

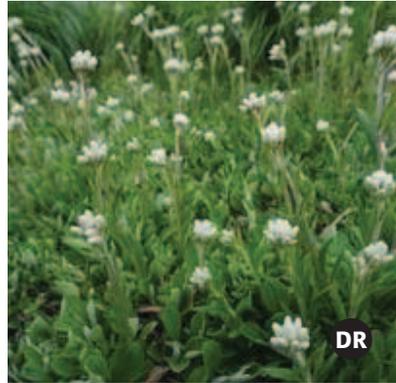
# Native Groundcovers for Sunny Locations

**Heuchera americana**



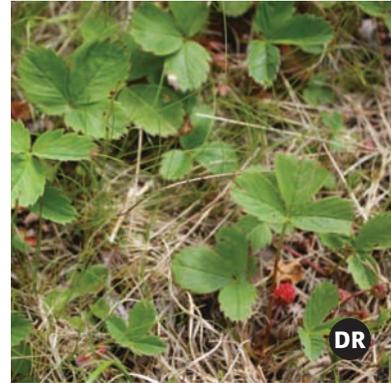
“American coralbells” is a small mounding woodland plant with round lobed leaves and tall panicles with significant blooms in late spring. Grows 1-2' high and wide in organically rich moist soil. Part shade to part sun.

**Antennaria plantaginifolia**



“Pussy toes” is best grown in lean, gritty to rocky, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun. Does not do well in fertile, humusy soils with poor drainage. In optimum growing conditions, however, it can spread by stolons to form a dense mat.

**Fragaria virginiana**



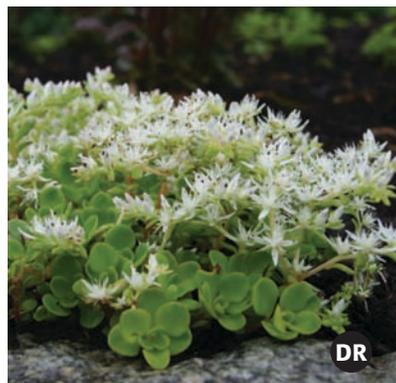
“Wild Strawberry” is winter hardy to Zones 4-9. Grows in fertile, moist well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers organically rich, sandy loams. Cool-season perennial. After setting fruit, plants may go dormant in hot summer months

**Packera aurea**



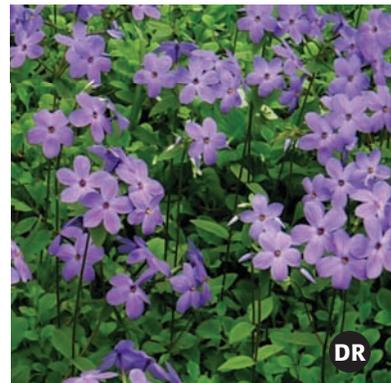
“Golden ragwort” grows in medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Blooms well in shady locations in spring. Soils should not be allowed to dry out. Freely self-seeds and naturalizes into large colonies in optimum growing conditions.

**Sedum ternatum**



“3-Leaved Stonecrop” easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerates part shade and moist soils better than most other sedums.

**Phlox stolonifera**



“Creeping Phlox” Best grown in acidic, humusy, soil with even, medium moisture. Good shade tolerance but blooms better with some sun. Species self-seeds in optimum growing conditions. Spreads by stolons to form large colonies in the wild.

## Why Native Plants?

Native plants support diverse and balanced food webs that are essential to sustainable ecosystems.

- Adapted to climate and soils
- Provide pollen for native bees and ants, nectar host plants for native butterflies, and berries and seed for native birds
- Do not require fertilizer

## Why these plants?

Native plant species have co-evolved with insects and other animals from our region and are suited to this habitat.

- Regionally native
- Self propagate, but not invasive
- Their genetic diversity ensures that they remain adapted to local conditions and can withstand periods of drought, heat and freezing temperatures.

