

GREEN SPRING GARDENS

4603 GREEN SPRING RD • ALEXANDRIA • VA 22312 *PHONE:* 703-642-5173 • *TTY:* 703-803-3354 WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/PARKS/GREENSPRING

AUTUMN IN THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT GARDEN: BLOOM, FRUIT, AND FALL COLOR OF FOLIAGE

Scientific Name	Common Name	Bloom Color	Fruit Color & Fall
		(mostly	Color of Foliage –
		September &	Mostly October &
		October)	November
Acer pensylvanicum	Striped Maple		Foliage: yellow
Acer rubrum	Red Maple		Foliage: yellow to red
Aesculus flava	Yellow Buckeye		Foliage: yellow &
			sometimes a lighter
			orange (best fall color
			in sunny areas like
A marala mala in a maraja a hubuida O aulkiusus	Lucabana Candaabana Chadhlau		the Entrance Garden)
Amelanchier species, hybrids, & cultivars	Juneberry, Serviceberry, Shadblow		Foliage: yellow,
			orange, or red (best fall color on 'Autumn
			Brilliance' - red)
Amsonia tabernaemontana & 'Montana'	Eastern Bluestar		Foliage: yellow
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem	Reddish brown or	Foliage: reddish
Andropogon gerardii	big bidesterii	purplish red	brown or purplish
		purplishired	sometimes
			Sometimes
A. virginicus	Broomsedge Bluestem	Green then tan	Reddish tan
Aralia racemosa	Spikenard, American Spikenard		Fruit: red then purple
(herbaceous perennial)			
			_ , , , , , , ,
A. spinosa	Devil's Walking Stick		Fruit: purple (red fruit
(shrub)			stalks) Foliage: yellowish to
			purplish
Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima'	Red Chokeberry		Fruit & Foliage: red
Aforna arbutnona Brimaritissima	Red Chokeberry		Fruit & Foliage. Ted
A. melanocarpa Lo Scape Hedger	Black Chokeberry		Fruit: black
('UCOBNNAM166'; planted in 2016 - need to			Foliage: red & orange
evaluate)			reported on this
,			cultivar
Asimina triloba	Common Pawpaw		Fruit: brownish black
	·		(not showy but tasty)
Note: A. parviflora (Small-Flowered			
Pawpaw) - another species growing in the			Foliage: yellow
Virginia Native Plant Garden – found in a few			
counties in southeastern Virginia			
Aster (now reclassified into various genera –			
see under Eurybia, Doellingeria, &			
Symphyotrichum)			

Bignonia capreolata	Cross Vine	Orange or red (possibly light bloom - heavier bloom in spring)	Foliage: reddish purple in late fall & winter
Callicarpa americana	American Beautyberry	jaran ar aprilagy	Fruit: violet
Calycanthus floridus	Sweetshrub, Carolina Allspice		Foliage: yellow
Campanula americana (Campanulastrum americanum)	American Bellflower, Tall Bellflower	Blue (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in summer)	
Carpinus caroliniana	American Hornbeam	,	Foliage: yellow, orange red, or red
Carya species	Hickory		Foliage: golden yellow
Celtis occidentalis	Northern Hackberry		Foliage: yellow in some years
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud		Foliage: yellow green to yellow
Chasmanthium latifolium	River Oats (excessive reseeding with irrigation so cutting back & removing most plants)	Green to bronze & tawny brown later	Foliage: tawny brown
Chelone obliqua (C. alba or White Turtlehead will be replanted in 2017)	Pink Turtlehead	Pink	
Chionanthus virginicus	Fringe Tree		Fruit: dark blue on plants with fertile flowers (many plants do not fruit, including those at Green Spring so far) Foliage: golden yellow
Chrysogonum virginianum	Green and Gold	Golden yellow (occasional bloom in the fall - heavier bloom in spring)	
Cimicifuga rubifolia (preferred in Tropicos) or Actaea rubifolia (in the Flora of Virginia & preferred in the Encyclopedia of Life)	Appalachian Bugbane	White	
Clematis ochroleuca	Curlyheads	Whitish (occasional bloom in the fall - heavier bloom in spring)	
Clethra acuminata	Cinnamon Clethra, Mountain Pepperbush		Foliage: yellow to golden brown
C. alnifolia	Summersweet, Sweet Pepperbush		
Collinsonia canadensis	Northern Horse Balm	Yellow	
Conoclinium coelestinum	Blue Mistflower	Blue	
(Eupatorium coelestinum)			
Coreopsis tripteris	Tall Coreopsis	Gold (heavier bloom in summer)	
C. verticillata cultivars (C. major eaten too much by deer & rabbits to bloom in the fall some years)	Threadleaf Coreopsis		

Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood		Fruit: red
C. racemosa & Geauga ('Geazam') (species type plant is hard to see)	Gray Dogwood		Foliage: reddish purple in full sun so
			less likely in this garden
Crataegus viridis 'Winter King'	Winter King Hawthorn (cedar hawthorn rust & dry		Fruit: red
	conditions can diminish fall color)		Foliage: bronze purple
Cyrilla racemiflora	Swamp Cyrilla, Titi		Foliage: red or orange
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hay-Scented Fern		Foliage: yellowish
Dicentra eximia	Wild Bleeding Heart	Pink (occasional bloom in the fall - heavier bloom in spring)	
Diospyros virginiana	Common Persimmon, American Persimmon		Fruit: orange
			Foliage: reddish purple
Doellingeria umbellata	Flat-Top Aster,	White	S. P.O
(Aster umbellatus)	Tall Flat-Topped White Aster		
Echinacea purpurea (naturalized in Virginia from further west & south) Note: E. laevigata (smooth purple	Purple Coneflower	Pink w/ purple center (end of bloom period - heavier	
coneflower) is the true Va. native & it is not grown in gardens. It is imperiled in VA,		bloom in summer)	
federally endangered, & hard to grow.			
Elephantopus carolinianus	Carolina Elephantsfoot	Lavender	E-P
Elymus hystrix (Hystrix patula)	Bottlebrush Grass	Light brown	Foliage: brown
Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master	White (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in spring)	Fruit: interesting rounded fruit – green then turns brown
Euonymus americanus	American Euonymus, Heart's–A-Bustin'		Fruit: red (the showiest characteristic)
E. atropurpureus	American Wahoo		Foliage: can be red purple – E. americanus is more commonly yellow green
Euphorbia corollata	Flowering Spurge	White	
Eurybia divaricata (Aster divaricatus)	White Wood Aster Riglest Aster	White Lilac	
Eurybia macrophylla (Aster macrophyllus) Eutrochium fistulosum (Eupatorium)	Large-Leaved Aster, Bigleaf Aster Joe Pye Weed	Pink purple (end of	
Note: Eutrochium maculatum 'Gateway' (Eupatorium) has declined since the Native Mixed Border West (behind the Vegetable Garden fence) has become too dry with less irrigation.		bloom period – soon turn brown)	
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green Ash		Foliage: yellow
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium		Foliage: purplish red
Halesia tetraptera (no longer classified as H. carolina)	Common Silverbell		Foliage: yellow or yellow green

Hamamelis virginiana & cultivars	American Witch Hazel,	Yellow for the	Foliage: yellow
	Common Witch Hazel	species; some	
		cultivars are	
		red yellow or	
		reddish	
Helianthus angustifolius	Swamp Sunflower	Golden yellow	
		(H. strumosus	
H. divaricatus	Spreading Sunflower,	stops blooming the	
	Woodland Sunflower	soonest;	
		H. angustifolius	
H. strumosus	Paleleaf Woodland Sunflower,	blooms the latest).	
	Woodland Sunflower,	Deer damage has	
	Pale-Leaved Woodland Sunflower	greatly reduced the	
		flowering of	
		H. strumosus.	
Heliopsis helianthoides	False Sunflower	Golden yellow	
Heuchera villosa	Hairy Alumroot	White or pinkish	
		(the showiest	
		flowering form is	
		'Autumn Bride' or	
		what was once	
		sold as	
		var. macrorhiza -	
		botanists no longer	
		recognize this	
		variety name)	
Hibiscus moscheutos	Rose Mallow	Pink (some	
		white with red eyed	
		forms may come	
		back) - heavier	
		bloom in the	
		summer	
Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle'	Annabelle Hydrangea	A few white bracts	Foliage: yellow
(double flower)		(not true flowers) in	
		the fall - turn green	
		then brown	
Hylotelephium telephioides	Alleghany Stonecrop	White to light pink	
(Sedum telephioides)			
Hypericum mutilum	Dwarf St. Johnswort	Golden yellow	
	(seeds here & there - not planted)	(occasional bloom	
	, ,	in early fall -	
		heavier bloom in	
		summer)	
Ilex decidua 'Warren's Red'	Warren's Red Possumhaw Holly		Fruit: red (on female
			plants)
I. opaca	American Holly		
I. verticillata & Red Sprite ('Nana')	Winterberry Holly		
Impatiens capensis	Orange Jewelweed,	Orange	
	Orange Touch-Me-Not		
Itea virginica cultivars	Virginia Sweetspire		Foliage:
			Purplish red
			('Henry's Garnet')
			Yellow, orange, & red
			('Saturnalia')
			Yellow (some
			species type plants)

