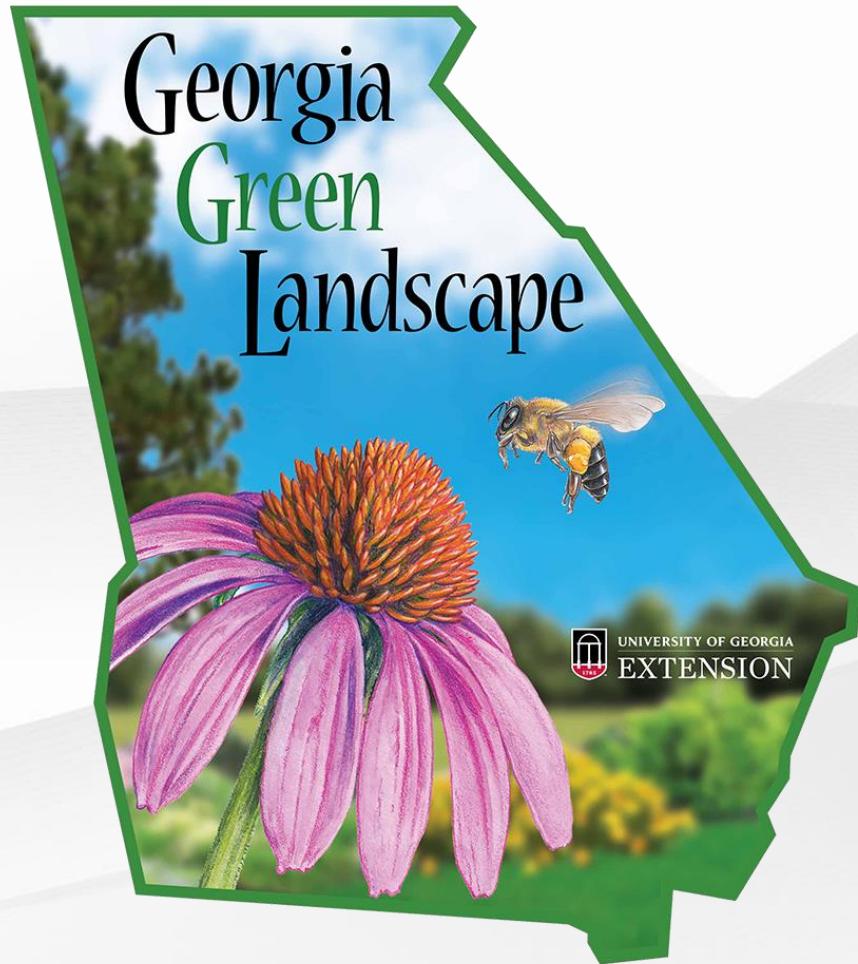
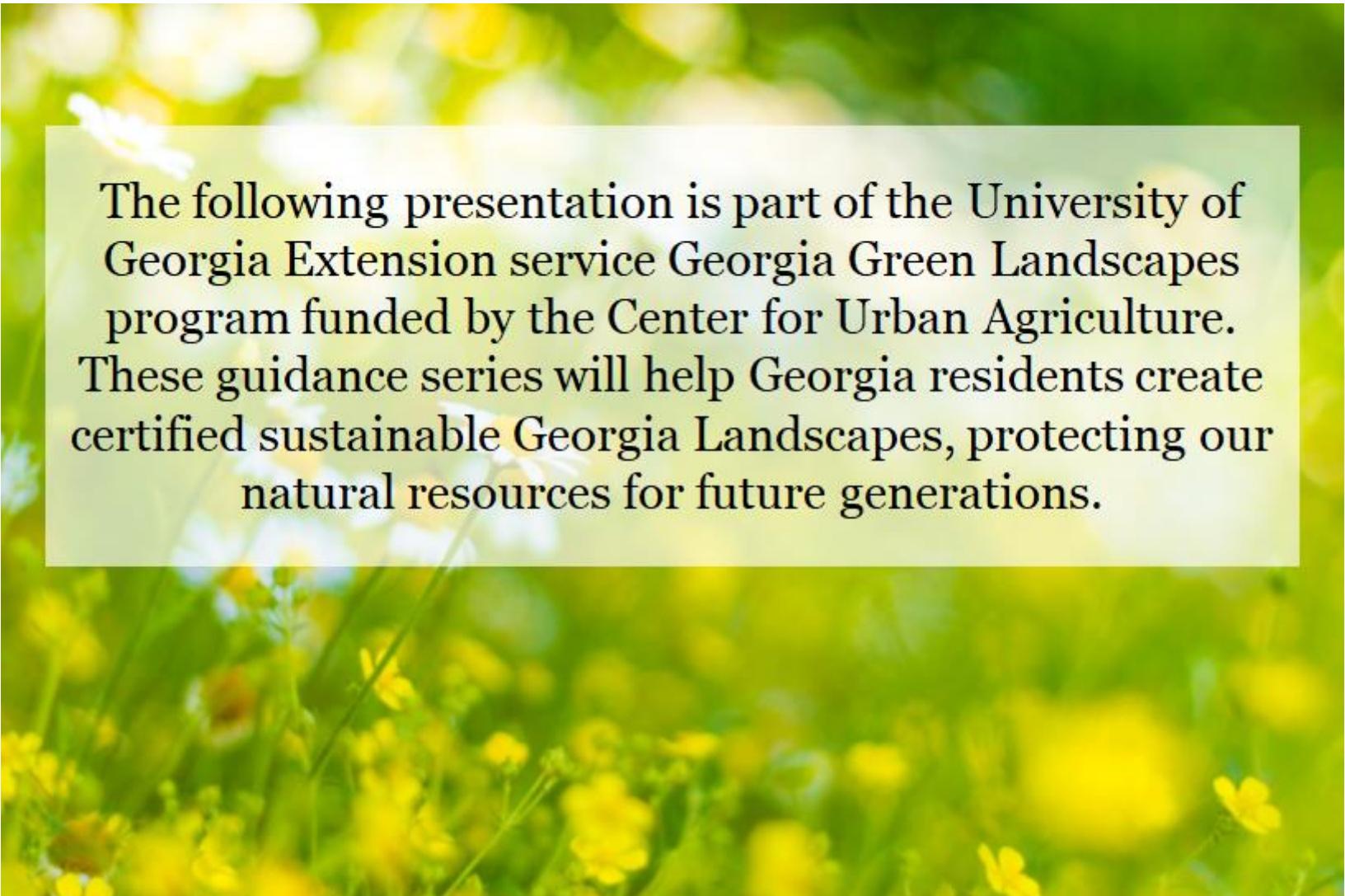


