



Shade Gardening

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Revised 4/15

| (Botanical name) common name | Height | Flower color and time | Shade level | | | Ornamental features (in addition to flowers) | Culture | | | Comments |
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| | | | light | medium | full | | Moist, well drained | Tolerates wet sites | Tolerates dry sites | |
| Ground Covers | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>(Ajuga reptans)</i> Ajuga or bugleweed | 4 inches | Purple or white; late spring- early summer | ✓ | ✓ | | Some varieties available offering different foliage and flower colors | ✓ | | | After flowering is through, flowers can be mowed off to keep the ground cover tidy. |
| <i>(Asarum canadense)</i> Wild Ginger | 6-8 inches | Non-showy flowers in spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive, hairy, kidney-shaped foliage | ✓ | | | Grown for foliage, not flowers. |
| <i>(Asarum europaeum)</i> European Wild Ginger | 6-8 inches | Non-showy flowers in spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive, glossy, kidney-shaped foliage | ✓ | | | Grown for foliage, not flowers. |
| <i>(Convallaria majalis)</i> Lily-of-the-Valley | 6-12 inches | White; spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Occasionally produces red-orange berries | ✓ | | | Fairly rapid spreader; can grow under trees as it competes well with tree roots. |
| <i>(Epimedium x rubrum)</i> Red Epimedium | 1 foot | Reddish; midspring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Foliage tinged red in spring; maintains red margin through summer; fall color is bronze | ✓ | | | Grown more for foliage than for flowers; relatively slow growth rate. |
| <i>(Epimedium x versicolor)</i> Persian Epimedium | 1 foot | Yellow; midspring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Spring and fall leaves tinged reddish | ✓ | | | Grown more for foliage than for flowers; relatively slow growth rate. |
| <i>(Euonymus fortunei)</i> Winter Creeper | 4-6 inches or taller | Green, not of interest | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Numerous varieties available, varying in leaf color and size; evergreen leaves | ✓ | | ✓ | Numerous varieties available varying in cold hardiness; scale insects can be a serious problem; also susceptible to crown gall |

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| <i>(Galium odoratum)</i> Sweet Woodruff | 6-10 inches | White; spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Interesting foliage | ✓ | | | Spreads at a moderate rate; crushed foliage smells like new-mown hay; grows well under trees. |
| <i>(Hedera helix)</i> English Ivy | 6-8 inches | Green, not of interest | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Interesting foliage; evergreen | ✓ | | | Fast growing; susceptible to spider mites; some varieties such as 'Bulgaria', 'Hebron' and 'Thorndale' are particularly cold hardy. |
| <i>(Houttuynia cordata</i> 'Chameleon') Houttuynia | 6-9 inches | White; early summer | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Multicolored foliage (red, green and cream) | ✓ | ✓ | | Can be a very aggressive grower, so may be a problem in perennial beds; on the other hand it is very hard to kill and could be the answer to a difficult planting site. |
| <i>(Lamium</i> <i>galeobdolon)</i> Yellow Archangel | 1 foot | Yellow; late spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Green leaves with silver markings | ✓ | | | Fast grower, can become aggressive. |
| <i>(Lamium</i> <i>maculatum)</i> Spotted Dead Nettle | Up to 1 foot | Purplish, white or pink; spring | ✓ | ✓ | | Variegated foliage | ✓ | | | Can be aggressive. |
| <i>(Pachysandra</i> <i>terminalis)</i> Japanese Spurge | 9-12 inches | White; spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Waxy green leaves; evergreen | ✓ | | | Best in acid soil, but also tolerates neutral soil. |
| <i>(Vinca minor)</i> Common Periwinkle | 3-6 inches | Purple- blue; spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Evergreen leaves | ✓ | | | Clean out plantings regularly to increase air circulation and prevent stem disease; 'Alba' has white flowers; 'Variegata' has blue flowers and cream-edged leaves |
| <i>(Waldsteinia ternata)</i> Barren Strawberry | 3-4 inches | Yellow; spring- early summer | ✓ | ✓ | | Foliage is like that of strawberries | ✓ | | ✓ | Can also tolerate sun if moisture is adequate. |
| Ferns | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>(Adiantum pedatum)</i> Northern Maidenhair Fern | 1-2 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Delicate foliage | ✓ | | | Must be kept moist at all times. |
| <i>(Athyrium</i> <i>nipponicum</i> 'Pictum') Japanese Painted Fern | 12-18 inches | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Foliage is gray green, tinged with maroon | ✓ | | | Avoid windy sites as the fronds are easily broken. |
| <i>(Dennstaedtia</i> <i>punctilobula)</i> Cup Fern | 1-2 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | | Foliage is fine textured; yellow fall color | ✓ | | ✓ | Spreads fairly easily so may be a problem in small gardens. |

