



Plants for Wet Sites

A wet site is a challenging area to landscape. Despite the challenge, it can be a highlight in the landscape. Many herbaceous plants will spread aggressively once introduced to a wet location. If you plant the right thing it doesn't need to be a headache.

Perennials

Acorus spp. (Sweetflag)
Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed)
Astilbe spp. (False Spirea)
Campanula glomerata (Clustered Bellflower)
Carex spp. (Sedge)
Chelone obliqua (Turtlehead)
Hemerocallis spp. (Daylily)
Hibiscus moscheutos (Mallow)
Houttuynia cordata (Chameleon Plant)
Iris pseudacorus (Flag Iris)
Iris sibirica (Siberian Iris)
Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal Flower)
Ligularia spp. (Ligularia)
Lysimachia nummularia (Creeping Jenny)
Physostegia virginiana (Obedient Plant)
Tradescantia virginiana (Spiderwort)

Trees and Shrubs

Acer rubrum (Red Maple)
Amelanchier spp. (Serviceberry)
Aronia arbutifolia (Chokeberry)
Betula nigra (Riverbirch)
Clethra alnifolia (Summersweet)
Cornus amomum (Silky Dogwood)
Cornus sericea (Red Osier Dogwood)
Gleditsia triacanthos (Honeylocust)
Hamamelis vernalis (Vernal Witch Hazel)
Hamamelis virginiana (Common Witch Hazel)
Ilex glabra (Inkberry Holly)
Ilex verticillata (Winterberry Holly)
Itea virginica (Sweetspire)
Lindera benzoin (Spicebush)
Magnolia virginiana (Sweetbay Magnolia)
Metasequoia glyptostroboides (Dawn Redwood)
Nyssa sylvatica (Black Gum)
Platanus x acerifolia (London Planetree)
Quercus palustris (Pin Oak)
Salix spp. (Willow)
Thuja occidentalis (American Arborvitae)
Tilia americana (Basswood)
Viburnum dentatum (Arrowwood Viburnum)
Viburnum trilobum (American Cranberry)

Tips for Wet Site Planting

- Ensure that plants are planted high, with the root flare slightly above soil level
- Do not compact the soil excessively when filling the planting hole
- Never use peat in the planting hole