

RAIN GARDEN PLANT RECOMMENDATIONS

From bursts of color to tall fluid brush, choosing the right plants in your rain garden can transfigure your outdoor space. Select plants that are hardy for Wisconsin growing conditions. Ensure they are capable of withstanding the site's soil, sunlight, and shade conditions, as well as water inundation and drought cycles associated with rain gardens. Native species, non-native perennials, or cool season turf grasses may be used. The deep roots of many native species will enhance soil infiltration and can better withstand the challenging growing environment inherent to rain gardens.

The following plants are recommended for Wisconsin gardens by Prairie Nursery, Aspen Gardens, and the Good Oak Ecological Service. Before planting, it's always best to research different types of plants and consult with a local nursery or landscape professionals to determine what's best for you.

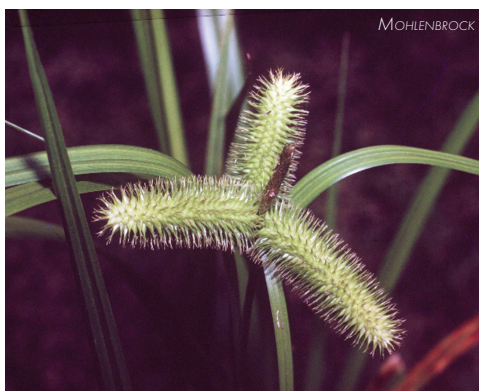
	Common Name <i>Scientific name</i>	2-4' May-July
Soil Types	Sunlight Levels	Plant Characteristics
Sand Silt Clay	Full sun Partial sun	Height of mature plant (feet) Bloom period Toxicity advisory



