

PERENNIAL CARE

minnesota native perennials for sun and shade

Native plants are species that occur naturally in certain ecosystems and locations. Plants are considered Minnesota native species if they were observed in Minnesota at the time of the Public Land Survey (1847-1907). Any plant that expands from its historic range into the state without human intervention is also considered native. Native plants are an excellent choice for the home garden as they are best adapted to our local climate and growing conditions. Additionally, native plants are great sources of pollen, nectar, and seeds for native pollinators, birds, and other animals, and also provide great habitat for wildlife. Consider these beautiful Minnesota native plants when searching for your next garden additions!

Full Sun (6+ hours direct sun)

Achillea millefolium (Common Yarrow)
Acorus americanus (Sweet Flag)
Agastache foeniculum (Anise Hyssop)
Allium cernuum (Nodding Onion)
Andropogon gerardii (Big Bluestem)
Anemone canadensis (Canada Anemone)
Antennaria neglecta (Field Pussytoes)
Artemisia ludoviciana (White Sage)
Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed)
Asclepias speciosa (Showy Milkweed)
Asclepias syriaca (Common Milkweed)
Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)
Baptisia australis (Blue False Indigo)
Bouteloua curtipendula (Sideoats Grama)
Bouteloua gracilis (Blue Grama)
Dalea purpurea (Purple Prairie Clover)
Echinacea angustifolia
(Narrow-Leaved Coneflower)
Eragrostis spectabilis (Purple Love Grass)
Eryngium yuccifolium (Rattlesnake Master)
Eutrochium maculatum (Spotted Joe Pye)
Eutrochium purpureum (Sweet Joe Pye)

Fragaria virginiana (Wild Strawberry)
Gaillardia aristata (Blanket Flower)
Gentiana alba (Cream Gentian)
Gentiana andrewsii (Bottle Gentian)
Geum triflorum (Prairie Smoke)
Helianthus pauciflorus (Stiff Sunflower)
Heliopsis helianthoides (False Sunflower)
Liatris aspera (Rough Blazing Star)
Liatris cylindracea (Cylindrical Blazing Star)
Liatris ligulistylis (Meadow Blazing Star)
Liatris pycnostachya (Prairie Blazing Star)
Lilium michiganense (Michigan Lily)
Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal Flower)
Lobelia siphilitica (Great Blue Lobelia)
Lupinus perennis (Wild Lupine)
Lythrum alatum (Winged Loosestrife)
Monarda fistulosa (Wild Bergamot)
Monarda punctata (Spotted Bee Balm)
Opuntia humifusa (Eastern Prickly Pear)
Penstemon digitalis (Foxglove Beardtongue)
Penstemon gracilis (Slender Beardtongue)
Physostegia virginiana (Obedient Plant)

Full Sun (6+ hours direct sun) cont.

- Pinus strobus* (Eastern White Pine)*
Prunella vulgaris (Selfheal/Heal-All)
Pycnanthemum virginianum (Mtn. Mint)
Ratibida columnifera (Prairie Coneflower)
Ratibida pinnata (Gray-Headed Coneflower)
Rudbeckia hirta (Black-Eyed Susan)
Rudbeckia triloba (Brown-Eyed Susan)
Ruellia humilis (Wild Petunia)
Salix discolor (Pussy Willow)*
Schizachyrium scoparium (Little Bluestem)
Silphium perfoliatum (Cup Plant)
Solidago rigida (Stiff Goldenrod)
Solidago speciosa (Showy Goldenrod)
Sorghastrum nutans (Yellow Prairie Grass)
- Sporobolus heterolepis* (Prairie Dropseed)
Sympyotrichum leave (Smooth Aster)
Sympyotrichum novae-angliae
(New England Aster)
Sympyotrichum oblongifolium
(Aromatic Aster)
Sympyotrichum oolentangiense
(Sky Blue Aster)
Tradescantia ohiensis (Ohio Spiderwort)
Verbena hastata (Blue Vervain)
Verbena stricta (Hoary Vervain)
Vernonia fasciculata (Common Ironweed)
Veronicastrum virginicum (Culver's Root)
Zizia aurea (Golden Alexander)

Note: Many of these plants will grow in part sun exposure but will bloom best in full sun.

Part Sun/Shade (0-6 hours direct sun)

- Adiantum pedatum*
(Northern Maidenhair Fern)
Aquilegia canadensis
(Eastern Red Columbine)
Arisaema triphyllum (Jack-in-the-Pulpit)
Asarum canadense (Wild Ginger)
Carex sprengelii (Long-Beaked Sedge)
Carex pensylvanica (Penn. Sedge)
Chelone glabra (White Turtlehead)
Diervilla lonicera
(Northern Bush Honeysuckle)*
Dodecatheon meadia (Shooting Star)
Eurybia macrophylla
(Large-Leaved Aster)
Geranium maculatum (Wild Geranium)
Hepatica acutiloba (Sharp-Lobed Hepatica)
- Hydrophyllum virginianum* (Virginia Waterleaf)
Koeleria macrantha (Junegrass)
Matteuccia struthiopteris (Ostrich Fern)
Mertensia virginica (Virginia Bluebells)
Mimulus ringens (Allegheny Monkey Flower)
Onoclea sensibilis (Sensitive Fern)
Osmunda cinnamomea (Cinnamon Fern)
Parthenocissus quinquefolia
(Virginia Creeper)
Phlox divaricata (Woodland Phlox)
Solidago flexicaulis (Zigzag Goldenrod)
Thalictrum dioicum (Purple Meadow Rue)
Thalictrum dioicum (Early Meadow Rue)
Trillium grandiflorum (Great White Trillium)

Note: Many of these plants will grow in shady conditions but will bloom best in part sun.

*Woody tree or shrub