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CREATE A BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE

FREE OF

INVASIVE PLANTS



Thanks for joining me and helping make a difference by planting non-invasive plants in the landscape and managing those that may already be present.

What is an invasive plant?

- Invasive plants are non-native plants regulated by the state, in part because they leave the boundaries of the landscape, move into natural areas and become established and are able to spread without any human intervention.
- A **weed** is a plant out of place, could be a dandelion or a desirable plant out of place
 - Common Weed Seedlings of the North Central States
- **Aggressive plants** are the bullies of the garden. They crowd out nearby plants, but stay within the confines of the landscape. These can be native or non-native plants.
- **Noxious weeds** are plants that have been identified as harmful to people, animals, crops, livestock and the environment and should be removed. Each state or Province has a listing as well as the USDA.
- What is the Difference Between Native, Non-native, and Invasive Plants?

Why Manage Invasive Plants?

- They outcompete and displace native plants causing:
 - Degradation of the natural habitat
 - Decrease diversity of plants
 - Serve as vectors for disease
- They negatively impact soil and water quality
 - Degrade soil structure
 - Increase the risk of soil erosion
 - Decrease water quality
 - ♦ Create dense patches or stagnant areas
 - * Lower oxygen levels
 - * Alter hydrology by trapping sediments
 - Contribute to climate change
 - ♦ Invaded habitats release more carbon through more severe uncontrolled fires
 - ♦ Invasive species reduce water flow in streams with low water levels due to persistent drought
 - ♦ Invasive tree pests reduce carbon sequestration rates in forests
 - ♦ Aquatic invasives decrease the resilience of green infrastructure to resist flooding and sea level rise
 - ♦ Aquatic invasive species can also increase water temperature, which negatively influences the hydrologic cycle

Economic Impact - We All Pay For

- High cost of managing a species once established

Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach

Wisconsin's aquatic invasive species (AIS) program focuses on preventing the introduction of new invasive species to Wisconsin, containing the spread of invasives that are already in the state, and managing established populations when possible. In close cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Extension Lakes program, UW-Madison Division of Extension education efforts focus on working with resource professionals and citizens statewide to teach boaters, anglers and other water users the steps they should take to prevent transporting aquatic invasives to new waters. Efforts also address other potential mechanisms of introduction, including aquarium pet release and water gardening.

Invasive Species ID and Impacts

Report an Invasive Finding



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**AQUATIC INVASIVE
SPECIES OUTREACH**

Impact on Human Health

- Create habitat for disease carrying ticks
 - Honeysuckle and barberry
- Allergic reactions to invasive plants

Prohibited Plants

- Rare or not present in the state, but has a large potential to cause harm. Eradication and prevention are feasible.
- Ban on transport, possession, transfer and introduction prohibited

Restricted Plants

- Already established in the state and the impacts are evident. Complete eradication is unlikely.
- Ban on transport, transfer and introduction, but possession is allowed

Management Strategies

- Avoid problems by NOT planting, sharing or releasing invasive plant species into natural spaces or waterways
- Grow healthy gardens and landscapes that are best able to outcompete invasive plants
- Include native plants whenever appropriate
- Cut back before they flower and set seed to help manage spread
- Physically remove all parts of the plant (above and below ground / water)
- Bio-controls when available
- Monitor for resprouts
- If opting for herbicides, check WI DNR website for product recommendations and timing
 - *Read and follow all label directions for safe and effective control*
- Special restrictions apply to herbicides used in or next to bodies of water
- Solarization and occultation another control option
 - Soil Solarization for Gardens & Landscapes

Proper Disposal

- Do not compost, as most compost piles do not heat up high enough to kill all parts of perennial plants, rhizomes and seeds
- Contact local municipality and dispose of invasive plants in trash, if allowed

Managing Large Infestations

- Start with outliers and move to the core

Organisms in Trade Program

The sale and trade of invasive species presents a pathway for the introduction and spread of invasive species in WI. As a result, the WI DNR developed an OIT program to address this pathway. The OIT program works to educate pathway users, monitor industries for invasive species sales, and seek compliance with state regulations. Work targets many industries including garden and landscaping, pet trade, internet sales, live food trade, commercial fishing, bait dealers, biological supply and more.