Native Plants and Low Maintenance Landscapes

Jessica Warren

Camden County Extension
Coordinator and Agriculture and
Natural Resources Agent





The following presentation is part of the University of Georgia Extension service Georgia Green Landscapes program funded by the Center for Urban Agriculture. These guidance series will help Georgia residents create certified sustainable Georgia Landscapes, protecting our natural resources for future generations.



What Makes a Landscape Low Maintenance?



- Minimal labor expended
 - Pulling weeds
 - Applying inputs
- Low to no inputs
 - Fertilizer
 - Pesticides
 - Store bought amendments and mulch
- Plants thrive easily
- Little to no irrigation needed



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How Do I Create a Low Maintenance Landscape?



- Plant native
- Natural mulch and ground cover
- Establish strong roots
- Right plant, right place
 - Sun
 - Soil moisture/drainage
 - Spacing
 - Heat tolerance



Plant Native



- Preserves natural ecosystem
- Provides wildlife and pollinator habitat
- Provides best nutrition to pollinators and wildlife
- Adapted to:
 - Predators, insects, diseases, pests of an area
 - Climate
 - Soils/drainage
- There are more than 100 distinct environments of plant communities in Georgia
- Plants grow where they do because they have finely adjusted to local environment
- Many native pollinators, beneficial insects and wildlife can only feed on and/or complete their life cycles on native plants that they have evolved with over time

Native Perennials



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Wideleaf Blue Star, Eastern Blue Star



Amsonia tabernaemontana

- Characteristics: Compact, clump-forming plant with narrow, lustrous green leaves that radiate around stem.
 - Leaves turn yellow-gold in fall.
 - From spring to early summer, blue, star-shaped flowers, $\frac{1}{2}$ in across are borne in loose clusters at stem tips.
- Culture:
 - Well-drained soil & full sun to partial shade
 - Cut back plants after flowering to encourage compact growth.
 - Deer do not like the milky sap.
- Size: 2 to 3 feet tall & 2 to 3 feet wide
- Habitat: Rich hardwood forests, floodplains & stream banks.



