

Plants for Dry Shade

One of the challenges of gardening can be dealing with shade, particularly dry shade under the canopy of trees where rainwater is deflected away and plants need to compete for moisture, root space, nutrients, even airflow. Narrow spaces between buildings or under north-facing eaves offer the same challenge. Below are some plants for dry shade or part shade.

Ajuga
Alchemilla, Lady's mantle
Aquilegia, Columbine
Bergenia
Brunnera
Clematis
Convallaria
Corydalis
Dicentra, Bleeding heart
Digitalis, Foxglove
Geranium (perennial)
Helleborus, Lenten rose
Hemerocallis, Daylily
Heuchera, Coral bells
Hosta
Lamium
Liriope
Lonicera
Monarda
Pachysandra
Polygonatum, Solomon's seal
Thalictrum, Meadow rue
Vinca minor, Periwinkle
Waldsteinia, Barren strawberry

Tall Plants for the Back Border

Plants can vary greatly in height due to site, soil, exposure and other factors, but the plants listed below are likely to grow higher than 3 feet.

GRASSES
Andropogon, 5'
Calamagrostis, 3-5'
Eragrostis trichodes, 3'
Miscanthus, 3-4'
Panicum, 4-5'
Schizachyrium scoparium, 2-4'
Sorghastrum nutans, 3-4'

PERENNIALS, full sun
Acanthus, 3-4'
Achillea, 3-4'
Alcea rosea, 3-6'
Amorpha canescens, 4'
Asclepias 2-4'
Aster, 3-4'
Baptisia lactea, 36-48"
Buddleja, 3-7'
Centranthus ruber, 2-3'
Echinacea, 3-4'
Eupatorium dubium, 3-4'
Fallopia aubertii, 12'
Hibiscus, 3-5'
Ipomopsis aggregata, 4'
Iris sibirica & spuria, 2-3'
Kniphofia caulescens, 3'
Lespedeza, 3'
Liatris, 3-5'
Paeonia, 2-3'
Papaver orientale, 2-3'
Penstemon, 2-3'
Phlox, 2-3'
Ratibida, 4'
Rudbeckia fulgida, 3-4'
Senna hebecarpa, 4-6'
Silene regia, 3-4'
Solidago, 3-4'

PERENNIALS, part shade
Aconitum, 2-5'
Callicarpa dichotoma, 3-5'
Chelone glabra 'Black Ace', 3-6'
Delphinium, 3-5'
Filipendula, 3-5'
Ligularia, 4-5'
Lobelia, 3-4'
Lysimachia, 2-3'
Monarda, 3-4'
Thalictrum, 2-5'

Purposeful Plants

Name Your Challenge

Native plants can handle some of the most challenging landscape problems:

- 🍷 **Low spots or wet spots.** Deep-rooted native or prairie plants can usually withstand extremes of wet to dry moisture better than most landscape plants.
- 🍷 **Dry spots surrounded by hardscape.** Native plants need a minimum of watering and maintenance.
- 🍷 **Dry shade under trees.** Root competition can be troublesome under trees, but there are plants that can take it.

Native and Recommended Plants

There are lots of lists of trees, shrubs and perennials for Nebraska at plantnebraska.org/your-yard/what-to-plant. There's also season-specific articles, videos, tips on getting kids outdoors, how-tos and much more. Sample plant lists:

NATIVE PLANTS - Trees and Shrubs | Prairie plants & guides
 POLLINATOR PLANTS - for eastern NE | for western NE | Pollinator Garden Calendar | Wild Bee Habitat | Plant for specific Pollinators
 RECOMMENDED TREES - for eastern NE | for western NE | Drought-tolerant Trees - East | Drought-tolerant Trees - West | Shrubs | Trees for Wildlife | Trees & Plants for community planting | Oaks | Evergreens | Ash Replacements | Invasive Nebraska Woodies

Plants for Pollinators (all year long)

*Asterisk denotes woody plants that may be available from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum (see plant list on page 8).

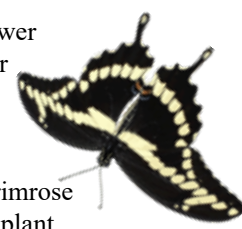
SPRING
 **Acer*, maple
Allium, onion
 **Amelanchier*, serviceberry or Juneberry
Anemone

Antennaria, pussytoes
Aquilegia, columbine
Baptisia
Calycanthus, sweet shrub
Carex, sedge
Chionanthus, Fringe tree
Corylus, hazelnut
Delphinium
Elymus hystrix, bottlebrush grass
Euonymus
Geranium, crane's bill
Geum triflorum, prairie smoke
Hamamelis, witchhazel
Lithospermum
Magnolia
Osmorhiza, sweet cicely
Oxalis, sorrel or shamrock
Penstemon
Phlox
Polygonatum, Solomon's seal
 **Prunus*—plum, cherry, peach, nectarine, apricot, almond
 **Quercus*, oak
Pulsatilla (or *Anemone*), pasque flower
 **Salix*, willow
Sanguinaria, bloodroot
Senecio plattensis, prairie ragwort
 **Syringa*, lilac
Tradescantia, spiderwort
 **Viburnum*
Viola
Yucca
Zizia, golden alexander

