



Promoting Native Plants since 2003 Certified Women Owned Business Enterprise

Native Plants for Alkaline Sites

Alkaline soil is a type of soil with high amounts of sodium, calcium, and magnesium. This can be naturally occurring or caused by outside factors such as hard water or being located near ash producing industries. Many areas in Pennsylvania have alkaline soil due to the presence of limestone and other minerals, and the industry that have existed here.

If your soil has a higher pH (alkaline) it can hinder plants from soaking up necessary nutrients. The following native plants are reported to be tolerant of alkaline (high pH) soil (above 7.2). Penn State soil test kits are available at Edge of the Woods Nursery.

PERENNIALS

<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	- Canada Anemone, Thimbleweed	<i>Opuntia species</i>	- Eastern Prickly Pear
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	- Tall Thimbleweed	<i>Packera aurea</i>	- Golden Ragwort
<i>Antennaria species</i>	- Pussytoes	<i>Phlox maculata, paniculata, subulata</i>	- Phlox - Garden, Meadow, Moss
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	- Whorled milkweed	<i>Pycnanthemum species</i>	- Mountain Mint
<i>Blephilia ciliata</i>	- Downy Wood Mint	<i>Rudbeckia species</i>	- Black-eyed Susan, coneflower
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	- Harebell	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	- Wild Petunia
<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i>	- Maryland Golden Aster	<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	- Lyre-leaved Sage
<i>Delphinium exaltatum</i>	- Tall Larkspur	<i>Sanguisorba canadensis</i>	- Canada Burnet
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	- Flowering Spurge	<i>Scutellaria species</i>	- Skullcap
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	- Oxeye Daisy	<i>Sedum Glaucophyllum and nevii</i>	- Stonecrop - Cliff, Nevius'
<i>Heterotheca villosa</i>	- Hairy Golden Aster	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	- Cup Plant
<i>Houstonia caerulea</i>	- Quaker Ladies, Bluets	<i>Solidago species</i>	- Goldenrod
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	- Jewelweed	<i>Symphotrichum ericoides and puniceum</i>	- Aster - Heath, Purple Stem
<i>Manfreda virginica</i>	- False Aloe	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	- Skunk Cabbage
<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	- Allegheny Monkeyflower	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	- Virginia Spiderwort
<i>Monarda species</i>	- Beebalm, Wild Bergamot	<i>Viola sororia and striata</i>	- Violet - Common Blue, Striped Cream
<i>Oenothera species</i>	- Sundrops	<i>Zizia species</i>	- Golden Alexander

SEDGES AND FERNS

<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	- Ebony Spleenwort Fern
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	- Maidenhair Spleenwort Fern
<i>Carex blanda</i>	- Common Wood Sedge
<i>Carex muehlenbergii</i>	- Muhlenberg's Sedge
<i>Carex plantaginea</i>	- Seersucker Sedge
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	- Fox Sedge
<i>Carex woodii</i>	- Pretty Sedge
<i>Dryopteris felix-mas</i>	- Male Fern
<i>Dryopteris goldieana</i>	- Goldie's Wood Fern
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	- Sensitive Fern

TREES AND SHRUBS

<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	-	Bottlebrush Buckeye
<i>Aronia species</i>	-	Chokeberry
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	-	Northern Catalpa
<i>Celtis species</i>	-	Hackberry
<i>Crataegus species</i>	-	Hawthorn
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	-	Bush Honeysuckle
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	-	Eastern Leatherwood
<i>Euonymus species</i>	-	Strawberry Bush
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	-	Butternut
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	-	Creeping Juniper
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	-	Eastern Red Cedar
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	-	Tulip Poplar
<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	-	Osage Orange
<i>Paxistima canbyi</i>	-	Ratstripper
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	-	Ninebark
<i>Prunus species</i>	-	Plum, Cherry
<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	-	Hoptree, Wafer Ash
<i>Salix discolor and nigra</i>	-	Pussywillow, Black Willow
<i>Sorbus americana</i>	-	Mountain Ash
<i>Spirea species</i>	-	Meadowsweet
<i>Symphoricarpos species</i>	-	Coralberry, Snowberry, Wolfberry
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	-	Eastern Arborvitae
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	-	American Elm

6 Reasons to Use Native Plants in the Landscape
Provides beauty and four seasons of interest
Saves on water and fertilizer
Reduces disease
Attracts beneficial insects
Provides food for songbirds and butterflies
Restores and balances the ecology of Lehigh Valley
