

## WHAT YOU CAN DO AROUND YOUR HOUSE

# Guide to Rain Garden Plants

You can make a difference in reducing stormwater runoff around your house with small changes around your garden. Below is a list of rain garden plants that you can use in your garden to help reduce stormwater runoff.

All of these plants are native to Vermont. In addition, we've noted their mature height, sun exposure and when they bloom.

## SALT TOLERANT PLANTS

These plants are salt-tolerant, so you can plant them near walkways, driveways or other places to get salted during the winter.



**Black Chokeberry**  
*Aronia melanocarpa*  
Shrub

**Height:** 3–5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring

White to pink flowers, edible berries for jam or wine



**Black Eyed Susan**  
*Rudbeckia hirta*  
Perennial

**Height:** 1'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer/Fall

Orange-yellow flowers, short-lived, deer-resistant



**Blue Flag Iris**  
*Iris versicolor*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–3'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer

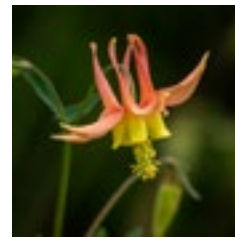
Blue-violet flowers



**Cardinal Flower**  
*Lobelia cardinalis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–4'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Vibrant red spiky flowers, tricky, short-lived



**Columbine**  
*Aquilegia canadensis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 1–2'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Spring/Fall

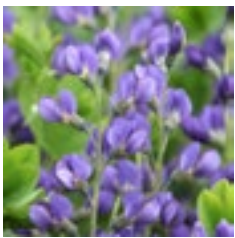
Showy red and yellow, beautiful foliage



**Daylily**  
*Hemerocallis* ssp.  
Perennial

**Height:** 2.5–3.5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Purple, yellow, orange flowers



**False Indigo**  
*Baptisia australis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 3–4'  
**Exposure:** Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer

Blue-violet, nitrogen fixer, deer-resistant



**New England Aster**  
*Aster novae-angliae*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–6'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer/Fall

Pink-purple flowers



**Oxeye Sunflower**  
*Heliopsis helianthoides*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–3'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Spring/Fall

Yellow flowers, attracts birds, ground bees, and butterflies.



**Soft Rush**  
*Juncus effusus*  
Grass

**Height:** 3'  
**Exposure:** Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer/  
Fall

Small, non-showy yellowish cymes in summer



**St. Johns Wort**  
*Hypericum kalmianum*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–3'  
**Exposure:** Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer

Yellow star-shaped flowers, deer-resistant



**Windflower**  
*Anemone canadensis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 1–2'  
**Exposure:** Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Spring

Pure white flowers

## SALT INTOLERANT PLANTS

These plants are not salt-tolerant, so you want to avoid placing them in areas away from where you salt in the winter.



### Bee Balm

*Monarda didyma*  
Perennial

**Height:** 3'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Red, pink, salmon  
colored flowers,  
aggressive



### Big Bluestem

*Andropogon gerardii*  
Grass

**Height:** 3–7'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Fall

Purple, good for erosion  
prevention due to large  
root system



### Bloodroot

*Sanguinaria canadensis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 6–10'  
**Exposure:** Full/Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Spring

White flower, toxic



### Blue Vervain

*Verbena hastata*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–4'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer/Fall

Purple spires



### Blue-Eyed Grass

*Sisyrinchium*  
*angustifolium*  
Perennial

**Height:** 8–10"  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer

Small blue or purple  
flowers, self-seeds



### Boneset

*Eupatorium perfoliatum*  
Perennial

**Height:** 4–6'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Flat-topped clusters of  
small, fluffy, white  
flowers



### Coneflower

*Echinacea purpurea*  
spp.  
Perennial

**Height:** 1–2'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Varieties include purple  
and white flowers



### Culver's Root

*Veronicastrum*  
*virginicum*  
Perennial

**Height:** 4–5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun/  
Partial Shade  
**Bloom:** Summer

Lavender or white  
spiky flowers, attracts  
bees and butterflies



### Elderberry

*Sambucus canadensis*  
Shrub

**Height:** 5–12'  
**Exposure:**  
Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer

White flowers, prefers  
moist soils, can tolerate  
wet and clay soils

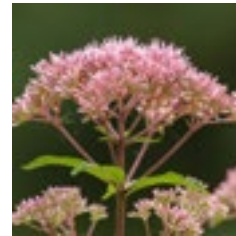


### Foxglove

*Penstemon digitalis*  
Perennial

**Height:** 3–5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:**  
Spring/Summer

Purple flowers,  
deer-resistant, clay/dry  
soil tolerant



### Joe-Pye Weed

*Eutrochium maculatum*  
Perennial

**Height:** 4–6'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer/Fall

Pink flowers, deer-  
resistant, tolerates clay  
soils



### Milkweed

*Asclepias tuberosa*  
Perennial

**Height:** 1–2.5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer

Orange flower



### Pussy Willow

*Salix discolor*  
Shrubs

**Height:** 6–15'  
**Exposure:** Full Shade  
**Bloom:** Winter/Spring

White flowers, silky  
gray catkins, fast  
growth



### Senecio

*Packera aurea*  
Perennial

**Height:** 6–30"  
**Exposure:**  
Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring

Yellow, daisy-like  
flowers



### Swamp Milkweed

*Asclepias incarnata*  
Perennial

**Height:** 4–5'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer/  
Fall

Showy, small, rose-  
purple flowers, attracts  
Monarch butterfly



### Red Osier Dogwood

*Cornus sericea*  
Shrub

**Height:** 6–12'  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer

White flowers, red  
stems in winter,  
provides food/cover



### Turtlehead

*Chelone glabra*  
Perennial

**Height:** 2–3'  
**Exposure:**  
Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Summer/Fall

White flowers, attracts  
butterflies



### Wild Geranium

*Geranium maculatum*  
Perennial

**Height:** 1–2'  
**Exposure:**  
Full/Partial Sun  
**Bloom:** Spring/Summer

Pink flowers,  
deer-resistant