



# Plants for wet soils

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Moisture*	Exposure**	Native Habitat	Color	Bloom Time
<b>Aquatic Plants: grown in less than 12" of water, soil is always saturated</b>							
<i>Carex comosa</i>	bottlebrush sedge	24-42"	s,w,um	S	marsh, peatland, lake edge	green	May-June
<i>Carex crinita</i>	fringed sedge	30-42"	s,w,um	S	marsh, swamp, lake edge	green	May-June
<i>Carex lacustris</i>	lake sedge	24-36"	s,w,um	S	marsh, swamp, lake edge	green	May-June
<i>Carex stricta</i>	tussock sedge	24-36"	s,w,um	S	swamp, marsh, peatland	green	May-June
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	spike rush	6-24"	s,w,um	S	wetland, wet prairie	brown	August
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	blue flag iris	24-36"	s,w	S, PS	marsh, peatland, lake edge	blue	June-July
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	soft rush	24-48"	s,w,um	S	swamp, marsh, lake edge	brown	July-Aug
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	common arrowhead	24-42"	s,w	S, PS	lake edge, marsh	white	July-Aug
<i>Scirpus acutus</i>	hardstem bulrush	36-108"	s,w	S	lake edge, marsh	green	June-July
<i>Scirpus validus</i>	softstem bulrush	36-108"	s,w	S	marsh, swamp, lake edge	brown	July-Aug

Source: University of Minnesota Extension

**Moisture Zone Key:**

ud = upland-dry (dry, well-drained soils);  
 um = upland-mesic (soil is moist, but not wet);  
 w = soil is wet, occasionally standing water;  
 s = shallow water most of the time

**Exposure Key:**

S = full sun,  
 PS = partial sun,  
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<b>Non-Aquatic Plants: Wild- flowers or forbs</b>							
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	fragrant hyssop	24-40"	um,ud	PS	prairie, savan-	blue	June-Oct
<i>Allium stellatum</i>	prairie wild onion	12-24"	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan-	pink	July-Aug
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	pearly everlasting	6-18"	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan- na, woodland	white	July-Sept
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada anemone	12-24"	w,um	PS, Sh	prairie, marsh, swamp	white	May-July
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	jack-in-the-pulpit	8-24"	w,um	PS, Sh	woodland, forest	green	April- June
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	36-48"	w,um	S	prairie, marsh, lake edge	laven- der	June-Aug
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterfly flower	12-24"	ud	S, PS	prairie, savan-	orange	June-
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	24-48"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, marsh, swamp	blue	Aug-Oct
<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	boltonia	48-96"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, marsh, swamp	white	Aug-Sept
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	purple prairie clo- ver	12-24"	ud	S	dry prairie, savanna	purple	June-July
<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	purple coneflower	24-36"	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan-	purple	July-Aug
<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	Joe-Pye weed	24-48"	w,um	S, PS	wet prairie, marsh, swamp	purple	July-Sept
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	bottle gentian	18-30"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, marsh, lake edge	blue	Aug-Oct
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	prairie smoke	6-12"	um,ud	S	dry prairie, woodland	purple	April- June
<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Maximilian sun- flower	24-108"	w,um	S	swamp, prai- rie, lake edge	yellow	Aug-Oct
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	prairie blazing star	24-36"	w,um	S	prairie, marsh, lake edge	purple	July-Sept



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<b>Non-Aquatic Plants: Wild- flowers or forbs</b>							
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower	24-48"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, marsh, lake edge	red	July-Oct
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	great blue lobelia	20-30"	w,um	S	prairie, marsh, lake edge	blue	July-Oct
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	24-48"	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan- na, woodland	laven- der	July-Aug
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed Susan	3-4'	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan-	yellow	June-Oct
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	wild goldenglow	36-108"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, swamp, lake	yellow	July-Aug
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	tall meadow rue	36-72"	w	S, PS	prairie, swamp, lake	cream	June
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	large-flowered bell- wort	12"	um	PS	deciduous forest	yellow	May
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue vervain	24-60"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, marsh, swamp	blue	June- Sept
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden Alexander	12-36"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, savan- na, woodland	yellow	May-July
<b>Graminoides (grasses and grass-like plants)</b>							
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	sweet flag	36"	s,w	S, PS	marsh, peat- land, lake	yellow	July-Aug
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	36-72"	um,ud	S, PS	prairie, savan- na, woodland	purple	July-Sept
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	side oats grama	1-2'	um,ud	S	prairie, savan- na, woodland	red	July-Sept
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	blue grama	6-18"	um,ud	S	prairie, savan-	purple	July-Sept
<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	Kalms brome	24-36"	w,um,ud	PS, Sh	prairie, savan- na, woodland	green	June-July



