

Woodland Plants *

Spring Ephemerals

Spring Beauty (**Claytonia virginica*)
Blood Root (*Sanguinaria Canadensis*)
Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*)
Cutleaf Toothwort (*Dentaria laciniata*)
Prairie Trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*)
Shooting Star (*Dodecatheon meadia*)
Liverwort (*Hepatica nobilis*)
Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)
White Trout Lily (*Erythronium albidum*)
Rue Anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*)
False Rue Anemone (*Enemion biternatum*)
Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*)
May Apples (*Podophyllum peltatum*)

(Grow among plants that emerge later)

Tiny, will spread if it likes location
Be sure to include this
Lovely, requires high-quality location

Watch for this to pop up
A must-plant
Leaves may be reddish
Will colonize location it likes
Takes a long time to mature, bloom

Dramatic
Lasts a little longer than most – can colonize

Edge of the Woodlands

Bellwort, or Merry Bells (*Uvularia grandiflora*)
Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)
Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum commutatum*)
False Solomon's Seal (*Smilacina racemosa*)
Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium reptans*)
Plaintain-leaved Sedge (*Carex plantaginea*)
Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)

(Most are very easy to grow)

Delightful, likes part-sun, too
Loaded with blue in early spring
Blooms underneath the leaves
Blooms at the tip of the leaf stem
Blooms blue – delicate-looking leaves
Broader leaves, lighter green
Abundant blue flowers

Ground Cover

[Wild Stonecrop](#) (*Sedum ternatum*)
[Wild Ginger](#) (*Asarum canadense*)
[Pennsylvania Sedge](#) (*Carex pensylvanica*)
[Big-leaved Aster](#) (*Eurybia macrophylla*)
[Meadow Anemone](#) (*Anemone Canadensis*)
[Golden Ragwort](#) (*Packera aurea*)

(These colonize to cover the ground)

Very low, spreads
Blooms are inconspicuous, under leaves
A staple
Sends up bloom stalks in late summer
Recommended by Rory Klick
Spring blooms atop rosettes of basal leaves

Larger Woodland Plants

Doll's Eyes (*Actaea pachypoda*)

Red Baneberry (*Actaea rubra*)

Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*)

Early Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum dioicum*)

Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)

Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*)

Purple Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum dasycarpum*)

Spikenard (*Aralia racemosa*)

Black Cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)

White berries that have a black dot

Fabulous red berries

Another favorite

Airy, beautiful plant

It volunteers

Particularly easy to grow

A fun addition (Jack's larger cousin!)

Taller drama than Early Meadow Rue

A favorite – very large and dramatic

Large, dramatic and very rare

Ferns

Marginal Shield Fern (*Dryopteris marginalis*)

Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*)

Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*)

Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)

Royal Fern

More shade

Light shade

Likes humidity and protection

Lovely and recognizable

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.