

# Seasonal Color Grove

*“Nothing is more beautiful than the loveliness of the woods before sunrise.”*  
- George Washington Carver

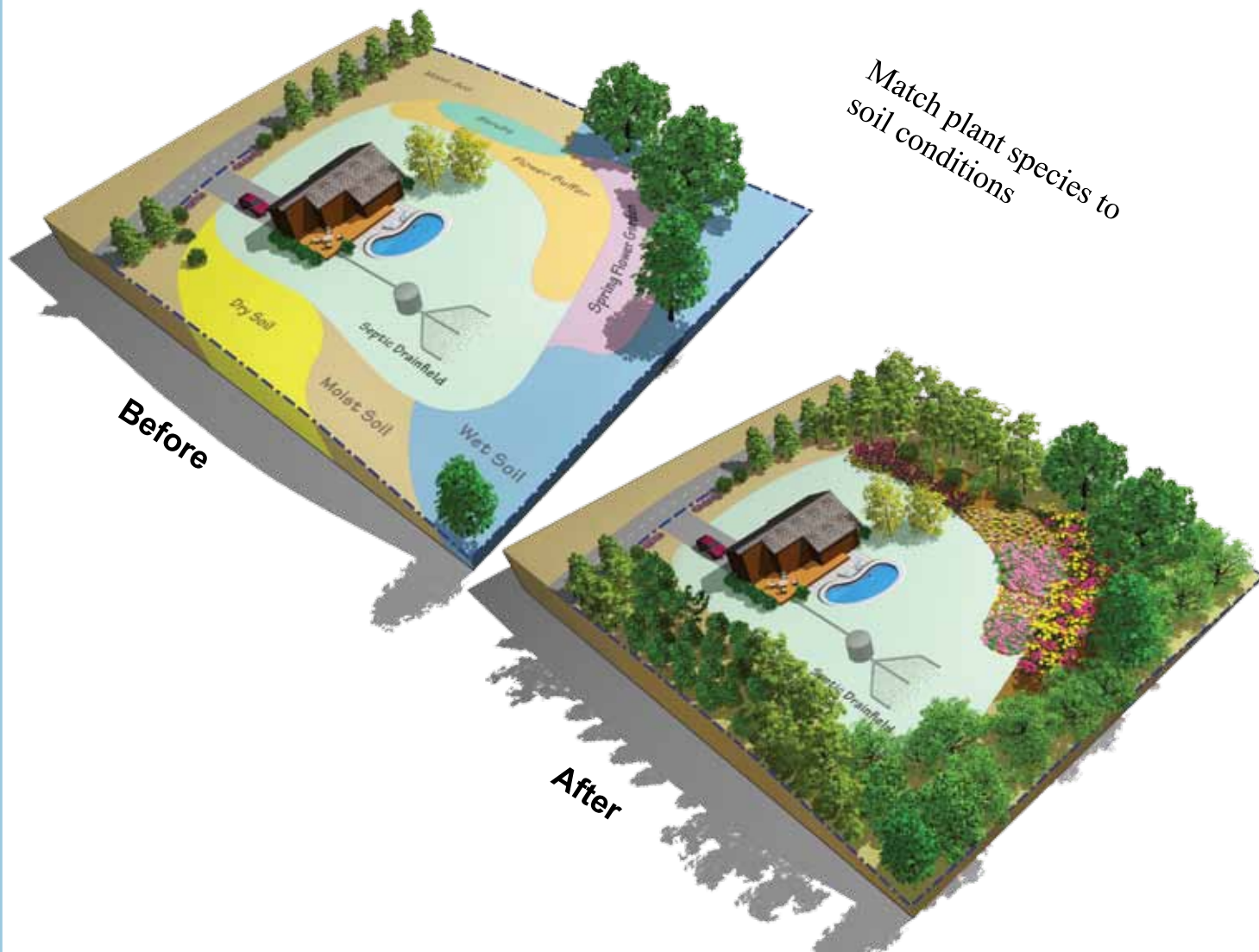
## **WHY**

Trees are always good for water and wildlife, but most people plant trees for their beauty, comfort, and shade around the house. Plantings create a sense of place and a greater degree of privacy for the yard.

## **HOW**

You can choose trees that give spring blooms, varying leaf textures, canopy shapes, or brilliant fall color. Others can provide attractive bark, evergreen foliage, or berries for winter interest. Plant trees on the west and south sides and around heat pumps to reduce cooling and heating costs.

Fill in under trees with shrubs and flowers to develop seasonal tableaux of color. Plants with seasonal features like flowers or fall color can be grouped for vivid points that vary in location over the year. Another approach is to interplant plants that bloom at different seasons so that most of the yard has some interesting feature during any season.



Common name	Latin name	Soil Moisture preference	Sun preference	Flower Color	Fall color	Description, Ground Cover GC	Soil Moisture Preferences: <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Wet
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS, Shade	pink	yellow	Intense pink flowers in spring, heart-shaped leaves, nitrogen fixer, adaptable	
Pitch pine	<i>Pinus rigida</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun	no	evergreen	Medium-sized evergreen, coarse branching habit	
Scarlet oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun	no	red	Red fall color, medium to large oak, can use many other oaks too (red, white, black)	
Sweet birch	<i>Betula lenta</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	no	yellow	Can tolerate dry soils, but grows faster in moist	
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS, Shade	white	red berries	Many cultivars, evergreen with red berries, screening, shelter from winter wind	
Downy serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	white	orange, red	White flowers in spring, red-orange fall color, gray winter bark, oval crown	
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	white	red	Many cultivars, white spring flowers, red fall color and red fruit, well drained acidic soils	
Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	white	yellow	Small tree/shrub, white Spring flowers, yellow fall color, gray winter bark, females make olive like drupes	
Red buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	red	yellow	Small tree (30 ft), striking red spikes of flowers, attractive foliage, slow grower	
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	small	orange, red	Classic fall foliage tree, also tapped to make maple syrup	
Sweetbay magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS, Shade	white	evergreen	Fragrant showy white flowers, medium-coarse texture, semi-evergreen, small tree	
Atlantic white-cedar	<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	Wet to mod.	Shade, PS	no	evergreen	Fine textured evergreen, 'Heatherbun' has rounded form	
Northern white-cedar	<i>Tuja occidentalis</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun	no	evergreen	Attractive evergreen with dense foliage, prefers limestone soils	
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	no	red	Many cultivars available, great fall color and fast growing canopy tree	
Mountain laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	All	Sun, PS, Shade	white	no	Needs good drainage, evergreen, white flowers in late spring	
Redosier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	white	yellow	Red twigs in the winter and yellow fall leaf color, white flowers; there is a yellow cultivar, winter fruit for birds	
Dwarf inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra 'Nana' or 'Densa'</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	white	no	Fine texture, evergreen shrub, shears well, 'Shamrock' a good non-dwarf cultivar	
Spirea, meadowsweet	<i>Spirea alba</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	white	no	Arching canes or mounding shrub, 'S. tomentosa' has pink flowers	
Dwarf oakleaf hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia 'Pee Wee'</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	white	red	White summer flowers, red fall color, coarse textured branches	
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i> or <i>major</i>	Moderate	Sun	white	yes	White fuzzy flowers in spring, yellow-orange-red fall color 'Mt Airy' a good cultivar, keeps shape	
Piedmont azalea	<i>Rhododendron canadense</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	pink	no	Upright form, fragrant, light pink late spring flowers, butterflies like this, deciduous	
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	maroon	yellow	Maroon flowers ('Athens' is yellow), yellow fall color, fragrant flowers when in full sun	
American beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	pink	purple berry	Striking shiny purple berries, can prune back easily	
Pinkshell azalea	<i>Rhododendron vaseyi</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	pink	no	Upright form, light pink spring flowers	
Flameleaf sumac	<i>Rhus copallina</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	white	red	Rich red fall foliage, can form a colony from sprouts, 'R. aromatica 'Grow Low' a good related cultivar	
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	yellow	no	Maryland state flower, golden yellow flower with black center	
Coralbells	<i>Heuchera americana</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	pink/red	no	Long bloom time, semi-evergreen, low foliage, straight species has red/pink flowers, many cultivars, GC	
Fireracker goldenrod	<i>Solidago 'Firecracker'</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	yellow	no	Late summer, yellow perennial, birds and butterflies like it, flowers "explode" visually, many varieties	
Blue False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	blue	no	Striking spikes of blue flowers 3-4' tall, does not transplant well	
Green-and-Gold	<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS, Shade	yellow	no	Abundant yellow flowers, flowers longer if moist, GC	
Threadleaf coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Dry to mod.	Sun, PS	yellow	no	Fine-textured foliage and long-lasting yellow flowers, 'Moonbeam' has pale yellow flower	
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	pink	no	Pink to purple spring flowers, palmate leaves, GC	
Bluestar flower	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	blue	yellow	Delicate blue flower, butterfly plant, golden fall color, Blue Ice is compact cultivar	
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS, Shade	no	no	Upright, fine texture, loose seedhead	
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	red	no	Showy red flowers, 12-18" tall, freely reseeds, short-lived perennial	
Moss-pink	<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Moderate	Sun	purple	no	Blue, pink, or pink & white striped spring flowers on evergreen mat of foliage, fine texture, butterflies like it, GC	
Dwarf crested iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>	Moderate	Shade, PS	purple	no	Edger, 8-10" tall, light purple early spring flowers, needs partial shade, GC	
Foamflower	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS, Shade	white	no	Spring upright white flowers, 8-12" tall, groundcover, GC	
Garden phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	many	no	Long-lasting showy flower clusters, many colors, 'David' is a mildew resistant white form, 2-3' tall,	
Obedient plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	pink, white	no	Pink to lavender, or white spike, summer flower, can tolerate wet soils but spreads more	
Ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Moderate	Shade, PS	no	no	Dramatic vertical texture plant, clumps, herbaceous fern	
Virginia spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS, Shade	purple	no	Intense purple flowers in A.M. in spring, adaptable; several colors	
Sundrops	<i>Oenothera lutea</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	yellow	no	Spreading semi-evergreen groundcover, Bright yellow flowers in Spring, GC	
Canada violet	<i>Viola canadensis</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	white	no	Groundcover, spreading, white flowers, tinged violet on back, fragrant, attracts butterflies	
Coral or trumpet honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Moderate	Sun, PS	red	no	Climbing vine with long bloom time, bright red tubular flowers, GC	
Bee balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	red	no	Marshall's Delight' has bright Pink flowers, 2-3' tall, mildew resistant; needs half day of sun	
Blue vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	blue/purple	no	Blue to purple spikes in mid to late summer	
Canada lily	<i>Lilium canadense</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	orange	no	Multiple orange summer lily flowers, tall plant (up to 6')	
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS, Shade	no	no	Tall upright deciduous fern with cinnamon like florescence, tolerates drought, GC	
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i> aptera	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	yellow	no	Loose clusters of bright yellow flowers, Z. aptera has rounder leaves, tolerates drier soil	
Gamma grass	<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS	no	no	Clumping arching small grass, fall inflorescence	
Goatsbeard - female form	<i>Atruncus dioicus</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun, PS, Shade	white	no	Large billowing clouds of white, up to 4' tall	
Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> -including ssp. <i>Asplenoides</i>	Wet to mod.	Shade, PS	no	no	Fine texture, vertical structure 2' tall, GC	
Slender blue flag	<i>Iris prismatica</i>	Wet to mod.	Sun	blue	no	Linear form, blue late spring flowers	