

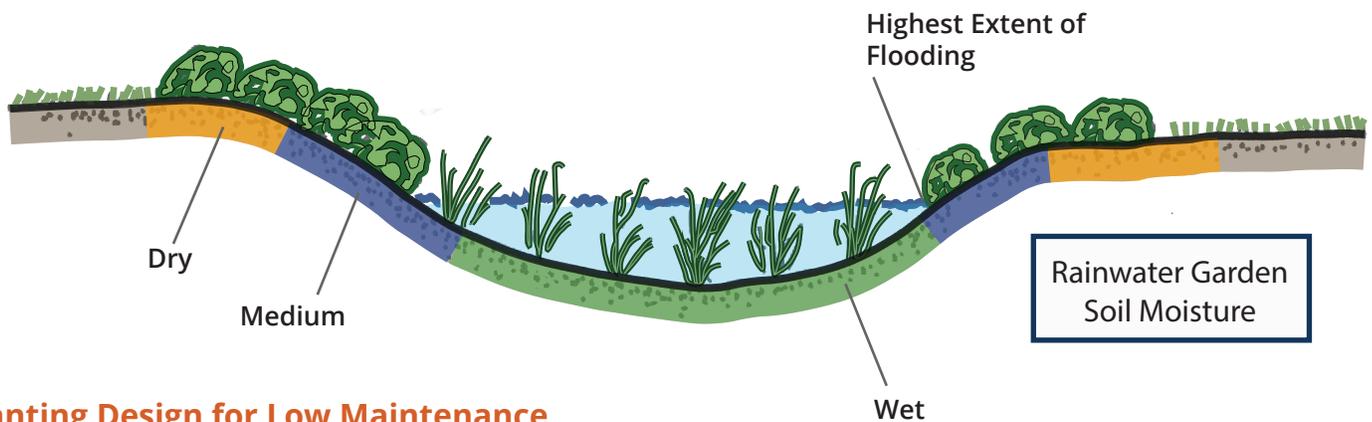


Introduction

Plant Selection

The key to selecting plant species for your rainwater garden or other stormwater feature is to first closely examine the growing conditions of the area to be planted, and then selecting plants that grow best under those conditions. Choosing the right plant for the right place reduces the amount of maintenance because thriving plants will better out-compete weeds.

Start your plant selection process by assessing the area you are to plant. Examine the light levels, soil types, and moisture levels throughout the area you are to plant. These will vary at different parts of the garden. In rainwater gardens two different growing conditions typically exist: the bottom of the basin where the soils get saturated after storm events, and the upper reaches that are above the flood line. But even more conditions may exist if part of the garden is shaded. Next, search the plant list to select plants that will grow well under the growing conditions of your garden.



Planting Design for Low Maintenance

Low maintenance is often a need for property owners. Below are a few tips on how to plan a planting for reduced maintenance. **Please understand that reduced maintenance does not mean no maintenance.** Every rainwater garden requires weeding once a month during the growing season.

- ✓ Select species that do not produce seed. These are typically native cultivars or horticultural (non-native) perennials.
- ✓ Select species that do not spread via roots or runners (quick-spreading plants are labeled as aggressive in the list below).
- ✓ Select a limited number species for the garden and plant them in large groups of 10 – 20, or more. It is manageable to weed simple plantings because identifying weeds is easier within a grouping of one species.
- ✓ Select the right plant for the right place. Match the plant tolerances to the growing conditions of your garden.



Introduction

Site Preparation

*Adapted from the book: Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality by author Fred Rozumalski
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The primary goal in preparing a planting bed for a rainwater garden, buffer zone or shoreline planting is to eliminate all previous vegetation that could become a weed in the new planting. The definition of a weed is – a plant out of place. Therefore, turf grass can be a weed in native plantings, and native plants a weed in turf. Save future maintenance work by thoroughly eliminating weeds before planting.

Eliminating Invasive Weeds

The removal of problem species like reed canary grass, purple loosestrife, crown vetch and common buckthorn, takes time and requires persistence. Plan for the eradication to take an entire growing season before beginning to plant. Consult with the MN DNR for techniques on how to eradicate invasive species. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/-terrestrialplants/index.html>

Eliminating Turf

Clearing sod is necessary to create an attractive planting and to minimize weeding in the future. Remnant lawn grasses tangling through a native planting are unattractive, reduce native plant vigor through competition, and are very difficult to weed out. Three methods of turf removal are discussed here.