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| (<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>) Marginal Wood Fern | 1 ½ -2 ½ feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Gray green foliage | ✓ | | ✓ | Easy to grow. |
| (<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>) Ostrich Fern | 2-5 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Fertile fronds are green becoming brown and woody | ✓ | ✓ | | Spreads fairly easily so may be a problem in small gardens. |
| (<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>) Cinnamon Fern | 2-4 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Fertile fronds are cinnamon colored | ✓ | ✓ | | Tends to spread relatively slowly. |
| (<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>) Christmas Fern | 2-3 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Evergreen foliage | ✓ | | | Easy to grow. |
| (<i>Woodwardia areolata</i>) Netted Chain Fern | 1-2 feet | No flowers | ✓ | ✓ | | Fertile fronds emerge reddish green then turn dark green | ✓ | ✓ | | Easy to grow. |
| Annuals, biennials and summer bulbs | | | | | | | | | | |
| (<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>) Floss Flower, Ageratum | 6-18 inches | Blue, lavender, white; all season | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Dead head to keep plants flowering. (Annual) |
| (<i>Begonia x semperflorens-cultorum</i>) Wax Begonia | 8-12 inches | Pink, white, red; most of the season | ✓ | | | Glossy, variegated foliage | ✓ | | | Single- and double-flowered cultivars available. (Annual) |
| (<i>Begonia x tuberhybrida</i>) Tuberous Begonia | 12-18 inches | Wide range of colors; all season | ✓ | | | Crisp leaves | ✓ | | | Tubers may be dug after the first frost and stored indoors. (Summer bulb) |
| (<i>Caladium</i> hybrids) Caladium | 1-2 feet | Grown for foliage, not flowers | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Grown for foliage; foliage colors are a mix of red, pink, green and white | ✓ | | | Tubers may be dug and stored before frost (when leaf color begins to fade); some new cultivars are sun tolerant. (Summer bulb) |
| (<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>) Elephant Ears | 3-3 ½ feet | Grown for foliage, not flowers | ✓ | ✓ | | Grown for foliage; leaves are large and tropical looking | ✓ | ✓ | | Wind can damage the large leaves. Tubers may be dug after the first frost and stored indoors. (Summer bulb) |
| (<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>) Common Foxglove | 2-4 feet | Purple; most of season | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Plants will self sow. (Biennial) |
| (<i>Impatiens balsamina</i>) Balsam | 1-3 feet | Range of colors; all season | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | (Annual) |
| (<i>Impatiens</i> hybrids) Impatiens | 6-18 inches | Range of colors; all season | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Single- and double-flowered cultivars are available. (Annual) |

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| (<i>Solenostemon scutellarioides</i>) Coleus | 1-2 feet | Grown for foliage | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Numerous cultivars; range of leaf colors | ✓ | | | Some cultivars of coleus can also be used in full sun. (Annual) |
| (<i>Viola x wittrockiana</i>) Pansy | 6-8 inches | Several; fall and spring | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | These annuals can tolerate a lot of cold and are often the first annuals sold in spring. (Annuals) |
| Perennials | | | | | | | | | | |
| (<i>Aconitum napellus</i>) Monkshood | 3-4 feet | Blue, violet; July and August | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | This plant is poisonous and its sap should not be ingested; aggressive grower; difficult to transplant. |
| (<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>) Doll's Eyes | 2-3 feet | White; spring | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | White berries with a dark 'eye' (doll's eyes) | ✓ | | | Berries are poisonous. |
| (<i>Actaea rubra</i>) Red Baneberry | 18 inches | White; summer | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Red berries | ✓ | | | Berries are poisonous. |
| (<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>) Lady's Mantle | 8-18 inches | Yellow-green; June-July | ✓ | | | Attractive foliage | ✓ | | | Will self sow. |
| (<i>Anemone x hybrida</i>) Japanese Anemone | 1-4 feet | Red, pink or white; late sum. , early fall | ✓ | | | Attractive foliage | ✓ | | | |
| (<i>Aquilegia</i> hybrids) Columbine | 1-3 feet | Range of colors; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Flowering will be prolonged in partially shaded sites; leaf miner (insect) can be damaging to the leaves; self-sows. |
| (<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>) Jack in the Pulpit | 1-2 feet | Green, brown; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Red berries follow the female flowers | ✓ | ✓ | | Unique flower structure is interesting. |
| (<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>) Goatsbeard | 4-6 feet | White; June-July | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Male and female flowers are on separate plants. Both flower well. |
| (<i>Astilbe</i> species and hybrids) Astilbe | 2-3 feet | White, pink, red, lavender; June-July | ✓ | ✓ | | Divided foliage, almost fern-like | ✓ | | | Many cultivars available. Soil should be consistently moist. |
| (<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i>) Bergenia | 12-18 inches | White or pink, April-May | ✓ | | | Leaves evergreen, with a succulent look and bronze tinge. | ✓ | | | Slugs are a common pest. |
| (<i>Brunnera macrophylla</i>) Siberian Bugloss | 12-18 inches | Blue; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Heart shaped foliage | ✓ | | | Self-sows, but not weedy. Some cultivars are available with variegated leaves. |
| (<i>Campanula carpatica</i>) Carpathian Harebells | 6-12 inches | Blue, violet or white; June-Aug | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Good for the rock garden |

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| <i>(Campanula glomerata)</i> Clustered Bellflower | 18-24 inches | Violet; June-July | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | May become aggressive. |
| <i>(Centaurea montana)</i> Mountain Bluet | 1-2 feet | Blue or white; May-July | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | Self sows. |
| <i>(Chelone species)</i> Turtlehead | 2-3 feet | Pink, white; Aug-Sept | ✓ | | | Clean, crisp foliage throughout season. | ✓ | ✓ | | Very sturdy plant but may need staking if shade is too deep. |
| <i>(Cimicifuga racemosa)</i> Bugbane | 4-6 feet | White; July-Aug | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | About half the height is a result of the flower stalk. |
| <i>(Cimicifuga ramosa)</i> Bugbane | 4-6 feet | White; early fall | ✓ | | | Some cultivars have bronze or maroon foliage | ✓ | | | Flowers are fragrant. |
| <i>(Corydalis lutea)</i> Yellow Corydalis | 6-12 inches | Yellow; all season | ✓ | ✓ | | Delicate fern-like foliage | ✓ | | | Self sows; may become aggressive. |
| <i>(Dicentra cucullaria)</i> Dutchman's Breeches | 6-12 inches | White; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Divided foliage | ✓ | | | Will go dormant in summer. |
| <i>(Dicentra spectabilis)</i> Bleeding Heart | 1 ½- 3 feet | Pink; May-June | ✓ | | | Divided foliage | ✓ | | | May go dormant in heat of summer. |
| <i>(Dodecatheon meadia)</i> Shooting Star | 6-18 inches | Pink or white; April-June | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Goes dormant in summer. |
| <i>(Eupatorium species)</i> Joe-Pye Weed | 5-6 feet | Dusty pink; July-Sept | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | Avoid dry sites as these plants will wilt easily. |
| <i>(Gentiana andrewsii)</i> Closed Gentian | 12-18 inches | Blue; Aug-Sept | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | Flowers stay closed. |
| <i>(Geranium maculatum)</i> Wild Geranium | 1-2 feet | Rose pink; April-June | ✓ | | | Attractive foliage | ✓ | | | Self sows. |
| <i>(Geranium phaeum)</i> Mourning Widow | 6-12 inches | purple; June-Aug | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Green foliage marked with purple | ✓ | | | Self sows. |
| <i>(Geranium sanguineum)</i> Bloodred Cranesbill | 6-12 inches | Magenta; May-Aug | ✓ | | | Deeply cut leaves | ✓ | | | Tolerates more sun than other species of <i>Geranium</i> . |
| <i>(Helleborus hybrids)</i> Hellebores | 12-15 inches | White, pink, green, purple mix; early spring | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Prefer a neutral to alkaline soil. |
| <i>(Hemerocallis hybrids)</i> Daylily | 1-4 feet | Wide range June-Sept* | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | *Extend bloom by selecting cultivars with different bloom times. |

