

Native Plants for Shade

Plant Name	Type	Flower Color / Attributes	Bloom Time	Height	Soil Conditions
<i>Actaea pachypoda</i> Doll's Eyes Baneberry	Perennial	White flowers/White berries	Spring	12-18"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Actaea rubra</i> Red Baneberry	Perennial	White flowers/Red berries	Spring	1-3'	Moist, Rich
<i>Anemone canadensis</i> Meadow Anemone	Perennial	White flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich
<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i> Wild Sarsaparilla	Perennial	White/Blue-black berries	Spring	1-2'	Dry, Sandy
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> Jack-in-the-Pulpit	Perennial	Green flower/Red berries	Spring	1-2'	Moist, Rich
<i>Aruncus diocious</i> Goat's Beard *	Perennial	Cream-colored flowers	Spring	4-6'	Moist, Rich
<i>Asarum canadense</i> Wild Ginger	Perennial	Red-Purple/Dark green leaves	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Well-drained
<i>Chamaepericlymenum (Cornus) canadensis</i> Bunchberry	Groundcover	White & red berries	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Peaty, Well-drained
<i>Claytonia virginiana</i> Spring Beauty	Perennial **	White-pink flowers	Spring	3-6"	Moist, Rich
<i>Clintonia borealis</i> Yellow Blue Bead Lily	Perennial	Yellow/Dark blue fruits	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Peaty
<i>Dicentra canadensis</i> Squirrel Corn	Perennial **	White heart-shaped flower	Spring	3-4"	Moist, Rich
<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i> Dutchman's Breeches	Perennial **	White w/yellow flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich
<i>Erythronium americanum</i> Yellow Trout Lily	Perennial **	Yellow/Attractive leaves	Spring	1-6"	Moist, Adaptable
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i> Waterleaf	Perennial	White/Leaves green to frost	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Peaty
<i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i> Twingleaf	Perennial **	White/Double leaves	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable.
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i> Canada Mayflower	Perennial	White/Green-red berries	Spring	1-6"	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> False Solomon's Seal	Perennial	Fragrant white flowers	Spring	1-3'	Moist, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Maianthemum stellatum</i> Star-Flowered False Solomon Seal	Perennial	Large fragrant white flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Mertensia virginica</i> Virginia Bluebells *	Perennial **	Pink to light blue flowers	Spring	14-20"	Moist, Rich, Well Drained

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<i>Mitella diphylla</i> Mitterwort/Fairy Cup	Perennial	Delicate white flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Phlox divaricata</i> Wild Wood Phlox *	Perennial	White or blue flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> May Apple	Perennial	White/Apple-like fruits	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Polemonium reptans</i> Jacob's Ladder *	Perennial	Blue, bell-shaped flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i> Wild Solomon's Seal	Perennial	White, bell-shaped flowers	Spring	1-3'	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Polygonatum biflorum var. commutatum</i> Giant S. Seal	Perennial	White/Attractive foliage, stems	Spring	1-3'	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Sanguinaria canadense</i> Bloodroot	Perennial **	White-pink flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i> Rue Anemone *	Perennial **	White flowers	Spring	4-8"	Moist, Rich Adaptable
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> Foam-flower *	Perennial	White-pink flowers	Spring	5-12"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Trillium erectum</i> Purple Trillium	Perennial **	Red flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich
<i>Trillium grandifolium</i> White Trillium/Wake Robin	Perennial **	White flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Rich
<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i> Sessile-leaf Bellwort	Perennial	Pale yellow flowers	Spring	6-12"	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Veratrum veride</i> False Hellebore	Perennial	Green/Leaves oval & ribbed	Spring	4-6'	Moist-Wet
<i>Viola labradorica</i> Labrador/American Dog Violet	Perennial	Purple flowers & foliage	Spring	1-6"	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Viola lanceolata</i> Lanced-leaved or Bog White Violet	Perennial	White flowers	Spring	2-6"	Moist-Wet
<i>Viola pubescens</i> Aiton Yellow Downey Violet	Perennial	Yellow/Great groundcover	Spring	6-12"	Dry, Rich
<i>Actaea americana</i> American Bugbane	Perennial	Fluffy white flowers	Summer	3-4'	Rich
<i>Actaea racemosa</i> Black Cohosh/Fairy Candles	Perennial	White spikes of flowers	Summer	1-3'	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Allium tricoccum</i> Wild Leek/Ramps	Perennial	White flowers	Summer	6-8"	Moist, Rich

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<i>Aralia racemosa</i> American Spikenard	Perennial	White/Blue-black berries	Summer	4-6'	Rich, Adaptable
<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i> Tall Meadow Rue	Perennial	White starburst flowers	Summer	3-7'	Moist, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Carex grayi</i> Gray Sedge	Grass	Attractive seed heads	Summer	1-3'	Moist, Rich
<i>Carex laxiculmis</i> Spreading Sedge	Grass	Evergreen	Spring	6-12"	Moist
<i>Carex plantaginea</i> Plantain-leaved Sedge	Grass	Good groundcover	Spr-Sum	6-12"	Moist, Rich
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i> Maidenhair Fern	Fern	Delicate leaflet sprays	-	12-20"	Moist, Rich, Peaty
<i>Athyrium angustum</i> Lady Fern	Fern	Attractive fronds	-	1-3'	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> Toothed Wood Fern	Fern	Lovely groundcover	-	1-3'	Moist-Wet, Sandy
<i>Dryopteris goldiana</i> Goldie's Wood Fern	Fern	Largest wood fern	-	3-4'	Moist, Rich Well-drained
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> Marginal Shield Fern	Fern	Blue-green & vase shape	-	1-2'	Moist, Peaty, Adaptable
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> Ostrich Fern	Fern	Plumes persistent thru winter	-	4-6'	Moist-Wet, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i> Interrupted Fern	Fern	Showy green fronds	-	2-5'	Moist
<i>Osmunda regalis</i> Royal Fern	Fern	Blue-green color	-	4-6'	Moist-Wet
<i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i> Cinnamon Fern	Fern	Cinnamon-colored stalks	-	4-6'	Moist-Wet, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Polypodium virginianum</i> Common Polypody	Fern	Grows well on rocks	-	5-12"	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> Christmas Fern	Fern	Evergreen	-	12-24"	Moist, Rich, Well-drained

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<i>Lindera benzoin</i> Spicebush	Shrub	Yellow/Aromatic leaves	Spring	7-10'	Moist, Well-drained, Adaptable
<i>Rhododendron maximum</i> Rosebay Rhododendron	Shrub	White-pink flowers	Spring	7-10'	Moist, Rich, Well-drained
<i>Viburnum lantanoides</i> Hobblebush	Shrub	White/Berries & fall color	Spring	7-10'	Moist-Wet
<i>Viburnum lentago</i> Nannyberry	Shrub	White/Glossy leaves	Spring	12-20'	Moist-Wet, Adaptable
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> Ironwood/Blue Beech	Tree	White-green/Fall color	Spring	12-20'	Moist, Rich, Adaptable
<i>Swida (Cornus) alternifolia</i> Alternate-leaf/Pagoda Dogwood	Tree	White/Pink-blue fruits	Spring	12-20'	Moist-Wet, Adaptable

*This plant requires part sun/part shade.

** A spring ephemeral or woodland wildflower that emerges quickly in spring to flower and fruit. By summer, leaves and stems die back and underground parts go dormant until following spring.