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Eastern Columbine



Aquilegia canadensis

- Characteristics: Erect, branching plant.
 - Leaves have 3 round lobes.
 - delicate red & yellow bell-like nodding flowers with spurred petals are produced on branch terminals in early spring & remain for about 6 weeks.
- Culture:
 - full sun to partial shade
 - slightly alkaline well-drained soils
 - Prune after flowering to discourage re-seeding & reduce leaf miner problems.
- Size: 2 to 3 feet tall & 1 to 1½ feet wide.
- Habitat: Calcareous or mafic woods & nutrient-rich rocky slopes.



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Butterfly Weed, Butterfly Milkweed



Asclepias tuberosa

- Characteristics: Bushy plant w/ several flowering branches emerging from a single crown.
 - Leaves alternate, lance-shaped, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{4}$ in long, w/ pointed ends & smooth margins.
 - Stems are hairy & sap is clear.
 - In late spring through summer, many small, bright orange flowers borne in clusters, 2 to 5 in across, on stem terminals.
 - Seeds are borne in spindle-shaped pods that are 3 to 6 in long.
- Culture:
 - full sun & well-drained soil
 - remove aphid infestations with a water stream
- Size: 1 to 2 feet high & 1 to 2 feet wide
- Habitat: Dry open woods, fields & roadsides.



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Blue Wild Indigo



Baptisia australis

- Characteristics: Bushy, upright plant with clover-like leaves having 3 bluish-green leaflets up to 2 in long
 - Purple, pea-like blooms appear in spring in dense terminal racemes, 4 to 16 in long, above foliage
- Culture:
 - Full sun to partial shade & slightly moist to dry soil
 - Cutting plants back after flowering promotes more compact growth & prevents self-seeding.
- Size: 3 to 4 feet tall & 3 to 4 feet wide
- Habitat: Riverbanks, gravel bars & open meadows



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Green-and-gold



Chrysogonum virginianum

- Characteristics: Low-growing, semi-evergreen, groundcover.
 - Leaves oval, toothed, hairy & up to 3 in long.
 - In May, bright yellow star-shaped flowers, 1½ in across, arise from upper leaf axils.
 - Each flower head has 5 yellow, rounded, notched, ray petals surrounding a central disk of tiny yellow flowers.
 - Profuse spring bloom followed by sparse flowering through October.
- Culture:
 - Prefers sun to partial shade & moist, well-drained soil high in organic matter.
- Size: 6 to 9 in tall & 15 to 18 in wide
- Habitat: Moist woodlands.

Large-flowered Coreopsis



Coreopsis grandiflora

- Characteristics: Dark green lance-shaped leaflets, up to 4 in long & 1 in wide, are borne on wiry stems.
 - From mid-June to October, daisy-like yellow flower heads, 2 to 3 in across, are borne on long terminal stalks.
 - Ray flowers w/ notched tips surround a central disk of tiny golden flowers.
- Culture:
 - Tolerates intense heat & dry sites.
 - Prefers full sun to partial shade & well-drained soil.
 - Cut back when frost damages foliage.
- Size: 6 to 12 in tall & 6 to 12 in wide.
- Habitat: Dry sandy soil, open rocky upland forests, granite flatrocks.



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Purple Coneflower



Echinacea purpurea

- Characteristics: Leaves are dark green, lance-shaped, alternate, hairy & coarsely toothed along their margins.
 - From late spring to early summer, flower heads, 2 to 3 in across, borne on stalks rising 2 to 4 feet.
 - Ray flowers, pink, disk flowers dark purple
- Culture:
 - Easy to grow almost anywhere, except in wetlands.
 - Prefers full sun to light shade.
 - Powdery mildew may be a problem in moist, shady sites
 - Divide clumps every 3 to 4 years.
- Size: 2 to 4 feet tall & spreading.
- Habitat: Dry to slightly moist areas in full sun or light shade.



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American Boneset



Eupatorium perfoliatum

- Characteristics: Pairs of opposite, lance-shaped, wrinkled, light green leaves are joined directly to stem (sessile).
 - Leaves look as though stem has pierced through them; stems are hairy.
 - Flat-topped clusters of small white flower heads appear above foliage from August to September.
- Culture:
 - Grows best in moist soil & sunny to partially shaded areas.
 - Does well in both clay & sandy soils.
 - Pinch back shoots periodically to encourage branching & a stockier plant.
- Size: 3 to 5 feet tall.
- Habitat: Marshes, swamps, open moist meadows & ditches.



