



For a compilation of the gardening tips presented through the talk, see [Best Management Tips](#)

PLANTS FOR FOREST LAYERS (by height, tall to short)

Canopy Trees

- [White Oak \(*Quercus alba*\)](#)
- [Red Oak \(*Quercus rubra*\)](#)

Understory Trees

- [Sassafras \(*Sassafras albidum*\)](#)
- [Pawpaw \(*Asimina triloba*\)](#)
- [Flowering Dogwood \(*Cornus florida*\)](#)
- [Eastern Redbud \(*Cercis canadensis*\)](#)

Shrubs

- [Witch Hazel \(*Hamamelis virginiana*\)](#)
- [Spicebush \(*Lindera benzoin*\)](#)
- [Mountain Laurel \(*Kalmia latifolia*\)](#)
- [Pinxterbloom Azalea \(*Rhododendron periclymenoides*\)](#)
- [Strawberry-bush \(*Euonymus americanus*\)](#)
- [Mapleleaf Viburnum \(*Viburnum acerifolium*\)](#)

Herbaceous Layer Plants

- [Foxglove Beardtongue \(*Penstemon digitalis*\)](#)
- [Solomon's Seal \(*Polygonatum biflorum*\)](#)
- [Mayapple \(*Podophyllum peltatum*\)](#)
- [Dutchman's Breeches \(*Dicentra cucullaria*\)](#)
- [Wild Ginger \(*Asarum canadense*\)](#)
- [Foamflower \(*Tiarella cordifolia*\)](#)
- [Christmas Fern \(*Polystichum acrostichoides*\)](#)
- [Maidenhair Fern \(*Adiantum pedatum*\)](#)
- [Partridge-berry \(*Mitchella repens*\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Sedge \(*Carex pensylvanica*\)](#)

For information on keystone plants, see a presentation on [“Keystone Species of Native Plants”](#)

For information on creating layered forest edges, see a presentation on [“Creating a Well-Layered Garden”](#)

For more information on the importance of leaf litter and how to use it, see a presentation on [“Leave the Leaves and Other Beneficial Practices”](#)

See a demonstration of [“Gardening Basics: Doing a Soil Test”](#)



LAWN OR SPECIMEN TREES (by height, tall to short)

Trees for Dry Conditions

- [Eastern Redcedar \(*Juniperus virginiana*\)](#)
- [Fringetree \(*Chionanthus virginicus*\)](#)
- [Downy Serviceberry \(*Amelanchier arborea*\)](#)

Trees for Wet Conditions

- [Bald Cypress \(*Taxodium distichum*\)](#)
- [River Birch \(*Betula nigra*\)](#)
- [Black Gum \(*Nyssa sylvatica*\)](#)
- [American Hornbeam \(*Carpinus caroliniana*\)](#)
- [Sweetbay Magnolia \(*Magnolia virginiana*\)](#)

For more information, see [“Celebrating Native Trees”](#) and [“Keystone Species of Native Plants”](#)

See [Arbor Day planting directions](#)

See demonstration of planting in short video [“Garden Basics: Planting Shrubs and Trees”](#)

[EcoAction Arlington Tree Planting Program](#)

(Applications due 2024-01-05 for spring 2024 & 2024-06 for fall 2024)

[Small Trees Make Big Canopies](#), MGNV program

(Volunteer trees accepted; trees given away in spring and fall)



SHRUBS FOR HEDGEROWS or FOUNDATIONS (by height, tall to short)

Shrubs for Dry Conditions

- [Common Ninebark \(*Physocarpus opulifolius*\)](#)
- [New Jersey Tea \(*Ceanothus americanus*\)](#)

Shrubs for Moist Conditions

- [Black Haw \(*Viburnum prunifolium*\)](#)
- [Possum-haw \(*Viburnum nudum*\)](#)
- [Arrow-wood Viburnum \(*Viburnum dentatum*\)](#)
- [American Beauty-berry \(*Callicarpa americana*\)](#)
- [Black Chokeberry \(*Aronia melanocarpa*\)](#)
- [Wild Hydrangea \(*Hydrangea arborescens*\)](#)

Shrubs for Moist to Wet Conditions

- [Sweet Pepperbush \(*Clethra alnifolia*\)](#)
- [Buttonbush \(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*\)](#)
- [Virginia Sweetspire \(*Itea virginica*\)](#)
- [Inkberry \(*Ilex glabra*\)](#)
- [Winterberry \(*Ilex verticillata*\)](#)

For more information, see recorded video [“Overused Foundation Plants & Native Alternatives”](#)

Watch for updated class “Native Alternatives to Overused Foundation Plants”





GROUND COVERS (in bloom sequence, spring to fall)