Lindera benzoin	Northern Spicebush		Fruit: red (on female plants)
			Foliage: golden yellow
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree		Foliage: golden yellow
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	Red	
L. siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	Blue	
Note: A species that is generally not planted by gardeners is L. inflata (Indian Tobacco) - an annual with tiny blue & white flowers that pops up here & there.			
Magnolia tripetala (easy to see several plants)	Umbrella Magnolia		Fruit: black with visible red seeds
M. macrophylla (less visible)	Bigleaf Magnolia		Foliage for M. tripetala &
M. virginiana & 'Henry Hicks' The more southern type 'Henry Hicks' is in the Native Mixed Border East by the Townhouse Gardens fence - the leaves are more evergreen.	Sweetbay Magnolia		M. macrophylla: large yellow brown leaves
The local species type is across the Turkeycock Run bridge - it is native to the site. It is growing in the magnolia bog/seepage swamp & the adjacent woods.			
Maianthemum racemosum (Smilacina racemosa)	False Solomon's Seal		Fruit: red & white speckled, then turning red
M. stellatum (S. stellata)	Star-Flowered False Solomon's Seal, Starry False Solomon's Plume		Green with black stripes, then becoming blackish red or black
Monarda didyma ('Jacob Cline' is the most likely to have a few blooms in the fall)	Bee Balm	Red (occasional bloom in early fall – heavier bloom in summer)	
Morus rubra (possibly a hybrid with the non-native M. alba or White Mulberry)	Red Mulberry		Foliage: golden yellow
Muhlenbergia capillaris	Pink Muhly, Pink Muhlygrass, Hair-Awn Muhly	Pinkish or purplish to tan later	Foliage: tan
Myrica pensylvanica (preferred by Tropicos) or Morella pensylvanica (in the Flora of Virginia	Northern Bayberry		Fruit: gray & waxy
& preferred by the Encyclopedia of Life) Oenothera biennis (remove in most areas since reseeds heavily)	Common Evening Primrose	Yellow	

Osmunda cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern		Foliage:
(under Osmundastrum cinnamomeum in the			golden brown
Flora of Virginia & some botanists prefer this			90.00
name).			
O. regalis	Royal Fern		Russet to
			golden yellow
Oxydendrum arboreum	Sourwood		Fruit: pendulous &
			yellow then brown
			E-P
			Foliage: yellow to
Paniaum virgatum	Switchgrass	Brown to purplish	purple to red Foliage: tawny
Panicum virgatum	Switchgrass	Brown to purplish	brown; some
			cultivars outside this
			garden are reddish
			before turning brown
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper		Fruit: bluish black
· ·			
			Foliage: purple to red
Passiflora lutea	Yellow Passionflower	Yellow	Fruit: purple
Phlox paniculata	Garden Phlox	Pink	
Physostegia virginiana 'Pink Manners' &	False Dragonhead, Obedient Plant	Pink	
'Vivid'			
Polygonatum biflorum	Solomon's Seal		Fruit: blue black
	DL L OL		Foliage: yellow
Prunus serotina	Black Cherry		Foliage: yellow or
Ptelea trifoliata	Llan Trac		sometimes red
Pycnanthemum muticum	Hop Tree Mountain Mint	White bracts; true	Foliage: yellow
	INIOUTILATE MITTE	flowers lavender &	
Note: P. incanum (Hoary Mountain Mint) was		small	
planted in 2016 – should bloom in about the		oman	
same time period as the above			
Quercus alba	White Oak		Foliage:
			brown to red to
			purple
Q. coccinea	Scarlet Oak		Red
Q. montana	Chestnut Oak		Orange yellow to
(was Q. prinus)			yellow brown
Q. rubra	Northern Red Oak		Russet, bronze, red,
Q. Tubia	Trominent roa oak		or yellow brown
(Other species in the garden are hard to see			. ,
& fall color isn't as showy due to shade.)			
Rhododendron arborescens	Native Deciduous Azaleas		Foliage:
R. atlanticum			yellow, reddish,
R. calendulaceum			bronze, or green
R. periclymenoides & a natural hybrid	1		
III marina a mara alla uma			1
R. prinophyllum		14/1 1/2 0 6	
R. viscosum (the latest blooming form sold	Swamp Azalea	White & fragrant (a	
	Swamp Azalea	White & fragrant (a bloom or two some years in the fall)	

