil in full sun; tolerates drought and wind
 - Balsam fir: Best in cool, damp places in partial shade to sun, keep away from hot, drying winds
 - White Spruce: Best in well-drained, slightly acidic soils in full sun, keep away from winter winds and road salt
 - White Pine: Best in fertile, acidic, well-drained soils in full sun. Does not need protection from winds but keep away from road salt
 - White cedar-arborvitae: Moisture retentive soil in full sun or part shade, keep away from dry, windswept locations
- Native Landscape Shrubs
 - Amelanchier species (serviceberries)
 - Ilex verticillata (winterberry)
 - Physocarpus opulifolius cultivars (ninebark)
 - Potentilla fruticosa cultivars (shrubby cinquefoil)
 - Prunus nigra 'Princess Kay' (Canada plum)
 - Viburnum species (viburnums)

Full Sun Native Perennials:

Generally do not like heavy clay soils; Many will tolerate shade in morning or late afternoon; For success need sun between 9am and 3pm; Appreciate organic matter

- Bee Balm (Monarda, Wild bergamot): 15-48 inches tall; Flowers bloom early to mid-summer in red, pink, purple or white; Sun to part shade in well-drained, moist soil; Powery mildew can be a problem; Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees
- Coneflower (Echinacea spp): Natives and hybrids; 2-3 ft tall and wide; Bloom July to August; Full sun, well-drained soil, drought tolerant; Reseed and hybridize easily: to keep the plants you started with, deadhead spent flowers or pull seedlings.
- Tickseed (Coreopsis): Summer bloom; Full sun to partial shade, well-drained soil; Tough reseeded; Mature plants tolerate summer drought; Plants may flop if soil is too rich; Deadheading will keep it blooming by cutting the whole plant back by 1/3 after flowers fade; Can be short-lived, divide every couple of years

- Iris: Native & Hybrids; Full sun, well-drained; Divide mid to late summer every 3-5 years for good blooms; Iris borer – remove foliage in fall, if brown streaks on leaves – dig rhizomes and dip in solution of 1 part bleach to 4 parts water
- Columbine (*Aquilegia*); Self-seeder, cross hybrids easily; Hybrids tend to be short-lived; Full to part sun; moist, well-drained soil; Bloom in spring
- Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); Native to dry prairies; Flowers from late spring to late summer; Attracts butterflies; Moist to dry soils in full sun to light shade; Mature plants tolerate dry soil
- Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*): Native, fall-bloomer; Moist, average soil in full sun to part shade; Likes consistent moisture; Pinch back stems in late May for bushier plants; Divide plants in spring every 3rd year ; Avoid too much nitrogen which results in floppy plants and abundant foliage
- Turtlehead (*Chelone*): White turtlehead native to moist prairies; Evenly moist to wet, rich soil in full sun to light shade; Mature plants will tolerate dry spells; Bloom late summer and early fall; Plants spread by rhizomes but do not become invasive
- Joe-pye weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*): Native to wet slopes, low prairies and woodlands; Prefers moist, average to rich soil in full sun to light shade; Tolerates drier conditions; Easy to grow once established; Divide in spring or fall; Reseeds; Plants too close may suffer from powdery mildew
- Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*): Full sun to part shade; Moist, well-drained soil but will tolerate drier conditions and part shade; Showy native, fall flowers; Spreads aggressively by underground rhizomes; Plant in shade for less aggressive or plant 'Miss Manners' (white), 'Variegata' (pale pink), or 'Vivid' (Rose)
- Blazing Star or Gayfeather (*Liatris spicata*): Native to prairies, savannas; Showing pink-purple flower spikes in summer; Moist, fertile, well-drained soil in full sun; Once established, somewhat drought resistant; Plants can reseed; Wisconsin's special concern list; Attracts bees, hummingbirds, butterflies
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta* var. *pulcherrima*): Native in variety of WI habitats; Biennial or short-lived perennial; Blooms attract bees and butterflies; Winter interest; Adapts well to container culture; Sow seeds two years in a row for yearly blooming, once established plants will self-seed; Rich soils tend to produce weak-stemmed plants
- Spiderwort (*Tradescantia*): Native to dry, sandy grasslands and open woodlands; Drought and heat tolerant; Plants may go dormant after flowering, cut foliage to ground after flowering to keep plants neat and halt seed production; Reseed and in fertile soil can become aggressive; Lean, well-drained soil in full sun or light shade