**DR** Deer Resistant



For more information on native plants go to:  
[npsnj.org](http://npsnj.org)

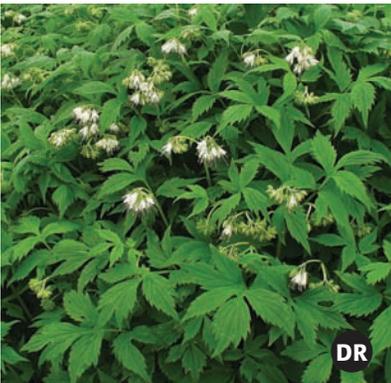
# Native Groundcovers for Shady Locations

**Tiareella cordifolia**



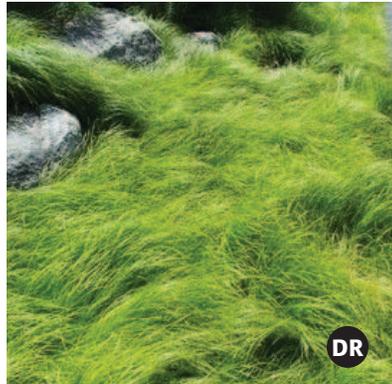
**"Foamflower"** Grows in well-drained soil in part to full shade. Prefers organically rich. Soil should not be allowed to dry out. Wet soils, particularly in winter, can be fatal, however. Remove flower spikes after bloom. Foliage is semi-evergreen.

**Hydrophyllum virginianum**



**"Virginia waterleaf"** grows in medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Blooms well in shady locations in spring. Soils should not be allowed to dry out. Freely self-seeds and naturalizes into large colonies in optimum growing conditions.

**Carex appalachica**



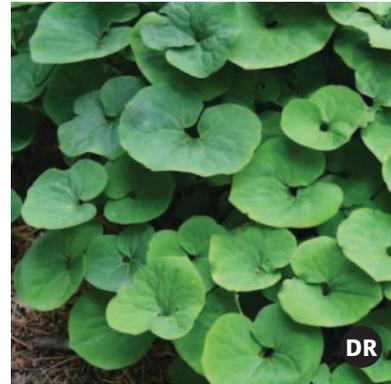
**"Appalachian sedge"** grows in dense mounded tufts. This sedge thrives in dry woods. Plants are indigenous to dry or mesic deciduous or evergreen-deciduous forests. They occur in clearings, wooded slopes and shaded rock outcrops.

**Hydrastis canadensis**



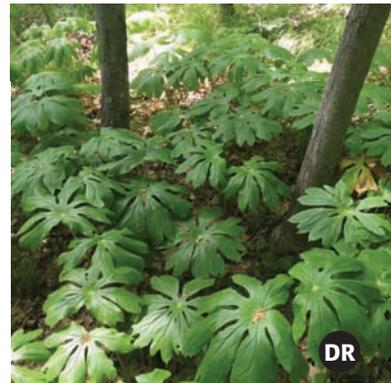
**"Goldenseal"** Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in part shade. Prefers well-composted soils with lots of leaf mold. Hydrastine is a bitter alkaloid which is extracted from the rootstock for certain pharmacological purposes. All parts of the plant are poisonous in large doses, however.

**Asarum canadense**



**"Wild Ginger"** Prefers constantly moist, acidic soils in heavy shade. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Cup-shaped, purplish brown flowers (1" wide) appear in spring on short, ground-level stems. Not related to culinary ginger (*Zingiber officinale*).

**Podophyllum peltatum**



**"Mayapple"** Grow in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Prefers rich, moist, humusy soils. Often forms large colonies in the wild. Goes dormant in the summer.

**Founded in 1985, the Native Plant Society of New Jersey is organized into county and regional chapters.**

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# Native Grasses for Sun

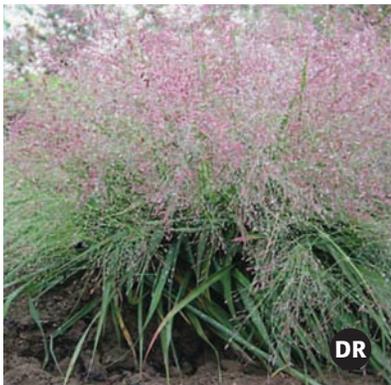
Native grasses are easy to care for and these grasses prefer dry, sandy, poor soil and are drought tolerant. Native grasses provide food and shelter for insects and wildlife and are Deer Resistant. Leave grasses up all winter for added interest and cut back in the early spring.

## Schizachyrium scoparium



“Little bluestem” is native to prairies, fields, roadsides, waste areas and open woods. Performs well in poor soils. Good drought resistance once established. Tolerates high heat and humidity. Cut to the ground in late winter to early spring.