The first method of turf removal is to directly remove sod with a gas-powered sod cutter. This method avoids the use of herbicides but is labor intensive and can result in soil erosion if exposed soils are not quickly planted and covered with straw or erosion control blanket. When cutting sod, the blade should be set deep to reach all grass roots (about one half inch). Any sod or root fragments left behind may regenerate and become unattractive weeds in the planting. Cut sod should be either composted on-site or reused to patch open soil areas in the lawn. Most landfill and composting sites do not take sod. A drawback to sod removal is that it opens the soil, making it susceptible to erosion. An erosion-control blanket or mulch must be put down immediately after sod is stripped.

The use of heavy equipment such as a bobcat to strip sod damages the soil and is not recommended. Large machines compact soil and can break the structure of lake and stream banks. Once soil is compacted, plants have difficulty establishing because of the lack of air in the soil; plant roots require oxygen to survive.

A second method of turf removal avoids the heavy work of removing sod but requires an entire growing season to be effective. Smother lawn grasses with black polyethylene plastic, old carpet, show curtains or layers of newspaper or cardboard. Stake your material of choice to the ground over the sod, and leave it in place for one entire growing season (five to six months). It takes this long to smother the robust roots of grass plants. After this period you can plant directly through the dead sod. If planting seed it is important to till the dead sod before spreading the seed.



Introduction

(Eliminating Turf)

The quickest and most cost-effective method to eradicate sod is application of an herbicide. Unfortunately organic herbicides only burn off the above-ground vegetation and leave the root systems in tact to sprout and grow again. Chemical based herbicides such as Roundup TM are very effective in eliminating turf. In situations where herbicide can come in contact with water, Rodeo TM should be used. Rodeo has the same active ingredient as Roundup, but is nontoxic to fish. Any herbicide application to aquatic or shoreline plants must be accompanied by a permit from the MN DNR.

Take care in spraying. These herbicides kill any plant with which they come in contact. After spraying any of these herbicides it takes 10 to 14 days for sod to die. At that time the sod will become yellow. Where green areas remain after this waiting period spot spray at least two days before planting to completely eradicate any surviving turf. Another advantage to using herbicide is that the dead sod can be left in place. Leaving it in place prevents soil erosion, leaves valuable organic material on the soil, and saves the labor of hauling it away to be composted. When you are ready to plant, install live plants directly through the dead sod. Be sure that the roots are buried in soil and not in the thatch of dead lawn where the plant would quickly dry out and die. If you plan to seed native plants, however, you must till the dead sod and soil before seeding.

Soil Preparation

Beyond eliminating sod or invasive plants, no soil preparation is required for the installation of native plants. Appropriately selected native plants will thrive in the soil condition that exists on the site. The incorporation of soil amendments such as black dirt, compost, manure or fertilizer are not necessary and, in fact, would be detrimental to the success of the native planting. Amendments that enrich the soil favor weed growth and cause plants to grow fast and then flop over. The exception to this rule is shady woodland plantings and rainwater gardens planted with non-native perennials; these benefit from the addition of 3-6 inches of compost or manure.

Before you disturb the ground for planting make sure you will be able to obtain the plants you have selected. Open soil can easily erode. It is best to prepare the site after you have arranged with a nursery to purchase plants. For large projects contract with a nursery a year in advance to have them grow the plants you require.

To prevent bank erosion never till below the normal high-water line of the lake or stream, or any closer than 15 feet away from the shoreline. If you will be planting seed above the high-water line, light tilling (approximately 2 inches deep) is necessary to provide a good seed bed, but you must take strong measure to control erosion.