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Wild Geranium, Cranesbill Geranium



Geranium maculatum

- Characteristics: Mottled, medium green leaves, up to 6 in across, have finger-like lobes with toothed margins.
 - Flowers emerge in spring on long stalks rising above leaves.
 - Flowers are pink to lilac, 1½ in across & saucer-shaped, with 5 upward-curving petals.
- Culture:
 - Easy to grow in average, well-drained soil & full sun to partial shade.
 - Moisture is essential, especially in early spring.
 - Deadhead for repeat bloom.
- Size: 12 to 24 in tall & 18 in wide.
- Habitat: Rich, moist hardwood forests & shaded roadsides.



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Hepatica, Liverleaf Hepatica



Hepatica americana

- Characteristics: Leaves are basal & heart-shaped with 3 lobes.
 - Some may have speckled leaves, while others have leaves that are maroon on their undersides.
 - In March or April numerous hairy flower stalks, 4 to 6 in long, rise above foliage, each bearing a single saucer-shaped bloom composed of 5 to 7 petal-like sepals.
 - Flower color ranges from blue to lavender, shades of pink or white.
- Culture: Plant in small drifts in shaded, moist woodlands, stream banks or shaded rock gardens.
 - Prefers moist, organic soils & partial shade.
- Size: 4 to 6 in tall & wide.
- Habitat: Nutrient-rich hardwood forests.



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Coral Bells, Alumroot



Heuchera americana

- Characteristics: Basal rosette of evergreen heart-shaped leaves.
 - Each leaf is 3 to 5 in wide & has 5 to 7 lobes.
 - New leaves emerge purplish-brown, then turn green.
 - Leaf venation is silver or rose-purple.
 - A flowering stem emerges in early spring & rises 18 to 24 in above plant.
- Culture: Use in shaded areas of perennial borders, rock gardens or woodlands.
 - Plant in well-drained soil high in organic matter.
 - Prefers shade or partial shade (morning sun).
 - Deadhead to encourage repeat blooms.
- Size: 1 to 2½ feet tall & 1 to 1½ feet wide.
- Habitat: Drainage slopes of rich woods, dry woods & rocky areas.



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Little Brown Jug, Evergreen Wild Ginger



Hexastylis arifolia

- Characteristics: Shiny, thick, heart-shaped evergreen leaves, 3 to 6 in long, are borne at ground level.
 - Leaves are dark green with pale green splotches in spring & summer, then they turn bronze in winter.
 - Reddish-brown flowers appear in April & May at ground level; no petals & are actually composed of thick, fleshy, fused sepals shaped like little brown jugs.
- Culture: Use in shaded woodland gardens.
 - In a natural setting, only 2 or 3 leaves may be seen, but under cultivation, it forms large clumps of basal foliage.
 - Shade-tolerant, but prefers partial shade.
 - Will adapt to both moist & dry soils.
- Size: 3 to 6 in tall.
- Habitat: Mixed deciduous or pine forests.



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Spider Lily, Carolina Spiderlily



Hymenocallis occidentalis

- Characteristics: A basal clump of strap-shaped leaves, up to 17 in long, rises from a bulb.
 - In summer, a flowering stalk, up to 22 in tall, emerges from center of foliage & bears 3 to 6 white fragrant blossoms.
 - Each flower is up to 7 in across & has 6 segments & a center tubular cup.
- Culture: Use in perennial borders, open woodland gardens & along streams & ponds.
 - Best grown in moist to wet soils in full sun or partial shade.
 - Allow foliage to remain after flowering to feed bulb & developing bulblets.
- Size: 1½ to 2½ feet tall & 1 to 1½ feet wide.
- Habitat: Swamps, moist fields, bottomlands & rich, moist forests.



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Dwarf Crested Iris



Iris cristata

- Characteristics: Low-growing, spreading plant with narrow, sword-shaped, medium-green leaves up to 6 in long & 2 in wide.
 - Leaves arise from branching rhizome that spreads to form colonies.
 - In spring, pale blue flowers w/ gold crests on short stalks.
 - Sepals are distinctly marked with a central band of white, yellow or purple.
- Culture:
 - Under favorable growing conditions, plant spreads & becomes a ground cover.
 - Plant in sun to partial shade & moist soil enriched with organic matter.
- Size: 6 to 12 in high & spreading.
- Habitat: Moist, fertile wooded slopes & flood plains.



