Overview/Introduction

If you live in an apartment or townhouse with a balcony, patio, or very small yard, you may like to use your outdoor space to connect to the natural world around you. In order to attract and support native wildlife in these settings, a garden comprised largely of native plants in containers or small planting areas provides an attractive and simple solution. A surprising number of insects, birds and even small mammals are drawn to container and pocket gardens.

The Audubon at Home program encourages you to beautify and increase the wildlife value of these small spaces. Although much of this content is directed to container gardening, patios and “pocket gardens” are merely larger extensions of the same concept, with the possible advantage of natural soils that need less additional replenishment.

General considerations on gardening with native plants in containers

Many native plants make excellent specimens for container and small space gardening. As with any other type of planting, limitations include: site conditions such as sun and wind exposure, size of the mature plant, size of the container, and attractiveness of the plant’s appearance over time. Other factors unique to containers include: appropriate initial soil mix and ongoing maintenance needs. All of these factors are addressed in pages in this section.

Care in plant species selection can result in a more successful planting from the perspective of wildlife. Biomass and blooms make a big impact in attracting wildlife to container plantings. The biomass (stems, twigs, leaves, etc.) created by small shrubs and trees, vines, grasses, and herbaceous plants provides cover, nesting sites, and food for wildlife looking to use your garden, and is best created with plants that create a lot of top growth for their root mass. These plants are very desirable to wildlife. For this reason, vines are excellent container choices. Vines that cling may be
trained to a wall (Virginia Creeper) and vines that twine may be trained into living curtains or screens with either structural or shrub support (Passion vine, Scarlet Honeysuckle). Blooms on vines, shrubs and herbaceous plants provide instant impact in the appearance of containers, both to wildlife and viewers. Red, tubular blooms are a hit with hummingbirds, and the composite flowers of Asters, Goldenrod, Mountain Mint and Boneset are endlessly covered in pollinating insects and butterflies. Many birds will be attracted to your garden if you create a thicket-like habitat with twiggy shrubs and small trees—they will flit from feeder to "thicket" to water feature to thicket to feeder and return frequently if they are provided with the food, water and cover they need.

Choose an assortment of plants that will bloom throughout the growing season, spring, summer and fall. Although space may be limited in your container or patio garden, an assortment of plants that will bloom or provide food throughout the growing season will provide you with multi-season interest and wildlife with a reason to return to your way station on a daily basis.

An excellent resource on plants that are native to our region is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) document: Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping, Chesapeake Region, which is available for download at http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/. The plant lists on other pages in this Wildlife Waystation section are organized by small trees/shrubs, vines, grasses and herbaceous plants according to their light needs, and to some extent their moisture needs, and the suggested container combination plantings also group plants with similar needs. If you would like more specific information on a plant species, consult this FWS booklet or do a Google search on the species and you will find a number of websites that provide more information on the species' plant and wildlife associations and natural habitats in the wild.

**Small water gardens and features for balconies and patios**

Water is a primary draw for wildlife, especially in urban and suburban settings where most fresh water has been collected and piped underground. Try to include a water source near your native plants. Ponds and water gardens will draw the most birds and insects, but if a water garden seems daunting, consider providing a bowl- or wall-mounted fountain or a simple ground-level birdbath to accompany your plantings. The sound of water trickling and the reflections of light on water will draw wildlife in for a brief drink or a bath. Observe the water source to ensure that wildlife can actually access it. Steep sides will deter many birds from bathing or drinking, and splashing or excessively moving water will not allow bees and other insects to drink at the edges. If your water source is still, such as a bird bath, daily use by birds for bathing, the presence of fish, or changing the water every three days (in warm weather) will prevent any mosquitoes from breeding.
In order to create a pond planter or wet (bog) planter for your collection, you will need the following:

- A container that holds water - either watertight or lined with a ‘rubber’ (EPDM) liner
- A surface that supports water’s 8.3 pounds per gallon of weight - in addition to that of the container, stones and plants.
- A small electric pump that will circulate and aerate your water to reduce mosquito breeding and stagnation

Other factors include:

- Most emergent/aquatic plants in water gardens will need a minimum of 6 hours of direct sunlight per day.
- Water plants should remain in their pots in heavy clay soil with pea gravel on top of the soil to conserve it.
- Bricks or stones can be used to raise each plant to its preferred depth and also raise the pump outflow (or fountain) to the correct height in the water.
- A minimum of 20 gallons will help moderate water temperature swings and reduce water level fluctuations from evaporation.
- Shading the container itself will also reduce temperature and water-level swings.