JUST A FEW AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS

WATER LETTUCE

Pistia stratiotes

- Leaves are thick rosette of soft light green leaves with parallel ridges (veins) present from May to frost
- * **Degrades water quality**
- * **Reduces bio diversity by blocking air-water interface**
- ◆ Remove before flowers and set seeds
 - Dispose of properly
- Alternatives: non-invasive floaters

WATER HYACINTH

Eichhornia crassipes

- Leaves are green, waxy, round or circular and cupped inward with swelling along the stem
- Flowers are lavender-blue with yellow blotch, appear in June - September
- * **Degrades water quality**
- * **Reduces bio diversity by blocking air-water interface**
- ◆ Remove before flowers and set seeds
 - Dispose of properly
- Alternatives: non-invasive floaters

YELLOW FLOATING HEART

Nymphoides peltata

- Leaves are circular or heart-shaped that may appear as early as April in Wisconsin
- Flowers are bright yellow with 5 fringed petals arranged like spokes on a wheel, appear May to frost
- * **Forms dense patches that exclude native species**
- * **Creates stagnant areas with low oxygen levels**
- * **Makes recreational activities difficult**
- ◆ This is prohibited in WI, please contact the WI DNR if you have this or find it growing in a public space
- Alternatives: non-invasive floaters

EUROPEAN FROGBIT

Hydrocharis morsus-ranae

- Leaves look like miniature water lily leaves, green above and dark purple below
- Flowers are white, cup-shaped with 3 petals and yellow centers, appear in mid summer
- * **Forms dense floating mats, impacting aquatic life**
- * **Makes recreational activities difficult**
- Do not release plants into waterways and clean boats before and after leaving the water
- ◆ Remove small isolated populations by hand
- Alternatives: non-invasive floaters

YELLOW FLAG IRIS

Iris pseudacorus

- Similar to other iris and acorus species when not in bloom
- Long, strappy leaves with distinct thickened ridge that runs along the center of the leaf
- Flowers are almost white to vibrant dark yellow, appear May - June
- * **Forms dense areas, negatively impacting water hydrology**
- ◆ Remove all plant parts, including rhizomes
 - Dispose of properly
 - Be careful as some people show skin sensitivity to the plant's sap and tissue
- Alternatives: non-invasive plants suited to shallows, shoreline edges and gardens and suited to the growing conditions



About Melinda

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including *Can't Miss Small Space Gardening*, the *Midwest Gardener's Handbook 2nd Edition* released 2022, and *Jackson and Perkins' Beautiful Roses Made Easy*. She hosts the nationally-syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" program airing on over 115 TV and radio stations throughout the U.S. Melinda also hosts the internationally distributed Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and Instant Video, including the latest *Food Gardening for Everyone* DVD set. She is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine, writes the twice monthly "Gardeners' Questions" newspaper column and a nationally-distributed gardening column. She appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

Visit Melinda's website,
melindamyers.com

JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Fallopia japonica syn. *Polygonum cuspidatum*

- Lots of species in this genus - working on better identification clues
- Often described as bamboo, due to hollow stems
- Leaves are heart-shaped, alternate, 3-4" wide and 4-6" long
- Flowers are creamy white or greenish in plume-like clusters, appearing August - September

* **Spreads quickly**

* **Plants contain allelopathic chemicals**

* **Crowds out native plants**

* **Disrupts the habitat**

- ◆ Remove all parts, rhizome fragments can resprout and are often transported in soil
 - Dispose of properly

◆ **Cut back plants when 4-5' tall and treat regrowth when 3' tall with appropriate chemical**

- Alternatives: non-invasive shoreline and garden plants suited to the growing conditions

LESSER CELANDINE

Ranunculus ficaria

- Leaves are dark green, kidney-shaped on short stalks
- Flowers are bright butter yellow with 8, sometimes up to 12, petals
- Above ground whitish bulblets form on stem axils after flowering
- Cultivars 'Pencarn' and 'Buttered Popcorn' with variegated leaves, are considered equally invasive
- * **Do not be confused with Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*), that has fewer petals and does not produce bulblets or tubers**
- * **Spreads rapidly and crowds out native plants**
- * **Poisonous to livestock and humans**
- ◆ Hand dig, removing all parts of the plant, including bulblets and tubers

- Dispose of properly

- ◆ Herbicides in early spring, before native spring ephemerals and amphibians emerge
- Alternatives: Marsh Marigold, spring ephemerals and other non-invasive groundcovers suited to the growing conditions

BUTTERFLY DOCK

Petasites hybridus

- Resembles rhubarb
- Leaves fully emerge after flowering
- Large, heart-shaped leaves with thick, fleshy stalks up to 1 meter across
- Flowers are pinkish flower stalks with bundles of tiny pink flowers
- Roots are tuberous, fleshy, creeping rhizomes that are blackish on the outside, white inside
- Used for medical purposes
- * **Aggressive growth that crowds out nearby and native plants**
- ◆ Remove all parts, including rhizomes, monitor and manage resprouts
 - Dispose of properly
- Alternatives: shoreline plants suited to the growing conditions

HARDY NON-NATIVE WATER LILIES

- These are not regulated in WI but there is some evidence they may hybridize with our native water lily. Do not release in public waterways, that is illegal, instead keep in your own water feature.