Rainwater Garden Master List

Flowering Perennials

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Pollinator	Common Name	Scientific Name	Exposure			Soil / Moisture			Native	Native Cultivar	Non-Native Perennial	Notes
			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	○				•		✓	✓		Many nice cultivars are available such as 'Moonshine', 'Summer Pastels', 'Paprika', 'Cerise Queen', 'Terracotta', 'Apricot Delight'...and the list goes on. There are now well over 30 named cultivars of yarrow, which extend the colour range from white, pink, red, orange, yellow and innumerable shades in between. The native form can spread aggressively.
	Black cohosh	<i>Actaea racemosa</i>		◐	●		•				✓	Best sited in locations sheltered from strong winds.
	Blue fortune hyssop	<i>Agastache 'Blue Fortune'</i>	○	◐			•		✓			Long bloom time
	Fragrant giant hyssop	<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	○	◐			•		✓			Native; Seeds aggressively
	Lady's Mantle	<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>	○	◐			•				✓	Beautiful foliage, non-invasive
	Prairie Wild Onion	<i>Allium stellatum</i>	○	◐			•		✓			Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil. Plants will naturalize by self-seeding and bulb offsets in optimum growing conditions. Deadhead flowers before seed set to help control any unwanted spread.
	Nodding Onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	○	◐			•		✓			Does well in full sun, primarily found in rocky soils
	Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	○				•		✓			Great for hot, sunny places
	Amsonia 'Blue Ice'	<i>Amsonia 'Blue Ice'</i>	○	◐			•				✓	Beautiful foliage, nice early bloom
	Blue star	<i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i>	○	◐			•				✓	Beautiful fall color
	Willow Amsonia	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	○	◐		•	•				✓	Native to wetland edge in Missouri, produces seed
	Canada anemone	<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	○	◐		•	•		✓			Spreads aggressively via rhizome, great ground cover in rain gardens
	Wild Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	○	◐	●		•		✓			Native woodland plant; Seeds freely
	Sage 'Valerie Finnis'	<i>Artemisia ludoviciana 'Valerie Finnis'</i>	○				•			✓		This cultivar does not spread aggressively. The native form does!
	Aruncus 'Misty Lace'	<i>Aruncus 'Misty Lace'</i>	○	◐		•	•				✓	Attracts many native bees when in flower. Many other nice cultivars.
	Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadensis</i>		◐	●		•		✓			Deer tolerant. Forms a dense ground cover.
	Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	○	◐		•	•		✓			Monarch food source; Seeds freely
	Butterfly flower	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	○				•		✓			Difficult to establish; must have well drained soil

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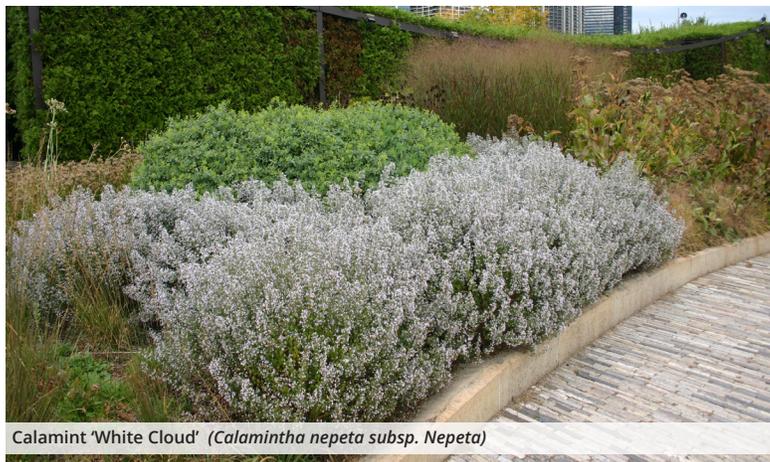


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	Whorled milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓		Spreads by rhizome, expands to a nice patch	
	Astilbe species	<i>Astilbe species</i>		◐	●		•			✓	Deer tolerant. Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers moist, humusy, organically rich soils. Soils must not be allowed to dry out.	
	Lady fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>		◐	●		•		✓		Rabbit resistant	
	Japanese Painted Fern	<i>Athyrium niponicum var. pictum</i>		◐	●		•			✓	Tough dry shade plant, many good cultivars	
	Northern lady fern 'Lady in Red'	<i>Athyrium filix-femina var. angustum 'Lady in Red'</i>		◐	●		•			✓	Tolerates drier soils than many other ferns, beautiful red stems	
	White wild indigo	<i>Baptisia alba</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓		Beautiful, tall white flowers	
	Blue Wild Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	○	◐			•	•		✓	Large - becomes shrub-like	
	Calamint 'White Cloud'	<i>Calamintha nepeta subsp. Nepeta</i>	○	◐			•	•		✓	Great pollinator food source. Avoid other species of calamint.	
	Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓		May be short lived, but seeds around	
	Pink Turtlehead 'Hot Lips'	<i>Chelone lyonii 'Hot Lips'</i>	○	◐	●	•	•			✓	Beautiful rain garden plant. Tolerates shade	
	Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	○	◐		•	•		✓		Primary species of Baltimore Checker spot butterfly	



Calamint 'White Cloud' (*Calamintha nepeta subsp. Nepeta*)



Pink Turtlehead (*Chelone lyonii*)



Hosta Cultivars (*Hosta spp.*)



Purple Prairie Cover (*Dalea purpurea*)