CLIFF 1066

Blue Flag Iris
Iris versicolor

2-3'
 June-July



MOHLENBROCK

Bottlebrush Sedge
Carex comosa

2-4'
 May-June



MAYER

Butterfly weed
Asclepias tuberosa

2-3'
 June-Aug



Calico Aster
Aster lateriflorus

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 2-3'
🌻 Sept-Oct



Cream False Indigo
Baptisia bracteata

☀️ 🌿 1-2'
🌻 May-June



Crooked Stem Aster
Aster prenanthoides

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 1-3'
🌻 Aug-Oct



Culver's Root
Veronicastrum virginicum

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 3-6'
🌻 July-Aug



Fireweed
Epilobium angustifolium

☀️ 🌿 2-6'
🌻 July-Sept



Fox Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 1-3'
🌻 May-June



Great Blue Lobelia
Lobelia siphilitica

☀️ 🌿 1-4'
🌻 July-Sept



Foxglove Beardtongue
Penstemon digitalis

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 2-3'
🌻 June-July



Golden Alexander
Zizia aurea

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 1-3'
🌻 May-July



Hoary Vervain
Verbena stricta

☀️ 🌿 2-4'
🌻 July-Sept



Ironweed
Vernonia fasciculata

☀️ 🌿 4-6'
🌻 July-Sept



HURD

Jack in the Pulpit
Arisaema triphyllum

☀️ 🌿 1-2'
☀️ April-May



MAYER

Jacob's Ladder
Polemonium reptans

☁️ 🌿 1-2'
☀️ May-June



PRICE

Joe Pye Weed
Eupatorium maculatum

☀️ 🌿 4-6'
☀️ Aug-Sept



MAYER

Little Bluestem
Schizachyrium scoparium

☀️ 🌿 2-3'
☀️ Aug-Sept



MAYER

Mountain Mint
Pycnanthemum virginianum

☀️ 🌿 1-3'
☀️ July-Sept



MAYER

New England Aster
Aster novae-angliae

☀️ 🌿 3-6'
☀️ Aug-Oct



MAYER

Nodding Onion
Allium cernuum

☀️ ☁️ 🌿 1-2'
☀️ July-Aug



CARLSON

Northern Sea Oats
Chasmanthium latifolium

☁️ 🌿 2-4'
☀️ Aug-Oct



KABACCHI

Obedient Plant
Physostegia virginiana

☀️ 🌿 2-4'
☀️ Aug-Sept



SYTSM

Ohio Goldenrod
Solidago ohioensis

☀️ 🌿 2-3'
☀️ Aug-Sept



MAYER

Ohio Spiderwort
Tradescantia ohioensis

☀️ 🌿 2-4'
☀️ June-July



Pale Purple Coneflower
Echinacea pallida

☀️ 🌿 3-5'
🌸 June-July



Prairie Blazing Star
Liatris pycnostachya

☀️ 🌿 3-5'
🌸 July-Aug



Prairie Dropseed
Sporobolus heterolepis

☀️ 🌿 2-4'
🌸 Aug-Sept



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea

☀️ 🌿 3-4'
🌸 July-Sept



Rattlesnake Master
Eryngium yuccifolium

☀️ 🌿 3-5'
🌸 June-Aug



Red Baneberry
Actaea rubra

☁️ 🌿 1-2'
⚠️ 🌸 June



Rough Blazing Star
Liatris aspera

☀️ 🌿 2-5'
🌸 Aug-Sept



Showy Goldenrod
Solidago speciosa

☀️ 🌿 1-3'
🌸 Aug-Sept



Smooth Blue Aster
Aster laevis

☀️ 🌿 2-4'
🌸 Aug-Oct



Smooth Phlox
Phlox glaberrima

☁️ 🌿 2-4'
🌸 June-July



Solomon's Seal
Polygonatum biflorum

☁️ 🌿 1-3'
🌸 May-June



Swamp Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata

☀️ 🌿 3-5'
🌸 June-July



Sweet Black Eyed Susan
Rudbeckia subtomentosa

☀️☁️🌿 4-6'
☀️ Aug-Oct



Sweet Joe Pye Weed
Eupatorium purpureum

☁️🌿 4-6'
☀️ Aug-Sept



Virginia Wild Rye
Elymus virginicus

☁️🌿 4-5'
☀️ July-Aug



White False Indigo
Baptisia alba

☀️🌿 3-5'
☀️ June-July



Wild Bergamot
Monarda fistulosa

☀️🌿 2-5'
☀️ July-Sept



Wild Geranium
Geranium maculatum

☁️🌿 1-2'
☀️ May-June



Wild Petunia
Ruellia humilis

☀️🌿 1-2'
☀️ June-Aug



Wild Quinine
Parthenium integrifolium

☀️🌿 3-5'
☀️ June-Sept



Wild Senna
Cassia hebecarpa

☀️🌿 4-6'
☀️ July-Aug



Yellow Coneflower
Ratibida pinnata

☀️🌿 3-6'
☀️ July-Sept



Zig Zag Goldenrod
Solidago flexicaulis

☁️🌿 2-4'
☀️ Aug-Sept

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Instructions in this guide are in accordance with the September 2018 DNR Conservation Practice Standard 1009, but does not substitute the full standard. Refer to the full technical standard for any project beyond private, single-lot residential homes.

This publication is adapted from the 2003 Wisconsin DNR and University of Wisconsin-Extension publication *Rain Gardens - A how-to manual for homeowners*.

CONTRIBUTORS

Rain Garden Standard 1009 Team Members

Wisconsin Standards Oversight Council Advisory Committee:

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; Wisconsin DNR; USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; University of Wisconsin-Extension; Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WI Land+Water); Wisconsin Department of Transportation; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Aspen Garden & Landscape, LLC

Good Oak Ecological Services

Prairie Nursery, Inc.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Writing & Editorial Team

Kate Brunner, *WI Land+Water, Standards Oversight Council*
Elliot Meyer, *WI Land+Water*
Jennifer Thieme, *WI Land+Water*
Wisconsin SOC Standard 1009 Team Members, including Perry Lindquist (Team Leader), Roger Bannerman, and Eric Jacobson

Picture and Diagram Editing

Elliot Meyer, *WI Land+Water*

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Art Direction & Layout

Elliot Meyer, *WI Land+Water*

Figures

1-4: Elliot Meyer
5: Dan Schmitt, MSA Professional Services Inc.



Wisconsin Standards Oversight Council

131 W. Wilson Street, #601
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
www.socwisconsin.org

IMAGES

Cover

Roger Bannerman

Interior, Sections 1-3

Roger Bannerman

Wisconsin SOC Standard 1009 Team Members

Plant Recommendations Section

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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

101 S. Webster Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53707
www.dnr.wi.gov