

Suggested Rain Garden Plants for Full and Partial Sun

Blue Flag Iris
Iris virginica shreveii

- ◻ Prefers average to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows 2 - 3 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms May - July
- ◻ Bottom
- ◻ Spreads to form clumps
- ◻ Low-maintenance
- ◻ Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies



- Ironweed**
Vernonia fasciculata
- ◻ Prefers average to wet soils
 - ◻ Likes full to partial sun
 - ◻ Grows to 4 feet tall
 - ◻ Blooms July - September
 - ◻ Bottom
 - ◻ Low-maintenance
 - ◻ Attracts butterflies



Culver's Root
Veronicastrum virginicum

- ◻ Prefers moist to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 5 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms June - August
- ◻ Bottom
- ◻ Not drought-tolerant



Marsh (Swamp) Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata

- ◻ Prefers moist to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows 3 - 5 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms June - August
- ◻ Bottom
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and provides food for monarch caterpillars



Sweet Black-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia subtomentosa

- ◻ Prefers average to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 5 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms August - September
- ◻ Bottom
- ◻ Low-maintenance
- ◻ Aromatic
- ◻ Attracts birds and butterflies



Blue False (Wild) Indigo
Baptisia australis

- ◻ Prefers average to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 2 - 4 feet tall



- ◻ Blooms July - Sept
- ◻ Back and/or Bottom
- ◻ Bush-like
- ◻ Easy to grow
- ◻ Attracts butterflies



Bee Balm
Monarda bradburiana

- ◻ Prefers moist to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full sun to full shade
- ◻ Grows to 24 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms May - June
- ◻ Bottom and Sides
- ◻ Grows in large, upright clumps
- ◻ Can be aggressive
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and bees



Great Rise Lobelia
Lobelia siphilitica

- ◻ Prefers average to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 30 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms August, September
- ◻ Bottom and front
- ◻ Loves clay soils
- ◻ Spreads by seed
- ◻ Attracts bees and butterflies



Prairie Blazingstar
Liatris pycnostachya

- ◻ Prefers moist to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full sun
- ◻ Grows to 36 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms July - August
- ◻ Bottom and Sides
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and birds



Sun Sedge
Carex pennsylvanica

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full sun to full shade
- ◻ Grows 4 - 8 inches tall
- ◻ Clump forming grass
- ◻ Front and Sides
- ◻ Spreads by rhizomes, good groundcover



Bracted Spiderwort
Tradescantia bracteata

- ◻ Prefers average to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 12 - 18 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms June - July
- ◻ Sides and Bottom
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Attracts bees



Fox Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea

- ◻ Prefers average to wet soils
- ◻ Likes full sun to partial shade
- ◻ Grows to 1-3 feet tall
- ◻ Clump forming grass
- ◻ Bottom and Sides
- ◻ Gold colored seed heads May - July



Prairie Dropseed
Sporobolus heterolepis

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full sun
- ◻ Grows to 36 inches tall
- ◻ Clumping and mounding grass
- ◻ Sides and Back
- ◻ Yellow color in the fall



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 30 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms June - August
- ◻ Sides and Back
- ◻ Low maintenance
- ◻ Easy to grow
- ◻ Attracts dummies and birds (particularly finches)



Little Bluestem
Schizachyrium scoparium

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 30 inches tall
- ◻ Clumping grass
- ◻ Sides and Back
- ◻ Bronze-colored in the fall
- ◻ Low-maintenance
- ◻ Drought tolerant
- ◻ Attracts birds



Prairie Coreopsis
Coreopsis palmata

- ◻ Prefers dry to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 18 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms June, July
- ◻ Sides
- ◻ Spreads aggressively
- ◻ Deadhead spent flowers
- ◻ Attracts butterflies



'Autumn Joy' Sedum
Autumn Joy Sedum

- ◻ Prefers dry to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 24 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms August - October
- ◻ Sides
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Drought tolerant
- ◻ Low-maintenance
- ◻ NON-NATIVE



Daylily
Hemerocallis

- ◻ Prefers dry to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Many different heights
- ◻ Many colors and bloom-sizes
- ◻ Sides
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Low-maintenance
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds
- ◻ NON-NATIVE
- ◻ Many blooming times, some re-bloom throughout the growing season



Purple Prairie Clover
Dalea purpureum

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full sun
- ◻ Grows to 24 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms June - August
- ◻ Sides
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Drought tolerant
- ◻ Attracts butterflies



Butterfly Milkweed
Asclepias tuberosa

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows to 3 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms June - August
- ◻ Sides and Front
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Drought tolerant
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and caterpillars



Indian Blanket
Gaillardia x grandiflora

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full sun
- ◻ Grows to 1 - 1.5 feet tall
- ◻ Blooms June - September
- ◻ Front and Sides
- ◻ Drought tolerant
- ◻ Short-lived, but self seeds



Columbine
Aquilegia canadensis

- ◻ Prefers dry to moist soils
- ◻ Likes full sun to part shade
- ◻ Grows 12-36 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms April - June
- ◻ Front and Sides
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Self-seeds (deadheading will prevent this)
- ◻ Attracts butterflies and



Prairie Smoke
Geum triflorum

- ◻ Prefers dry to average soils
- ◻ Likes full to partial sun
- ◻ Grows 6 - 18 inches tall
- ◻ Blooms May - June
- ◻ Front
- ◻ Grows in clumps
- ◻ Good groundcover



These are just a sample of the plants that are appropriate for rain gardens. Check out "The Blue Thumb Guide to Raingardens" for a more comprehensive list!