

Top Shade Garden Bulbs by Ursula Eley

Presented to the Riverdale Horticultural Society September 14, 2022

1. There are many plants with bulbs, corms, tubers or rhizomes that like to grow in part shade. Many of them are native, but there are also interesting varieties from other parts of the world.
2. Jack-in-the-Pulpit – Enjoy the lovely red seeds and many varieties. One of our native Jacks, *Arisaema triphyllum* is easy to grow and adds something a little different to your garden.
3. Lady's Slipper Orchids – The yellow varieties enjoy a slightly alkaline environment. Like other native woodlanders, they like the soil undisturbed. Just leave fallen leaves in place. They provide valuable nutrients and have made quite a difference to the size and vigour of the plants in my shade garden.
4. Fairy Bells – The 'Night Heron' variety can grow up to 6 ft tall!
5. Trout Lilies – Speckled leaves, pretty yellow lily-like flowers, native woodland plant
6. Canada Mayflower – native plant that makes a great replacement for the invasive Lily of the Valley.

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7. Mayapple – Another native plant in southern Ontario.

Umbrella-like leaves make an attractive groundcover.

8. Solomon's Seal – A long-lasting cut flower! Lovely arching habit adds a touch of elegance.

9. Bloodroots – Very early, pure white flowers. The double form is quite showy, but not as valuable for pollinators.

10. Trilliums – White trilliums turn pink as the blooming season ends

11. Merrybells - Another native plant in southern Ontario with yellow hanging bell-shaped flowers.

12. There are many native plant nurseries in southern Ontario. Some of the non-native varieties may be available from mail order nurseries in B.C.

Interested in having Ursula talk to your group?

Contact Ursula @ eley@rogers.com