

Rain Garden Plants

The following are some native plants suitable for rain gardens, listed by region. They are also attractive to butterflies, birds, and other wildlife. Be sure to choose species appropriate for the degree of sun or shade on the site.

Northeast and Middle Atlantic states and southeast Canada

Wildflowers, Ferns, Grasses, and Sedges:

Asclepias incarnata, Swamp milkweed
Chelone glabra, White turtlehead
Eupatorium maculatum, Joe-pye weed
Lobelia cardinalis, Cardinal flower
Lobelia syphilitica, Blue lobelia
Monarda didyma, Oswego tea
Vernonia noveboracensis, Common ironweed
Athyrium filix-femina, Lady fern
Osmunda regalis, Royal fern
Osmunda cinnamomea, Cinnamon fern
Carex pendula, Drooping sedge
Carex stipata, Tussock sedge

Trees and Shrubs:

Amelanchier laevis, Shadbush
Asimina triloba, Pawpaw
Betula nigra, River birch
Cephalanthus occidentalis, Buttonbush
Clethra alnifolia, Sweet pepperbush
Cornus amomum, Silky dogwood
Fothergilla gardenii, Dwarf fothergilla
Ilex verticillata, Winterberry holly
Lindera benzoin, Spicebush
Liquidambar styraciflua, Sweet gum
Sambucus canadensis, American elderberry
Viburnum dentatum, Arrowwood