

Salt-Tolerant Native Plants

The plants listed below are native to our area in Kane County, Illinois and have been found to have moderate to high salt tolerance.

[Click for Wildflowers, Grasses, Sedges, Rushes . . .](#) ordered by common names

[Trees & Shrubs](#)

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[Click for Wildflowers, Grasses, Sedges, Rushes . . .](#) ordered by botanic name

[Trees & Shrubs](#)

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Wildflowers, Grasses, Sedges, Rushes . . . (by common names)

Asters	<i>Symphotrichum</i> spp.
Beardtongues	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i> <i>Penstemon calycosus</i>
Bee balm; wild bergamot	<i>Monarda bradburiana</i> <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Blue sage	<i>Salvia azurea</i>
Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
Broom sedge	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>
Butterfly milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Coral bells	<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i> <i>Heuchera americana</i>
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aptera</i> <i>Zizia aurea</i>

Goldenrod, stiff	<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>
Goldenrod, showy	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>
Hoary vervain	<i>Verbena stricta</i>
Horsetail / Scouring rush	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Lance-leaf coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>
Little bluestem grass	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Obedient plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>
Phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i> <i>Phlox pilosa</i> <i>Phlox glaberrima</i> <i>Phlox bifida bifida</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>
Prickly pear	<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Purple prairie clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>
Rough blazing star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>
Rushes, path	<i>Juncus tenuis</i>
Sedge, Gray's / Bur	<i>Carex grayii</i>
Sedge, Brown fox	<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>
Sideoats grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Wild indigo, blue	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
Wild indigo, cream	<i>Baptisia bracteata</i>
Yellow coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>
Gray-headed coneflower	

Trees & Shrubs (by common names)

American plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>
Ash, white	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>
Ash, green	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
Bald cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>
Black walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Eastern cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>
Eastern red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Kentucky coffee tree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>
Lead plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>
Leatherwood	<i>Dirca palustris</i>
New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Oaks	<i>Quercus bicolor</i> <i>Quercus alba</i> <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> <i>Quercus rubra</i> <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> <i>Quercus palustris</i> <i>Quercus velutina</i>
Prairie willow	<i>Salix humilis</i>
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Shagbark hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Sumacs	<i>Rhus glabra</i>

	<i>Rhus hirta</i>
Thornless honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>
Viburnums	<i>Viburnum lentago</i> <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> <i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i> <i>Viburnum trilobum</i>
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>

Vines (by common names)

American bittersweet	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>
Trumpet creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>

Wildflowers, Grasses, Sedges, Rushes . . . (by botanic name)

<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broom sedge
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Columbine
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly milkweed
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp milkweed
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Wild indigo, blue
<i>Baptisia bracteata</i>	Wild indigo, cream
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Sideoats grama
<i>Carex grayii</i>	Gray's or Bur sedge
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Brown fox sedge
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Lance-leaf coreopsis
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Purple prairie clover
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple coneflower
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Horsetail / Scouring rush
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Rattlesnake master
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Boneset
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Sneezeweed
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	Prairie alumroot
<i>Heuchera americana</i>	Woodland alumroot
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	Rushes, path
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	Rough blazing star
<i>Monarda bradburiana</i>	Bee balm or Wild bergamot
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	
<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>	Goldenrod, stiff
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	Prickly pear
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Beardtongues
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	
<i>Penstemon calycosus</i>	

<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Woodland phlox
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	Prairie phlox
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	Smooth phlox
<i>Phlox bifida bifida</i>	Sand phlox
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Obedient plant
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Yellow coneflower or Gray-headed coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Salvia azurea</i>	Blue sage
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little bluestem grass
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Goldenrods, showy
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie dropseed
<i>Symphotrichum</i> spp.	Asters
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	Hoary vervain
<i>Zizia aptera</i>	Heart-leaved Alexanders
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexanders

Trees & Shrubs (by botanic name)

<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead plant
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black chokeberry
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River birch
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark hickory
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	Leatherwood
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White ash
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green ash
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	Thornless honeylocust
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky coffee tree
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Wild hydrangea
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black walnut
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern red cedar
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern cottonwood
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp white oak
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern red oak
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinkapin oak
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black oak
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth sumac

<i>Rhus hirta</i>	Staghorn sumac
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Prairie willow
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald cypress
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry viburnum
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw viburnum
<i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i>	Downy arrowwood
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	American cranberry bush

Vines (by botanic name)

<i>Campsis radicans</i>	Trumpet creeper
<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	American bittersweet
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper

Sources: MSD Landscape Guide for Greener Stormwater Infrastructure, Salt-Tolerant Natives by Greenscape Gardens, Minnesota Stormwater Plant Index, Salt Tolerant Native Plants by the JFNew 2007 Resource Catalog, *Native Trees, Shrubs, and Vines for Urban and Rural America* by Gary L. Hightshoe, Winter Salt Injury & Salt-Tolerant Landscape Plants by the University of Wisconsin-Extension

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