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<b>Graminoides (grasses and grass-like plants)</b>							
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	bluejoint grass	36-72"	w,um	S, PS, Sh	prairie, marsh, swamp	green	July-Sept
<i>Carex bebbii</i>	Bebbs sedge	24-36"	w,um	S	marsh, swamp, lake	green	May-June
<i>Carex comosa</i>	bottlebrush sedge	24-42"	s,w,um	S	marsh, peat-land, lake	green	May-June
<i>Carex lacustris</i>	lake sedge	24-36"	s,w,um	S	marsh, swamp, lake	green	May-June
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania sedge	6-8"	um,ud	S, Sh	dry to mesic forest	brown	May
<i>Carex scoparia</i>	pointed broom sedge	6-30"	w	S	marsh, wet-land, lake	tan	May-June
<i>Carex sprengeii</i>	Sprengel's sedge	12-24"	um,ud	S	woodland,	green	June-July
<i>Carex stricta</i>	tussock sedge	24-36"	s,w,um	S	swamp, marsh, peat-	green	May-June
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	fox sedge	12-36"	w,um	S	swamp, marsh, lake	green	May-June
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	spike rush	6-24"	s,w,um	S	wetland, wet prairie	brown	Aug
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	bottlebrush grass	24-48"	w,um,ud	PS, Sh	forest, wood-land, lake	green	June-July
<i>Glyceria canadensis</i>	rattlesnake manna grass	24-36"	w	S	marsh, peat-land, lake	green	July-Aug
<i>Glyceria grandis</i>	tall manna grass	36-60"	w	S	swamp, peat-land, lake	green	July-Aug
<i>Hierochloa odorata</i>	sweet grass	12-24"	w,um	S	lake edge, marsh, prairie	green	May-June



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<i>Juncus effusus</i>	soft rush	24-48"	s,w,um	S	swamp, marsh, lake edge	brown	July-Aug
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	path rush	6-12"	w,um	S, PS, Sh	swamp, marsh, lake edge	brown	July-Aug
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	June grass	12-24"	um,ud	S	prairie, savanna, woodland	green	June-July
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switchgrass	36-72"	w,um,ud	S	prairie, swamp, lake edge	purple	June-Oct
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	24-48"	um,ud	S	prairie, savanna, woodland	amber	July-Sept
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	green bulrush	36-48"	w	S	marsh, swamp, lake edge	brown	June-July
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	wool grass	36-48"	s,w,um	S	marsh, swamp, lake edge	brown	June-July
<i>Scirpus validus</i>	softstem bulrush	36-96"	s	S	lake edge, marsh	brown	June-Aug
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	24-72"	w,um	S, PS	prairie, savanna, woodland	amber	July-Sept
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	cord grass	36-72"	w,um	S	prairie, marsh, lake edge	yellow	Aug-Oct

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<b>Shrubs and small trees</b>							
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	serviceberry	15-25'	um,ud	PS	forests, fields, clearcuts	white	April-May
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	black chokeberry	3-6'	w,um,ud	S, PS	lake edge, forest, swamp	white	May-June
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	15-25'	um,ud	PS	forest, swamp	white	May-July
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	5-15'	um,ud	PS, Sh	forest, fields, lake edge	white	May-July
<i>Cornus sericea (stolonifera)</i>	red-osier dogwood	6-12'	w,um,ud	S, PS, Sh	forest, wet-land, lake	white	May-July
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American hazel	8-15'	um,ud	S	forest, wet-land, lake	purple	March-April
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	bush honeysuckle	2-4'	um,ud	PS, Sh	woodland, forest, clearcuts	yellow	June-July
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	chokecherry	20-30'	um,ud	S, PS	forest, wood-	white	May
<i>Sambucus pubens</i>	red berried elder-	4-8'	um,ud	PS,	dry to moist	white	May
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	snowberry	4-6'	ud	S	forest, wood-	whitish	May-July
<i>Viburnum atropurpurea</i>	downy arrowwood	6'	ud	S, PS	woodland, forest, clearcuts	white	May-June
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	nannyberry	12-18'	um,ud	PS	forest, swamp, lake	white	May-June
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	highbush cranberry	5-15'	w,um	S, PS	forest, swamp, lake	white	June

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