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| <i>(Heuchera sanguinea)</i> Coral Bells | 6-24 inches* | White, pink or red; June-July | ✓ | | | Some cultivars have striking foliage. | ✓ | | | *6" in leaf, but up to 24" in flower. Dainty flowers are attractive to hummingbirds. |
| <i>(Hosta species and hybrids)</i> Hosta | 1-2 ½ feet | White, lavender; Aug-Sept | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Beautiful foliage in many colors and patterns | ✓ | | | Many cultivars; grown more for foliage than flowers. Slugs can be a problem. |
| <i>(Iris sibirica)</i> Siberian Iris | 1-3 feet | Blue, purple; May-June | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Resistant to iris borer. |
| <i>(Ligularia dentata)</i> Bigleaf Goldenray | 3-4 feet | Yellow; mid-summer | ✓ | ✓ | | Large, rounded leaves | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>(Ligularia stenocephala)</i> 'The Rocket' | 4-5 feet | Yellow; early, mid-summer | ✓ | | | Large heart-shaped to triangular leaves; | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>(Lobelia cardinalis)</i> Cardinal Flower | 2-4 feet | Red; Aug-Sept | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | Good as cut flowers. Short lived perennial that self sows. |
| <i>(Mertensia virginica)</i> Virginia Bluebells | 1-2 feet | Blue; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | Foliage dies back after flowering. |
| <i>(Monarda didyma)</i> Bee balm | 2-3 feet | Several; July-Aug | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Tends to spread. Powdery mildew common, (look for resistant cultivars |
| <i>(Phlox divaricata)</i> Blue Phlox | 1-2 feet | Blue; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | Powdery mildew can be a problem. |
| <i>(Physostegia virginiana)</i> Obedient Plant | 3-4 feet | Lavender; July-Aug | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | Easy to grow; can become aggressive. |
| <i>(Podophyllum peltatum)</i> Mayapple | 12-18 inches | White; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Umbrella-like foliage | ✓ | ✓ | | Can grow aggressively. This plant has poisonous parts. |
| <i>(Polemonium caeruleum)</i> Jacob's Ladder | 1-2 feet | Blue; May-July | ✓ | | | Ladder-like foliage | ✓ | | | Does well in woodland conditions. |
| <i>(Polygonatum biflorum)</i> Solomon's Seal | 1-3 feet | White; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Blue berries late in the season | ✓ | | | Spreads slowly under ground. |
| <i>(Pulmonaria saccharata)</i> Bethlehem Sage | 8-12 inches | Blue or pink; May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive, spotted foliage | ✓ | | | Several cultivars available. |
| <i>(Rodgersia aesculifolia)</i> Fingerleaf Rodgersia | 3-5 feet | White; late spring-midsummer | ✓ | ✓ | | Horsechestnut-like foliage | ✓ | ✓ | | |