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Virginia Iris, Southern Blueflag



Iris virginica

- Characteristics: Narrow sword-like leaves, 1 to 2 feet tall & 2 to 3 in wide, grow from rhizomes.
 - New leaves have a burgundy tinge at their bases that persists until early summer.
 - Flowers are borne on stalks that rise 1 to 3 feet from base of plant in spring; each stalk bears 1 to 3 flowers.
 - Falls are violet-blue & crests are yellow or white.
- Culture: Use along edges of streams or ponds, in drainage ditches or in water gardens.
 - Also does well in low-lying areas that are subject to flooding.
 - Wetland species that likes consistent moisture.
 - Adapts to sun or partial shade. Spreads slowly & is not aggressive.
- Size: 2 to 3 feet high.
- Habitat: Marshes, wet ditches & swamps in open areas.



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Dense Blazing Star, Marsh Blazing Star



Liatris spicata

- Characteristics: Basal leaves are narrow, grass-like & up to 8 in long.
 - Stem leaves are shorter than basal leaves & gradually decrease in size as they ascend stem.
 - Flower spikes, 6 to 12 in long, appear in June.
 - They consist of numerous round, deep purple flower heads about $\frac{3}{4}$ in across.
 - Each flower head is comprised of 4 to 10 narrow tubular flowers with long, prominent branching styles.
- Culture:
 - Sun or partial shade & moist to wet soil
 - Too much fertilizer can result in floppy stalks.
- Size: 2 to 5 feet tall, clump-forming.
- Habitat: Wet meadows, mountain outcrops & marsh margins.



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Cardinal Flower



Lobelia cardinalis

- Characteristics: Leaves are alternate & lance-shaped with toothed margins, 6 in long & 2 in wide.
 - Deep red flowers, about 1 in long, & are borne in racemes at top of stems in late summer.
 - Flowers are tubular & have two flaring lips.
 - Stamens are united to form an erect tube that is topped with a small tuft of white hairs.
 - Flowering begins in August & lasts about 3 weeks.
- Culture:
 - Prefers morning sun & afternoon shade & moist, humus-enriched soils.
 - Does not like wet sites.
- Size: 2 to 4 feet tall & 12 in wide.
- Habitat: Moist areas, stream banks, ditches & lakeshores.



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Great Blue Lobelia



Lobelia siphilitica

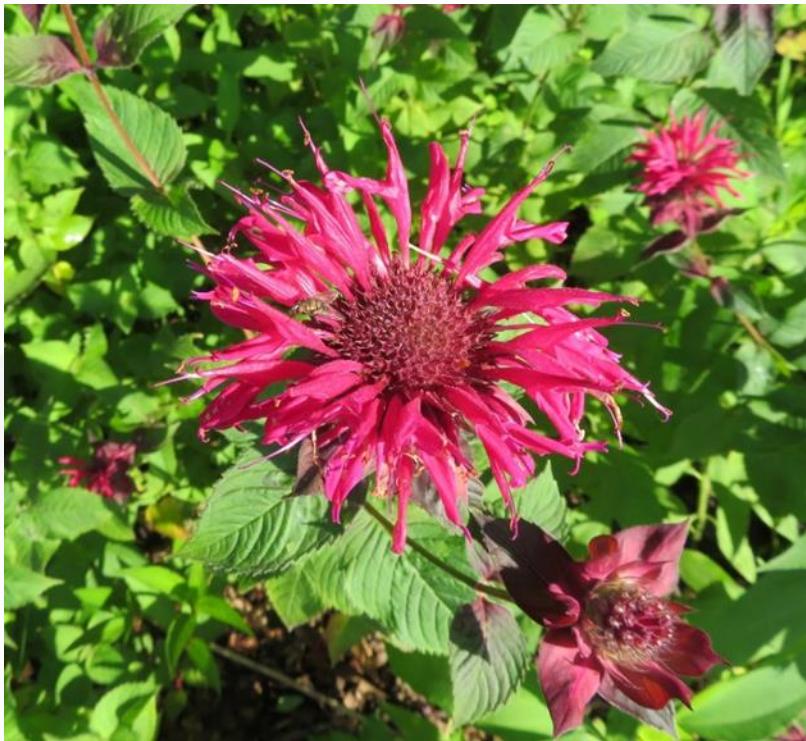
- Characteristics: Leaves are alternate, lance-shaped & 3 to 5 in long w/ toothed margins & square stems.
 - Flowers are blue, about 1 in in length, two-lipped & tubular borne in terminal racemes in August & September.
 - Leafy bracts are interspersed among flowers.
- Culture:
 - Easy to grow in moist, acidic, humus-enriched soils on sites having morning sun & afternoon shade.
 - Needs uniform moisture for best performance.
- Size: Up to 3 feet tall & 1 foot wide.
- Habitat: Swamps, stream banks, roadside ditches & other wet areas.