Rhus aromatica & 'Gro-low'	Fragrant Sumac		Foliage: orange to red to purple (fruited earlier)
R. copallina	Shining Sumac, Winged Sumac		Fruit & Foliage: red
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust		Foliage: yellow
Rubus odoratus	Flowering Raspberry	Pink (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in summer)	
Rudbeckia fulgida	Orange Coneflower	Golden yellow	
R. laciniata	Cutleaf Coneflower, Green-Headed Coneflower	Yellow	
R. triloba	Three-Lobed Coneflower, Browneyed Susan	Golden yellow	
Ruellia caroliniensis	Ruellia (commonly called Wild Petunia but in different families)	Blue	
Saccharum brevibarbe var. contortum	Bent-Awn Plume Grass, Sortbeard Plume Grass	Reddish brown	Foliage: brown w/ shades of orange or purple
S. giganteum	Sugarcane Plume Grass, Giant Plume Grass	Pinkish at first then silvery	
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras		Foliage: yellow to orange to red to purple
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	Reddish brown	Foliage: reddish brown
Scutellaria incana	Downy Skullcap	Blue	
Silene stellata	Starry Campion	A few white blooms in early fall some years (heavier bloom in summer)	
Silphium asteriscus & S. asteriscus var. trifoliatum (formerly classified as S. trifoliatum) S. perfoliatum S. terebinthinaceum	Southern Rosinweed, Whorled Rosinweed Cup Plant Prairie Rosinweed, Prairie Dock	Yellow (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in summer)	
Solidago caesia	Wreath Goldenrod	Yellow	
S. flexicaulis	Zigzag Goldenrod	2 new goldenrod species planted in	
S. rugosa	Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod	2016 – S. odora (Sweet Goldenrod)	
S. sphacelata 'Golden Fleece'	Golden Fleece Goldenrod	& S. speciosa (Showy Goldenrod)	
S. ulmifolia	Elmleaf Goldenrod	– trying again.	
Spiraea alba	White Meadowsweet, Narrowleaf Meadowsweet, Spiraea (Spirea)	White (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in summer)	
Staphylea trifolia	American Bladdernut	Janimor)	Fruit: pale green to light brown
			Foliage: yellow
Stylophorum diphyllum	Yellow Wood Poppy	Yellow (occasional bloom - heavier bloom in spring)	

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Symphyotrichum cordifolium (Aster cordifolius)	Blue Wood Aster	Blue	
Symphyotrichum laeve (Aster laevis) (deer often eat part of the species type plants so see little bloom. The showier 'Bluebird' was planted in 2016.)	Smooth Blue Aster	Blue	
Symphyotrichum novae-angliae (Aster novae-angliae)	New England Aster	Purple or lavender for the wild type	
Symphyotrichum oblongifolium (Aster oblongifolius)	Shale Barren Aster	Blue or pale purple	
Symphyotrichum prenanthoides (Aster prenanthoides)	Zigzag Aster	Blue, pale purple, or white	
Note: keep removing S. pilosum (A. pilosus; Frost Aster) from gardens since weedy			
Tilia americana	American Basswood		Foliage: yellow
Tradescantia virginiana & hybrids	Spiderwort	Lavender to purple to blue (heavier bloom in spring)	
Vaccinium corymbosum	Highbush Blueberry		Foliage: yellow, bronze, orange, or red
Verbesina alternifolia	Wingstem	Yellow	
Vernonia gigantea	Tall Ironweed	Reddish purple	
(V. noveboracensis or New York Ironweed is not in the Virginia Native Plant Garden – it is in the Entrance Garden)	Tall Horiweed	reducin purple	
Veronicastrum virginicum	Culver's Root	White (end of bloom period - heavier bloom in summer)	
Viburnum - species that are shrubs: V. acerifolium	Mapleleaf Viburnum		Fruit: many species have black or bluish black fruit (other
V. dentatum & V. dentatum var. lucidum	Arrowwood Viburnum		colors noted). Foliage of
(in the Flora of Virginia & in Tropicos) or V. recognitum (preferred by the Encyclopedia of Life	(var. lucidum or V. recognitum is Southern Arrowwood Viburnum, Smooth Arrowwood Viburnum)		V. acerifolium: yellowish pink, rose, red, and/ or purple
V. lentago	Nannyberry Viburnum		Foliage of V. dentatum group:
V. nudum (var. nudum)	Possumhaw Viburnum, Smooth Witherod Viburnum		yellow, red, and/ or purple. Blue Muffin ('Christom') is yellow.
Note: Need at least 2 plants of the same species w/ different genetic backgrounds to produce fruit.			Eastern U.S. species type plants often a mix of yellow & red.
			Foliage of V. lentago: purplish red
			Fruit of V. nudum (var. nudum): pink, blue, & then black Foliage: red to reddish purple