Ground Covers for Sun

- [Moss Phlox \(*Phlox subulata*\)](#)
- [Plantain-leaved Pussytoes \(*Antennaria plantaginifolia*\)](#)
- [Wild Pink \(*Silene caroliniana*\)](#)
- [Eastern Prickly-pear \(*Opuntia humifusa*\)](#)
- [Creeping Juniper \(*Juniperus horizontalis*\)](#)
- [Fragrant Sumac \(*Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-Low'\)](#)

Ground Covers for Shade

- [Woodland Stonecrop \(*Sedum ternatum*\)](#)
- [Hairy Alumroot \(*Heuchera villosa* 'Autumn Bride'\)](#)
- [White Wood Aster \(*Eurybia divaricata*\)](#)
- [Plantain-leaved Sedge \(*Carex plantaginifolia*\)](#)
- [Marginal Wood Fern \(*Dryopteris marginalis*\)](#)

Ground Covers for Full Sun to Full Shade

- [Golden Ragwort \(*Packera aurea*\)](#)
- [Green-and-Gold \(*Chrysogonum virginianum*\)](#)
- [Golden Alexanders \(*Zizia aurea*\)](#)

Ground Covers to Use Vertically

- [Virginia Creeper \(*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*\)](#)
- [Trumpet Honeysuckle \(*Lonicera sempervirens*\)](#)

See ["Native Ground Covers for Sun and Shade"](#) and ["Native Vines for the Home Garden"](#)



PERENNIALS (in bloom sequence, spring to fall)

Perennials for Dry to Moist Conditions

- [Blue Wild Indigo \(*Baptisia australis*\)](#)
- [Purple Coneflower \(*Echinacea purpurea*\)](#)
- [Garden Phlox \(*Phlox paniculata*\)](#)
- [Butterfly-weed \(*Asclepias tuberosa*\)](#)
- [Threadleaf Coreopsis \(*Coreopsis verticillata*\)](#)
- [Anise Hyssop \(*Agastache foeniculum*\)](#)
- [Blazing Star \(*Liatris spicata*\)](#)
- [Orange Coneflower \(*Rudbeckia fulgida*\)](#)
- [Blue-stemmed Goldenrod \(*Solidago caesia*\)](#)
- [Aromatic Aster \(*Symphotrichum oblongifolium*\)](#)
- [Switchgrass \(*Panicum virgatum*\)](#)
- [Little Bluestem \(*Schizachyrium scoparium*\)](#)

For more information, see [“Best Bets: Native Plants for Dry Conditions”](#)

Perennials for Moist to Wet Soil

- [Scarlet Beebalm \(*Monarda didyma*\)](#)
- [Swamp Milkweed \(*Asclepias incarnata*\)](#)
- [Cardinal Flower \(*Lobelia cardinalis*\)](#)
- [Swamp Rose-mallow \(*Hibiscus moscheutos*\)](#)
- [Coastal Plain Joe-pye-weed \(*Eutrochium dubium*\)](#)
- [New York Ironweed \(*Vernonia noveboracensis*\)](#)

For more information, see [“Best Bets: Native Plants for Wet Conditions”](#)

See plans for [“Sunny, Small Space Garden”](#) and [“Pollinator Garden Plan”](#)



RESOURCES

[Beautiful Native Plants videos](#)

Other presentations of interest:

- [“Caring for Your Native Plants Garden”](#)
- [“Climate-Conscious Gardening”](#)
- [“Common Native Ferns of the Mid-Atlantic”](#)
- [“Native Blooms for the Summer Garden”](#)
- [“Invasive Plants & Native Alternatives”](#)
- [“Native Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for the Home Garden”](#)
- [“Native Plants for Shade”](#)
- [“Native Plants for Winter Interest”](#)
- [“Native Flowers, Fruits, and Foliage for Fall”](#)
- [“Native Spring Ephemerals”](#)
- [“Native Trees & Shrubs for Pollinators”](#)
- [“Partnering with Pollinators”](#)
- [“Small Space Gardening for Pollinators”](#)
- [“Sustainable Landscaping Basics”](#)

Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) (#mgnvsocialmedia)

[Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens](#) (Arlington & Alexandria, VA)

[Native-Only Sellers](#), Plant NoVA Natives

[Native Plant Nurseries](#), Virginia Native Plant Society

[Regional Native Plant Vendors](#), Maryland Native Plant Society

Upcoming public education presentations on sustainable landscaping and native plants:

- Native Alternatives to Overused Foundation Plants (March 1, 2024)
- Celebrating Native Trees (April 26, 2024)
- Native Plant Species & Cultivars (May 10, 2024)
- Underutilized Native Plants (June 7, 2024)

[[Register](#) under EDUCATION menu tab at MGNV.ORG about one month in advance]