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Beebalm



Monarda didyma

- Characteristics: Leaves are opposite, lance-shaped, toothed & 3 to 6 in long with square stems.
 - Flower head consists of a cluster of two-lipped tubular flowers.
 - Flower color ranges from maroon to pale pink, violet-blue or flaming scarlet.
 - Flowering occurs in late summer & lasts 1 to 2 months.
- Culture:
 - Morning sun, afternoon shade & moist, fertile soil
 - Easy plant to grow, but can look rough in summer due to powdery mildew.
- Size: 3 to 5 feet high & 1 foot wide.
- Habitat: Moist mountain woods & bottomlands, stream banks & seeps



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Appalachian Bergamot



Monarda fistulosa

- Characteristics: Leaves are opposite, oblong, toothed along their margins & 2 to 4 in long with square stems.
 - In summer, clusters of lavender two-lipped tubular flowers are borne in dense heads, 1 to 2 in across, on the tips of stems.
 - Each flower head is subtended by a whorl of pale-pink leafy bracts.
- Culture:
 - Prefers moist, well-drained soil & full sun to partial shade.
 - Good air circulation between plants to discourage powdery mildew.
- Size: 2 to 4 feet tall, 1 foot wide & spreading.
- Habitat: Dry clearings, roadsides & woodland edges



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Spotted Horse-mint



Monarda punctata

- Characteristics: Square stems w/ opposite lance-shaped leaves, 1 to 3 in long & have toothed margins.
 - From July to Sept, yellow two-lipped flowers with purple spots are borne in dense terminal spikes.
- Culture:
 - Prefers full sun to partial shade & moist, well-drained soils.
 - Will adapt to dry sites & poor soils.
 - Deadheading after flowering will prevent it from spreading.
 - Provide good air circulation between plants to minimize powdery mildew disease.
- Size: 1 to 3 feet tall, 1 foot wide & spreading.
- Habitat: Dry sandy soils, flood plains, sand hills, rocky woodlands & maritime forests



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Smooth Beardtongue



Penstemon digitalis

- Characteristics: semi-evergreen, erect, clump-forming.
 - Basal leaves are oval w/ long petioles, while stem leaves are lance-shaped & sessile.
 - Stem leaves are arranged in pairs on the stem; variable - 3 to 6 inches long and $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches wide.
 - White, two-lipped, tubular flowers, 1 inch long, in clusters at the tops of stems from May to July.
- Culture:
 - Full sun to partial shade & moist, well-drained soils.
 - Provide good air circulation between plants to minimize powdery mildew disease.
- Size: Up to 3 feet tall, 1 foot wide & spreading.
- Habitat: moist open woods & disturbed areas



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Garden Phlox, Summer Phlox



Phlox paniculata

- Characteristics: Stems smooth w/ red streaks.
 - Leaves are opposite, short-stalked, lance-shaped to oval & 4 to 6 in long, hairy underneath & minutely toothed along their margins.
 - Flowers are bright pink to lavender, 1 in across, tubular, with 5 lobes, borne in clusters at top of stems from July to Sept.
- Culture:
 - Requires moist loamy soil & sun to partial shade (at least 6 hrs of sunlight/ day).
 - Provide good air circulation.
- Size: Up to 4 feet tall & 1 foot wide.
- Habitat: Stream banks, rich forests, woodlands & woodland borders



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Creeping Phlox



Phlox stolonifera

- Characteristics: A mat-forming, creeping plant with semi-evergreen foliage.
 - Leaves are oblong to oval, up to 3 in long.
 - From July to Sept, clusters of fragrant lavender flowers, $\frac{3}{4}$ in long, are borne on tops of flowering stalks.
 - Each flower consists of a short tube & five rounded, spreading lobes.
- Culture: groundcover in moist woodlands.
 - Prefers partial shade & moist, well-drained soil.
- Size: $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 foot tall & spreading.
- Habitat: Rich hardwood forests, wooded areas & stream banks



