

Recommended Native Plant Species for Wet Areas and Along Streams

Please note, vegetation that is suitable to be planted along a stream corridor or bank is not limited to this list. Be sure to review the shade and soil moisture tolerance to ensure it is compatible with your site. We recommend that you bring this list with you to the nursery and specify that you are looking for native plants for your streamside area.

SHRUBS

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
Buttonbush*	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	5-12 ft	full sun	wet
Black elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	8-12 ft	full sun to part shade	wet-moist
Gray dogwood*	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	10-15 ft	full sun to shade	moist
Green twig / Round-leaved dogwood*	<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	6-10 ft	full sun to part shade	wet-moist
Ninebark*	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	5-8 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet-moist
Northern bayberry	<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	5-10 ft	partial shade	moist
Pussy willow*	<i>Salix discolor</i>	6-15 ft	full sun	moist
Redosier dogwood*	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	6-9 ft	full sun	wet-moist
Sandbar willow*	<i>Salix interior</i>	3-20 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Silky dogwood*	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	3-6 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet-moist
Silky willow*	<i>Salix sericea</i>	7-13 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Spicebush*	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	6-12 ft	shade	wet-moist
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	3-12 ft	full sun to shade	wet-moist
Witch hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	15-20 ft	partial shade	moist
Virginia sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	3-6 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet-moist

*may be available as live stakes (see fact sheet)

RUSHES

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	16-48 in	full sun	wet-moist
Torrey's rush	<i>Juncus torreyi</i>	12-40 in	full sun	wet-moist

GRASSES

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
American manna grass	<i>Glyceria grandis</i>	3-5 ft	full sun	wet
Big bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	2-7 ft	full to partial shade	moist
Prairie cord grass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	3-8 ft	full sun	wet
Riverbank wildrye	<i>Elymus riparius</i>	3-6 ft	full to partial shade	moist
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3-6 ft	full sun	moist



SEDGES

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
Awl-fruited sedge	<i>Carex stipata</i>	1-3 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Bearded sedge	<i>Carex comosa</i>	2-4 ft	full sun	wet
Bromelike sedge	<i>Carex bromoides</i>	9-36 in	full sun to partial shade	moist
Emory's sedge	<i>Carex emoryi</i>	12-40 in	full sun to partial shade	wet
Frank's sedge	<i>Carex frankii</i>	1-2 ft	full sun to shade	wet
Gray's sedge	<i>Carex grayi</i>	1-3 ft	shade	wet-moist
Green bulrush	<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	3-5 ft	full sun	wet
Hop sedge	<i>Carex lupulina</i>	8-40 in	partial shade	wet
Lake sedge	<i>Carex lacustris</i>	20 -50 in	full sun to shade	wet
Palm sedge grass	<i>Carex muskingumensis</i>	12-40 in	full sun to shade	wet
Porcupine sedge	<i>Carex hystericina</i>	10-40 in	full sun to shade	wet
Sallow sedge	<i>Carex lurida</i>	1-3 ft	partial shade	wet
Soft-stemmed bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	2-9 ft	full sun	wet
Tuckerman's sedge	<i>Carex tuckermanii</i>	16-48 in	partial shade	wet-moist
Tussock sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>	2-5 ft	full sun	wet
Woolgrass	<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	3-6 ft	full sun	wet-moist

FORBS (herbaceous flowering plants)

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
Allegheny monkey flower	<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	1-3 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Bee balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	2-4 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	2-4 ft	full sun	moist
Blue vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	2-6 ft	full sun	wet moist
Blueflag iris	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	1-3 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Cardinal flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	1-5 ft	partial shade	wet-moist
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	2-3 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Common milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	2-5 ft	full sun	moist-dry
Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	4-7 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Cup plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	3-8 ft	full sun	moist
Foxglove beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	2-5 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Golden alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	1-3 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	1-4 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet-moist
Jewelweed	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	2-5 ft	partial shade	wet-moist
Large-flowered bellwort	<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	1-2 ft	shade	moist
Marsh marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	8-24 in	full sun	wet
New England aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	3-7 ft	full sun	wet-moist
Obedient plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	1-4 ft	full sun to shade	moist
Ohio spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>	18-40 in	full sun	moist
Queen of the prairie	<i>Filipendula rubra</i>	6-8 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet-moist
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	2-5 ft	full sun	moist
Swamp mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	3-7 ft	full sun	wet
Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	1-4 ft	full sun	wet
Sweet joe pye-weed	<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	4-6 ft	partial shade	moist
Tall ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	5-8 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist



Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	2-4 ft	full sun to partial shade	wet
Virginia bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	1.5-2 ft	partial shade to full shade	wet-moist
White snakeroot	<i>Ageratina altissima</i>	1-4 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Wingstem	<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i>	4-8 ft	full sun to partial shade	moist
Zig zag goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	1-3 ft	full sun to shade	moist