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| <i>(Sanguinaria canadensis)</i> Bloodroot | 6-10 inches | White; March-May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Deeply lobed foliage | ✓ | | | Can also grow in full sun. |
| <i>(Smilacina racemosa)</i> False Solomon's Seal | 1-3 feet | White; May-July | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Red berries in summer | ✓ | | | Looks like true Solomon's Seal, but has different flowers. |
| <i>(Stylophorum diphylum)</i> Celandine Poppy | 10-15 inches | Yellow; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | | Lobed foliage | ✓ | | | Self sows. |
| <i>(Tiarella cordifolia)</i> Foamflower | 6-12 inches | White; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive foliage | ✓ | | | Many cultivars with interesting foliage are available. |
| <i>(Tradescantia species)</i> Spiderwort | 1-2 ½ feet | Pink, blue, white; May-June | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | Cut plant back in midsummer to keep it tidy and encourage new growth. |
| <i>(Tricyrtis formosana)</i> Formosa Toad Lily | 2 feet | Pink; Sept- Oct | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Flowers resemble tiny orchids. |
| <i>(Tricyrtis hirta)</i> Hairy Toad Lily | 2-3 feet | Lavender; Sept-Oct | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Flowers resemble tiny orchids. |
| <i>(Trillium grandiflorum)</i> Large Flowered Trillium | 6-18 inches | White; April-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Leaves is sets of three | ✓ | | | Flowers change to pink as they age. |
| <i>(Uvularia grandiflora)</i> Bellwort, Merry Bells | 12-18 inches | Yellow; April-May | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | Prefers neutral to alkaline soils. |
| <i>(Viola species)</i> Violets | 4-10 inches | Purple, white, yellow; April-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Heart shaped leaves | ✓ | | | Violets are very adaptable to a variety of light levels and soil types; aggressive under ideal conditions |
| Vines | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>(Aristolochia macrophylla)</i> Dutchman's Pipe | 20-30 feet | Greenish yellow; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | | Heart shaped foliage | ✓ | | | Twining vine. |
| <i>(Hydrangea anomala subsp. petiolaris)</i> Climbing Hydrangea | 50-60 feet | White; June-July | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Crisp foliage and yellow fall color | ✓ | | | Prune in winter or early spring to remove neglected vines or those not flowering well. Clinging vine. |
| <i>(Parthenocissus quinquefolia)</i> Virginia Creeper | 50-60 feet | Greenish; June-July | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive foliage; red fall color | ✓ | | | Clinging vine. |
| <i>(Parthenocissus tricuspidata)</i> Boston Ivy | 50-60 feet | Greenish; June-July | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Attractive foliage; red fall color | ✓ | | | Clinging vine. |

| Ornamental Grasses | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <i>(Arrhenatherum elatius bulbosum</i> 'Variegatum') Bulbous Oat Grass | 6-12 inches (1-2 feet in flower) | Silver to tan; May- June | ✓ | | | Striped foliage | ✓ | | | Cool season, clumping grass |
| <i>(Chasmanthium latifolium)</i> Northern Sea Oats | 2-3 feet (3-4 feet in flower) | Green; late summer | ✓ | | | Bamboo like foliage and drooping flat seed heads. | ✓ | | | Warm season, clumping grass |
| <i>(Deschampsia caespitosa)</i> Tufted Hairgrass | 1-3 feet (3-4 feet in flower) | Green; May-June | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Tan foliage in fall | ✓ | | | Cool season, clumping grass |
| <i>(Festuca ovina</i> 'Glauca') Blue Fescue | 12-18 inches | Green; June-July | ✓ | | | Blue green foliage; often evergreen | ✓ | | | Easy to grow from seed, but intensity of blue color will vary quite a bit; buy named varieties for uniform color. |
| <i>(Hakonechloa macra)</i> Hakone Grass | 12-18 inches tall | Green; late summer | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | May be borderline hardy in zone 5. Cool season, clumping grass. |
| <i>(Hystrix patula)</i> Bottlebrush Grass | 8-12 inches (2-3 feet in flower) | Green; June- August | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | Plants will self sow and can be used for naturalizing. Cool season, clumping grass. |
| Shrubs | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>(Clethra alnifolia)</i> Summersweet Clethra | 4-8 feet | White; July- August | ✓ | ✓ | | Yellow to mild orange fall color | ✓ | ✓ | | Salt tolerant. Flowers are fragrant. |
| <i>(Cornus mas)</i> Corneliancherry Dogwood | 20-25 feet | Yellow; April | ✓ | | | Cherry red fruit in summer; mottled bark | ✓ | | | This species can be used as either a large shrub or a small tree. |
| <i>(Corylopsis species)</i> Fragrant Winterhazel | 8-15 feet | Light yellow; April | ✓ | | | Yellow fall color | ✓ | | | Because this shrub flowers early, it is prone to frost damage. |
| <i>(Fothergilla gardenii)</i> Dwarf Fothergilla | 2-3 feet | White; April-May | ✓ | | | Fall color red, orange and purple | ✓ | | | Best flowering and autumn color will occur in full sun. |
| <i>(Hamamelis vernalis)</i> Vernal Witchhazel | 6-10 feet | Yellow; March-April | ✓ | ✓ | | Dark green foliage; fall color is yellow | ✓ | ✓ | | Tolerant of alkaline soils. |
| <i>(Hydrangea arborescens)</i> Smooth Hydrangea) | 3-5 feet | White; June-Sept | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Mild yellow fall color in some years | ✓ | | | |
| <i>(Hydrangea quercifolia)</i> Oakleaf Hydrangea | 3-6 feet | White; June-July | ✓ | ✓ | | Attractive, oak-like leaves; fall color is russet-red | ✓ | | | Flower clusters will dry on the plant for a lasting effect. |
| <i>(Hypericum prolificum)</i> Shrubby St. Johnswort | 3-4 feet | Yellow; July-Aug | ✓ | | | Blue green summer foliage | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Tolerates alkaline soils. |

