

FULL SUN	KEY: * = Beneficial to Insects and Birds, RG = Rain Garden Plants, e = Edible	
Flowers (Forbs)		
*	Lead Plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>
	Pasque Flower	<i>Anemone patens</i>
RG *	Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
*	Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
*	Heath Aster	<i>Aster ericoides</i>
	New England Aster	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>
	White Wild Indigo	<i>Baptisia alba</i>
*	Sand Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>
RG	Prairie Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>
RG *	Purple Prairie Clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>
	Showy Tick Trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>
*	Pale Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>
*	Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
RG *	Rattlesnake Master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>
RG	Prairie Smoke	<i>Geum triflorum</i>
*	Early (False) Sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>
	False Boneset	<i>Kuhnia eupatorioides</i>
*	Round Headed Bush Clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>
RG *	Rough Blazing Star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>
RG *	Prairie Blazing Star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>
*	Spiked (Dense) Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
	Pale Spiked Lobelia	<i>Lobelia spicata</i>
	Wild Quinine	<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>

	*	Garden Phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
	*	Prairie Phlox	<i>Phlox pilosa</i>
		Prairie Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla arguta</i>
	RG	Yellow Coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>
		Wild Petunia	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>
	*	Gray Goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>
	RG	Riddell's Goldenrod	<i>Solidago reddellii</i>
	RG *	Ironweed	<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>
	RG	Prairie Violet	<i>Viola pedatifida</i>
Grasses			
	*	Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>
	RG *	Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
	*	Side Oats Grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
	RG	Blue Joint Grass	<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>
		Purple Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>
		June Grass	<i>Koeleria cristata</i>
	*	Switch Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
	*	Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
		Prairie Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>
		Porcupine Grass	<i>Stipa spartea</i>
Shrubs			
	e	American Filbert	<i>Corylus americana</i>
	RG *	Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
	e *	Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
	RG *	Meadowsweet	<i>Spiraea alba</i>

e *	Highbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
	Arrowwood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
PART SHADE	KEY: * = Beneficial to Insects and Birds, RG = Rain Garden Plants, e = Edible	
Flowers (Forbs)		
RG *	Nodding Wild Onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
	Prairie Thimbleweed	<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>
RG	Smooth Blue Aster	<i>Aster laevis</i>
RG *	New England Aster	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>
*	Sky Blue Aster	<i>Aster oolentangiensis</i>
	White Wild Indigo	<i>Baptisia leucantha</i>
	Shooting Star	<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>
RG *	Spotted Joe Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>
RG	Common Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
RG	Blue Flag Iris	<i>Iris virginica shrevei</i>
RG *	Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
RG *	Wild Bergamot (Bee Balm)	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
	Foxglove Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>
*	Smooth Phlox	<i>Phlox glaberrima interior</i>
RG *	Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
	Ohio Goldenrod	<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>
RG	Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>
	Culver's Root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>
	Heart-Leaved Meadow Parsnip	<i>Zizia aptera</i>
RG	Golden Alexander	<i>Zizia aurea</i>
Grasses		

RG	Sedges	<i>Carex sp.</i>
RG *	Northern Sea Oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>
	Common Wood Reed	<i>Cinna arundinacea</i>
	Canada Wild Rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>
	Virginia Wild Rye	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>
*	Fowl Meadow (Manna) Grass	<i>Glyceria striata</i>
	Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
RG *	Rice Cut Grass	<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>
RG	Great Bulrush	<i>Scirpus validus</i>
RG *	Dark Green Rush	<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>
RG *	Prairie Cord Grass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i>
Shrubs		
	Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>
*	Common Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
	Smooth Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
	Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
e *	Wild Black Currant	<i>Ribes americanum</i>
RG *	Swamp Rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>
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Flowers (Forbs)		
RG *	Wild Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
*	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
	Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
RG	White Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra linifolia</i>
	Dutchman's Breeches	<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>

	Yellow Trout Lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
RG *	Bigleaf Aster	<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>
RG	Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
	Virginia Waterleaf	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>
RG	Virginia Bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>
	Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
RG	Jacob's Ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>
RG *	Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum canaliculatum</i>
	Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
RG	False Solomon's Seal	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>
RG	Foamflower	<i>Tiarella spp.</i>
	Trillium	<i>Trillium spp.</i>
RG	Canada Violet	<i>Viola canadensis</i>
Grasses		
	Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>
Shrubs		
	Bottlebrush Buckeye	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>
	Oak Leaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>

This list was adopted from the USEPA [Greenacres Program](#)'s Native Plant List for the Great Lakes region. This list is not comprehensive, however does include species that are commonly available at garden centers and nurseries and are relatively easy to grow. The list is provided for residents doing a modest first planting.

If you are interested in purchasing species native to the region, beyond those listed here, you are welcome and encouraged to apply for the rebate program. We will add new commonly purchased native species to this list over time. Please send suggestions or comments on this list to info@sustainablebackyards.org.

Species eligible for the [Chicago Sustainable Backyard Program](#) Native Plant Rebate are those perennials native to the Midwestern region and not listed on [Chicago's discouraged invasive species list](#). Please note some eligible native shrubs are listed on the [City's Recommended Tree List](#).