

This is a work in progress. I have not yet divided these lists into sun-loving versus shade-loving.

LP - Large Perennials: over 3 ft tall

Excellent choices

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	blue false indigo		
<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	boltonia		
<i>Helianthus spp.</i>	sunflower		Some native species. Monarchs!
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower		
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	rose mallow		Several cultivars
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	spike gayfeather		Monarchs!

Good alternatives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	Joe Pye weed		monarchs!
<i>Hibiscus 'Anne Arundel'</i>	mallow		

Popular non-natives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Alcea rosea</i>	hollyhock		
<i>Crocsmia spp.</i>	montbretia		
<i>Delphinium spp.</i>	larkspur		
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	fireweed		
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	Russian sage		

Exotics to Avoid

Scientific name	Common name	Comments

MP - Medium Perennials: 1-3 ft tall

Excellent choices

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	willow blue-star		
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	columbine		Woodlands
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	threadleaf coreopsis		monarchs!
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower		
<i>Monarda didyma</i> & <i>M. fistulosa</i>	bee balm; bergamot		monarchs!
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	black-eyed Susan		
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed Susan		
<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster		
<i>Symphyotrichum novi-belgii</i>	New York aster		

Good alternatives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower		Prairie native, not Virginia, but beloved
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	bellflower		
<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	Virginia bluebells		

Popular non-natives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Artemisia lactiflora</i>	wormwood		
<i>Astilbe chinensis</i>	false spirea		
<i>Astilbe japonica</i>	false spirea		
<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>	leadwort; plumbago		sun-loving
<i>Dianthus</i> spp.	carnation, pinks		
<i>Gaillardia</i> spp.	blanket flower		
<i>Galium</i> spp.	sweet woodruff		shade-loving
<i>Gaura</i> spp.	indian feather		
<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp.	daylily		Many, many cultivars
<i>Heuchera micrantha</i>	coral bells		
<i>Hosta</i> spp.	hosta		Many cultivars; very overused
<i>Leucanthemum</i> spp.	Shasta daisy		
<i>Lupinus</i> spp.	lupine		
<i>Paeonia</i> spp.	peony		Many cultivars, mostly red to white
<i>Papaver orientale</i>	Oriental poppy		
<i>Sedum</i> spp.	stonecrop		
<i>Solidago</i> spp.	goldenrod		
<i>Stokesia</i> spp.	Stoke's aster		

Exotics to Avoid

Scientific name	Common name	Comments
<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	porcelain berry	Highly invasive

SP - Small Perennials: under 1 ft tall

Excellent choices

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Columbine		Unusual delicate flowers
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	wild sweet William		
<i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Garden Phlox		
<i>Waldsteinia</i>	Barren Strawberry		

Good alternatives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments

Popular non-natives

Scientific name	Common name	Size	Comments
<i>Chionodoxa spp.</i>	glory of the snow		
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	lily-of-the-valley		
<i>Crocus spp.</i>	crocus		Very early bloomer; very small
<i>Dianthus spp.</i>	cheddar pinks		
<i>Geranium spp.</i>	cranesbill		
<i>Narcissus spp.</i>	daffodil		Many types, mostly in white and yellow
<i>Tulipa spp.</i>	tulip		Wide variety of sizes and colors

Exotics to Avoid

Scientific name	Common name	Comments