

Shade Plants for Ohio Good for Wildlife and Sustainability



Spicebush in spring, 'Wild Forsythia'

Shade Groundcovers

Common blue violet (*Viola sororia*) - nice ground cover that will attract Fritillary butterflies, often found growing in untreated lawn

Virginia Creeper vine (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) - fruits for birds persist into winter, doesn't harm trees if it climbs them, good for groundcover too, turns red in fall

Heart-leaved Blue Wood Aster (*Aster cordifolius*) - late bloomer, helps migrating Monarch butterflies

Eastern Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) - often brings hummingbirds, spreads fast

Shade Spring Ephemerals: special flowers disappear so you can plant over the top of them

Cut-leaved Toothwort (*Cardamine concatenata*) – delicate blooms outlast Spring Beauties

Large-flower Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*) – Ohio's state flower, spring plant, large white flower

Virginia Blue Bells (*Mertensia virginica*) – native to Ohio, often seen covering hills

Shade Ohio Perennials

Woodland Sunflower (*Helianthus strumosus*) - butterflies like the flower, goldfinches like it after it goes to seed

Hairy Penstemon (*Penstemon hirsutus*) - hummingbird

Cinnamon Fern - hummingbird uses for nesting

Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*) - native parsley, host plant for Black Swallowtail butterfly

Sweet Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*) - small birds love the seeds, 25% sun

Brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*) – seeds for birds, 50% sun

Garden Fall Phlox (*Phlox paniculata*) – Giant Swallowtail likes to nectar, variety of colors

Shade Bushes/Shrubs

Nannyberry Viburnum (*Viburnum lentago*) – berries for birds

Grey Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*) – berries for birds

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) - doesn't need to be in a wetland, berries for birds and host plant

Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*) – berries for birds

Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) – berries winter to spring

Go to <http://enature.com/> and type the end of the common name in the search box. It should provide a photo and information about each plant.