EARLY SUMMER
Amorpha, leadplant
Asclepias, milkweed
Callirhoe, poppy mallow
Ceanothus americanus, New Jersey tea
Coreopsis
Dalea, prairie coneflower
Echinacea, coneflower
Lilium, lily
Lobelia
Monarda, beebalm
Oenothera, evening primrose
Pycnanthemum, mountain mint
Rosa, rose
Ruellia humilis, wild petunia
Silphium laciniatum, compass plant
Veronicastrum, culver's root

LATE SUMMER
Achillea, yarrow
Agastache
Allium, onion
Artemisia, sage
Asclepias, milkweed
Calamintha, calamint
Ceanothus, New Jersey tea
Chelone, turtlehead
Coreopsis
Dalea, prairie coneflower
Desmodium canadense, bundleflower
Echinacea, coneflower
Eryngium, sea holly
Eupatorium, Joe pye plant
Gaillardia
Heliopsis, false sunflower
Lespedeza, bush clover
Liatris, blazing star
Lobelia
Monarda, beebalm
Oenothera, evening primrose
Physostegia, obedient plant
Pycnanthemum, mountain mint
Ratibida, prairie coneflower
Rudbeckia, black-eyed Susan
Schizachyrium, little bluestem
Silphium, cup plant
Solidago, goldenrod
Sporobolus, prairie dropseed
Thelesperma, greenthreads
Vernonia, ironweed

AUTUMN
Agastache
Aster
Boltonia
Calamintha, calamint
Chelone, turtlehead
Cirsium, thistle
Eupatorium, Joe pye plant
Gaura
Helenium, sneezeweed
Helianthus, sunflower
Liatris, blazing star
Lobelia
Rudbeckia, black-eyed Susan
Salvia
Sedum
Senna
Solidago, goldenrod
Solidaster, False aster
Symphotrichum, aster
Verbena
 **Viburnum*



Give Them Time

The first plants to sell at any plant sale tend to be ones that are blooming, but most perennials put energy into roots and, as a result, are less likely to bloom in nursery pots. Below are some plants that might not draw your eye this spring, but they'll reward you in fall when spring's beauties are long gone.

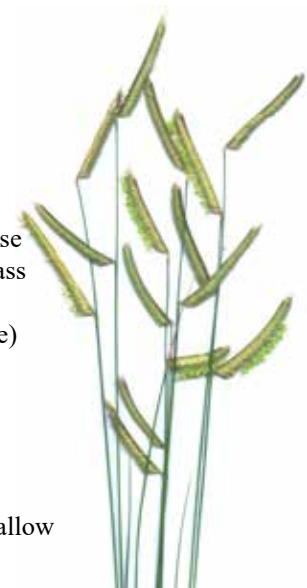
*Asterisk denotes plants for shade.
Agastache (opposite)
Anemone
Aster 'October Skies'
Blazing star, *Liatris scariosa*
Chrysanthemum
Joe pye weed, *Eupatorium*
Goldenrod, *Solidago*
 **Monkshood*, *Aconitum*
Rudbeckia
Sedum
Sneezeweed, *Helenium*
Sunflowers, *Heliopsis*, *Helianthus*
 **Toad lily*, *Tricyrtis*
 **Turtlehead*, *Chelone*



Plants for Salty Soil

Plants along roads or sidewalks often suffer from too much salt, usually from de-icers. The easiest solution is to use more salt-tolerant plants:

Blanketflower
 Blazing Star
 Bluestem
 Boltonia
 Coneflower
 Coralbell
 Daylily
 Evening Primrose
 Feather Reedgrass
 Globe Thistle
 Grama (opposite)
 Hardy Hibiscus
 Indiangrass
 Iris
 Onion
 Penstemon
 Purple Poppymallow
 Switchgrass
 Yarrow



Plants for Clay Soil

Aster
 Bee Balm, *Monarda*
 Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia*
 Butterfly Bush, *Buddleia*
 Daylily, *Hemerocallis*
 Coneflower (opposite)
 Helen's flower, *Helenium*
 Iris
 Joe Pye Weed, *Eupatorium*
 Blazing star, *Liatris*
 Phlox
 Sedum
 Viburnum



Long-lived Perennials

Perennials are by definition plants that live for more than two years, but most live much longer. Below are some that can live for 10 years or more.

Aster
 **Astilbe*
 **Balloon flower*
 Beebalm, *Monarda*
 Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia*
 **Bleeding heart*
 **Campanula*
 Catmint, *Nepeta*
 Culver's root, *Veronicastrum*
 Daylily, *Hemerocallis*
 Dwarf blue indigo, *Baptisia*
 Evening primrose
 **Ferns*
 **Hosta*
 Iris
 Joe pye weed, *Eupatorium*
 **Lady's mantle*, *Alchemilla*
 Leadplant, *Amorpha* (opposite)
 **Lenten roses*, *Hellebore*
 Peony
 **Sedum*
 Yarrow, *Achillea*