**Choice, design and arrangement of containers**

- Use large enough containers – usually many times the size of the pot the plant came in. Larger pots hold moisture evenly, weigh enough to resist wind, and contain adequate soil volume for several years of growth. Use a saucer if it is difficult to soak the soil appropriately, if the plant is routinely too dry, or if the surface below needs protection. Use a set of wheels under large pots if you want to be able to move them easily. A wheeled platform is also an option for multiple pots.

- Match the container style to the type of plant and its growth habits. The container should visually (and physically) balance the plant. For example, an upright, multi-stemmed shrub would work best in a low, wide container. An arching grass might look best in an upright container, and a low creeping plant would look nice in a sculptural container such as a shell, boot or urn.

  ![Filter fabric over three drain holes](image1)
  ![Gently loosening excess roots](image2)
  ![Back-filling soil around roots](image3)

- Add interesting items to your containers, if you like. Your containers are a nice spot to place rocks, shells, driftwood or other weatherproof items you have collected in your travels to accent them. A container can become a small display or diorama for your own enjoyment when wildlife is absent.
• Group containers together. If the heights of the pots are very similar, raising one or two on cinder blocks will create a nice display. Some groupings can even be used to create privacy screening. Grouping containers together helps them insulate and shade each other and creates a more humid microclimate. Additionally, these groupings are more likely to attract wildlife than solitary pots. With careful plant species selection, a container grouping can offer something for wildlife year-round.

• Include a wet planter or a pond planter if you can. Cover 50-60% of the water surface and with plants and add a submerged plant or two. Snails and fish can be added for ecological balance. (Be sure never to release non-native organisms into the wild). Observe how wildlife accesses the water and make it easier if necessary.

• Properly support vines with shrubs, lattice, or deer/bird netting. Well-supported vines create highly desirable bird real estate for nesting. Unsupported vines grow poorly and look unattractive. Vigorous or aggressive vines might be best suited for those aware of their tendencies and interested in trying their hand at training the vines in small spaces. (Virginia Creeper, Trumpet Creeper).

Soil, planting material, container hygiene

Soils for containers should be somewhat light, drain easily yet retain moisture for a day or so depending on temperature, humidity and exposure. This is most easily achieved using commercial potting mixes. These mixes contain long-lasting (slowly biodegrading) organic matter, such as coir and sphagnum which keeps the soil mix loose for a few years. Many commercial mixes also contain time-release fertilizers which last for a few months. Potting mix with moisture-retention treatment is not recommended. Home soil mixes may be made with native topsoil, loamy compost and construction (not play) sand. A starting point for mixture proportions would be 50:25:25 – but this varies greatly based on the quality of the topsoil used. Woodland native plants will probably prefer soils with more organic matter (compost). A small piece of landscape fabric or screening over the drainage holes will help keep earthworms, sowbugs and ants from excavating soil from the bottom and helps retain soil.

Soil organic matter is constantly decomposing, yet the proportions in the soil should remain the same or the plants may suffer. Mulching in the fall and again in spring (if the fall mulch has thinned) is one way to add organic matter. Fertilizing with soil fungus and microbes using dilute fish emulsion and other natural extracts may help, although there is little research to support these products as benefiting the soil rather than the plants. Most container plants in commercial potting mix need to be repotted with fresh soil every few years for continued growth. Without repotting, container soils tend to accumulate mineral salts from watering with tap water and these salts kill the fine absorbing root hairs of the plants. Additionally, the loss of organic matter in the soil (from natural decomposition) reduces both the drainage (pore space) and the moisture-holding capacity of the soil resulting in “drought and deluge” watering cycles.
Plants that prefer dry, poor soils should have their container soils amended appropriately with sharp sand and/or gravel to avoid root rot. A product called Grani-grit (for chickens) is one of the best for pH-neutral amendments, but is typically only available in larger amounts from feed stores or the internet. The pot size for these plants and for native succulents should be smaller in proportion to the plants’ above-ground size. Plants that like these conditions are excellent for wide bowl and tray gardens. Some native plants actually prefer a rock garden setting and will need extra gravel and rock in their containers. Crushed bluestone or ‘stone dust’ is a common patio base medium many of these plants seem to like, and they may reseed readily between the stones of a nearby patio or walk.