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Moss Phlox, Moss Pink



Phlox subulata

- Characteristics: A spreading, mat-forming groundcover.
 - Leaves are opposite or in whorled bundles, $\frac{1}{2}$ in long, awl-shaped & pointed.
 - In late March or early April, a profusion of fragrant, tubular flowers, $\frac{3}{4}$ in across, rise above foliage.
 - Flowers are violet purple, pink or occasionally white. Each flower consists of a short tube & 5 flat, petal-like lobes with distinct notches on ends.
- Culture: rock gardens, dry beds or banks.
 - Adapts to hot, dry locations.
 - Prefers morning sun & afternoon shade.
 - Good drainage is essential.
- Size: 6 to 10 in tall & spreading.
- Habitat: Dry, rocky slopes, primarily in the mountains



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Solomon's Seal, Smooth Solomon's Seal



Polygonatum biflorum

- Characteristics: Leaf stalks are zigzag & arching.
 - Leaves are alternate, oval in shape, up to 4 in long with parallel veins.
 - In spring, small tubular greenish-white flowers are borne in pairs at leaf axils on upper portion of stalks.
 - Flowers hang down & are somewhat hidden by foliage.
 - Flowers are followed by dark blue to black berries, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ in across.
- Culture: understory plant in shaded, moist woodlands or in wildlife gardens.
 - Requires shade & consistent moisture.
- Size: 1 to 3 feet tall & 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide.
- Habitat: Rich, moist hardwood forests, thickets & calcareous hammocks



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Black-eyed Susan



Rudbeckia hirta

- Characteristics: Leaves are alternate, oval to lance-shaped, 2 to 7 in long with bristle-like hairs on both surfaces that give them a sandpaper-like texture.
 - From summer to early fall, daisy-like flower heads, 2 to 3 in wide, are borne near tips of stems.
 - Flower heads consist of showy golden yellow rays surrounding a raised central disk of dark brown
- Culture:
 - Prefers full sun & moderate moisture.
 - May get leaf-spot disease in hot, humid weather.
 - Deadhead
- Size: 1 to 3 feet tall with a spread of 1 to 2 feet.
- Habitat: Open fields, prairies, plains, savannahs, roadsides and woodland edges



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Wrinkle-leaf Goldenrod, Rough-stemmed Goldenrod



Solidago rugosa

- Characteristics: Tall, rough, hairy stems arch outward from base.
 - Basal leaves are broad, raggedly toothed, rough textured & have winged petioles.
 - Upper leaves are lance-shaped, toothed & less hairy; Leaves have a wrinkled appearance.
 - In late summer, small light yellow flower heads are borne on upper portion of stems.
- Culture:
 - Prefers full sun & moist, well-drained soils.
 - Remove spent flower clusters to encourage repeat bloom.
- Size: 2 to 6 feet tall (extremely variable).
- Habitat: Low woods, meadows, old once-cultivated fields, pine barrens & bogs



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New England Aster



Symphyotrichum novae-angliae

- Characteristics: Stout, erect stems bear rough, hairy, sessile, lance-shaped leaves up to 5 in long & $\frac{3}{4}$ in across.
 - The stems branch near their top & produce terminal clusters of daisy-like flowers, 1½ in wide, from late summer to early fall.
 - Color of the rays is variable, ranging from pink to purple, lavender or white. Disks are yellow.
- Culture:
 - Prefers moist, well-drained soil & full sun to partial shade.
 - Prune lightly before July to encourage more compact growth.
- Size: 6 to 8 feet tall & 2 to 3 feet wide.
- Habitat: Moist, open woodlands, meadows, mesic prairies, disturbed sites & stream banks



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Spotted Wakerobin, Spotted Trillium



Trillium maculatum

- Characteristics: 3 horizontal sessile leaves are attached directly to top of stems 6 to 12 in tall.
 - Leaves are heart-shaped, 3 to 6 in long & 2 to 3 in wide & mottled.
 - From February to early April a solitary erect flower is borne at top of stem above leaves.
 - The flower has 3 strap-like, upright red-maroon petals that are 1 to 2 in long, subtended by 3 horizontal maroon sepals.
- Culture:
 - Prefers moist soil high in organic matter & partial shade.
- Size: 6 to 12 in tall & 12 in wide.
- Habitat: Moist, shaded calcareous forests & bottomlands high in organic matter



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Native Grasses



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Bushy Bluestem



Ted Bodner, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. 2005. Forest plants of the southeast and their wildlife uses. University of Georgia Press, Athens.