More Plants for the Sun

- Catmint (*Nepeta*): Long bloom period late spring to fall; Select sterile and less aggressive cultivars, try *nepeta x faassenii* ; Full to part sun with well-drained soils; Drought tolerant; Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers that can lead to floppy growth; Remove spent flowers for tidier plants, cutback by 2/3's after first flush of blooms

- Cranesbill Geranium (*Geranium sanguineum*): Full sun to part shade with moist well-drained soils; Established plants will tolerate drought; Deadheading not needed – will bloom sporadically from late spring through summer; Trim plants after main flower display for a new fresh look the remainder of the season; Dig and divide when they outgrow their location; Minimal fertilizer needed if organic material added
- Daylily (*Hemerocallis*, spp. And hybrids): Non-native, summer blooming; Full sun to part shade; Moist, well-drained soil; Bigger blooms with regular watering; Encourage more flowers on rebloomers by cutting dead stems
- Hollyhocks (*Alcea rosea*): Full sun, well-drained soils; Classified as a biennial or short-lived perennial; Reseed readily; Water plants thoroughly whenever top few inches of soil is crumbly and moist, keep foliage dry to minimize disease problems; Avoid excess nitrogen that can increase disease
- Oriental Poppy (*Papaver orientale*): Plant container-grown poppies any time during the growing season; Sunny location, good drainage; Do not respond well to transplanting, difficult to establish, but once established long-lived; Winter mulch new plantings; Deadheading not necessary, leave attractive seedheads for interest; Cultivation can damage poppy roots
- Peony (*Paeonia*): Non-native; Plant several varieties for long bloom time; Young plants can take up to 3 years to bloom; Need at least 6 hours of sun daily; Plant eyes no more than 2 inches below the surface of soil
- Phlox: Full sun with moist, well-drained soil; Creeping phlox prefer well-drained soils and are drought tolerant – cut them back half way after flowering to keep them attractive; Deadhead garden phlox to extend the bloom time and keep them true to the cultivar; Select mildew-resistant cultivars such as 'David'; Remove and discard leaves in fall; Deer love Phlox!
- Sedum: Non-native; Low-maintenance; Four seasons of interest; Blooms summer to fall; Full sun; Lean soil, well-drained; Reduce flopping on tall plants by cutting back by ½ in spring when plant is 8 inches high
- Shasta Daisy (*Chrysanthemum x superbum*): Hardy to zone 4, but successful here; Keep soil moist, not wet throughout growing season; Tend to be short lived, regular dividing (every 2-3 years) keeps plants vigorous; Deadheading will prolong blooms, cut faded flowers back to side buds; Prune plants to the new growth once flowering has finished; Try 'Alaska' – tends to be longer lived and more hardy; 'Becky' are tall cultivars that do not need staking
- Veronica: Most prefer full to part sun but will tolerate part shade; All need well-drained soils, especially for winter – keep moist in summer and weed-free; Avoid excess nitrogen that causes floppy growth and decreased bloom; Deadhead to extend flower display, clip off faded flowers back to side buds or leaves; Cut back by half after bloom, new growth will form compact mound; Divide overgrown plants every 2-3 years