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	Prairie Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	○	◐			●	●	✓			Tolerates deer. Thrives in poor, sandy or rocky soils with good drainage. Tolerant of heat, humidity and drought. Spreads aggressively
	Purple prairie clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	○				●	●	✓			Seeds nicely in native plant gardens
	Pale purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	○	◐			●	●	✓			Tolerates deer, heat and clay soils
	Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	○	◐			●	●			✓	Tolerates deer, heat and clay soils, seeds freely
	Globe thistle	<i>Echinops ritro</i>	○	◐	●		●	●			✓	Great for dry shade; seeds freely, attracts many bees
	Epimedium Cultivars	<i>Epimedium spp.</i>		◐	●		●	●			✓	There are many great species and cultivars of Epimedium
	Rattlesnake Master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	○					●	✓			Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Prefers dryish, sandy soils. Plants tend to open up and sprawl if grown in overly fertile soils or in anything less than full sun
	Joe-Pye weed	<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓			Great for the bottom of rain gardens. The native form seeds freely. Desirable cultivars include 'Gateway', 'Phantom', and 'Little Joe'
	Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓			Needs constant moisture
	Big Leaf Aster	<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>	○	◐	●		●	●	✓			Forms a beautiful shade groundcover
	White wood aster	<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>		◐	●		●	●			✓	Robust shade plant; a favorite
	Big Root Geranium	<i>Geranium Macrorrhizum</i>	○	◐	●		●	●			✓	Forms a beautiful shade groundcover
	Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	○	◐	●		●	●	✓			Spreads nicely by rhizome
	Geranium 'Biokovo'	<i>Geranium x cantabrigiense Biokovo</i>	○	◐	●		●	●			✓	Does well in dry shade
	Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	○			●	●		✓	✓		Tolerates deer and clay soil. Many nice cultivars
	Daylily Cultivars	<i>Hemerocallis spp.</i>	○	◐			●	●			✓	Many good cultivars such as: 'Strawberry Candy'; 'Chicago Apache'; Charles Johnson; 'Prester John'
	Hosta Cultivars	<i>Hosta spp.</i>		◐	●		●	●			✓	Many good cultivars such as: 'Royal Standard'; 'Atlantis'; 'Gold Standard'
	Siberian iris	<i>Iris siberica</i>	○	◐		●	●				✓	Thick roots penetrate the soil deeply
	Wild iris	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓			Must have evenly moist soil
	Tall Bearded Iris	<i>Iris germanica</i>	○				●	●			✓	Deer tolerant

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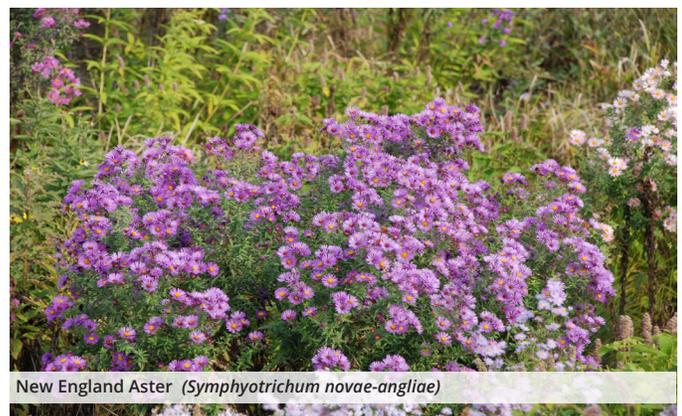


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	Sedum 'Autumn Joy'	<i>Hylotelephium 'Herbstfreude' ('Autumn Joy')</i>	○	◐			●	●			✓	Many good species of Sedum are available
	Cast-Iron Plant	<i>Kalimeris incisa</i>	○	◐			●				✓	Long bloom time
	Bleeding Heart	<i>Lamprocapnos spectabilis</i>		◐	●		●				✓	Showy; Tolerates rabbits and heavy shade; Seeds around nicely
	Blazing star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	○				●	●	✓			Great monarch food source
	Meadow blazing star	<i>Liatris ligulistylis</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓			Great monarch food source
	Prairie blazing star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	○			●	●		✓			Great monarch food source
	Dense Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	○			●	●				✓	Easily grown in average, well-drained soils in full sun. Somewhat tolerant of poor soils, but prefers moist, fertile soils and generally performs better in moist soils than most other species of Liatris. Intolerant of wet soils in winter. Tolerant of summer heat and humidity. 'Kobold' is a desirable cultivar
	Leopard Plant	<i>Ligularia dentata 'Desdemona'</i>		◐	●	●	●				✓	Tends to wilt in dry conditions
	Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	○	◐	●	●	●		✓			Attracts hummingbirds. Easily grown in rich, humusy, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Needs constant moisture. Many other nice cultivars
	Great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	○	◐	●	●	●		✓			Tolerates deer and heavy shade, beautiful late season bloom



