

# Shade Garden for Pollinators

There are great native plant options for a shady spot. The plants featured here also selected for their beautiful foliage as well as continuous bloom from spring to fall.

A grass-like woodland ground-cover, **Pennsylvania sedge** provides habitat for nesting pollinators and larva. Low growing and fine textured,

9 plants



Spring ephemerals **Yellow Violets** emerge and bloom before the other plants in the garden, providing valuable early food for pollinators.

7 plants



A low-growing native coral bell, **Alumroot** provides early blooms and nectar and season-long foliage interest in a shady garden.

5 plants



**Solomon's Seal** gracefully adds texture to a shady garden. It is pollinated by bumblebees and other native bees. Blue berries in late summer provide food for other wildlife.

3 plants



**Pagoda Dogwood** a sculptural small tree, producing copious flowers in late spring. Violets planted beneath it will flower before Pagoda Dogwood leafs out. Prune lower branches to allow space for other plants.

1 plant



**Wild Geranium** is a beautiful scented, spreading powerhouse. It is easy to transplant and share its shallow rhizomes with your neighbors or your other gardens when it outgrows its space

4 plants



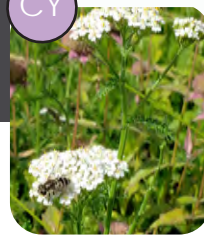
**Ohio Spiderwort** flowers in the morning and closes its buds during the heat of day. It looks great planted in front of textured foliage plants like Solomon's seal and Spikenard. \*won't survive in deep shade.

3 plants



**Common Yarrow** attracts bees and butterflies and blooms in the hottest time of the summer when pollinator foods are sometimes scarce. Beautiful lacy foliage.

5 plants



**Callico Aster's** lacy flowers look best supported by other plants. It is a host plant for Silvery Checkerspot larva. Blooms last from summer into late fall. Fluffy seed heads add winter interest.

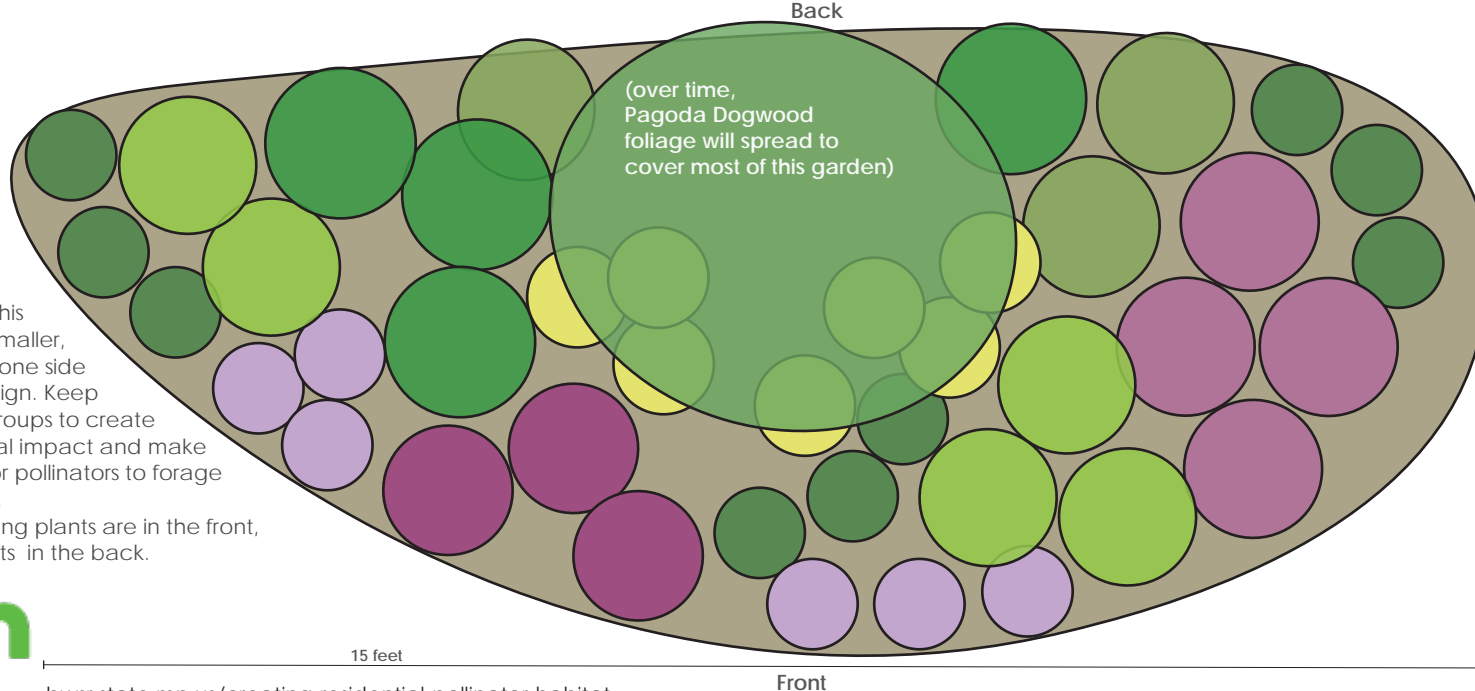
3 plants



Bloom Time

May June July August September-Oct.