- Yarrow (*Achillea filipendulina*): Plant container plants anytime during growing season; Full sun, well-drained soil; Thrives in hot, dry locations; Tend to flop if grown in shade or overfertilized gardens; Deadhead to remove unattractive seedheads and to encourage longer blooming, also reduces reseeding of the more invasive species; Prune plants back to fresh new growth after final bloom
- Lilacs: Full sun, moist well-drained soils; Remove old flower heads to encourage good flowering the next season; Prune established plants after flowering so you won't interfere with next year's bloom, remove 1/3 of older canes to ground level; Good air circulation (proper pruning allows air and light in) reduces mildew problems
- Mugo Pine (*Pinus Mugo*): Grow in sun, will tolerate light shade; Prefer moist, well-drained soil; Established plants are drought tolerant; Wait a year before fertilizing new plantings, avoid excess fertilizer that can stimulate growth; Prune in spring as the buds elongate, remove 1/2 to 2/3 of each candle to control size and growth
- Rhododendron: Prefer full sun, moist, acidic soil; Avoid planting where leaves are subject to drying by winter wind and sun, east facing location works best; Require little pruning, remove winter damage and thin out crowded branches in spring after flowering; Benefit from winter protection; Try those hardy to zone 4: 'Northern lights' or 'PJM'
- Spirea: Tolerate a wide range of soils except wet sites; Established plants are drought tolerant; Fast growers and need minimal fertilizer when young and little if any once established; Spring-blooming plants flower on last year's growth-prune just after flowering; summer-blooming plants flower on new growth-prune in late winter before growth begins. Remove 1/3 to 1/2 of older stems to ground; Lightly shear summer-blooming spireas as the flowers fade to encourage a second flush of flowers; Heat and Drought

Heat and Drought

Sun creates heat, Sun dries plants and the soil, Sun encourages weeds, West & South facing areas will be hotter and receive more sunlight, Find plants that tolerate conditions

Xeriscape: Planning & Design, Choose Appropriate Plant Material, Soil Improvement, Mulch, Practical & Appropriate Turf Areas, Efficient Watering, Appropriate Maintenance

Heat Tolerant Plants:

Shrubs: Barberry, Rugosa roses, Junipers, Yews

Perennials – (natives): Artemisia, purple & yellow coneflowers, coreopsis, potentilla, sedum, yarrow

To help them conserve energy – deadhead spent blooms

Grasses: Prairie dropseed, little bluestem, switchgrass, indiagrass

Annuals: Sunflowers, globe amaranth, portulaca, zinna, marigold, salvias

Drought Tolerant Plants: Achillea, Alyssum, Catmint, Coreopsis, Dianthus, Bearded Iris, Poppy, Moss Rose, Salvias, Verbena

Vines:

- American Bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*): Thrives in full sun, well-drained soil; Need 1 male for every 5 female plants (should be labeled or many nurseries include both male and female plants in same pot; Needs regular pruning in late winter before new growth; cut dead, damaged or out of place stems
- Clematis (*Clematis x jackmanii*): Grow in moist, well-drained, alkaline soil in full to part sun, keep roots cool and moist; Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera x brownii* 'Dropmore Scarlet'); Best if planted in spring in moist, well-drained soil; full sun to full shade

Annuals That stand up to the heat: Cosmos, Marigolds, Moss Rose, Sunflower, Verbena, Zinnia

Containers

- Keep them looking good
- Pinch back: browallia, coleus, dichondra, licorice plant, persian shield, sweet potato vine
- Deadhead: marigold, dianthus, geranium
- Undercut: bocopa, calibrachoa, lobelia, petunia, ivy, twinspur
- Self-cleaning: Angelonia, dragon wing begonia, marguerite daisy, moss rose

Pinching Back Perennials

- Pinch back plants that tend to flop up until a month before bloom: phlox, sedums, daises
- Add interest and stagger bloom time by pinching back a large group of identical plants
- Pinch off faded blossoms
- Perennials: cut stem close to ground once flowering is finished
- Low growing perennials – can be sheared
- Do not deadhead to promote self-seeding or to provide winter interest and food for wildlife
- Good resource: *The Well-Tended Perennial Garden* by Tracy DiSabato-Aust

Edible Ornamentals

Bright lights Swiss chard

Chili peppers

Flowering cabbages

Herbs (ex. Thyme)

Nasturtiums

Pansies

Resources

www.perennialresource.com Online library maintained by Walters Gardens – you can create a wish list to print out and take with you shopping

www.fullsungardening.com

Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin, Lynn M. Steiner

The Garden Book of Wisconsin, Melinda Myers

The Well-Tended Perennial Garden, Tracy DiSabato-Aust

American Conifer Society www.conifersociety.org