Toronto Nature Stewards Non-Woody Planting List for Ecoregion 7E4

Moisture: Dry, Average, Moist, very moist to wet M/M

Sun/shade: Sun = mostly all day sun Sun/Semi-shade (S/SSh): dappled sunlight reaches the ground Shade: little sunlight reaches the ground

Very few herbaceous plants survive in heavy shade. They may be present but are not thriving or reproducing much.

Natural, mature forests have deep shade and often have spring ephemerals but once they go dormant, few herbaceous species can be found. It can be normal for some places to be bare looking.

Plants for Sun

Fiants for Sun				
Common Name	Botanical Name	Moisture Level	Notes	
Wild Leek	Allium tricoccum	A/M		
Pearly Everlasting	Anaphalis margaritacea	Α	open disturbed ground	
Wild Columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	A/D	forms a deep root, can survive droughts, avoid 'nativars	sun
Common Thimbleweed	Anemone virginiana	Α		
Fox Sedge	Carex vulpinoidea	A/M	occasionally found in wet sunny spots in forests	
Showy tick-trefoil	Desmodium canadense	Α		
Canada Wild Rye	Elymus canadensis	A/D		
Daisy Fleabane	Erigeron annuus	A/D	commonly found in meadows	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Philadelphia Fleabane	Erigeron philadelphicus	A/D	commonly found in meadows	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum	M		
Grass-leaved Goldenrod	Euthamia graminifolia	A/M	a tough goldenrod for gravelly spots	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Wild Strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	Α		
Wild Geranium	Geranium maculatum	Α	will take some shade	
Wild Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa var. fistulosa	Α		
Common Muhly Grass	Muhlenbergia mexicana	Α	for sunny disturbed sites, prefers little competitor	
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta	Α	do not substitute Rudbeckia triloba	
Little Bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	A/D	for dry disturbed sites with poor soi	
Rough-leaved goldenrod	Solidago patula	M/W		
Indian Grass	Sorgastrum nutans	A/D	will grow in drier spots	
Cup Plant	Silphium perfoliatum	A/D	good for disturbed soil sites, can spread aggressively	
Heath Aster	Symphyotrichum ericoides	Α	open spots without competition	
Panicled Aster	Symphyotrichum lanceolatum var. lanceolatum	A/M	colonizer	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
New England Aster	Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	Α	a tough aster, great for insects	encourage to grow wild
Tall Meadow Rue	Thalictrum pubescens	A/M		
Blue Vervain	Verbena hastata	A/M		
Hoary Vervain	Verbena stricta	A/D	will grow in drier spots, disturbed soils	

Plants for Semi-Shade/Shade

Tidnes for Serial Shade/ Shade				
Common Name	Botanical Name	Moisture	Notes	
White Baneberry	Actaea pachypoda	A/M	will take more sun	
Red Baneberry	Actaea rubra	A/M	sunny forests	
White Snakeroot	Ageratina altissima var. altissima	Α	a good spreader	
Agrimony	Agrimonia gryposepala	A/M		encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Canada Anemone	Anemonastrum canadensis	A/D	spreads aggressively in sun, behaves in shade	
Common Thimbleweed	Anemone virginiana	Α	good spreader	

Wild Ginger	Asarum canadensis	Α	likes the sunny side of shade, do not get European Ginger	
Woodland Sedge	Carex blanda	A/M	especially good along disturbed path edges	
Graceful Sedge	Carex gracillima	A/M		
Loose-flowered sedge	Carex laxiflora	Α	sun/light shade but not open meadows	
Tall Enchanter's Nightshade	Circaea lutetiana ssp. canadensis	A/M	seeds are very fertile, part shade or light sun	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Honewort	Cryptotaenia canadensis	А	excellent lowland forest plant for partial shade to sunny – for matrix.	ms a encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Marginal Wood Fern	Dryopteris marginalis	Α	often on cool north slopes	
Yellow Trout-lily	Erythronium americanum	A/M		
Woodland Strawberry	Fragaria virginiana spp. virginiana	A/M	spreads by stolons and rhizomes	
White Avens	Geum canadense	М	can form a colony	
Woodland Sunflower	Helianthus divaricatus	A/D	colonizes, oak savannah specialist but adaptable	
Pale-leaved Sunflower	Helianthus strumosus	A/D	colonizes, oak savannah specialist but adaptable	
Ox-eye/False Sunflower	Heliopsis helianthoides	Α	clumps, prairie specialist but adaptable	
Virginia Waterleaf	Hydrophyllum virginianum	Α	spreads - senesces by July, returns in fall	
Path Rush	Juncus tenuis	A/M	grows well on path edges, tolerates soil compaction	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Great Blue Lobelia	Lobelia siphilitica	M	likes the sunnier places	
Fringed Loosestrife	Lysimachia ciliata	A/M		encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Starry False Solomon's Seal	Maianthemum stellatum	A/M	forms colonies	
Ostrich Fern	Matteuccia struthiopteris	A/M	spreads aggressively	
May-apple	Podophyllum peltatum	Α	spreads	
Christmas Fern	Polystichum acrostichoides	A/M	deep shade, grows slowly; cool north slopes	
Calico Aster	Symphyotrichum lateriflorum	Α	not too tall, likes trail edges	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Panicled Aster	Symphyotrichum lanceolatum var. lanceolatum	A/D	colonizes	encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis	Α	do not plant 'double flower' cultivars	
Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	Solidago caesia	Α		
Zig-zag Goldenrod	Solidago flexicaulis	Α	spreads into larger clumps	
Heart-leaved Aster	Symphyotrichum cordifolium	Α	spreads	
Early Meadow Rue	Thalictrum dioicum	A/D	tolerates deeper shade	
Red Trillium	Trillium erectum	A/M		encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
White Trillium	Trillium grandiflorum	A/M		encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase
Yellow Violet	Viola pubescens	A/M		
Common Violet	Viola sororia	Α	do not accept cultivar garden violets which are invasive, only a few suppliers have the native	

Wetland Plants - areas next to ponds or seepage areas

Common Name	Botanical Name	Light	Notes
Jack-in-the-pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum	Ssh	
Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias incarnata	Sun	
Fringed Sedge	Carex crinita	Sun/SSh	
Cypress-like Sedge	Carex pseudo-cyperus	Sun/SSh	
Fox Sedge	Carex vulpinoidea	A/M	most often found in wetlands, marshes
Marsh Marigold	Caltha palustris	Sun	
White Turtlehead	Chelone glabra	Sun	don't plant the non-native (pink) garden species
Boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum	Sun	
Spotted Joe-Pye Weed	Eutrochium maculatum var. maculatum	Sun	

Sun/SSh Orange touch-me-not Impatiens capensis Iris versicolor Blue Flag Iris Sun Great Blue Lobelia Lobelia siphilitica Sun/SSh Soft-stemmed Bulrush Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani Sun Rough-leaved Goldenrod Solidago patula Sh/SSh Skunk Cabbage Symplocarpus foetidus SSh Swamp Aster Symphyotrichum puniceum var puniceum Sun Blue Vervain Verbena hastata Sun

Equisetum hymale

Scouring Rush

can become a dominant groundcover

likes the sunnier places

Sun/SSh

encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase