

Drought Tolerant Plants

A Garden Guide

Western North Carolina doesn't usually experience long droughts, but can have extended dry spells. Planting

water-wise plants is a smart long term

strategy for water conservation, whether you're using municipal water or to extend the life of your well. Listed below are some plants suitable for hot, dry conditions.



All plants MUST have ample moisture until roots are established.

ANNUALS

(Once Established)

Ageratum sp. (Floss Flower)

Amaranthus sp.

Celosia spp.

Cleome hassleriana (Spider Flower)

Cuphea sp.

Gomphrena spp. (Globe Amaranth)

Euphorbia sp. (Spurge)

Helianthus sp. (Sunflower)

Helichrysum sp. (Straw Flower)

Gazania rigens

Limonium sinuatum (Statice)

Mirabilis jalapa (Four O'Clocks)

Melampodium divaricatum syn. paludosum

Portulaca sp.

Rudbeckia hirta (Black-Eyed Susan)

Salvia sp.

Sanvitalia procumbens

Verbena sp.

Tagetes (Marigold)

Zinnia sp.

PERENNIALS

(Once Established)

Achillea sp. (Yarrow)

Ajuga sp. (Bugleweed)

Allium sp. (Flowering Onion)

Andropogon gerardii (Big Blue Stem Grass)

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (Bearberry)

Armeria sp. (Sea Thrift)

Artemisia sp.

Asclepias tuberosa

(Butterflyweed)

Aster sp.

Aurinia saxatilis (Basket of Gold)

Baptisia sp. (False Indigo)

Calluna sp. (Heather)

Carex pensylvanica (Sedge)

Cerastium tomentosum (Snow-in-Summer)

Comptonia peregrina (Sweet Fern)

Coreopsis sp. (Tickseed)

Delosperma sp. (Ice Plant)

Echinacea sp. (Cone Flower)

Eutrochium sp. (Joe Pye)

Erica sp. (Heath)

Eryngium sp. (Sea Holly)

Festuca glauca (Blue Fescue)

Gaillardia sp. (Blanket Flower)

Gaura lindheimeri syn.

Oenothera lindheimeri (Beeblossom)

Gypsophila sp. (Baby's Breath)

Heliopsis sp. (False Sunflower)
Helianthus sp. (Sunflower)
Helenium autumnale (Sneezeweed)
Hemerocallis sp. (Daylily)
Kniphofia uvaria (Red Hot Poker)
Lavendula sp. (Lavender)
Liatris sp.
Lonicera sempervirens (Coral Honeysuckle)
Lychnis sp.
Malva sp. (Mallow)
Muhlenbergia sp. (Muhly Grass)
Nipponanthemum nipponicum (Nippon daisy)
Oenothera sp.
Origanum sp. (Oregano)
Opuntia sp. (Prickly Pear)
Parthenium integrifolium (Wild Quinine)
Penstemon sp. (Beardtongue)
Rudbeckia (Black-Eyed Susan)
Ruellia humilis (Wild Petunia)
Salvia sp.
Santolina sp.
Schizachyrium scoparium (Little bluestem Grass)
Sedums sp.
Sempervirens sp. (Hens & chicks)
Silene sp. (Catchfly)

Sporobolus heterolepis (Prairie dropseed)
Thymus sp. (Thyme)
Verbena sp. (Vervain)
Wisteria frutescens (American Wisteria)

TREES & SHRUBS
(Once Established)



Aesculus parviflora (Bottlebrush Buckeye)
Aesculus pavia (Red Buckeye)
Berberis sp. (Barberry)
Buddleia sp. (Butterfly Bush)
Carpinus caroliniana (American Hornbeam)
Caryopteris x clandonensis (Bluebeard)
Ceanothus americanus (New Jersey Tea)
Crataegus viridis (Green Hawthorn)
Diospyros virginiana (American Persimmon)
Ginkgo biloba
Halesia tetraptera (Carolina Silverbell)
Hypericum spp. (Saint John's Wort)

Ilex opaca (American Holly)
Juniperus sp.
Lagerstroemia sp. (Crape Myrtle)
Ligustrum sp. (Privet)
Liquidambar styraciflua (American Sweetgum)
Loropetalum chinense (Chinese Fringe Flower)
Opuntia sp.
Philadelphus sp. (Mock Orange)
Pinus sp. (Pine)
Physocarpus opulifolius (Ninebark)
Quercus sp. (Oak - most types)
Rhus spp. (Sumac)
Rosa virginiana (Virginia Rose)
Sassafras albidum
Spiraea reevesiana
Taxodium distichum (Bald Cypress)
Viburnum prunifolium (Blackhaw)
Yucca filamentosa (Adam's Needle)

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