

RAIN GARDENS - Native Plant List

TREES	Botanical Name	Planting Zone	Height	Bloom Phenology	Bloom/Fruit	Wildlife Value
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Ponding to high	7'	Apr-May	White; Maroon-purple berries	High
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Ponding to	90'	Apr-May		
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Middle	40-70'		Catkin flower	High
Red Bud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	High	20-30'		Pinkish bloom	Low
Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Middle to high	50-75'		Blue-black berries	Medium
Swamp white oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Ponding to middle	70'	May	Catkin flower	High
Thornless Honeylocust	<i>Gledistia triacanthos var. inermis</i>		30-70'		White; Cluster flowers	Medium
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Ponding to middle	60-100'			Low
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Ponding to middle	40-70'			High
Sycamore	<i>Plantanus occidentalis</i>	Ponding to middle	70-100'			Low

SHRUBS	Botanical Name	Planting Zone	Height	Bloom Phenology	Bloom/Fruit	Wildlife Value
Red chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	Middle to high	4-10'	May-Jun	White flowers	Medium
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Ponding to middle	3-6'	May	White	Medium
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Ponding area	To 15'	July	Creamy white flower	High (nectar)
Red Osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Ponding to middle	8-10'	May-Jun	White flower	Very high (nectar)
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Ponding to middle	6-12'	Jun-Jul	Red berry-like drupe	Medium
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Middle to high	2-6'	April	Yellow	High (nectar)
Elderberry, American	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Ponding to high	10'	Jun-Aug	White	Very high (nectar)
Arrowood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Ponding to high	16'	Jun-Aug	White	High
Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	Middle to high	3-4'	May-Jun	White	Medium
False Indigo	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	Ponding to high	12'	Jun-Aug	Purple	Medium
Lead Plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Middle to high	3'	Jun-Aug	Purple	Medium
Oakleaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Middle	6-8'	May-Jul	White	Low
Annabelle Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Middle	3-5'	Jun-Sept	White	Low

PERENNIALS	Botanical Name	Planting Zone	Height	Bloom Phenology	Bloom/Fruit	Wildlife Value
Wild columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Middle to berm	8-24"	May-Jun	Red and yellow	High
Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnate</i>	Ponding to middle	2-4'	Jul-Sept	Pink-red	Very High
Butterfly milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	High	1.5-3'	Jul- Aug	Orange	Very High
New England aster	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	Ponding to middle	3-4'	Jul-Oct	Lavender	High
Joe Pye weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum/maculatum</i>	Ponding to middle	To 6'	Summer	Pink-purple	High (nectar)
Blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Middle to high	5'	Summer - frost	Purple	Medium
Cardinal flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Ponding	4'	Jul-Sept	Scarlet	Very High
Great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Middle to high	3-4'	Aug-Sept	Blue	Very High
Virginia bluebell	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	Ponding to middle	2'	Apr-May	Blue	Medium
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia virginica</i>	Middle	To 3'	Apr-Jul	Purplish blue	Medium
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Middle to berm	2-3'	Jul-Sept	Yellow	High
New York ironweed	<i>Veronia noveboracensis</i>	Ponding to middle	6'	Aug-Oct	Purple	Medium (nectar)
Sensitive fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Ponding	1'	N/A		Medium
Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Ponding	4'	Aug-Oct	Yellow	Medium
Blue vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Ponding	5'	Jul-Sept	Blue	
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Ponding to high	4'	Jul-Sept	White	Medium (nectar)
Cultvers root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Ponding to high	5'	Jun-Aug	White	Medium

GRASSES, SEDGES, RUSHES	Botanical Name	Planting Zone	Height	Bloom Phenology	Bloom/Fruit	Wildlife Value
Tussock sedge	<i>Carex</i>	Ponding	1-4'	May-Aug	Greenish	Medium
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effuses</i>	Ponding	2-3'	Jul-Aug	Green, tawny	Medium
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	High to Berm	2-3'	Jun-Oct	Red	High
Praire dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	High to Berm	2.5'	N/A		

Planting zones:

- The **Ponding** area or the lowest area is where the runoff first enters the rain garden; therefore, the plants that grow here must tolerate standing water and fluctuating water levels.
- The **Middle** zone is slightly drier, and the plants can tolerate fluctuating water levels.
- The **Higher/Outer** zone includes a portion of the berm and often is the driest of the three zones.
- The **Berm** can be a strip of turf or groundcover at the top edge of the rain garden, and usually is dry.

A nice website to checkout native plants is www.wildflower.org **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**