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	Solomon's Plume	<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>		☉	●		💧	•	✓			Showy, fragrant
	Starry Solomon's Plume	<i>Maianthemum stellatum</i>		☉	●		💧	•	✓			Grows to form a beautiful mass
	Ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>		☉	●	💧	💧		✓			Aggressive spreader, great for the bottom of a shaded rain garden
	Wild bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	○	☉			💧	•	✓			Many more cultivars
	Walker's Low Catmint	<i>Nepeta x faassenii</i> "Walkers Low"	○	☉			💧	•			✓	Long blooming. Tolerates deer, drought and air pollution
	Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>		☉	●	💧	💧		✓			Rabbit tolerant, tolerates heavy shade and clay soil. Requires consistent moisture.
	Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i>		☉	●	💧	💧		✓			Easily grown in medium to wet soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy, acidic soils, but adapts to lesser conditions
	Golden ragwort	<i>Packera aureus</i>	○	☉	●	💧	💧		✓			Use as a ground cover; Naturalizes
	Peony species	<i>Paeonia spp.</i>	○	☉			💧	•			✓	Many nice cultivars available
	Russian Sage	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	○				💧	•			✓	Rabbit and Deer resistant, tolerates clay soil and air pollution. Has been known to spread aggressively in some situations
	Garden Phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>	○	☉			💧	•		✓		Long blooming white phlox. Many nice cultivars, can seed around.
	Prairie phlox	<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	○	☉			💧	•	✓			Rabbit preferred food
	Jacob's Ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	○	☉			💧		✓			Best grown in moist, humusy, well-drained soil in part shade. Freely self-seeds in optimum growing conditions, but not aggressively
	Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>		☉	●		💧	•	✓			Tough shade plant
	Variegated Japanese Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i> var. <i>pluriflorum</i> <i>Variegatum</i>		☉	●		💧	•			✓	Beautiful, tough shade perennial
	Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>		☉	●		💧		✓			Best grown in organically rich, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade
	Yellow coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	○				💧	•	✓			Tolerates drought and clay soil
	Rhubarb	<i>Rheum rhabarbarum</i>	○	☉			💧	•			✓	Makes great pie!
	Goldsturm Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> 'Goldsturm'	○				💧	•			✓	Tolerates deer, drought and clay soil
	Sweet Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	○	☉		💧	💧	•	✓			Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates hot and humid summers but not drought

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	Salvia 'Caradonna'	<i>Salvia nemorosa</i> 'Caradonna'	○					▲		✓	Tolerates deer, drought, and air pollution; many other nice cultivars	
	Meadow sage 'May Night'	<i>Salvia x sylvestris</i> 'May Night'	○					▲		✓	Tolerates deer, drought and dry soil	
	Gray goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	○	●			●	▲	✓		Great in sandy soils	
	Riddell's goldenrod	<i>Solidago riddellii</i>	○				●	▲	✓		Tolerates deer, clay and wet soil	
	Goldenrod 'Fireworks'	<i>Solidago rugosa</i> 'Fireworks'	○				●	▲		✓	Late blooming, tolerates deer, clay and wet soils	
	Showy goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	○				●	▲	✓		Best in sandy soil	
	Goldenrod 'Golden Fleece'	<i>Solidago sphacelata</i> 'Golden Fleece'	○				●	▲		✓	Tolerates deer, drought, erosion and clay soil. Slowly spreads via rhizome	
	Lamb's ear 'Big Ears'	<i>Stachys byzantina</i> 'Big Ears'	○	●			●	▲		✓	Great foliage texture	
	Heath Aster 'Blue Star'	<i>Symphotrichum ericoides</i> 'Blue Star'	○				●			✓	Drought tolerant, beautiful fall flowers	
	Smooth aster	<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	○	●			●	▲	✓		Beautiful blue flowers	
	Aromatic aster	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	○	●			●	▲	✓		Grows in rocky and sandy soils such as those found in prairies and bluffs as well as in moist woodland habitats. "October Skies" is a nice cultivar along with many others	
	New England aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	○			●	●			✓	Seeds freely, wonderful purple flowers. The cultivar 'purple dome' is a good cultivar and does not produce seed	
	Sky blue aster	<i>Symphotrichum oolentangiense</i>	○	●			●	▲	✓		Tolerates a wide range of soils, showy flower	



Prairie Blazing Star (*Liatris pycnostachya*)



Daylily cultivars (*Hemerocallis* spp.)