- Containers that never receive natural rainfall should be hosed down occasionally for health and hygiene.
- Mulching once or twice a year with composted leaf mulch should be enough fertility for most plants. Use compost tea or fish emulsion for additional fertility and for the rare feeding of rock garden planters

**Plant Selection**

- Consider planting together several plants with complementary shapes and, of course, similar maintenance needs. Some plants even prefer a companion plant or two. Consider plants that might be found in similar environments such as a woodland shrub and a groundcover (Spicebush and Lady Fern) for a shady, protected spot or a woody-stemmed meadow perennial and a grass (Goldenrod and Lovegrass) for a sunny, hot area.
- Some plants may not enjoy sharing space with others in a mixed planter and will either die or crowd out their companions. Other plants are actually biennial or short-lived perennials (i.e. Coneflowers- Rudbeckia and Echinaceae) and will need replanting or re-seeding after a year or two. Some plants need slightly harsher growing conditions to avoid becoming weedy or outgrowing their pots too rapidly. If this happens, reduced but regular watering, thinning or dividing the root ball, and repotting in a smaller container will help.
- There are many cultivated varieties of native plants available for purchase, but they were not created with the needs of wildlife in mind (i.e. adequate pollen and nectar, proper bloom season). Buy the basic species, not the cultivar, if possible. Purchasing plants legally propagated from local plant populations is the best way to provide for your local wildlife populations, as the food and its consumers have evolved together in your location.

The native plants for containers are included here because of their small, space-appropriate size and restrained growth; relatively neat appearance when in good health; and attractiveness to wildlife. They are also generally available for sale by local retailers and non-profit groups. The plant lists here are by no means completely inclusive of all the wonderful native container plants that are out there. Most of them have been selected from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s document: "Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping, Chesapeake Region", which is available for download at [http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/](http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/). These species have varying moisture needs – most will take medium moisture conditions, but some prefer more moisture and some less.

In order to make grouping by needs simpler, at the end of the lists are suggestions of plant combinations for containers for any type of site conditions you may have. These suggestions are limited only by space available. Many great combinations still wait to be discovered by designers and wildlife!
Quick tips to attract particular species

- Native bees: Consider installing a Mason bee or Bumblebee home near your containers. These houses are a single block of prepared wood; small; and the bees are tame when untouched. Bee behavior is fun and relaxing to watch.

- Insects: If you have perennials with woody stems, leave as much of the stems on the plant as possible. Many insects overwinter or leave larvae inside the stems which then hatch in the spring. Upright stems are more protected from moisture and predators. If you must cut stems, pile them someplace unnoticed so they still serve as housing for a time. Debris from grasses and strap-leaved perennials will be used by nesting birds during the growing season.

- Hummingbirds: The top ten plants for hummingbirds include a small tree, a shrub, two vines, and six perennials (listed below). The excellent thing about these species is that together they bloom across the entire growing season, and the (aggressive) Trumpet Creeper provides excellent nest sites. A property with these species and protected nesting areas would likely have a pair of resident Hummingbirds every year.

Ten species that will attract hummingbirds in order of bloom time:

- Columbine – Aquilegia canadensis
- Red Buckeye – Aesculus pavia
- Rosebay Rhododendron – Rhododendron catawbiense
- Scarlet Honeysuckle – Lonicera sempervirens
- Trumpet Creeper – Campsis radicans
- Jewelweed – Impatiens capensis
- Cardinal flower – Lobelia cardinalis
- Canada Lily – Lilium canadense
- Bee Balm – Monarda didyma
- Indian Pink – Spigelia marilandica

The following is a list of butterfly species along with the plant species you may be able to attract them with:

