

Spring Ephemerals

(Grow among plants that emerge later)

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| Spring Beauty (* <i>Claytonia virginica</i>) | Tiny, will spread if it likes location |
| Blood Root (<i>Sanguinaria Canadensis</i>) | Be sure to include this |
| Dutchman's Breeches (<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>) | Lovely, requires high-quality location |
| Cutleaf Toothwort (<i>Dentaria laciniata</i>) | |
| Prairie Trillium (<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>) | Watch for this to pop up |
| Shooting Star (<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>) | A must-plant |
| Liverwort (<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>) | Leaves may be reddish |
| Virginia Bluebells (<i>Mertensia virginica</i>) | Will colonize location it likes |
| White Trout Lily (<i>Erythronium albidum</i>) | Takes a long time to mature, bloom |
| Rue Anemone (<i>Anemonella thalictroides</i>) | |
| False Rue Anemone (<i>Enemion biternatum</i>) | |
| Jack-in-the-Pulpit (<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>) | Dramatic |

Edge of the Woodlands

(Most are very easy to grow)

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| Bellwort, or Merry Bells (<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>) | Delightful, likes part-sun, too |
| Woodland Phlox (<i>Phlox divaricata</i>) | Loaded with blue in early spring |
| Solomon's Seal (<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>) | Blooms underneath the leaves |
| False Solomon's Seal (<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>) | Blooms at the tip of the leaf stem |
| Jacob's Ladder (<i>Polemonium reptans</i>) | Blooms blue – delicate-looking leaves |
| Plaintain-leaved Sedge (<i>Carex plantaginea</i>) | Broader leaves, lighter green |
| Woodland Phlox (<i>Phlox divaricata</i>) | Abundant blue flowers |

Ground Cover

(Ordered roughly shortest to tallest)

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| Wild Stonecrop (<i>Sedum ternatum</i>) | Very low, spreads |
| Wild Ginger (<i>Asarum canadense</i>) | Blooms inconspicuous, under leaves |
| Pennsylvania Sedge (<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>) | A staple |
| Big-leaved Aster (<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>) | Sends up bloom stalks in late summer |
| May Apples (<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>) | A woodland staple – can colonize |
| Meadow Anemone (<i>Anemone Canadensis</i>) | Recommended by Rory Klick |
| Golden Ragwort (<i>Packera aurea</i>) | Abundant yellow blooms |

Larger Woodland Plants

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| Doll's Eyes (<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>) | White berries that have a black dot |
| Red Baneberry (<i>Actaea rubra</i>) | Fabulous red berries |
| Blue Cohosh (<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>) | Another favorite |
| Early Meadow Rue (<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>) | Airy, beautiful plant |
| Wild Columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>) | It volunteers |
| Wild Geranium (<i>Geranium maculatum</i>) | Particularly easy to grow |
| Green Dragon (<i>Arisaema dracontium</i>) | A fun addition (Jack's larger cousin!) |
| Purple Meadow Rue (<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>) | Taller drama than Early Meadow Rue |
| Spikenard (<i>Aralia racemosa</i>) | A favorite – very large and dramatic |
| Black Cohosh (<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>) | Large, dramatic and very rare |

Ferns

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| Marginal Shield Fern (<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>) | More shade |
| Christmas Fern (<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>) | Light shade |
| Lady Fern (<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>) | Likes humidity and protection |
| Maidenhair Fern (<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>) | Lovely and recognizable |
| Royal Fern | Light shade and more moisture – taller |

(In my experience, none of these spreads aggressively like the Ostrich Ferns do.)

Sedges (*Carex*) for Moist Part-shade

- Bur Sedge / Gray's Sedge (*Carex grayi*)
- Palm Sedge (*Carex muskingumensis*)
- Fox Sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*)
- Frank's Sedge (*Carex frankii*)

Goldenrods and Asters for Part-Shade

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| Zigzag Goldenrod (<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>) | |
| Blue-stemmed Goldenrod (<i>Solidago caesia</i>) | Blooms along its arching stems |
| Elm-leaved Goldenrod (<i>Solidago ulmifolia</i>) | |
| Blue Wood Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>) | Light shade to part sun |
| Calico Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum lateriflorum</i>) | Light shade to part sun, moist |
| Short's Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum shortii</i>) | Partial sun |
| New England Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>) | Full to part sun |

* When shopping, check the botanic name to be sure to get the intended plant.
Common names vary and can be confusing.