GOLDFISH AND ORIENTAL CARP

- Water gardens often include these fish. Just like nonnative plants, do not release into and make sure they cannot escape into public waterways.

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A FEW OF THE ALTERNATIVES

FLOATING PLANTS

WHITE WATER LILY

Nymphaea odorata

- Spreading
- Full sun
- Blooms summer - fragrant
- Height 1 to 5' down in water
- Spreads by rhizome
- Birds, pollinators, moths, reptiles, small mammals
- Zones 4 to 11
- Provides fish cover, wildlife food, prevent erosion

WATER POPPY

Hydrocleys nymphoides

- Blooms June - August
- Height 6" to 1'
- Spreads by seeds and floating stems produce roots
- Considered invasive in parts of Florida
- Zones 9 to 11

YELLOW POND LILY

Nuphar advena

- Part shade to full sun
- Zones 4 to 10
- Blooms June - August
- Height 6" - up to 7' deep
- Spreads by seeds & rhizomes

IN THE SHALLOWS

PICKERELWEED

Pontederia cordata

- Part to full sun
- Can spread rapidly by seeds and rhizomes

- Blooms June - August or later
- Height 2 to 4' tall x 1.5 to 2'
- Butterflies, dragonflies & damselflies lay eggs on leaf stems
- Stream and pond margins
- Seeds and young leaves edible
- Provides shoreline stabilization
- Helps buffer wave action
- Provides habitat for fish
- Zones 3 to 10

BROAD-LEAF ARROWHEAD

Sagittaria latifolia

- Full sun to part shade
- 1 to 4' tall x 1 to 3'
- Can be weedy
- Blooms July - September
- Birds, pollinators
- Deer resistant
- Along shore or 6 to 12" of water
- Highly valued for wildlife (duck potato)
- Zones 3 to 10

BLUE FLAG IRIS

Iris versicolor

- Full sun to part shade
- 2 to 4' tall
- Clay, loam, sand soil - wet
- Blooms May or June - July
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators
- Spreads by seeds & rhizomes
- Rain garden, moist to wet shoreline edge, water garden
- Provides shoreline stabilization and habitat for an array of wildlife
- Zones 3 to 9

NON-NATIVES

CANNA

Canna x generalis

- Full sun to part shade
- Zones 8a to 11b
- Blooms in summer - fall
- Height up to 6'
- Spreads by rhizomes
- Zones 8a to 11b
- Growing Cannas in Water

WATER CANNA

Thalia dealbata

- Full sun to part shade
- Blooms in summer - fall
- Height 3 to 6' tall x 12 to 18" deep
- Spreads by rhizomes
- Zones 6 to 12

ELEPHANT EARS

Alocasia spp.

- Full sun to part shade
- Height 2 to 9'
- Spreads by corms & seeds
- Zones 10 to 12

ELEPHANT EARS

Colocasia spp.

(includes those formerly known as *Zantedeschia*)

- Full sun to part shade
- Height 3 to 6'
- Spreads by tubers / bulbs
- Zones 8a to 12a

PAPYRUS

Cyperus papyrus

- Full sun to part shade
- Blooms summer
- Height up to 16'
- Spreads by rhizomes
- Zones 9 to 12

MOIST EDGES

MARSH MARIGOLD

Caltha palustris

- Part shade to full sun
- Moist to wet soil
- Blooms March - May
- 12-18" tall
- Pollinators
- Deer resistant
- Rain garden, wet shoreline edge, water garden marginal plant
- Zones 3 to 7 or 8

GOLDEN ALEXANDER

Zizia aurea

- Full sun to shade
- Clay, loam, sand soil - moist to dry
- 1 to 2' tall
- Blooms May - June
- Pollinators, host plant
- Deer resistant
- Spreads by seeds
- Rain garden, wet and dry shoreline edge
- Zones 3 to 8

CARDINAL FLOWER

Lobelia cardinalis

- Full sun to part shade
- Loam, sand soil - moist to wet
- 2 to 4' tall

- Blooms July - September
- Short lived, but self seeds
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, host plant
- Rain garden, wet shoreline edge, water garden
- Zones 3 to 9

BLUE VERVAIN

Verbena hastata

- Full sun
- Clay, loam, sand soil - moisture lover
- 3 to 6' tall
- Blooms July - September - up to 2 months
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators, host plant
- Deer resistant
- Rain garden, wet shoreline edge
- Zones 3 to 8

WHITE TURTLEHEAD

Chelone glabra

- Full to part sun
- Wet to moist soil
- Blooms July - September
- 2 to 3' tall
- Butterflies, pollinators, host plant
- Spreads by rhizomes
- Rain garden, moist to wet shoreline edge, water garden
- Zones 3 to 8

