

Recommended Wetland Native Plant Species for Shoreland Re-vegetation

This is a brief list of common plant species native to Vilas County. Some of the plant species are commercially available in varieties that are not native to the county. The native varieties may be difficult to find at standard nurseries, however they should be available at nurseries specializing in native plants. These species grow in the wet shore edge; for best results match species to site conditions. Native species require some watering, weeding, and 2-3 years of protection from animal browse until they are established.

Please do not remove plants from the wild, especially from public lands.

Form	Names	Features	Use	Availability
TREE	Balsam fir <i>Abies balsamifera</i>	Sun to shade; mesic to moist; grows to 80ft.	Good for screening.	Easy
TREE	Red maple <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Sun to shade; dry to moist; grows to 40ft (80ft)	Very tolerant.	Easy
TREE	Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Sun to part-shade; dry to mesic; white flowers in early spring, purple berries; great fall color; 6-15ft.	Good for pollinators; Wildlife food.	Easy
TREE	Tamarak <i>Larix laricina</i>	Sun; moist to wet soils; 40-80ft tall; deciduous conifer with nice spring and fall color.	Accent on wet shorelines	Easy
TREE	Eastern white pine <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Sun; dry soils; grows 80-110ft.	Wildlife habitat	Easy
TREE	Mountain ash <i>Sorbus decora</i>	Sun; moist to set soils; grows to 20-30ft; white flowers, scarlet berries.	Wildlife food	Easy
Form	Names	Features	Use	Availability
SHRUB	Alder <i>Alnus incana ssp. rugosa</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; up to 30ft tall; brown catkins.	Privacy; bank stabilization; nitrogen fixer.	Native plant Nurseries
SHRUB	Red osier dogwood <i>Cornus stolonifera (C. sericea)</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 3-10ft tall; white flowers and red stems, good fall and spring color.	Privacy; bank stabilization.	Easy
SHRUB	Mountain holly <i>Ilex mucronata</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 10ft tall; architectural shape; great leaf color, red berries.	Clonal	Native plant nurseries
SHRUB	Sweet gale <i>Myrica gale</i>	Sun/shade; wet soils; 2 - 3ft tall; great leaf scent...	Accent.	Native plant nurseries
SHRUB	Swamp rose <i>Rosa palustris</i>	Sun; moist to wet soils; 3-7ft tall; pink flowers; red hips.	Accent.	Native plant nurseries
SHRUB	White meadow sweet <i>Spirea alba</i>	Sun; mesic to wet soils; grows 3-4ft tall; white flowers.	Accent.	Native plant nurseries
Form	Names	Features	Use	Availability
PERENNIAL	Marsh milkweed <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Sun; mesic to moist soils; grows up to 5ft tall; deep pink to red flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Panicked aster <i>Aster lanceolatus</i>	Sun/shade; mesic to moist soils; 2-5ft tall; white to pale blue flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Purple stem aster <i>Aster puniceus</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 1-4ft tall; blue to purple flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries

PERENNIAL	Flat-topped aster <i>Aster umbellatus</i>	Sun/shade; mesic to moist soils; 1 to 5ft tall; flat-topped head of white flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	White turtlehead <i>Chelone glabra</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 2-3ft tall; white flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Easy
PERENNIAL	Joe-pye weed <i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	Sun/shade; mesic to moist soils; 2-7ft tall; pink to purple flower clusters.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Grass-leaved goldenrod <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Sun; mesic to moist soils; grows 1-4ft; flowers are yellow.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Great St. John's-wort <i>Hypericum pyramidalatum</i>	Sun/part-shade; mesic to moist soils; 2-5ft tall; yellow flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Blue flag iris <i>Iris versicolor</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 2-3ft tall; blue/purple flowers, accent leaves.	Accent; Rain Garden	Easy
PERENNIAL	Wild mint <i>Mentha arvensis</i>	Sun; moist to wet soils; 4-32in tall; white to pink flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Blue vervain <i>Verbena hastata</i>	Sun; mesic to moist soils; 1.5-5ft tall; blue flowers.	Accent; Rain Garden	Native plant nurseries
PERENNIAL	Golden Alexanders <i>Zizia aurea</i>	Sun/shade; moist to wet soils; 1-2ft tall; yellow umbels.	Accent; Rain garden plant.	Native plant nurseries
Form	Names	Features	Use	Availability
GRASSES/SEDGES	Blue-joint grass <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	Sun/part-shade; moist to wet soils; grows 2-3ft tall.	Filler	Native plant nurseries
GRASSES/SEDGES	Lake sedge <i>Carex lacustris</i>	Sun/shade; wet soils; grows 2-3ft tall.	Clonal	Native plant nurseries
GRASSES/SEDGES	Fox sedge <i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Sun/part-shade; moist to wet soils; grows 2-3ft tall; clump forming, pioneer species.	Clonal	Native plant nurseries
GRASSES/SEDGES	Rattlesnake manna grass <i>Glyceria canadensis</i>	Sun/part-shade; moist to wet soils; grows 2-3ft tall.	Filler; Wildlife food	Native plant nurseries
FERNS	Lady fern <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Part-shade to shade; mesic to moist soils; 1-2ft tall.	Accent/Filler	Easy
FERNS	Ostrich Fern <i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Sun to part-shade; mesic to moist soils; 2-3ft tall; vase-like shape; fertile fronds overwinter.	Accent/Filler	Easy
FERNS	Sensitive fern <i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sun to shade; mesic to moist soils; 1-2ft tall; good texture.	Accent/Filler	Easy
VINES	Virgin's bower <i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Sun to part-shade; dry to mesic soils; white flowers.	Good for pollinators	Native plant nurseries
VINES	Riverbank grape <i>Vitis riparia</i>	Part-shade/shade; moist to wet soils; woody vine; dark berries.	Wildlife food	Easy