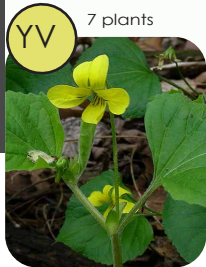# Shade Garden *for Pollinators*

These are great native plant options for a shady spot. The plants featured here are 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.
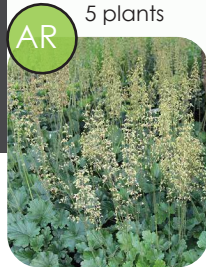
PS — 9 plants

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

YV — 7 plants

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

AR — 5 plants

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

SS — 3 plants

Pagoda Dogwood, a sculptural small tree, produces 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.

PG — 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

WG — 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.

OS — 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.

CY — 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.
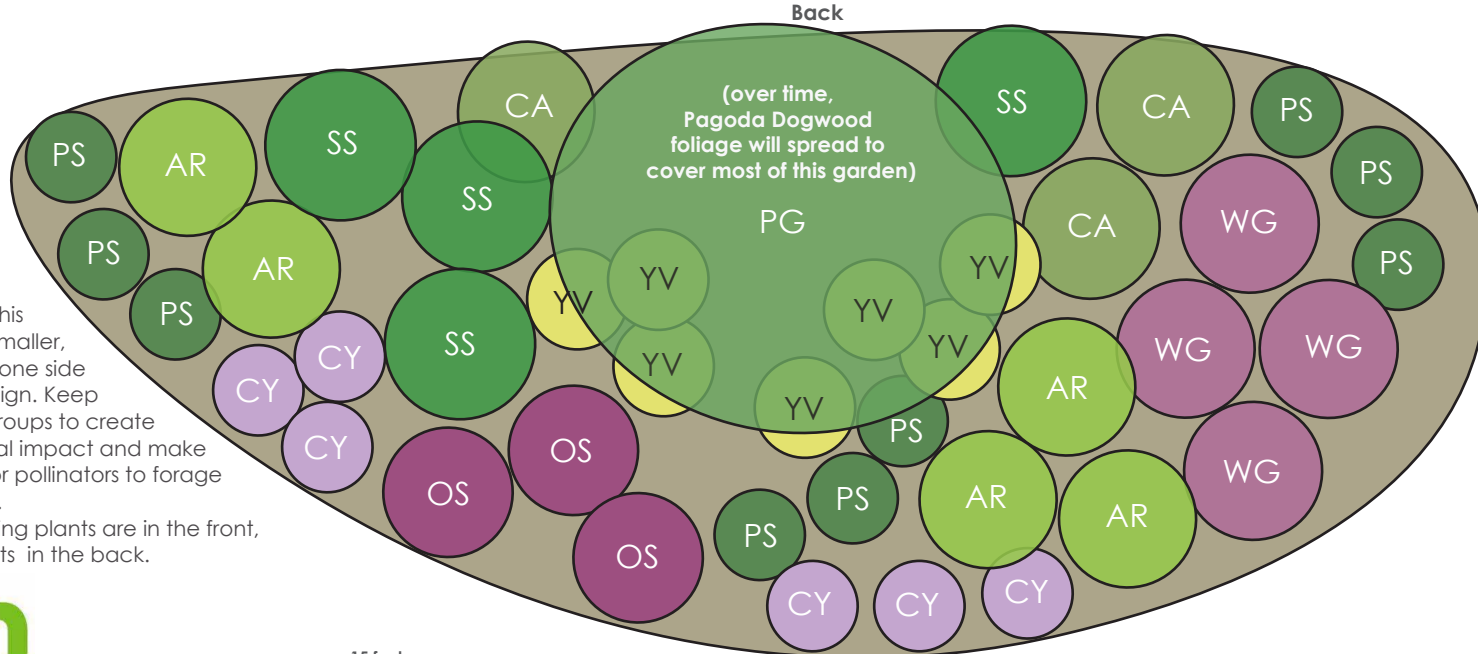
CA — 3 plants

Bloom Time

May — June — July — August — September-Oct.

Garden Layout

Back

(over time, Pagoda Dogwood foliage will spread to cover most of this garden)

Note:
To make this planting smaller, eliminate one side of the design. Keep plants in groups 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.

15 feet

6 feet

Front

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*

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, 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, Black Cohosh, Blue Cohosh

Pagoda Dogwood:

Round leafed Dogwood, Red Osier Dogwood, Spikenard, Black Cohosh, Red Baneberry, American Hazelnut, Serviceberry

Wild Geranium:

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

Ohio Spiderwort:

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

Common Yarrow:

Turtlehead, Swamp Milkweed, Wild Bergamont*, 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*

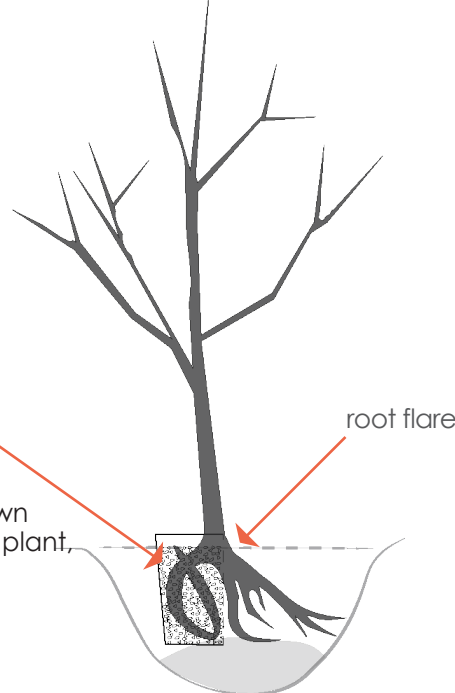** Needs part-sun, will not thrive in dense shade.*

Planting Tips *for new gardeners*

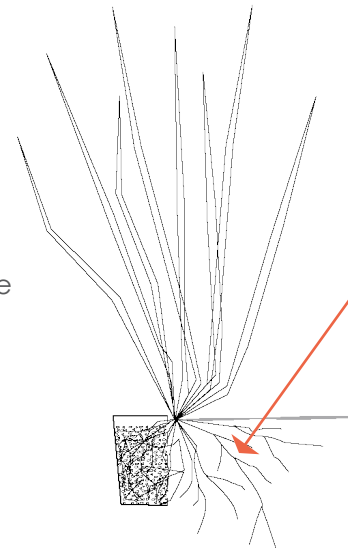**TREES & SHRUBS**

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 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

root flare

- 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.