

Native Plants for Rain Gardens

Homeowners Guide to Lake-Friendly Living Fact Sheets Series

A rain garden is a slightly depressed garden filled with native plants that allow rainwater to slowly soak into the soils, replenishing groundwater and protecting our surface water.

	<u>Soil Moisture</u>	<u>Exposure</u>
Beardtongue (<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>)	Moist	sun-part shade
Beebalm (<i>Monarda didyma</i>)	Moist	full sun-part shade
Big Bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	Moist-Dry	sun
Black snakeroot (<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>)	Moist	full sun-part shade
Blue Flag Iris (<i>Iris versicolor</i>)	Saturated	full sun-part shade
Buttonbush (<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun
Cardinal Flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	Saturated-Moist	full sun-part shade
Cinnamon Fern (<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-shade
Columbine (<i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i>)	Moist-Dry	sun-shade
Common Alexanders (<i>Zizia aurea</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-part shade
Cranesbill (<i>Geranium maculatum</i>)	Moist-Dry	full sun-part shade
Cut-leaf Coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>)	Saturated-Dry	sun-part shade
Foamflower (<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>)	Moist	sun-shade
Great Blue Lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-shade

Benefits of a Rain Garden

- Recharge local groundwater
- Reduce mosquito breeding by removing standing water
- Create a habitat for birds and butterflies
- Reduce the potential of home flooding
- Protect streams and rivers



Designing your rain garden

- Pick a relatively flat area 10 feet away from the house
- A typical rain garden is 100 to 300 square feet and should be twice as long as it is wide
- Depth should be about 4 to 8 inches

Joe Pye Weed (<i>Eupatorium sp.</i>)	Saturated-Dry	sun-part shade
Marsh Marigold (<i>Caltha palustris</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-shade
Narrow Sundrops (<i>Oneothesa fruticosa</i>)	Moist-Dry	sun
New England Aster (<i>Aster novae angliae</i>)	Saturated-Dry	full sun-part shade
Rough Goldenrod (<i>Solidago rugosa</i>)	Saturated-Dry	sun
Royal Fern (<i>Osmunda regalis</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-shade
Sensitive Fern (<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-shade
Silky Dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>)	Moist	sun-part sun
Spicebush (<i>Lindera benzoin</i>)	Moist	sun-shade
Switch Grass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	Saturated-Dry	sun
Swamp Milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>)	Saturated-Moist	full sun-part shade
Virginia Bluebells (<i>Mertensia virginica</i>)	Moist	full sun- part shade
White Turtlehead (<i>Chelone glabra</i>)	Saturated-Moist	full sun-part shade
Wild Blue Lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>)	Dry	sun-part sun
Wild Ginger (<i>Asarum canadense</i>)	Moist	sun-part shade
Wild Senna (<i>Senna hebecarpa</i>)	Moist	full sun-part shade
Winterberry holly (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>)	Saturated-Moist	sun-part shade



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