- Admirals: Willow, Birch, Aspens, Black Oaks, Poplar, Wild Cherry
- American Copper: Sorrels, Docks
- American Painted Lady: Pearly Everlasting, Pussytoes, related composites
Baltimore Checkerspot: Turtlehead, Plantains
Banded Hairstreak: Oaks, Hickory, Butternut
Buckeye: Plantains
Eastern Tailed Blue: Clovers, other legumes
Henry’s Elfin: Redbud, Blueberry, Maple Leaved Viburnum, Yaupon Holly
Fritillaries: Violets, Purslane
Gulf Fritillary: Passion Vines
Gray Hairstreak: many plants, especially legumes, Mallows
Long Tailed Skipper: Groundnut, climbing legumes (edible Beans, Peas)
Monarch and Queen: Common Milkweed, Butterfly weed
Mourning Cloak, Comma, Question Mark: Elms, Nettles, Hackberry, (Hops)
Painted Lady: Thistles, Composites
Pearl Crescent: Asters
Pygmy Blue: Lamb’s Quarters, Pigweed
Red Admiral: Nettles
Satyrs: Grasses and Sedges
Skippers: Grasses
Silver Spotted Skipper: Locusts, Wisteria, other Legumes
Snout and Hackberry Butterflies: Hackberry
Spring Azure: Dogwood, Wild Cherry, Meadowsweet
Suphurs: Clovers, Legumes, Sneezeweed, Senna, Asters
Swallowtail, Black: Honewort, Sweet Cicely, (Parsley, Dill)
Swallowtail, Pipevine: Pipevine
Swallowtail, Spicebush: Spicebush, Sassafras
Swallowtail, Tiger: Black Cherry, Tulip Poplar, Sweetbay Magnolia
Swallowtail, Zebra: Paw Paw
Whites and Orange Tips: Mustards (Cabbage, Broccoli)

**Vine species for containers and gardens**

Annotations include: (EG) – Evergreen; (A) – Annual; (M) – Monarch larval food; (H) – Hummingbird favorite.

All species are twining and need appropriate diameter supports (except as noted).

- **Apios americana**  
  Groundnut
- **Clematis viorna** *  
  Leatherleaf Clematis
- **Clematis virginiana**  
  Virgin's Bower
- **Lonicera sempervirens** (EG)(H)  
  Scarlet Honeysuckle
- **Parthenocissus quinquefolia**®  
  Virginia Creeper
- **Passiflora incarnata**  
  Passionflower, Maypops
- **Passiflora lutea** *  
  Yellow Passionflower

* These species are delicate enough to use shrubs for support, if desired.
* This species clings by discs and needs a flat surface for climbing; also used as groundcover.
These additional Vine species could be used in small patio gardens with structural support of a trellis, pergola or arbor

- **Bignonia capreolatus** Crossvine
- **Campsis radicans** (H) Trumpet Creeper
- **Celastrus scandens** American Bittersweet
- **Wisteria frutescens** American Wisteria
- **Vitis aestivalis** Summer Grape
- **Vitis labrusca** Fox Grape
- **Vitis vulpina** Winter Grape

**Woody species – Shrubs and small Trees**

Some larger species may outgrow containers over time; all are appropriate for small patio gardens and can be planted in patches of exposed ground or in containers.

Annotations include: (EG) – Evergreen; (A) – Annual; (M) – Monarch larval food; (H) – Hummingbird favorite

**Woody species for shade**

- **Hamamelis virginiana** Common Witchazel
- **Hydrangea arborescens** Smooth Hydrangea
- **Kalmia angustifolia** (EG) Mountain Laurel
- **Kalmia latifolia** (EG) Mountain Laurel
- **Lindera benzoin** Spicebush
- **Rhododendron maximum** (EG) Rosebay Rhododendron
- **Rubus odoratus** Flowering Raspberry
- **Viburnum acerifolium** Mapleleaf Viburnum

**Woody species tolerant of or needing some shade**

- **Amelanchier canadensis** Thicket Serviceberry
- **Arborvitaes occidentalis** (EG) Atlantic Whitecedar
- **Aronia arbutifolia** Red Chokeberry
- **Ceanothus americanus** New Jersey Tea
- **Clethra alnifolia** Summersweet, Sweet Pepperbush
- **Chionanthus virginicus** Fringetree
- **Comptonia perigrina** Sweetfern
- **Eubotrys racemosa** Swamp Doghobble, Sweetbells
- **Ilex glabra** (EG) Inkberry holly
- **Ilex verticillata** Winterberry
- **Itea virginica** Virginia Sweetspire
- **Lyonia ligustrina** Maleberry
- **Magnolia virginiana** (s-EG) Sweetbay Magnolia
- **Photinia melanocarpa** Black Chokeberry
- **Photinia pyrifolia** Red Chokeberry
- **Rhododendron calandulaceum** Flame Azalea
- **Rhododendron periclymenoides** Pinxterbloom Azalea
- **Rhododendron viscosum** Swamp Azalea
- **Staphylea trifolia** American Bladdernut
- **Vaccinium angustifolium** Late Lowbush (Sweet) Blueberry
- **Vaccinium corymbosum** Highbush Blueberry
- **Vaccinium pallidum** Early Lowbush Blueberry
- **Vaccinium stamineum** Tall Deerberry
Vaccinium vacillans  Early Lowbush (Dryland) Blueberry
Viburnum trilobum  American Cranberry Bush
Yucca filamentosa (EG)  Adam’s Needle

