

Groundcover Collection

BY NORTH CREEK NURSERIES

MOIST SUN
Carex plantaginea

What makes a groundcover?

While a low height is preferred, what truly makes a plant a groundcover is the way it expands to form solid, interconnected mats of foliage. Their ability to form dense leaf cover smothers and eliminates weeds naturally, while providing multiple seasons of interest from flower to foliage. We have chosen our top-performing perennial groundcovers for commonly found challenging landscapes: moist sun, dry sun, moist shade, and dry shade. These groundcovers form herbaceous mats, spread steadily, and max out at an 18" height in the landscape.

DRY SUN
Salvia 'East Friesland'

MOIST SHADE
Chrysogonum vin. var australe

DRY SHADE
Erigeron 'Lynnhaven Carpet'

MOIST SUN
Usually found in low-lying areas with poor soil drainage, moisture-loving perennials grow robustly in sunny, moist sites. They are happy with wet feet and are less likely to develop diseases associated with high moisture levels, such as mildew. These selections are typically found along streams, ponds, or low areas prone to seasonal flooding typical of wet meadow environments. In the cultivated garden they are ideal for a low spot where water collects and are excellent options for rain gardens.

Alchemilla mollis 'Auslese'
Anemone species and cultivars
Aster 'Wood's Pink'
Aster novae-angliae 'Purple Dome'
Aster novae-angliae 'Vibrant Dome'
Caltha palustris
Carex vulpinoidea
Chelone obliqua Tiny Tortuga™
Deschampsia cespitosa 'Goldtau'
Geranium macrorrhizum and cultivars
Helenium autumnale Mariachi™
Helenium flexuosum 'Tiny Dancer'
Heuchera villosa 'Caramel'
Hypericum calycinum
Juncus tenuis
Mimulus ringens
Monarda bradburiana
Packera obovata
Physostegia virginiana 'Miss Manners'
Rudbeckia fulgida var. *sullivantii* 'Little Goldstar'
Salvia lyrata 'Purple Knockout'
Solidago Little Lemon®
Verbena 'Homestead Purple'

DRY SUN
Dry sun is a common condition found along exposed slopes, near walls or pathways absorbing and emitting heat, or newly constructed buildings or developments where UV is plentiful and the soil quality poor and rocky. Fortunately, quite a few plants have adapted to these hot, dry circumstances, especially those originally found in the prairies or in the steppes. Here are some tough perennials that can withstand heat, uneven moisture levels, poor soil, and glaring sun.

Achillea species and cultivars
Amsonia 'Blue Ice'
Antennaria plantaginifolia
Aster oblongifolius 'October Skies'
Bouteloua species and cultivars
Calamintha nepeta and cultivars
Coreopsis pubescens 'Sunshine Superman'
Coreopsis verticillata and cultivars
Eragrostis spectabilis
Eriogonum allenii 'Little Rascal'
Euphorbia amygdaloides var. *robbiae*
Festuca glauca 'Beyond Blue'
Fragaria 'Lipstick'
Hypericum calycinum and cultivars
Kalimeris incisa 'Blue Star'
Lysimachia lanceolata var. *purpurea*
Muhlenbergia reverchonii UNDAUNTED®
Nassella tenuissima
Nepeta species and cultivars
Oenothera species and cultivars
Rubus calycinioides
Salvia lyrata 'Purple Knockout'
Salvia nemorosa cultivars
Sedum species and cultivars
Solidago sphacelata 'Golden Fleece'
Stachys byzantina and cultivars

MOIST SHADE
Species native to these environmental elements originate from deciduous forests with rich, moist soils. Moisture-loving, shade-tolerant perennials thrive in soggy or saturated soil conditions, don't complain about wet feet, and are less likely to develop diseases associated with high moisture, such as mildew. Usually found in low-lying areas with poor soil drainage, these groundcovers provide lush texture and seasonal appeal in gardens where tall buildings and mature canopy cover with long shadows can limit perennial selection.

Adiantum pedatum
Athyrium species and cultivars
Carex appalachica
Carex cherokeensis
Carex flaccosperma
Carex flacca 'Blue Zinger'
Carex dolichostachya Gold Fountains™
Carex laxiculmus Bunny Blue®
Carex plantaginea
Carex platyphylla
Carex oshimensis 'Evergold'
Carex 'Silver Sceptre'
Chrysogonum virginianum and cultivars
Deschampsia flexuosa
Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance'
Dryopteris marginalis
Dicentra eximia
Erigeron pulchellus var. *pulchellus* 'Lynnhaven Carpet'
Euphorbia amygdaloides var. *robbiae*
Geranium maculatum and cultivars
Geum fragarioides
Helleborus foetidus
Heuchera longiflora
Heuchera villosa 'Caramel'
Heuchera macrorrhiza 'Autumn Bride'
Meehania cordata
Packera aurea
Phlox stolonifera and cultivars
Phlox divaricata and cultivars
Polystichum acrostichoides
Polystichum polyblepharum
Scutellaria ovata
Sedum ternatum 'Larinem Park'
Tricyrtis formosana 'Samurai'

DRY SHADE
Most perennials adapted to cool, shady conditions are native to rich, moist deciduous forests. However, dry shade is one of the most common garden challenges—especially along shaded slopes, areas close to building foundations, under eaves, or beneath mature trees thirsty for any available soil moisture. In such competitive conditions, many shade perennials fail to thrive—but with the right plants—these gardens transform from a challenge into a delight.

Asarum canadense
Aster divaricatus 'Eastern Star'
Callisia rosea 'Morning Grace'
Carex appalachica
Carex eburnea
Carex dolichostachya Gold Fountains™
Carex flaccosperma
Carex flacca 'Blue Zinger'
Carex laxiculmus Bunny Blue®
Carex pennsylvanica
Carex plantaginea
Carex platyphylla
Carex oshimensis 'Evergold'
Carex 'Silver Sceptre'
Chrysogonum virginianum and cultivars
Deschampsia flexuosa
Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance'
Dryopteris marginalis
Dicentra eximia
Erigeron pulchellus var. *pulchellus* 'Lynnhaven Carpet'
Euphorbia amygdaloides var. *robbiae*
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Phlox stolonifera and cultivars
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Polystichum acrostichoides
Polystichum polyblepharum
Scutellaria ovata
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