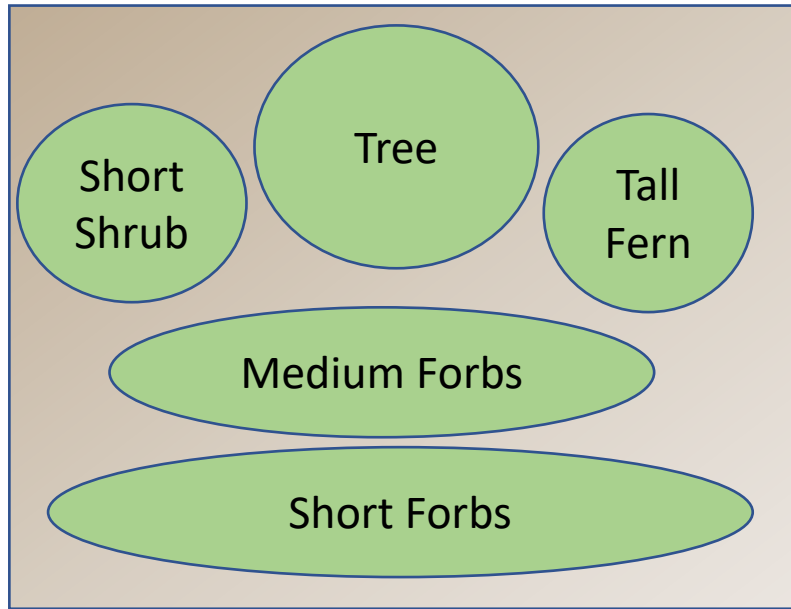


Shade Garden



Locate this garden in an already shady area. A short, understory tree and short shrub will add early spring color. Tall ferns add vertical structure. Forbs add leaf and/or flower color and interesting shapes. Ephemerals can be added between the rows of forbs for early spring color.



About our Logo: The Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) is a host plant for the Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*) butterfly. The caterpillars eat the leaves of the Black-eyed Susan. The Carolina Chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*) feeds the caterpillars to it's young. Adult birds will eat the butterflies, the caterpillars and the seeds of the Black-eyed Susan.

On the cover: Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) Photo by Kathy Fell

For more information, visit our web site at www.plantvirginiannatives.org/about-2

Shade Garden



Understory Trees



Photo by Kathy Fell

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) Grows to 30 feet tall. Pink flowers bloom from March to May. Larval host for 25 species of caterpillars. Birds eat the seeds.



Photo by Gary Fleming

Downy Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*) Grows to 30 feet tall. Pink flowers bloom from March to May. Larval host for 100 species of caterpillars. Birds eat the berries.



Photo by Kathy Fell

Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) Grows to 30 feet tall. Petal-like bracts bloom March to May. Larval host for 110 species of caterpillars. Birds eat the berries.

Small Shrubs



Photo by Denise Green

New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) grows to 3 ft tall. Clusters of fragrant, small white flowers bloom from May to June. Larval host for 41 species of caterpillars. Birds and mammals eat the nuts



Photo by Deana Crumbling

Blue Ridge Blueberry (*Vaccinium Pallidum*) grows to 3 ft tall. White, bell-shaped flowers bloom April to May. Larval host for 250 species of caterpillars. Birds and mammals eat the berries.

Tall Ferns



Photo by Kathy Fell

Cinnamon Fern (*Osmundastrum cimmanoneum*) Typically grows 2-3 ft tall. May reach 5 ft in ideal conditions. Larval host for 7 species of moth.



Photo by Gary Fleming

Royal Fern (*Osmunda spectabilis*) Typically grows 2-3 ft tall. May reach 5 ft in ideal conditions. Larval host for 7 moth species.

Medium Forbs



Photo by Phillip Merritt

Solomon Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*) Grows 1-3 ft tall. Small white bell-shaped flowers hang under arching stalks from April to June. Larval host for 1 moth species. Birds eat the berries.



Photo by Paul May

Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) Grows 1-2 ft tall. Hooded spathe hides the flower inside. Blooms March to April. Produces bright red berries in fall. Larval host for 1 moth species. Birds eat the berries.



Photo by Kathy Fell

Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*) Grows 1-2.5 ft tall. Rose-purple flowers bloom April to June. Larval host for 27 moth species. Birds eat the seeds.

Short Forbs



Photo by Gary Fleming

Green and Gold (*Chrysogonum virginiana*) Evergreen groundcover grows 6-12 inches. Golden star-shaped flowers bloom from May to June.



Photo by Louise Menges

Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) Perennial groundcover with heart-shaped foliage grows 6–12 inches. Purple cup-shaped flowers bloom April to May.



Photo by Gary Fleming

Yellow Violet (*Viola pubescens*) Grows 6-12 inches. Yellow flowers bloom from March to May. Larval host for 30 moth species.

Other medium perennial forbs for shade:

- Thimbleweed (*Anemone virginiana*)
- Goatsbeard (*Aruncus dioicus*)
- Coral Bells (*Heuchera americana*)
- False Solomon's Seal (*Maianthemum racemose*)

Other short perennial forbs and sedges for shade:

- Eastern Woodland Sedge (*Carex blanda*)
- Common Starwort (*Stellaria pubera*)
- Coral Bells (*Heuchera americana*)
- Striped violet (*Viola striata*)

Ephemerals (bloom in spring, then disappear):

- Virginia Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*)
- Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)