Siberian iris (*Iris siberica*)

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Rainwater Garden Master List

Flowering Perennials

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Pollinator	Common Name	Scientific Name	Exposure			Soil / Moisture			Native	Native Cultivar	Non-Native Perennial	Notes
			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Tall meadow rue	<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		🔴	🟡		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Showy, seeds freely	
	Prairie spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia bracteata</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Goes dormant in late summer	
	Blue vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	<input type="radio"/>			🔴	🟡		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Seeds aggressively	
	Hoary vervain	<i>Verbena stricta</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Showy, drought tolerant. Seeds aggressively.	
	Prairie Ironweed	<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	<input type="radio"/>			🔴	🟡		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Although it is mostly seen growing in the wild in moist soils	
	Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		🔴	🟡		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Tolerates wet soil, flops if grown in too much shade	
	Barren strawberry	<i>Waldsteinia fragarioides</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Shade groundcover. Seeds aggressively	
	Golden alexander	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		🔴	🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Seeds aggressively	



Rainwater Garden Master List

Grasses and Grass-Like Plants

Pollinator	Common Name	Scientific Name	Exposure			Soil / Moisture			Native	Native Cultivar	Non-Native Perennial	Notes
			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	<input type="radio"/>				🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Deer resistant. Spreads aggressively by seed	
	Sideoats Grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	<input type="radio"/>				🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Easily grown in average, dry to medium moisture soils in full sun. Tolerates wide range of soil conditions from well-drained sandy soils to heavy clays	
	Feather Reed Grass 'Karl Foerster'	<i>Calamagrostis × acutiflora</i> 'Karl Foerster'	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		🔴	🟡	•		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great winter interest	
	Fall Blooming Reed Grass	<i>Calamagrostis brachytricha</i>	<input type="radio"/>			🔴	🟡			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tolerates black walnuts and air pollution	
	Blue Zinger Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i> 'Blue Zinger'	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	🔴	🟡	•		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Very robust plant; Forms a tight sod that prevents weed establishment	
	Palm Sedge	<i>Carex muskingumensis</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	🔴	🟡		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Excellent rain garden plant. Will form a sod in the bottom of the basin. 'Oehme' is a nice cultivar	
	Tussock Sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		🔴	🟡	•	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Spreads by rhizome	

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Rainwater Garden Master List

Grasses and Grass-Like Plants

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			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Sprengel's Sedge	<i>Carex spengelii</i>	○	◐	●	☂	☂	☂	✓			A great plant for shade gardens. Can go summer dormant
	Lake Sedge	<i>Carex lacustris</i>	○	◐	●	☂	☂		✓			Spreads by rhizome
	Fox Sedge	<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	○	◐		☂	☂		✓			Tough rain garden plant
	Tufted hair grass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	○	◐			☂	☂		✓		Tolerates black walnuts and air pollution; Goldstaub is a good cultivar as are others
	Japanese forest grass	<i>Hakonechloa macra</i>		◐	●		☂	☂			✓	Great shade tolerant grass. Many nice cultivars
	Sorghastrum nutans	<i>Indian Grass</i>	○	◐			☂	☂		✓		Will produce seed; Tolerates drought, black walnuts and air pollution
	Common Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	○	◐		☂			✓			Tolerates wet soils; Good in the bottom of a rain garden
	Purple moor grass	<i>Molinia caerulea cultivars</i>	○	◐		☂	☂				✓	Tolerates wet soil
	Switch Grass	<i>Panicum virginicum</i>	○	◐		☂	☂	☂	✓			The native form spreads aggressively via seed, but the cultivars are well behaved and highly recommended
	Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	○				☂	☂	✓			'Blue Heaven' is a preferred cultivar. Native form spreads aggressively.
	Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	○				☂	☂	✓			Aggressively spreads by seed
	Prairie Cordgrass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	○	◐		☂	☂		✓			Spreads aggressively by roots; Great for the bottom of low maintenance rain gardens
	Frost Grass	<i>Spodiopogon sibiricus</i>	○	◐	●	☂	☂				✓	Very tough grass; Non-invasive
	Prairie Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	○	◐			☂	☂	✓			Beautiful low grass for the dry banks of rain gardens. 'Tara' is an excellent cultivar