**Woody species for full sun**

Amorpha fruticosa  Leadplant, Indigobush
Diervila sessifolia  Southern Bush Honeysuckle
Juniperus virginiana (EG)  Eastern Red Cedar
Morella cerifera (EG)  Southern Wax Myrtle
Morella pennsylvanica (EG)  Bayberry
Rhus aromatica  Fragrant Sumac
Rhus glabra  Smooth Sumac
Yucca filamentosa (EG)  Adam’s Needle

**Ferns and Grasses**

**Ferns**

All ferns need shade; but this may vary with the amount of moisture they receive. These are listed in order of drought tolerance after establishment (rather than alphabetical). Sensitive and Ostrich Fern will tolerate full sun with wet conditions.

Polystichum acrostichoides (EG)  Christmas Fern
Dryopteris marginalis (EG)  Evergreen Shield or Wood Fern
Onoclea sensibilis  Sensitive Fern
Thelypteris novaboracensis  New York Fern
Matteuchia strutheropteris  Ostrich Fern
Athyrium felix-femina  Lady Fern

**Grasses**

**Grasses for medium shade**

Carex blanda  Eastern Woodland Sedge
Carex glaucodea  Blue Sedge
Carex pennsylvanica  Pennsylvania Sedge
Carex plantaginea  Plantain-Leaf Sedge
Carex platyphylla  Broad-Leaf Sedge
Elymus hystrix  Bottlebrush grass
Festuca rubra  Red Fescue
Luzula echinata  Spike Wood Rush

**Part shade-tolerant grasses**

Chasmanthium latifolium  Sea or River Oats
Panicum virgatum  Panic Grass

**Grasses needing full sun**

Andropogon virginicus  Broomsedge
Carex intumescent  Greater Bladder Sedge
Carex lurida  Lurid Sedge
Eragrostis spectabilis  Purple Love Grass
Muhlenberghia capillaris  Hairawn Muhly Grass
Schizachyrium scoparium  Little Bluestem
Sporobolus heterolepis  Northern Dropseed
Tridens flavus  Purpletop Grass

Submerged and Emergent Aquatic Garden Species

Emergent Plants
These plants differ in the depths they prefer.

Peltandra virginica  Arrow Arum
Sagittaria latifolia  Arrowhead
Saururus cernuus  Lizard’s Tail
Acorus calamus  Sweet Flag
Hibiscus moscheutos  Marsh Hibiscus
Iris versicolor  Blue Flag, Blue Water Iris
Juncus effusus  Soft Rush
Kosteletzkya virginica  Seashore Mallow
Nuphar lutea  Spatterdock, Yellow Water Lily
Nymphea odorata  American or Fragrant Water Lily
Pontaderia cordata  Pickerelweed
Typha angustifolia  Narrow-leaf Cattail

Submerged Plants
These provide oxygen to the water

Vallisneria sp.  Wild Celery
Cabomba canadensis, C. caroliniana  Fanwort

Herbaceous Perennials
Annotations include: (EG) – Evergreen; (A) – Annual; (M) – Monarch larval food; (H) – Hummingbird favorite

Herbaceous species for (mostly) part shade to full shade

Actaea racemosa  Black Snakeroot
Arisaema triphyllum  Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Asarum canadense  Wild Ginger
Campanula americana  American Bellflower
Chrysogonum virginicum  Green and Gold
Conoclinium coelestinum  Blue Mist Flower, Wild Ageratum
Cryptotaenia canadensis (M)  Honewort
Dicentra eximia  Fringed Bleeding Heart
Eurybia (Aster) cordifolius  Blue Wood Aster
Eurybia (Aster) divaricata  White Wood Aster
Heuchera americana  American Alumroot
Heuchera villosa  Hairy Alumroot
Iris cristata  Crested Iris
Maianthemum racemosum  False Solomon’s Seal
Mertensia virginica  Virginia Bluebells
Mitchella repens (EG)  Partridgeberry
Pachysandra procumbens (EG)  Allegheny Spurge
Packera aurea (EG)  Golden Ragwort
Herbaceous species for full sun to part sun
Most of these species tolerate more sun with somewhat more, consistent moisture, except those preferring poor soils