MARSH BLAZING STAR

Liatris spicata

- Full sun
- Highly adaptable to moist, well-drained areas
- Blooms August - September
- 2 to 4' tall

- Birds, butterflies, pollinators, hummingbirds, host plant
- Spreads by seeds
- Zones 3 to 10

SWAMP ROSE MALLOW

Hibiscus moscheutos

- Full to part sun
- Blooms July - September
- Height up to 5'
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators and specialized bees
- Late to emerge in spring, so mark the location to prevent accidental removal
- Zones 4 to 9

JOE PYE WEED

Eutrochium maculatum

- Full sun to light shade
- Moist to wet soil
- Blooms June - August
- 4 to 6' tall
- Spreads by seeds
- Butterflies, pollinators, host plant
- Zones 3 to 8

FOX SEDGE

Carex vulpinoidea

- Full to part sun
- Clay, loam, sand soil - tolerates wet
- Blooms May - June
- 1 to 3' tall
- Growth habit similar to Prairie Dropseed
- Bronze seed heads
- Deer resistant
- Rain garden, moist to wet shoreline edge
- Zones 3 to 9

FOR MORE ON AQUATIC PLANTS

- Webinar: [Grow Beautiful Water Gardens Free of Invasive Plants](#)
 - Enter password: n#wVAD9M
 - [Download handout](#)
- Webinar: [Top Plants for Rain, Water and Shoreline Gardens and Those to Avoid](#)
 - Enter password: &xe9hPU^
 - [Download handout](#)

TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE PLANTS

WOODLAND FORGET-ME-NOT

Myosotis sylvatica

- Leaves are simple, alternate oblong to spatulate
- Sprawling, spreading by rhizomes
- Flowers are sky blue, rarely white, with yellow center, 5 petals, blooms in May to September
- Spreading nature and hooked sepal hairs sets it apart from others
- * **Escapes gardens, quickly spreads by runners and seeds, crowding out native species**
- ♦ Dig small populations before seeds set, removing entire root system
 - Dispose of properly
- Alternatives: non-invasive groundcovers, perennials and spring ephemerals suited to the growing conditions

MONEYWORT

Lysimachia nummularia

- Leaves are opposite, round on long trailing stems
- Flowers small, yellow with 5 petals, June to August
- * **Invades moist forests, woodland edges, swamps, wet meadows, lawns, gardens and more**
- * **Chokes out native plants, small springs and seeps in woods**
- Alternatives: non-invasive groundcovers
- Golden Moneywort is not listed as invasive, but very aggressive

BISHOP'S GOUTWEED

Aegopodium podagraria

- Leaves are green or variegated, serrated, in 3 groups of 3 leaflets (often mistaken for poison ivy)
- Flowers are white, flat topped, reminiscent of Queen Anne's Lace
- * **Aggressively invades woodlands, forest edges, fields, plantings and more**
- * **Reduces tree seedling germination and inhibits establishment**
- ♦ Persistent digging and removal
- ♦ Dispose of properly
- ♦ Cut and mow to slow spread
- ♦ Edge beds, solarize or smother plants in the bed
- ♦ Repeated use of total vegetation killer - protect desired plants
- Alternatives: non-invasive groundcovers

DAME'S ROCKET

Hesperis matronalis

- Not to be confused with Woodland or Garden Phlox with 5 petals, opposite, non-toothed leaves
- Leaves are alternate, lance-shaped, finely toothed
- Flowers have 4 petals, white, pink or purple, fragrant, especially at night
- ♦ Remove plants early in spring
 - Dispose of properly
- ♦ Minimally cut back before flowers set seed
- ♦ Herbicide in fall when natives are dormant and Dame's Rocket rosette of leaves are green
- ♦ **Management of Dame's Rocket**