Switch grass (*Panicum virginicum*)



Lake Sedge (*Carex lacustris*)



Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)



Feather reed grass 'karl foerster' (*Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'*)

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Rainwater Garden Master List

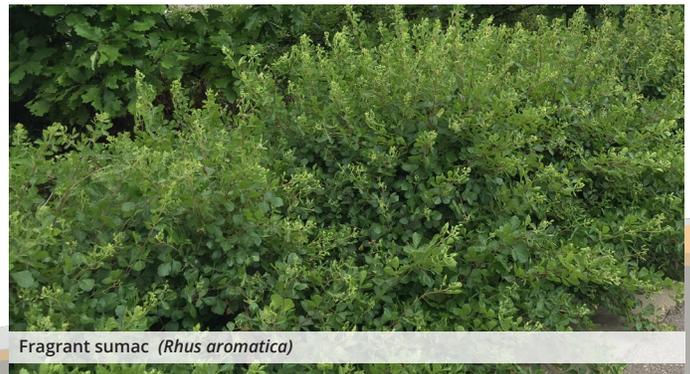
Shrubs

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			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i> 'Autumn Brilliance'	○	◐			●		✓		Beautiful tall shrub with year-round interest	
	Regent Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> 'Regent'	○	◐		●	●	●	✓		Fruit edible for birds and people. There are several native service berries species. All are great for landscapes as are their cultivars	
	Alleghany Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓		Native to open woods	
	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	○	◐			●		✓	✓	Spreads by rhizome	
	Glossy Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	○	◐			●		✓	✓	Many nice Cultivars: 'Autumn Magic', 'Morton', 'Viking'	
	American New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	○	◐			●	●	✓		Best in sandy, well drained soil	
	Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓		Beautiful blue fruit. Large and sprawling form	
	Sweetfern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>	○	◐			●	●	✓		Prefers well drained soil	
	Variiegated Dogwood	<i>Cornus alba</i> 'Elegantissima'	○	◐			●		✓		Best if trimmed back to 6" every five years	
	Pagoda Dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	○	◐	●		●		✓		May be considered a large tree.	
	Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓		Prefers moist, organically rich soils in partial shade	
	Grey Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓	✓	Forms and expanding mass; Good to cover large areas. 'Muszam' is a nice cultivar	
	Roundleaf Dogwood	<i>Cornus rugosa</i>		◐	●		●	●	✓		Native to forest understories	
	Redtwig dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	○	◐		●	●		✓	✓	Good for the bottom of rain gardens; Best if cut back to 12" every 5 years for good winter interest. There are many excellent cultivars	
	American Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	○	◐	●		●	●	✓		Edible, great for clay. Spreads aggressively via rhizome	
	Lowbush Honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	○	◐	●		●	●	✓		Excellent for massing at the upper edges of a rain garden. Great in the shade.	



Annebelle Hydrangea (*Hydrangea* 'Annabelle')



Fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*)

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			Full Sun	Partial Sun	Shade	Wet	Medium	Dry				
	Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	○	◐	●		•	•	✓			Tall, fall blooming shrub
	Annebelle Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea 'Annabelle'</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Large flowers; Great winter interest; Nice shrub for the upper edges of a rain garden
	Bigleaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>	○	◐	●		•			✓		Many nice cultivars: 'Blushing Bride', Light-O-Day, other cultivars
	Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Many nice cultivars: 'Little Lamb', Quick Fire', Limelight'
	Winterberry 'Red Sprite'	<i>Ilex verticillata 'Red Sprite'</i>	○	◐	●	•	•		✓			Plant the native form cultivars in the bottom of rain gardens; Must plant 'Red Sprite' with the male 'Jim Dandy' at a 5:1 ratio to achieve fruiting
	Mint Julep Juniper	<i>Juniper chinensis 'Mint Julep'</i>	○				•			✓		Beautiful deep green foliage year round. Many other nice cultivars
	Calgary Carpet Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina 'Monna'</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Low growing; Beautiful deep green foliage year round. Many other nice cultivars
	Spice Bush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	○	◐	●		•			✓		Heavy Shade, Clay Soil, Deer, Birds
	Mockorange species	<i>Philadelphus spp.</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Cultivars: 'Blizzard', 'Snowbelle', 'Aureus'
	Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓			Cultivars: 'Diabolo', 'Dart's Gold', 'Center Glow'
	Shrubby Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓			Rabbit, Deer, Drought, and Clay tolerant
	Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	○	◐	●		•	•	✓			Spreads by rhizome to create a mass perfect for buffer zones
	Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Prefers acidic soil; Cultivars: 'Aglo', 'PJM'
	Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓			Beautiful fall color; Becomes very large, 'Gro-Low' is a very drought tolerant dwarf cultivar
	Smooth sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓			Spreads by rhizome
	Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i>	○	◐			•	•	✓			Spreads by rhizome; beautiful gold foliage, 'Baltiger' is a stunning cultivar with chartreuse foliage
	Rose, Carefree Beauty™	<i>Rosa 'Bucbi'</i>	○				•	•		✓		Many other nice cultivars
	Rugosa Rose	<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	○				•			✓		Many nice cultivars
	Rose 'Nearly Wild"	<i>Rosa x 'Nearly Wild'</i>	○	◐			•			✓		Many other nice cultivars
	Rose 'Purple Pavement'	<i>Rosa x 'Purple Pavement'</i>	○				•			✓		Drought tolerant; many other nice cultivars
	Dwarf Blue Leaf Arctic Willow	<i>Salix purpurea 'Nana'</i>	○			•	•			✓		Best if pruned down to 6" in early spring every year
	American Elder	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	○	◐		•	•	•	✓			Good on clay. Supports birds and butterflies. Spreads aggressively via seed
	Meadow Sweet	<i>Spiraea alba</i>	○	◐		•	•		✓			Will grow well in the bottom of a rain garden