FERNS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Tolerance	Soil Moisture Tolerance
Christmas fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	1-2 ft	part shade to full shade	dry-medium
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	3-9 ft	shade	wet-moist
Lady fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	1-3 ft	part shade to full shade	wet-moist
New York fern	<i>Dryopteris celsa</i>	3-4 ft	part shade to full shade	medium
Ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	3-6 ft	partial shade	wet-moist
Royal fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	2-3 ft	part shade to full shade	wet
Sensitive fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	3-4 ft	part shade to full shade	wet-moist

TREES

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Light tolerance	Soil moisture tolerance
American sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	75-100 ft	full sun	medium to wet
Bitternut hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	50-80 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	30-50 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Black oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	50-60 ft	full sun	dry to medium
Black walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	75-100 ft	full sun	medium
Black willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>	30-60 ft	full sun to part shade	medium to wet
Bur oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	60-80 ft	full sun	dry to medium
Eastern cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	50-80 ft	full sun	medium to wet
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	40-60 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Pin oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	50-70 ft	full sun	medium to wet
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	40-70 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	50-75 ft	full sun	dry to medium
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	40-70 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	30-60 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium
Shagbark hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	70-90 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium
Silver maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	50-80 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium to wet
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	40-80 ft	full sun to partial shade	medium
Swamp white oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	50-60 ft	full sun	medium to wet
Tulip tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	60-90 ft	full sun	medium
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	50-80 ft	full sun	dry to medium



Native Plant Sources

- **Arcola Creek Nursery**, 2452 Dock Road, Madison, OH 44057; (440) 428-7497; arcolacreeknursery.com
- **Avalon Gardens**, 12511 Fowlers Mill Road, Chardon, OH 44024; (440) 286-2126, <http://avalongardensinn.com/nursery/>
- **Cardno**, 128 Sunset Drive, Walkerton, Indiana 46574; (574) 586-2412 – Live stakes <https://www.cardnonativeplantnursery.com/erosion-stormwater-control/live-stakes-fascines>
- **Chagrin Valley Nursery**, 1370 River Road, Gates Mills, Ohio 44040; (440) 423-3363; <http://cvnursery.com/>
- **Chelsea Flower Garden**, 14743 Kinsman Rd, Middlefield, OH 44062; (440) 834-1222
- **Cleveland Metroparks North Chagrin Reservation and Rocky River Reservation**. Plant sales typically held in May.
- **Ernst Conservation Seeds**, PA; (800) 873-3321; <https://www.ernstseed.com/products/bioengineering-materials> - Live stakes
- **Klyn Nurseries**, 3322 S Ridge Rd, Perry OH. 44081; Local: 440-259-3811; Toll Free: 1-800-860-8104; <http://www.klynnurseries.com/>.
- **Holden Arboretum**: <http://www.holdenarb.org/>. Plant sale typically held in May.
- **Madison Shore Growers**, 2310 Green Road, Madison, OH 44057; (440) 428-5178
- **Nodding Onion Gardens**, Columbia Station, OH; <http://www.noddingoniongardens.com>, noddingoniongardens@gmail.com (Nursery not open to public but can arrange plant pickups through local farmer's market; they sell plants at the Frostville Farmers Market in Rocky River Reservation).
- **Nature Center at Shaker Lakes**: <https://shakerlakes.org/>. Spring sale. Typically held in May.
- **Ohio Prairie Nursery**, Hiram, OH; (330) 569-3380; <https://ohioprairienursery.com/>
- **Pam's Perennial Plant Farm**, 3804 Hemphill Rd, Norton, OH 44203; (330) 706-9660; www.pamsperennials.com
- **Riverside Native Trees & Nursery, LLC**, 2295 River Rd., Delaware, OH; (740) 815-3230; <https://riversidenativetrees.com/>
- **Soil and Water Conservation District Sales:**
 - **Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District**: <https://cuyahogawcd.org/programs/native-seed-sale>. Native seed sale all year.
 - **Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District**: <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/swcd/>. Spring bareroot and potted trees, shrubs, and perennials, and native wildflower seed.
 - **Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District**: <http://geaugawcd.com/>. Spring trees and shrub sale.
 - **Portage Soil and Water Conservation District**: <http://www.portageswcd.org/annual-sales>. Annual tree, fish, and cover crop seed sales.
 - **Summit Soil and Water Conservation District**: <https://sswcd.summitoh.net/>. Ohio Prairie Nursery Seed available year-round.
- **Southern Tier Consulting**, 2701-A Route 305, P.O. Box 30, West Clarksville, NY 14786 – Live stakes <http://www.southerntierconsulting.com>
- **The Shady Nook**, 5581 South Ridge Road, Madison OH; theshadynook@windstream.net; Joe Kriss, Proprietor; 440-983-9407. By appointment.
- **Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society**: <https://www.wcaudubon.org/>. Spring sale of flowers, trees, and seeds. Typically held April – May.



Other Resources

- Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership for Biodiversity: <https://www.leapbio.org/resources/native-plants>
- Native Plant Society of Northeast Ohio: <https://www.nativeplantsocietyneo.org/>
- USDA Plants Database: <https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/java/>
- ODNR Division of Forestry: <http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/>
- Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder:
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>