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## STRATEGIES FOR ADDING NATIVES TO YOUR LANDSCAPE

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### Benefits of Growing Native Plants

Provide food and shelter for

Pollinators & other Beneficial Insects

Great Black Wasp on Swamp Milkweed

Monarch caterpillar on Common Milkweed

(Sullivant's Milkweed less aggressive – Prairie Nursery image)

Soldier Beetle on Rattlesnake Master

Birds

Goldfinch on Purple Coneflower

Improve Soil

Clay Busters – Gray Headed Coneflower

Butterfly Weed for Clay soil

<https://www.prairienursery.com/store/native-plants/for-clay-soils>

Erosion Control

Canadian Ginger

Nitrogen Fixers - False Blue Indigo

Manage Storm Water

Slows rainwater passing over landscape, Deep roots create pathways for water

Roots and soil help remove dirt and pollutants on way to groundwater

Rain gardens

Less On-going Maintenance once established

No regular fertilization needed

Less watering as many are drought tolerant

Fewer pest problems

### Proper Soil Preparation – Getting Plants off to a Healthy Start

Soil Test

Incorporate Organic Matter, Add Milorganite

### Post Planting Care

Water, Mulch, Manage Weeds

### Less On-going Maintenance

Minimal or no fertilization

Only water during extreme drought

Divide as needed

Plants shown - Butterfly weed, Penstemon, Common Milkweed, Prairie Dropseed

### Plant Selection

Visit [atc-growsmart.com](http://atc-growsmart.com)

Native verses Nativar (*Liatris spicata* verses *Liatris spicata* 'Kobold')

Suited to the growing Conditions

Shade - Trout lily, Mayapple, Dutchman's Breeches

Wet – Marsh Marigold & Skunk Cabbage, Cardinal Flower, Turtlehead,

Swamp Milkweed....

Hot & Dry – Anise Hyssop (*Agastache*), butterfly weed, Rudbeckia, Prairie Clover....  
 Sun - Anise Hyssop, Purple Coneflower, Rudbeckia, Rattlesnake Master  
 Rain Gardens – Mesic Prairie Plants  
     Coneflower, Pale Purple Coneflower, Spiderwort, Little Bluestem,  
     Stiff Sunflower, Prairie Phlox  
 Disturbed Sites – Wild Bergamont, Rudbeckia  
 Suited to Your Design – Purple Prairie Clover  
     Fits Available Space  
     Color, Texture & Bloom Time  
 How and How Fast they Spread  
     Clumpers – Culver’s Root  
     Seed – Rudbeckia, Coneflower....  
     Rhizome – Cup Plant, Ostrich Fern  
     Seed & Rhizome – Wild Bergamont, Common Milkweed.....  
 Less Aggressive for Sun - Pale Purple Coneflower, Wild Quinine, Purple Prairie Clover,  
     White false indigo, prairie dropseed, Butterfly weed  
 Less Aggressive for Shade – Wild geranium, Jacob’s ladder, Sweet Joe Pye Weed, Trillium....

**Start Small –**

Pale Purple Coneflower  
 Substitution – Prairie Dropseed for Fountain Grass  
 A few to try  
     Camassia for rain garden faux water (bulb planted in fall – Native Pacific NW)  
         Green Bay Botanical Garden  
     Native Columbine  
     Prairie Smoke  
         with Crystal Blue Salvia and Lilac  
     White False Blue Indigo, Compass Plant, Rattlesnake Master  
     Common Milkweed with Caradonna Salvia  
     Butterfly Weed with Amsonia, Amber Jubilee Ninebark and golden juniper  
     Butterfly Weed, bee balm, clematis  
     Rattlesnake Master, Stiff coreopsis and Rudbeckia  
     Liatris with Echinops  
     Purple Coneflower and Russian Sage  
     Goldenrod, Anise hyssop, Purple Coneflower  
     Coneflower with grasses and more - Garden at Midwest Groundcover in Illinois  
     New England Aster, Willow Amsonia, Little Bluestem – National Arboretum  
     Aster and Willow Amsonia at National Arboretum  
     Ostrich Fern, Sensitive Fern and Hosta – shade garden  
     Ostrich Fern, Mayapple, Virginia Bluebells, Daffodils  
     Pennsylvania Sedge - groundcover or lawn substitute for shady locations  
     Canadian Ginger – Groundcover for shade  
 Lurie Gardens in early July –  
     Salvia, Allium  
     Allium, Salvia, Rattlesnake Master, Blue Star, Purple Coneflower, Prairie Dropseed  
     Calamint, Switchgrass and Rattlesnake Master  
     Coneflower and Switchgrass  
     Switchgrass and Rattlesnake Master  
     Russian Sage and Rattlesnake Master  
     Compass Plant  
     Wild Quinine, Switchgrass, Purple Coneflower

## **Create a Garden of Natives – Monarch on Blazing Star**

Iron Weed, *Rudbeckia nitida*, Penstemon, Cardinal Flower, Giant Blue Lobelia

Look to Nature for Winning Combos –

Rudbeckia, Hoary Vervain, Rattlesnake Master

Wild Quinine, Switchgrass, Purple Coneflower

Rattlesnake Master, Stiff Coreopsis, Rudbeckia

Home of Patricia Hill author of *Design Your Natural Midwest Garden*

Front Yard, Prairie Dock, Flowering Spurge and more

Flowering Spurge

Tree Border – check with municipality first, lines of visibility clear for traffic

Cup Plant, Purple Coneflower, Joe Pye weed and more

Cup Plant

Prairie Dock, Purple Coneflower, Culvers Root, Joe Pye Weed, Flowering Spurge

Joe Pye Weed

American Black Elderberry and Grass Paths

Cup Plant, Purple Coneflower, Spiderwort, Joe Pye Weed

Cup Plant, Purple Coneflower, Spiderwort, Blue False Indigo

Blazing Star, Wild Quinine, Wild Bergamont

Bee Balm (Nativar), Anise Hyssop, Purple Coneflower

Culver's Root, Wild Bergamont, Heliopsis

Pale Purple Coneflower, Wild Quinine

Wild Bergamont, Queen of the Prairie

Wild Bergamont, Prairie Dropseed, Butterfly Weed, Liatris

Rattlesnake Master, Coreopsis, Joe Pye Weed

Urban Ecology Center – Milwaukee

## **Go All Out**

Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum by Urban Ecology Center

Include Signs of Intent

Strip of mown grass around garden

Bird feeders and Birdbaths

Garden art

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