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amsonia tabernaemontana</td>
<td>Blue Star Flower</td>
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<td>Anemone canadensis</td>
<td>Canada Anemone</td>
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<td>Antennaria plantaginoides, A. neglecta</td>
<td>Pussy-toes</td>
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<td>Canadian, Wild Columbine</td>
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<td>Pycnanthemum muticum</td>
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<td>Solidago sphacelata</td>
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<td>Tradescantia virginiana</td>
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<td>Veronicastrum virginicum</td>
<td>Culver's Root</td>
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<td>Zizia aurea (M)</td>
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Herbaceous species for full sun

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<th>Herbaceous Plant</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
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<td>Agastache foeniculum</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudbeckia hirta</td>
<td>Black-eyed Susan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudbeckia triloba</td>
<td>Three-lobed Coneflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solidago juncea</td>
<td>Early Goldenrod</td>
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</table>

Combination Plantings – Shrub and perennial

The plant combinations below are selected for their similar light, moisture and soil needs. The shapes of the plants and the bloom times should be complimentary to one another.

For Shade to part shade

Flowering Raspberry, Bottlebrush grass, Blue Wood Aster

Rubus odoratus, Elymus hystrix, Symphyotrichum cordifolius

Mountain Laurel, Christmas Fern, Wintergreen

Kalania latifolia, Polystichum acrostichoides, Gaultheria procumbens

Witchhazel, Wood Fern, White Wood Aster

Hamamelis virginiana, Dryopteris marginalis, Symphyotrichum divaricata

Spicebush, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Canada Anemone

Lindera benzoin, Arisaema triphyllum, Anemone canadensis

Winterberry, Christmas Fern, Blue Wood Aster

Ilex verticillata, Polystichum acrostichoides, Eurybia cordifolia

For part Shade to more sun

Bladdernut, White Turtlehead, Virginia Spiderwort

Staphylea trifolia, Cheolone glabra, Tradescantia virginiana

Serviceberry, Christmas Fern, Bluestem Goldenrod

Amelanchier canadensis, Polystichum acrostichoides, Solidago caesia

Sweetbay Magnolia, Bee Balm, Sensitive fern

Magnolia virginiana, Monarda didyma, Onoclea sensibilis

Pinxterbloom Azalea, Blue Star Flower, White Wood Aster

Rhododendron pericyclemenoides, Amsonia tabernaemontana, Symphyotrichum divaricata

Atlantic White Cedar, Solomon's seal, Wild Strawberry

Arborvitaes occidentalis (small cultivar), Polygonatum biflorum, Fragaria virginica

Fringetree, Hairy Alumroot, Pennsylvania Sedge

Chionanthus virginicus, Heuchera villosa, Carex pennsylvanica

Red Chokeberry, Blue Wood Aster, New York Fern

Aronia arbutifolia, Eurybia cordifolia, Thelypteris novaboracensis

Summersweet, Virginia Spiderwort, Obedient Plant

Clethra alnifolia, Tradescantia virginiana, Physostegia virginiana

For full sun

Eastern Red Cedar, Broomsedge Bluestem, Early Goldenrod

Juniperus virginiana, Andropogon virginicus, Solidago juncea

Northern Bayberry, Sweetfern, Butterflyweed

Morella pennsylvanica, Comptonia perigrina, Asclepias tuberosa
Smooth Sumac, Anise Hyssop, Purple Lovegrass

*Rhus glabra, Agastache foeniculum, Eragrostis spectabilis*

**Combination Plantings - Perennials only**

**For full sun to part shade**

Hyssop-leaved Boneset, Autumn Goldenrod, Spike Gayfeather

*Eupatorium hyssopfolium, Solidago sphacelata, Liatris spicata*

Rattlesnake Master, Threadleaf Tickseed, Purple Coneflower

*Eryngium yuccafolium, Coreopsis verticillata, Echinacea purpurea*

Hollow Joe Pye Weed, Autumn Goldenrod, Heath Aster, New York Aster

*Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus, Solidago sphacelata, Symphyotrichum ericoides, Symphyotrichum nova-belgii*