Note:  
To make this planting smaller, eliminate one side of the design. Keep plants ingroups to create more visual impact and make it easier for pollinators to forage efficiently.  
Low growing plants are in the front, taller plants in the back.



Featured Pollinator:  
**Silvery Checkerspot**  
*Chlosyne nycteis*

Caterpillar hosts include  
**calico aster**  
Nectar plants include  
**Alumroot, Wild geranium, Pagoda Dogwood, and Common Yarrow**

# Substitutions for selected species

Use plants found within their natural range, this helps protect nearby native plant communities and provides plant species that are sure to be compatible with local insect populations.

## Pennsylvania Sedge:

Wood Sedge, Oval Sedge, Wild Ginger, Woodland Pussytoes, Hepatica, Bloodroot, Rue Anemone, Common violet, Bishop's Cap, Blue Eyed Grass\*,

## Downy Yellow Violet:

Virginia Bluebells, Dutchman's Breeches, Hepatica, Bloodroot, Rue Anemone, Common violet, Bishop's Cap, Bleeding Heart\*, Spring Beauty,

## Alumroot:

Bishop's Cap, Wild Columbine, Wild Ginger, Bloodroot, Hepatica, Large-flowered Bellwort, Sessile-leaf Bellwort, Foam Flower, Jack-in-the-Pulpit

## Solomon's Seal:

False Solomon's Seal, Starry False Solomon's Seal, Hairy Solomon's Seal, Large-flowered Bellwort, Mist Flower, Ligularia\*, Bugbane, Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle

## Wild Geranium:

Harebells, Turtlehead, Rue Anemone, Jacob's Ladder, Foam Flower, Blue Giant Hyssop\*, Cardinal Flower, Foxglove, Beards-tongue, Pale Corydalis\*

## Pagoda Dogwood:

Round leafed Dogwood, Red Osier Dogwood, Spikenard, White Bugbane, Red Baneberry, American Hazelnut, Service-berry, Redbud•

## Ohio Spiderwort:

Woodland Phlox, Claspig Dogbane, Swamp Milkweed, Poke Milkweed, Bottle Gentian, Rough Blazing Star\*, Blue Lobelia

## Common Yarrow:

Turtlehead, Swamp Milkweed, Monarda\*, Obedient Plant, Green-Headed Coneflower, Woodland Phlox, Virginia Mountain Mint\*, Wood Lily

## Calico Aster:

Big-leaf Aster, Heart-leaf Aster, Green-Headed Coneflower, Woodland Phlox, Virginia Mountain Mint\*, Bottle Gentian, Rough Blazing Star\*, Obedient Plant\*

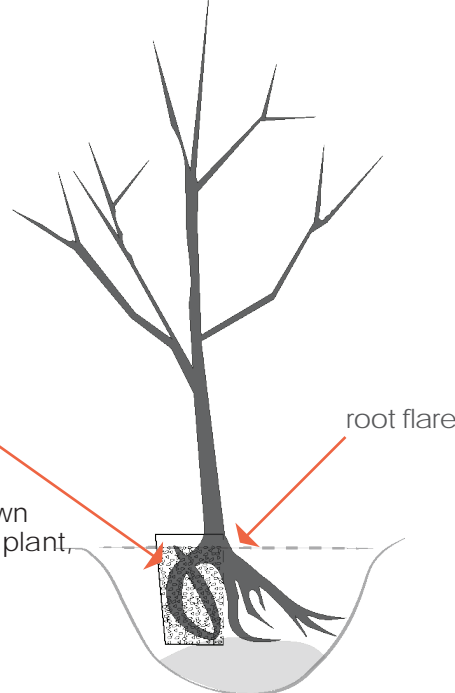
• not native to MN

\* Needs part-sun, will not thrive in dense shade.

# Planting Tips for new gardeners

## TREES & SHRUBS

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat page
- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot. Remove the pot.
- Loosen roots and remove any roots that have growing a circle around the base of the plant.
- The soil level should be just below the flare of the tree or shrub and the base of your plant.
- Spread roots, then re-fill hole. Tamp soil down gently around the roots. Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the trunk.
- Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer



## PERENNIAL PLANTS

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat page
- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot.
- Remove the pot.
- Loosen roots and remove any roots growing in a circle around the base of the plant.
- Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the stem.
- Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer.