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| <i>(Ilex verticillata)</i> Winterberry | 6-9 feet | Flowers not showy | ✓ | | | Bright red fruit in winter; mild yellow fall color | ✓ | ✓ | | All <i>Ilex</i> have male and female flowers on separate plants. Fruit on females if a male plant is available to pollinate |
| <i>(Lindera benzoin)</i> Spicebush | 6-12 feet | Yellow; April | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Red berries on female plants in late summer and autumn; fall color is yellow | ✓ | ✓ | | Since male and female flowers are on separate plants, both are needed to produce the bright red berries (berries will be produced on female plant). |
| <i>(Mahonia aquifolium)</i> Oregon Grapeholly | 3-6 feet | Yellow; April | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Evergreen leaves; blue-black, non-edible fruits in summer; leaves turn purplish in winter | ✓ | | | The evergreen leaves may scorch in dry, windy sites or during dry winters. |
| <i>(Myrica pensylvanica)</i> Bayberry | 6-12 feet | Flowers not showy | ✓ | | | Dark green aromatic foliage, gray, waxy berries on female plants | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Since male and female flowers are on separate plants, both are needed to produce the waxy berries (berries will be produced on female plant only). |
| <i>(Rhododendron catawbiense)</i> Catawba Rhododendron | 6-12 feet | Several colors; April and May | ✓ | ✓ | | Evergreen leaves | ✓ | | | Alkaline soils will lead to chlorosis (yellowing) of the leaves; winter sun and wind can be damaging to the evergreen foliage. |
| <i>(Rhus aromatica)</i> Fragrant Sumac | 3-8 feet | Flowers not showy | ✓ | ✓ | | Shiny green leaves; red fruit on female plants; excellent fall color | ✓ | | ✓ | Male and female flowers on separate plants. Fruit will be produced only if a male plant is available to pollinate |
| <i>(Symphoricarpos albus)</i> Common Snowberry | 3-6 feet | Pink; June | ✓ | ✓ | | White fruit, September-November | ✓ | | | Due to high incidence of disease and vigorous suckering, this shrub tends to require high maintenance. |
| <i>(Taxus species)</i> Yew | Cultivars available in shrub-like sizes | Flowers not showy | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Evergreen foliage; red fruit on female plants | ✓ | | | Poorly drained soils can be very damaging to yews. |
| <i>(Viburnum carlesii)</i> Koreanspice Viburnum | 4-6 feet | White; May | ✓ | | | Fruit change from red to black; fall color is wine red | ✓ | | | Flowers are extremely fragrant. |
| <i>(Viburnum dentatum)</i> Arrowwood Viburnum | 6-12 feet | White; May | ✓ | | | Small, dark blue fruits in late summer; fall color is reddish | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Flower fragrance is slightly unpleasant. |