Andropogon glomeratus

- Characteristics: A narrow bunch grass with flattened blue-green linear leaf blades up to 10 in long & $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in wide.
 - In late summer, dense, silvery pink to white panicles are borne on terminals of culms.
 - After first frost, foliage & panicles turn bronze & panicles become fluffy.
- Culture: moist, low-lying areas.
 - Prefers full sun & moist to wet soils.
 - Provides good erosion control on slopes.
 - Cut clumps back to the ground in late winter to make way for new spring growth.
- Size: 3 to 4 feet tall & 2 to 3 feet wide.
- Habitat: Peripheries of swamps, marshes, low pastures & moist areas.



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Little Bluestem, Bunchgrass



Schizachyrium scoparium

- Characteristics: A dense mounding plant with fine-textured foliage & a distinctive blue-green color.
 - Leaves are 6 to 10 in long and $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ in wide.
 - In August, purplish-bronze flowers appear on 3-inch-long racemes, borne singly or in pairs along a zigzag rachis.
 - The foliage turns reddish-brown in fall.
- Culture:
 - Prefers full sun to partial shade & moderately moist to dry well-drained infertile soil.
 - Will not tolerate wet sites, but it will thrive on poor soils.
- Size: 18 to 24 in tall & 12 in wide.
- Habitat: Woodland edges & open woodlands, slopes, prairies, meadows, pastures, rock outcrops, roadsides & savannas.



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Purple Lovegrass



James H. Miller, hosted by the USDA-NRCS
PLANTS Database / James H. Miller and Karl V.
Miller, 2005, Forest plants of the southeast and
their wildlife uses, University of Georgia Press,
Athens.

Eragrostis spectabilis

- Characteristics: A fine-textured bunch grass with stiffly erect growth habit.
 - Leaf blades up to 12 inches long and $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide, tapering to a fine point.
 - In August, reddish-purple panicles, up to 15 inches long and 20 inches across, rise above the foliage.
- Culture: moist, low-lying areas.
 - Prefers full/partial sun & well-drained soil.
 - Tolerates poor, infertile soil.
 - Provides good erosion control on slopes.
- Size: 2 feet tall & 1 foot wide.
- Habitat: Disturbed sandy areas, upland prairies and savannas, limestone glades and along railroads.



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Pink Muhly Grass, Hair-awn Muhly Grass



Muhlenbergia capillaris

- Characteristics: Medium-green, erect leaves 2 feet long grow from a basal clump.
 - The leaves are about 1/16 in wide & either flat or rolled inward.
 - In fall, masses of airy, pinkish flowers are formed in loosely branched inflorescences, up to 12 in long.
- Culture: best when planted in groups of 3 or more.
 - Prefers full sun to partial shade & moist to dry, well-drained soil.
 - Cut plant back in late winter to make way for new spring growth.
- Size: 3 feet tall & 3 feet wide.
- Habitat: Dry, exposed sites, such as rocky clay soils or open woodlands & savannas, in the Piedmont & Coastal Plain.



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Natural Mulch and Ground Cover



gardenworld.co.uk

Leaves and natural fallen debris provide free mulch that:

- Retains soil moisture
- Feeds soil and improves soil structure as it decomposes
- Offers naturally appropriate nutrition to native plants
- Reduces erosion and crusting of soils
- Offers habitat to pollinators and beneficial insects

Establish Strong Roots

- Water deeply and infrequently once established – only if there hasn't been rainfall in 7-10 days
- Watch for signs of drought stress before watering
- Plant correctly



pbs.org



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Right Plant, Right Place



	Full Sun		Attracts Butterflies
	Part Shade		Larval host plant
	Full Shade		Attractive to bees
	Dry Soils		Seed / fruit food for birds
	Moist Soils		Attracts hummingbirds
	Wet Soils		Deer normally do not eat plant
	Prune to maintain shape / dead head. Or to remove seed to prevent spread.		Deer will eat this plant

- Plant for the size a plant will become and space appropriately
- Plant in groups of three or more
- Follow label for sun and moisture requirements
- Select plants for this plant zone and heat tolerance



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Certification Checklist Items:

- Plant native plants adapted to your climate and natural pests.
- Put the right plant in the right place! Consider sun, soil moisture, salt tolerance, spacing, and temperature. Plant in groups of three.
- Use natural mulch and ground cover. Leaves, pine straw, and woody debris.
- Establish strong roots. Plant correctly, use native plants, and water deeply and infrequently.



Questions?

georgiagreen@uga.edu

<https://site.extension.uga.edu/georgiagreen/>

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