Shrubby St John’s Wort, New York Aster, Northern Dropseed

*Hypericum prolificum, Symphyotrichum nova-belgii, Sporobulus heterolepis*

Ox-eye, Spike Gayfeather, Purple Coneflower

*Heliopsis helianthoides, Liatris spicata, Echinacea purpurea*

Black-eyed Susan, Anise Hyssop, Spike Gayfeather

*Rudbeckia fulgida, Agastache foeniculum, Liatris spicata*

Turks Cap Lily, New York Aster, Blunt Mountain Mint

*Lilium superbum, Symphyotrichum nova-belgii, Pycnanthemum muticum*

Wild Geranium, Threadleaf Tickseed, obedient plant

*Geranium maculatum, Coreopsis verticillata, Physostegia virginiana*

Narrow leaved Mountain Mint, Anise Hyssop, Heath Aster

*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium, Agastache foeniculum, Symphyotrichum ericoides*

Panic Grass, Purple Coneflower, brown-eyed Susan

*Panicum virgatum, Echinacea purpurea, Rudbeckia hirta*

**For part Shade**

Ostrich Fern, Virginia Bluebells, Golden Alexanders

*Matteuchia strutheropteris, Mertensia virginiana, Zizia aurea*

Culvers Root, Bee Balm, Monkey Flower

*Veronicastrum virginicum, Monarda didyma, Mimulus ringens*

Blue Mist Flower, Great Blue Lobelia, White Turtlehead, Greater Bladder Sedge

*Conoclinum coelestinum, Lobelia siphilitica, Chelone glabra, Carex intumescentis*

**Vine and Perennials - for mostly sun**

Scarlet Honeysuckle, Creeping Phlox, Smooth Blue Aster

*Phlox stolonifera, Lonicera sempervirens, Symphyotrichum laevis*

American Wisteria, White Turtlehead, Blue Sedge

*Wisteria frutescens, Chelone glabra, Carex glaucolea*

Groundnut, Blue Mist Flower, Bottlebrush Grass

*Apios americana, Conoclinum coelestinum, Elymus hystrix*

**Rock Garden Planter – For part Shade**

These containers may be shallow, wide bowl - style, if desired.

Wild Columbine, Wild Stonecrop, American Alumroot

*Aquilegia canadensis, Sedum ternatum, Heuchera americana*

St Andrew’s Cross, Pussytoes, Spike Wood Rush

*Hypericum hypericoides, Antennaria neglecta, Luzula echinata*
Wetland Planter – for mostly sun

Ensure proper size and depth of these containers, as mentioned above.

Marsh Hibiscus, Blue Flag, Soft Rush
    *Hibiscus moscheutos, Iris versicolor, Juncus effusus*
Monkey Flower, Cardinal Flower, Lurid Sedge
    *Mimulus ringens, Carex lurida, Lobelia cardinalis*
Seashore Mallow, Great Blue Lobelia, Lurid Sedge
    *Kosteletskya virginica, Carex lurida, Lobelia siphilitica*

Single Plant Containers

These plants form large columns or have circular rosettes of foliage which will fill and cover the edges of their pot. They have bold, architectural forms and will make excellent accent specimens.

Black Snakeroot – *Actaea racemosa* (shade)
Yucca – *Yucca filamentosa* (sun/part shade) (EG)
Rosebay Rhododendron - *Rhododendron maximum* (shade) (EG)
Red Cedar – *Juniperus virginiana* (sun) (EG)

AAH Wildlife Waystation Animal and Insect Species to Observe

Included here are some species that might occur in properties or balconies adjacent to or near natural areas and parks in our area (Hermit Thrush, Mourning Cloak butterfly) as well as some more urban-adapted species such as Eastern Chipmunk and Song Sparrow.

**Birds**

Cooper’s Hawk
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Woodpecker Species
White-breasted Nuthatch
House Wren
Eastern Phoebe
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Hermit Thrush
Tufted Titmouse
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow

**Insects**

Grasshopper species
Katydid species
Hummingbird Clearwing Moth
Snowberry Clearwing Moth
Flower Fly (Hover Fly or Syrphid Fly)

**Spiders**

Orb Web Species

**Mammals**

Bat Species
Eastern Chipmunk

**Butterflies**

Mourning Cloak
Comma
Question Mark
Monarch