JAPANESE BARBERRY

Berberis thunbergii

- Leaves are simple, alternate, small oval to spatulate, clustered in tight bunches above spines, green, bluish-green or dark reddish-purple
- Flowers are cream-yellow, bowl-shaped with 6 petals
- Fruit look like small, red tic tac candy
- Seeds dispersed by birds
- * **Shade and drought tolerant, crowding out native plants in woodlands, wetlands, fields and more**
- * **Forms dense stands - increasing risk of Lyme Disease carrying ticks**
- * **Its presence encourages deer to browse on other non-spiny plants**
 - ◆ Dig out plants, removing roots and watch for regrowth
 - ◆ Mow or cut back plants before seed set to slow spread
 - ◆ Prescribed burns
 - ◆ Herbicides applied to foliage or stump cuts - protect desirable plants
- Alternatives: non-invasive small to medium sized shrubs suited to the growing conditions
- Note: in WI, European Barberry or Common Barberry (*Berberis vulgaris*) is also a non-native invasive and prohibited
 - Japanese Barberry restrictions only applies to the parent type, the variety *atropurpurea*, the hybrid of *B. thunbergii* x *B. koreana* and the following cultivars:
 - *Berberis thunbergii* cultivars: Sparkle, 'Anderson' Lustre Green™, Erecta, 'Bailgreen' Jade Carousel®, Angel Wings, Painter's Palette, Inermis ('Thornless'), Pow Wow, Golden Ring, Kellersiis, Kobold, 'JN Variegated' Stardust™ and Antares
 - Variety *atropurpurea* cultivars: Marshall Upright ('Erecta'), Crimson Velvet, 'Bailtwo' Burgundy Carousel®, Red Rocket, 'Monomb' Cherry Bomb™, 'Bailone' Ruby Carousel®, JN Redleaf, Rose Glow and Silver Mile
 - Hybrid of *B. thunbergii* x *B. koreana* cultivars: Tara and 'Bailsel' Golden Carousel®
 - All other cultivars, varieties and hybrids are exempt

◆ Japanese Barberry Best Control Practices

BURNING BUSH

Euonymus alatus

- Stems have corky ridges or protrusions - wings
- Leaves are opposite, elliptical with fine serrations, brilliant fall color
- Fruit is a capsule that when opens, reveals orange-red seed, reminds me of bittersweet
- * **Invades forests, woods, pastures, prairies and roadsides**
- * **Adapting to sunlight and soils - dominating woodland shrub layer**
- * **Deer resistant and prolific seeds allow it to spread**
 - Alternatives: non-invasive medium sized shrubs suited to the growing conditions
 - In Wisconsin, the species and Nordine cultivar are restricted. All other cultivars are exempt.

COMMON AND GLOSSY BUCKTHORN

COMMON BUCKTHORN

Rhamnus cathartica

- Leaves are ovate to elliptical, sub opposite, veins curve slightly toward the tip, slightly serrate, green early and late in the season
- Buds are dark, clasping and to me resemble a buck's hooves
- Terminal bud on stem is a modified spine
- Fruit is black, berry-like in late summer and fall, birds eat (not good for them as it is cathartic) and they distribute the seeds
- * **Invades forests, prairies, old fields and roadsides**
- * **Very adaptable, allowing it to outcompete natives and eliminate regeneration of tree seedlings and understory plants**
- * **Allelopathic**
 - ◆ Pull or dig small plants
 - ◆ Covering cut stump with black plastic or tin can for small populations
 - ◆ Girdle large plants by stripping off bark
 - ◆ Chemical - basal bark or stump treatment with herbicide
- Alternatives: non-invasive medium to large shrubs and small trees

GLOSSY BUCKTHORN

Frangula alnus, formerly *Rhamnus frangula*

- Leaves are mostly alternate, glossy, veins curve slightly towards the tip (not to be confused with Dogwood)
- Fruit is pea sized, starting out red, then maturing to dark purple, eaten and distributed by birds and mammals, cathartic

COMMON TEASEL

Dipsacus fullonum

- Leaves are opposite, oblong and prickly, join at stem to form cup
- Flowers are made up of tiny purple flowers clustered in egg-shaped heads, June - October
- Seed head is spiny, producing up to 2,000 seeds / plant that remain viable for 2 years in the soil
- * **Invades open areas, prairies, savannah, roadsides and more**
- ◆ Dig up plant, removing as much of the roots as possible
- ◆ Cut back in complete bud stage to prevent flowering and seed formation
- ◆ Herbicide before the plant sets seeds
- ◆ Often collected and used in flower arrangements - don't do this, as this can also spread the plant
- ◆ **Management of Teasels**

PHRAGMITES OR COMMON REED

Phragmites australis

- Common site along roadside ditches
- Leaves are long, linear, smooth, blue-green, tightly clasping the stem
- Flowers are bushy, light brown to purple plumes, July - September
- Seed heads are fluffy brown and persistent
- * **Adaptable and invades moist habitats along lakeshores, river banks and roadways**
- * **Quick to establish with extensive rhizomes**
- * **Alters water hydrology and wildlife habitat**
- * **Can spread through root fragments, rhizomes and seeds**
- ◆ Mow or burn after chemical treatment
- ◆ Herbicide to leaves or bundled cut stems in late summer or fall

- ◆ Do not collect and use in floral arrangements as this can help spread the plants

A Guide to the Control and Management of Invasive Phragmites

- Alternatives: non-invasive shrubs and perennials adapted to the growing conditions

ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET

Celastrus orbiculatus

- Twining vine that **looks similar to native American Bittersweet**
- Leaves are alternate, glossy and round with a pointed tip and shallow toothed margins
- Flowers are small and inconspicuous, 5 petals, greenish-yellow in clusters of 3-7 at leaf axils (must have separate male and female plants - dioecious)
- Fruit is showy, round capsules, yellow-orange in fall splitting open to reveal red-orange fleshy fruits
- Seeds dispersed by birds and small mammals
- * **Tolerant of wide range of conditions, allowing it to invade woodlands, fields and more**
- * **Girdles or shades out trees as it climbs and covers**
- ◆ Dig and pull seedlings
- ◆ Cut at base of the vine
- ◆ Herbicides - to bark at base of the plant, cut stem, foliar
- Alternatives: non-invasive, non-aggressive vines

NON-INVASIVE GROUNDCOVERS & ADDITIONAL PERENNIALS

CANADIAN GINGER

Asarum canadense

- Shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 6 to 12" tall
- Kidney-shaped, velvety leaves in pairs
- Blooms red-brown beneath leaves, May - June
- Thrives under evergreens and dense canopy of trees
- Deer resistant
- Zones 4 to 8

SEDGES

Carex species

- Full sun to shade, depending on species and cultivar
- 6 to 48" tall
- Sedges have triangular stem
- Blooms April - September (varies with species)
- Host plant
- Deer resistant
- Zones 2 to 9 (depending on species)

GOLDEN GROUNDSEL

Packera aurea

- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist to wet, well-drained soil
- 6 to 24" tall
- Leaves persist all season
- Yellow, daisy-like flowers in early summer
- Pollinator friendly
- Deer resistant

- Use as groundcover, rain garden, spreads
- Zones 3 to 9

BARRENWORT

Epimedium species

- Part to full shade (have seen in full sun)
- Moist, well-drained to dry soil
- 8 to 12" tall
- Flowers as leaves emerge in early spring, white, yellow, red
- Leaves emerge with red tinge, turn green, then red in fall
- Zones 4 to 8

CORAL BELLS

Heuchera species and hybrids

- Sun to shade depending on species and cultivar
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 12 to 24" tall
- Blooms June - August
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators
- *H. villosa* is more heat and drought tolerant
- *H. americana* is native to North America
- Zones 3 to 8

WOODLAND PHLOX

Phlox divaricata

- Part to full shade
- Moist, organic, well-drained soil
- 9 to 12" tall
- Blooms May - June, periwinkle blue flowers with 5 petals
- Butterflies
- Watch for rabbits and voles
- Zones 3 to 8

GARDEN PHLOX

Phlox paniculata

- Full sun
- Moist well-drained soil
- 2 to 4' tall
- Summer flowers in white, pink, red, purple, salmon, bicolor
- Look for mildew resistant varieties
- Butterflies, hummingbirds, pollinators
- Deer and rabbit will eat
- Zones 4 to 8

GREAT BLUE LOBELIA

Lobelia siphilitica

- Sun to part shade+
- Moist, organic soil, occasionally wet
- 1 to 4' tall
- Blooms July - September
- Forms colonies if properly sited, not overly aggressive
- Easier than Cardinal Flower
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators, host plant
- Deer resistant
- Zones 3 to 9

SWAMP MILKWEED / RED MILKWEED

Asclepias incarnata

- Full sun
- Well-drained to wet soil
- 3 to 5' tall
- Blooms June - July, fragrant pink flowers
- Hummingbirds, birds, butterflies, pollinators, Monarch host plant
- Zones 3 to 9

PRAIRIE DROPSEED

Sporobolus heterolepis

- Full sun to light shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 2 to 3' tall
- Blooms August - September, fragrant
- Seeds coated with ice look like gems in the garden
- Foliage turns gold in fall
- Birds, pollinators
- Zones 3 to 9

LITTLE BLUESTEM

Schizachyrium scoparium

- Full sun
- Well-drained to dry soil
- 2 to 3' tall
- Blooms August - October
- Great blue-green foliage that turns reddish-bronze with tufted seeds in fall
- Birds, butterflies
- Zones 3 to 9

SWITCHGRASS

Panicum virgatum

- Full sun
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 3 to 8' tall
- Blooms July - September
- Species is a vigorous spreader, natives better suited to most landscapes
- Birds, plant
- Zones 4 to 9

A FEW SHRUB ALTERNATIVES

NEW JERSEY TEA

Ceanothus americanus

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, loam and sand soils
- 2 to 4' tall x 3'
- Blooms July - August
- Birds, hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators, host plant
- Deer resistant
- Zones 3 to 9