## Eragrostis spectabilis



“Purple love grass” is a warm season bunchgrass that performs best in sandy soils and in hot, dry locations. Good resistance to drought. Plants spread by self-seeding and by stems rooting along the ground at the nodes. In August, soft reddish-purple flowers appear in a loose, open inflorescence.

## Panicum virgatum



“Switchgrass” Generally performs best in full sun and prefers moist, sandy or clay soils. May flop in overly rich soils. Grows primarily in clumps, but will slowly spread by slightly creeping rhizomes.

## Sorghastrum nutans



“Indian grass” Does well in poor, dry, infertile soils. Tends to open up and/or flop in moist, rich soils. May naturalize by self-seeding in optimum growing conditions. Typically occurs in prairies, glades and open woods. Foliage turns orange-yellow in fall

## Sporobolus heterolepis



“Prairie dropseed” a clump-forming, warm season perennial grass which typically occurs in prairies, glades, and open ground. Prefers dry, rocky soils and has good drought tolerance. Slow-growing and slow to establish.

## Bouteloua gracilis



“Blue grama” Only 12-14 in. in full flower, this is among the shortest of the native ornamental grasses. It is fine-leaved and produces blue-green seedheads which are suspended horizontally like tiny brushes from the tip of each stem. Drought-tolerant, and-clump-forming, it will form sod mats.

## Why Native Plants?

Native plants support diverse and balanced food webs that are essential to sustainable ecosystems.

- Adapted to climate and soils
- Provide pollen for native bees and seed for native birds as well as winter cover for wildlife.
- Do not require fertilizer

## Why these plants?

Native plant species have co-evolved with insects and other animals from our region and are suited to this habitat.

- Regionally native
- Self propagate, but not invasive
- Their genetic diversity ensures that they remain adapted to local conditions and can withstand periods of drought, heat and freezing temperatures.

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# Native Sedges & Grasses for Shade

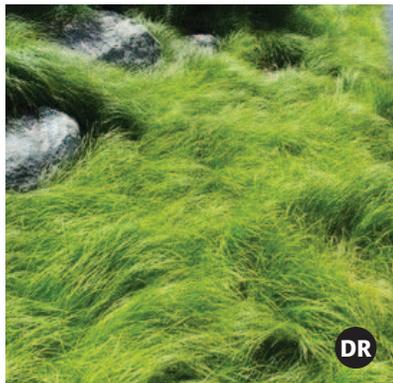
Unlike most ornamental grasses, sedges are cool-season plants. Sedges thrive in the cool weather of early spring, take a long siesta during summer while perennials flourish, then come back strong in late fall. Like grasses, they are deer-resistant.

## Chasmanthium latifolium



**"River oats"** Grows in average, to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, fertile soils. One of the more shade tolerant of the ornamental grasses. Self-seeds and may spread aggressively. Flat, drooping seed heads emerge green but turn purplish bronze by late summer.

## Carex appalachica



**"Appalachian sedge"** grows in dense mounded tufts. This sedge thrives in dry woods. Plants are indigenous to dry or mesic deciduous or evergreen-deciduous forests. They occur in clearings, wooded slopes and shaded rock outcrops.

## Carex blanda



**"Common wood sedge"** is a rhizomatous perennial that matures into compact mounded clumps. The shiny deep green foliage is evergreen and up to 8" long. In late spring, green flower spikes shoot above the leaves. Prefers part sun to part shade in moist to mesic soils.

## Carex flaccosperma



**"Blue wood sedge"** Thrives in moist soils in wet woodlands. This is an evergreen sedge that forms attractive clumps (6-10" tall) of fine-textured, narrow, grass-like, glaucous, blue-green leaves (to 3/8" wide). *Carex flaccosperma* var. *glaucodea* is more typically found in drier acidic soils of wooded slopes, upland ridges

## Carex rosea



**"Rosy Sedge"** can tolerate dry to medium-wet sites with full shade or semi-shade. It has very narrow, fine leaves and a slight rose tint to the seedhead. It is a cool-season plant which actively grows during the spring and fall.

## Carex plantaginea



**"Seersucker sedge"** Shiny deep green leaves are unusually broad (to 1 1/8") and puckered and grows 6-12" tall in moist shade. An excellent, mostly evergreen groundcover forms clumps which can be divided regularly.

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