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Shrubs

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	Little Princess Spirea	<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	○				☹			✓	Very short; Good for the upper edge of a rain garden	
	Goldmound Spirea	<i>Spiraea japonica</i> 'Gold Mound'	○				☹	☹		✓	Chartreuse foliage	
	Snowmound Spirea	<i>Spiraea nipponica</i> 'Snowmound'	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Beautiful mound of white flowers in spring	
🐝	Bridalwreath Spirea	<i>Spiraea prunifolia</i>	○				☹	☹		✓	Old fashioned tried and true	
🐝	Anthony Waterer Spirea	<i>Spiraea x bumalda</i>	○				☹	☹		✓	Will re-bloom if cut back	
🐝	Grefsheim Spirea	<i>Spiraea x cinerea</i>	○				☹	☹		✓	Graceful arching branches when kept unpruned	
🐝	Vanhoutte Spirea	<i>Spiraea x vanhouttei</i>	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Large, tough shrub	
🐝	Dwarf Vanhoutte Spirea	<i>Spiraea x vanhouttei meyeriana</i>	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Beautiful spring bloom	
🐝	White Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	○	◐		☹	☹	☹	✓	✓	Many nice cultivars	
🐝	Coralberry	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	○	◐			☹		✓		Spreads to form an extensive colony	
🐝	Coralberry Cultivars	<i>Symphoricarpos x doorenbosii</i>	○	◐	●		☹			✓	Winter dieback possible	
🐝	Dwarf Korean Lilac	<i>Syringa meyeri</i>	○				☹	☹		✓	Dwarf, mildew resistant, fragrant	
🐝	Miss Kim Lilac	<i>Syringa pubescens subsp. patula</i> 'Miss Kim'	○				☹			✓	Crimson fall color	
🐝	Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos alba</i>	○	◐			☹		✓		Adapts to a wide range of soils including poor soils	
🐝	Common Purple Lilac & Cultivars	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Old fashioned tried and true	
	Yew	<i>Taxus x media</i>	○	◐	●		☹	☹		✓	Tolerates a wide range of conditions; Preferred cultivar: 'Taunton'	
	White Cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	○	◐	●	☹	☹	☹	✓		Many great cultivars are available	
🐝	Blueberry species	<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>	○	◐		☹	☹			✓	Protect from rabbits; prefers acidic soil; Many nice cultivars	
🐝	Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	○	◐			☹			✓	Best cultivar: 'Christom' Blue Muffin, 'Morton', Many other good cultivars	
🐝	Wayfaring Bush Viburnum	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Good cultivar: 'Mohican'	
🐝	Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	○	◐			☹		✓		Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade	
🐝	European Cranberrybush Viburnum & Cultivars	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	○	◐			☹			✓	Cultivars: 'Roseum', 'Compactum', 'Nanum'	
🐝	Blackhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	○	◐			☹	☹		✓	Clusters of white flowers in spring	
🐝	Downy Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i>		◐	●		☹	☹	✓		Birds appreciate the fruit	
🐝	Highbush Cranberry	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	○	◐		☹	☹		✓	✓	Preferred cultivar: 'Wentworth' for best winter interest	

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