Viburnum – species that are small trees or			
large shrubs:	DI II VII		
V. prunifolium	Blackhaw Viburnum		Foliage: purple to
V. rufidulum	Southern Blackhaw Viburnum		reddish purple
Viola canadensis	Canada Violet, Tall White Violet	White (heavier	
	·	bloom in spring)	
Vitis vulpina	Frost Grape		Fruit: black (usually
			not very visible – high
			up in trees)
Xanthorhiza simplicissima	Yellowroot		Foliage: golden
			yellow, orange, or
			purple
Zenobia pulverulenta	Zenobia,		Foliage: yellow with a
	Honeycup		tinge of red or purple
Zizia aptera	Meadow Zizia, Heartleaf Alexanders,	Yellow (Z. aurea	Foliage: wine colored
	Golden Alexanders	has occasional	
		bloom – heavier	
Z. aurea	Golden Zizia, Golden Alexanders	bloom in spring)	

Note: Deer damage has been extensive for several years (damage levels have been increasing since 2007). Some plants have died due feeding injury, while some woody plants have died due to bark injury during the rut (breeding season). In addition, some plant that used to bloom well have their blooms eaten off or are reduced in vigor enough that they don't bloom anymore. The number of plants of many species has declined.

Scientific Names Of Plants - Current Names Are From:

- **Encyclopedia of Life** (http://eol.org/) institutional partners include Harvard University, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Smithsonian Institution, and The Field Museum.
- Tropicos from the Missouri Botanical Garden (http://tropicos.org/)

If a second scientific name is given, it is usually an old name that is still seen in some references or used by some nurseries. However, the above databases do not always agree on names.

Resources:

- **Digital Atlas of Virginia Flora** (http://vaplantatlas.org/index.php?do=plant&plant=2394&search=Search). Species distribution maps by county & photos of many plants.
- *Flora of Virginia*. Alan Weakley, J. Christopher Ludwig, and John Townsend. 2012. BRIT Press. Botanical Research Institute of Texas.
- Garden Revolution: How Our Landscapes Can Be a Source of Environmental Change. Larry Weaner & Thomas Christopher. Meadows and a more naturalistic style of gardening are emphasized.
- **Kemper Center for Home Gardening Plantfinder.** Missouri Botanical Garden. An excellent reference for plant names, gardening information, and photographs of ornamental plants (http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx). It features plants in their Kemper Center display gardens.
- Landscaping With Native Plants. Maryland Native Plant Society. (http://www.mdflora.org/resources/Publications/GardenersGuidelines/Landscaping-Natives.pdf).
- The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden. Rick Darke & Douglas Tallamy.
- Maryland Plant Atlas (http://www.marylandplantatlas.org). Species distribution maps by county. Also Maryland Biodiversity Project (http://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/) look for checklists under Plants & photos of many plants.
- Minnesota Wildflowers. A Field Guide to the Flora of Minnesota. Excellent side-by-side photos of native plants grouped by category. Most plants are also native to Virginia (https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/).
- Native Plant Information Network. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Information about native plants throughout the U.S. (http://www.wildflower.org/explore/).
- Native Plants for Northern Virginia (http://www.plantnovanatives.org/). It is a publication of the Plant NoVANatives initiative, which includes the Virginia Native Plant Society.
- Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes. Thomas Rainer and Claudia West. A design approach that explores how to create & manage designed plant communities. For more advanced gardeners.

• USDA PLANTS Database (http://plants.usda.gov/java/) - this database focuses on plants native to the U.S. and to U.S. Territories and Protectorates, as well as naturalized non-natives and invasives. It is also used to determine distribution within Virginia by county.

Invasive Plant Species:

Virginia Invasive Plant Species List. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation - (http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invsppdflist). Many non- native invasive plants are a serious threat to natural - areas and native plant communities. -

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