

Designer Ditches



Choosing Your Native Plants



Illustration by Frank McShane

Plant Selection

ID	Botanical Name	Common Name	Pollinators/ Butterflies	Birds	Shrubs	Grasses	Sun	Shade	Comments
	Zone 1								
Ai	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	X				X		Summer blooming-Monarch caterpillar host plant
Cc	<i>Carex crinita</i>	fringed sedge				X	X	X	grass-like, low growing
Cs	<i>Carex stricta</i>	tussock sedge				X	X	X	grass-like, medium height
Cg	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Turtlehead	X				X	X	Summer blooming-host to
Ed	<i>Eupatorium dubium</i>	Joe-Pye weed	X				X	X	summer blooming, pollinator friendly, very tall plant
Ha	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>	swamp sunflower	X	X			X		fall blooming, late season nectar source, very tall
Hm	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	marsh hibiscus	X	X			X		summer blooming, attractive to hummingbirds, tall plant
Iv	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	blue flag iris					X	X	spring blooming
Je	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	soft rush				X	X	X	grass-like, medium height
Lc	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower		X			X	X	summer blooming, attractive to hummingbirds
Os	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	sensitive fern						X	likes moist shade
Or	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	royal fern						X	likes moist shade
Vn	<i>Vernonia noveboracehsis</i>	New York Ironweed	X				X		summer blooming, pollinator friendly, very tall plant
	Zone 2 - 3 - 4								
At	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterfly milkweed	X				X		Summer blooming-Monarch caterpillar host plant
Ad	<i>Aster divericatus</i>	white wood aster	X					X	fall blooming, late season nectar source
An	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	X				X		fall blooming, late season nectar source
Ch	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	northern sea oats				X	X	X	partial shade to shade
Ep	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower	X	X			X		Long bloom season, attractive to pollinators. Seeds attractive to gold finches.
Ec	<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>	mistflower	X				X	X	fall blooming, late season nectar source
Ls	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	blazing star	X				X		summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Mf	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	X				X	X	summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Pv	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switchgrass				X	X		tall, warm-season grass
Pd	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	beardtongue					X	X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Pm	<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>	mountain mint	X				X		summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Rf	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	black-eyed Susan	X	X			X		summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Sc	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem				X	X		2-3 ft, warm-season grass
Ss	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	seaside goldenrod	X				X		fall blooming, late season nectar source
	Shrubs								
AA	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	red chokeberry	X	X	X		X	X	spring blooming with berries for birds in fall
CA	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	sweet pepperbush	X		X		X	X	summer blooming, pollinator friendly
IG	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	inkberry		X	X		X	X	evergreen, fruit for birds
IV	<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia sweetspire	X		X		X	X	summer blooming, pollinator friendly
VD	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	arrowwood		X	X		X	X	spring blooming with berries for birds in fall
	Zone 5								
Ac	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	nodding onion	X				X		spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Am	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	amsonia blue ice	X				X	X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Cl	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	lance leaf coreopsis	X				X	X	summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Es	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	purple love grass				X	X		ornamental grass less than 2 ft tall
Gm	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	X					X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Of	<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>	sundrops	X				X		summer blooming, pollinator friendly
Ps	<i>Phlox subulata</i>	moss phlox	X				X		spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Ph	<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>	creeping phlox	X					X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Sa	<i>Senecio aureus</i>	golden ragwort	X				X	X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Sc	<i>Silene caroliniana</i>	wild pink	X				X	X	spring blooming, pollinator friendly
Sh	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	prairie dropseed				X	X		ornamental grass less than 2 ft tall

Zone 1 Plants



Asclepias incarnata, Swamp milkweed



Carex crinita, Fringed sedge



Chelone glabra, White turtlehead



Eupatorium dubium, Joe-Pye weed



Helianthus angustifolius, Swamp sunflower



Hibiscus moscheutos, Marsh hibiscus



Iris versicolor, Blue flag iris



Juncus effusus, Soft rush



Lobelia cardinalis, Cardinal flower



Onoclea sensibilis, Sensitive Fern



Osmunda regalis, Royal fern



Vernonia noveboracensis, New York ironweed

Zone 2 – 3 - 4 Plants



Asclepias tuberosa, Butterfly milkweed



Aster divericatus, White wood aster



Aster novae-angliae, New England aster



Chasmanthium latifolium, Northern sea oats



Echinacea purpurea, Purple coneflower



Eupatorium coelestinum, Mistflower



Liatris spicata, Blazingstar



Monarda fistulosa, Wild bergamot



Panicum virgatum, Switchgrass



Penstemon digitalis, Beardtongue



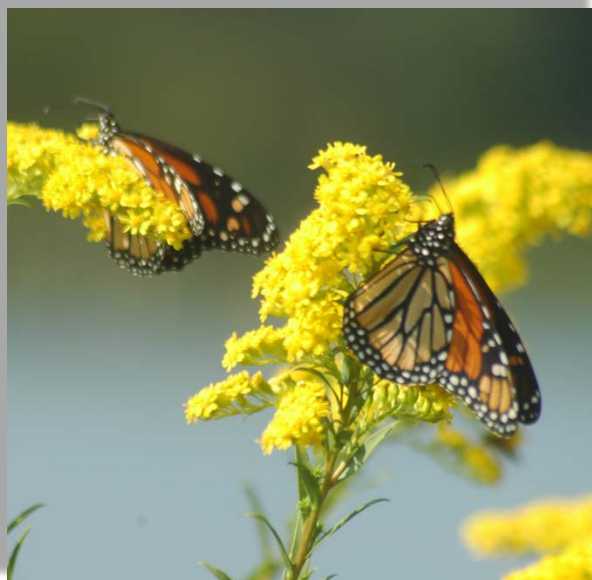
Pycnanthemum muticum, Virginia mountain mint



Rudbeckia fulgida, Black-eyed Susan



Schizachyrium scoparium, Little bluestem



Solidago sempervirens, Seaside goldenrod

Shrubs



Aronia arbutifolia, Red chokeberry



Clethra alnifolia, Sweet pepperbush



Ilex glabra, Inkberry



Itea virginica, Virginia sweetspire



Viburnum dentatum, Arrowwood viburnum

Zone 5 Plants



Allium cernuum, Nodding wild onion



Amsonia tabernaemontana, Amsonia 'blue ice'



Coreopsis lanceolate, Lance-leaf coreopsis



Eragrostis spectabilis, Purple love grass



Geranium maculatum, Wild geranium



Oenothera fruticosa, Sundrops



Phlox stolonifera, Moss phlox (shade)



Phlox subulata, Creeping phlox (sun)



Senecio aureus, Golden ragwort



Silene caroliniana, Moss pink



Sporobolus heterolepis, Prairie dropseed