RED TWIG DOGWOOD

Cornus sericea

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist to wet soil
- 5 to 9', colonizes
- Blooms in May
- White fruit
- Butterflies, bees, birds
- Deer resistant
- Zones 2 to 7

DWARF BUSH HONEYSUCKLE

Diervilla lonicera

- Full sun to full shade
- Moist to dry soil
- 2 to 4' tall, eventually forms a thicket
- Yellow flowers in summer
- Foliage emerges yellow-orange then turning red to purple in fall
- Hummingbirds, birds, pollinators, host plant
- Zones 3 to 10

SUMMERSWEET

Clethra alnifolia

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist to wet, rich, acid soil
- 4 to 8' tall
- White (pink cultivar), fragrant flowers in summer
- Hummingbirds, birds, pollinators
- Deer resistant
- Zones 3 to 9

VIRGINIA SWEETSPIRE

Itea virginica

- Full sun to shade
- Moist to wet, acid soil
- Lacks vigor in high pH soils
- 4 to 8' tall
- Lightly fragrant flowers in early summer
- Great red fall color
- Hummingbirds, favorite
- Zones 5 to 9

KALM'S ST. JOHNSWORT

Hypericum kalmianum

- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist soil, dry tolerant
- 2 to 3' tall
- Bright yellow flowers in summer
- Bee favorite
- Zones 3 to 7

WINTERBERRY

Ilex verticillata

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist to wet, acid soil
- Lacks vigor in high pH soils
- 6 to 12' tall
- Dioecious (separate male and female plants)
- Showy fruit - need one male for every 5 females for fruit
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer resistant
- Zones 3 to 9

FOTHERGILLA

Fothergilla species

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained, slightly acid soil
- 2 to 10' tall, depending on species and cultivar
- Fragrant, white flowers in spring
- Excellent fall color
- Hummingbirds
- Zones 4 to 8(9), depending on species

BLACK CHOKEBERRY

Aronia melanocarpa or *Photinia melanocarpa*

- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist to wet soil
- 5 to 7' tall x 4 to 6'
- White flowers in spring
- Excellent red fall color
- **Persistent black fruit**
- Butterflies, bees, birds
- Zones 3 to 9

RED CHOKEBERRY

Aronia arbutifolia

- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist to wet soil
- 5 to 10' tall
- White flowers in spring
- Excellent red fall color
- Persistent red fruit
- Butterflies, bees, birds
- Zones 3 to 9

SERVICEBERRY

Amelanchier species

- Shrub and tree species
- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 3 to 10' tall, depending on species
- White flowers in spring
- Edible fruit early in summer
- Fall color
- Butterflies, bees, birds, host plant
- Zones 3 to 9, depending on species

BUTTONBUSH

Cephalanthus occidentalis

- Full sun to part shade
- Moist to wet soil
- 3 to 6' tall x 10 to 15' wide
- Blooms in July
- Persistent seed heads
- Butterflies, bees, birds, hummingbirds
- Zones 3 to 11

COMMON WITCHHAZEL

Hamamelis virginiana

- Full sun to shade
- Moist to dry soil
- 12 to 20' tall

- Fragrant fall flowers
- Fall color
- Birds, small mammals, shivering moth
- Deer resistant
- Zones 3 to 8

BOTTLEBRUSH BUCKEYE

Aesculus parviflora

- Full sun to shade
- Moist, well-drained soil, adaptable
- 8 to 12' tall
- Summer blooms
- Yellow fall color
- Rabbit and deer resistant
- Zone 4

NON-INVASIVE, NON-AGGRESSIVE VINES

DUTCHMAN'S PIPE

Aristolochia macrophylla

- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist soil, may suffer in drought
- Up to 20' vigorous, twining vine
- Pipe-like flowers May - June
- Flowers may be hidden under leaves
- Butterflies, host plant for Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly
- Zones 4 to 8

CORAL HONEYSUCKLE

Lonicera sempervirens

- Full sun to part shade+
- Well-drained soil
- 10 to 20' twining vine
- Summer long flowers
- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, birds
- Deer, salt and black walnut resistant
- **Major Wheeler** has bright red flowers and is a mildew resistant nativar
- Zones 4 to 9

CLEMATIS

Clematis species

- Full sun to part shade
- Cool, moist, well-drained soil
- Vine with twining petioles
- Many sizes and types of flowers, spring through fall depending on species
- Seed heads are feathery and showy
- Zones 4 to 9

NATIVE VIRGIN'S BOWER

Clematis virginiana

- Native to North America
- Full sun to shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 12 to 20' tall twining vine
- Dioecious, fragrant flowers August - October
- Vigorous grower, spreads by rhizomes and seed
- Bees
- Deer and black walnut resistant
- Sweet Autumn Clematis is invasive in some Southern states
- Zones 3 to 9

