

TOP 10



FALL BLOOMERS FOR A SUSTAINABLE GARDEN 2022 SELECTED BY PHIPPS CONSERVATORY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

These plants are excellent choices for your home garden landscape. They are non-invasive, are resistant to disease and insects which eliminates the need to use pesticides, and require little or no watering or fertilization once established.

PERENNIALS



Photo © Kathleen Houlihan Chayer

Asters (*Symphyotrichum* spp. and cvs.)

Asters are native to North America and are recognizable by their many tiny petals arrayed around a yellow center. Late blooming perennials, asters are important in pollinator gardens to provide late season pollen and nectar. Blooms of white, purples and blues spread over these versatile plants. Two varieties we suggest are smooth blue aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*) and aromatic aster (*Symphyotrichum oblingifolium* 'October Skies').



Photo © Krzysztof ZiarnekBergsma

Gloriosa Daisy (*Rudbeckia* spp. and cvs.)

Gloriosa daisy is a cheerful flower with bright yellow petals around a brown-black center. These North American natives attract pollinators, provide food for birds and tolerate deer pressure. They prefer full sun to part shade conditions and bloom in late summer and well into September and October. Two varieties we recommend are Gloriosa daisy (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and cutleaf coneflower (*Rudbeckia laniniata*).



Photo © Xhall

Cranesbill (*Geranium* 'Gerwat' ROZANNE)

Attractive, deeply cut green foliage is topped with beautiful, large, blue flowers from early summer to frost on this easy spreading herbaceous perennial. Foliage turns reddish-brown in fall. Plant in moist, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Disease and pest free and deer resistant. 2008 Perennial Plant of the Year.



Photo © David J. Stang

Chinese Anemone (*Anemone* × *hybrida* 'Robustissima')

Blooming in late summer, this anemone provides color with soft pink, five-petaled blooms when many other flowers are starting to fade. It is adaptable in most soils and needs between 4 – 6 hours of sunlight. This vigorous, low-care perennial mixes well with other plants — such as grasses and other perennial plants — and grows between 24 – 36 inches tall. Deer and rabbits tend to shy away from this plant, but butterflies love it.



Photo © KarlAn

Joe Pye Weed (*Eutrochium* spp. and cvs.)

Joe Pye weed is a native plant which attracts pollinators. The straight species, *Eutrochium purpureum*, is a tall perennial native to damp meadows in Northern and Eastern PA that grows between 5 – 7 feet tall. It does best in full sun and loves a moister soil condition. Blooming in July, the magnificent mauve clustered bloom continues to impress with beautiful seed heads. Joe Pye is the perfect pollinator plant and attracts all kinds of insects, including butterflies, bees and beetles. There are several cultivated varieties that have a shorter stature; such as Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium dubium* 'Little Joe').



Photo © Dan Mullen

Prairie Ironweed (*Vernonia fasciculata*)

Prairie ironweed is a tall pollinator magnet native to central United States that grows up to 3 – 6 feet tall with a 2 foot spread. It blooms dark purple flowers in July to September in moist to wet soils and full sun to shady areas. This deer tolerant plant works well in rain gardens and wet meadows.



Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale* 'Mardi Gras')

This deer and rabbit resistant, butterfly attracting perennial features daisy-like flowers with yellow petals edged in bright orange-red, surrounding a deep brown center cone. It blooms for six to eight weeks in mid to late summer and grows 36 – 40 inches high by 24 – 36 inches wide. Plant in moist, well-drained soil in full sun. Cut back in early spring to promote branching. Produces attractive cut flowers.

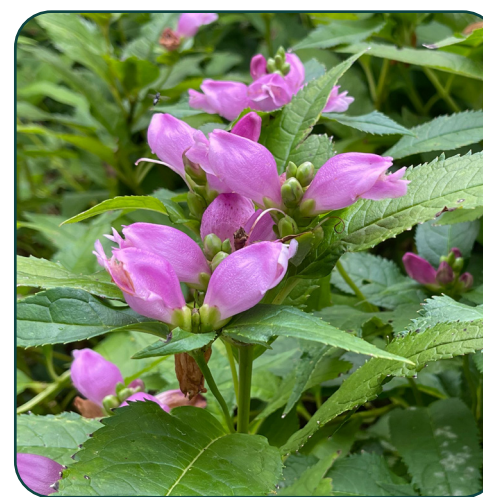


Photo © Paul g. Wiegman

Turtlehead (*Chelone* spp. and cvs.)

White turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*) is the perfect Southwestern PA native perennial for a shady, wet spot. Its white, turtlehead-shaped flowers appear from August through October. This perennial slowly spreads by rhizomes and grows to a height of 2 – 3 feet providing an important food source to Baltimore checkerspot larvae. Pink turtlehead (*Chelone lyonii*) is a pink blooming variety native to southeastern US, blooms from July to September and grows in moist, rich soils in full to part shade.

SHRUBS



Photo © peganum

Seven Sons Flower (*Heptacodium miconioides*)

Seven sons flower is the name of a tall flowering shrub or low tree that grows up to 15 – 25 feet tall and 12 feet wide in full to part sun and moist to dry soil. Clusters of seven buds bloom white and fragrantly in late summer to fall. As the flowers fade petals fall away to reveal pink to red sepals which persist through the fall, giving the impression of a second bloom. The bark peels in strips of white to tan and create long lasting interest through the winter months.



Photo © Paul g. Wiegman

Winterbloom (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

This southwestern PA native fall-blooming understory shrub, which can be found throughout local woodland areas, will reach 15 – 20 feet or more in height and spread. Flowers are fragrant with yellow, strap-like petals and appear as the foliage turns yellow, or as it drops. It is a great option for a shrub border, providing a subtle beauty. Plant in sun (for best flowering) to shade in moist soil.

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