Helpful Free Resources

- [Wisconsin DNR website](#)
- Videos
 - [Identifying 8 Aquatic Invasive Species in Wisconsin](#)
 - [Top Invasive Plants to Avoid](#)
 - [Grow Beautiful Water Gardens While Protecting Our Lakes and Waterways](#)
 - [Avoid Invasive Plants When Growing a Water Garden](#)
 - [Summer Care for Your Water Garden](#)
 - [Fall Water Garden Clean Up to Keep Lakes and Waterways Healthy](#)
- Publications
 - [Aquatic Invasive Species Publications and Products](#)
 - [Protect Your Pond or Water Garden](#)
 - [Use Your Gardening Skills to Protect Our Native Habitats](#)
 - [Landscape Alternatives for Common Invasive Wetland and Aquatic Plants](#)
 - [Landscape Alternatives for Common Terrestrial Invasive Flowers and Grasses](#)
 - [Landscape Alternatives for Invasive Trees, Shrubs and Vines of the Great Lakes Region](#)
 - [Regulated Aquatic Invasive Plants in Wisconsin](#)
 - [Common Wetland Invasive Plants in Wisconsin](#)
 - [Invasive Species Wildcards](#)
 - [Ordering WI DNR Publications](#)
 - WI DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Publications
 - ♦ DNRAISinfo@wisconsin.gov
 - WI DNR Terrestrial Invasive Species Publications
 - ♦ Invasive.Species@wisconsin.gov
 - [Wisconsin Invasive Species Calendar](#)
 - ♦ This resource from the Wisconsin First Detector Network can help you identify invasive plants based on the time of year and their lifecycle
 - [Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest](#) 4th Edition by Paul M. Skawinski
 - [Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest](#) by Elizabeth J. Czarapata
 - [Resources on Growing Native Plants](#)
 - [Invasive Plant Management Factsheets](#)
 - [Woody Invasives in the Great Lakes \(WIGL\)](#)
 - [Wisconsin First Sector Network](#)

UPCOMING APPEARANCES & WEBINARS

Check often as more appearances and webinars continue to be added.

February 29th Webinar

How to Plan Your Rain Garden

March 6th Webinar

Growing Summer Bulbs in Containers

March 7th

Wauwatosa Public Library

Help Plants, Trees, Shrubs and Your Lawn Thrive After Winter!

More Information

March 13th Webinar

Hydrangea Selection, Pruning and Care

March 14th Webinar

How to Select Rain Garden Plants

March 16th Webinar

Gardening to Attract Birds

March 20th Webinar

Maximize the Beauty and Your Enjoyment in Any Small Space

March 23rd

REALTORS Home & Garden Show

Designing with Four Season Foliage -

High Voltage Color Gardens Without the Flowers

Incorporating Native Plants into the Landscape for You and the Pollinators

More Information

March 27th Webinar

How to Start a Garden for Beginners

April 3rd

Franklin Public Library

Garden Trends

More Information

April 10th Webinar

Container Gardening Throughout the Year

April 11th Webinar

Seven Steps to Managing Water Where It Falls in Your Yard

April 20th

The Why and How of Pruning Hydrangeas and Other Shrubs

More Information

MORE WEBINARS & APPEARANCES



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH



*Special Thanks to the
University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension
Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach
and Wisconsin DNR for Sponsoring this Webinar!
Thanks to Milwaukee Public Library for hosting this
Webinar!*

Melinda's Garden Moment AUDIO TIPS

Melinda's Garden Moment VIDEO TIPS

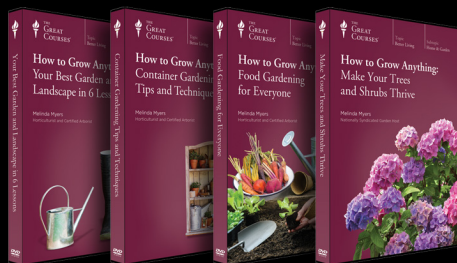
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLISTS & MORE

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER TO GET TIMELY GARDENING TIPS AND A CHANCE TO WIN



melindamyers.com



THE GREAT COURSES "How to Grow Anything"

DVD SERIES

Food Gardening for Everyone

Make Your Trees and Shrubs Thrive

Your Best Garden and Landscape

Container Tips and Techniques

BOOKS

Midwest Gardener's Handbook

Small Space Gardening

Midwest Lawn Guides

Minnesota & Wisconsin Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Minnesota & Wisconsin

Michigan Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Michigan

Month-by-Month Gardening in Iowa



Birds & Blooms Magazine

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