

GROUND COVERS LIST

PERENNIALS

- Ajuga
Alchemilla mollis
Amsonia 'Blue Ice', 'Georgia Pancake',
'Short Stack'
Anemone canadensis- for deep shade,
problematic spots, very fast spreading
Anemone japonica
Asarum canadense and europeum
Aster divaricatus, A. cordifolius- native
woodland asters
Aster ericoides 'Snow Flurry'
Astilbe chinensis 'Pumila'
Bergenia- slow growing, evergreen foliage
Brunnera macrophylla- clumping but self seeds
Callihroe involucrata
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides
Chrysogonum
Convallaria- very fast spreading
Coreopsis verticillata 'Golden Showers',
'Zagreb'
Dendranthemum weyrichii 'White Bomb'
Epimedium
Euphorbia amygdaloides var. robbiae
Eupatorium coelestinum – perennial ageratum
Fragaria 'Tristan'
Gaultheria procumbens- wintergreen
Geranium- spreading, not clumping types
macrorrhizum
'Rozanne'
sanguineum
x cantabrigiense 'Biokovo'
Geum fragarioides- Barren strawberry
Gypsophila cerastioides
Hellebores- clump forming, excellent all
season foliage
Heuchera- especially vigorous H. villosa types
Heuchera villosa var. macrorrhiza
'Autumn Bride'
Heucherella
Hosta- clump forming
Hypericum calycinum- creeping St. Johnswort
Iberis
Iris cristata
Lamium maculatum
Laurentia
Lysmachia nummularia
'Aurea' (very fast
spreading)
Mazus reptans
Mitchella repens
Nepeta- shorter forms
Oenothera fruticosa
Pachysandra procumbens- deciduous, native
Alleghany spurge
Packeria aurea (Senecio aureus) Golden
groundsel
Phlox divaricata
Phlox stolonifera
Podophyllum peltatum- mayapple (summer
dormant, ferns will co-mingle)
Polemonium reptans- native, ground
cover Jacob's ladder
Polygonatum
Potentilla neumaniana
Potentilla tridentata

Prunella vulgaris- Heal all
Sarcococca
Smilacina racemosa
Stachys 'Helene Von Stein' - big ears lambs
ears; S. 'Silver Carpet'
Symphytum grandiflorum- dwarf comfrey
Tiarella- especially stoloniferous forms such
as 'Running Tapestry'

Tradescantia (especially 'Sweet Kate')
Trifolium 4 Luck series
Waldsteinia (syn. Geum fragarioides)
Veronica 'Georgia Blue', 'Waterperry
Blue', 'Whitewater'; V. prostrata
Zizia aptera, Z. aurea

EXAMPLES OF TALLER GROUND COVERS

Polygonatum biflorum (commutatum)
Pycnanthemum muticum
Thelypteris noveborincensis (New York fern)

FERNS (*all are shade tolerant*)

Athyrium x 'Branford Rambler'
Athyrium nipponicum 'Pictum' - Japanese painted fern
Onoclea sensibilis- sensitive fern
Thelypteris noveboracensis- New York fern

GRASSES (*all are shade tolerant*)

Acorus gramineus
Carex- so many Carex make excellent ground covers. Some are clumping, some are spreading.
Carex pennsylvanica is a classic ground cover used in this method.
morrowii 'Ice Dance'
siderosticha 'Variegata'
Hakonechloe
Liriope
Ophiopogon- slow growing

HERBS

Calamintha
Galium odoratum- sweet woodruff
Meehania cordata
Mellisa-lemon balm Very fast spreading, great for pollinators
Mentha pulegium-pennyroyal
Origanum 'Herrenhausen', 'Hopley's', and golden form O. onites 'Aureum'
Pycnanthemum muticum- mountain mint
Teucrium- creeping germander

HOT SUN ONLY- SEDUM AND SUCCULENT GROUND COVERS

Anacyclus depressus
Arctostophylos uva-ursi -Bearberry
Aurinia saxatilis- Basket of Gold
Campanula poscharskyana

Cerastium tomentosum

Euphorbia myrsinites- Donkeytail spurge

Phlox subulata- May pinks, creeping phlox

Thymus- especially 'Spicy Orange'

Sedums- there are so many wonderful ground cover sedums to explore, this is a sampling

acre- very spreading

rupestre 'Angelina'

reflexum 'Blue Spruce'

kamschaticum

spurium

Sunsparkler series (such as Lime Zinger, Firecracker)

ternatum 'Larinum Park'- native, tolerates shade

WOODY GROUND COVERS

Comptonia peregrina- sweet fern 3-4' tall, ideal

for lean, sunny sites

Deutzia gracilis 'Nikko'

Leucothoe 'Compacta'

Rhus aromatica 'Gro Low'- creeping sumac,
very vigorous

Rubus calycinoide- creeping raspberry

Sarcococca

SHADE GROWDCOVERS

Ajuga

Alchemilla mollis

Anemone canadensis (very fast spreading)

Asarum canadense and europaeum

Aster divaricatus, A. cordifolius

Aster ericoides 'Snow Flurry'

Astilbe chinensis 'Pumila'

Bergenia

Brunnera

Chrysogonum

Convallaria (very fast spreading)

Epimedium

Euphorbia amygdaloides var. robbiae

Galium odoratum

Gaultheria procumbens

Geranium macrorrhizum

G. x cantabrigiense 'Biokovo'

Hellebores

Heuchera- especially vigorous H. villosa types

Heuchera villosa var. macrorrhiza

'Autumn Bride'

Heucherella

Hosta

Iris cristata

Lamium maculatum

Lysimachia nummularia 'Aurea' (very fast
spreading)

Mazus reptans

Meehania cordata

Mitchella repens-partridge berry Very slow
growing, evergreen

Oenothera fruticosa

Pachysandra procumbens- deciduous, native
Alleghany spurge

Packeria aurea (Senecio aureus)

Golden groundsel

Phlox divaricata

Phlox stolonifera

Podophyllum peltatum- mayapple (summer
dormant, ferns will co-mingle)

Polemonium reptans- native, ground cover
Jacob's ladder

Polygonatum

Prunella vulgaris- Heal all

Sarcococca

Smilacina racemosa

Symphytum grandiflorum- dwarf comfrey

Tiarella- especially stoloniferous forms such as
'Running Tapestry'

Tradescantia (especially 'Sweet Kate')

Waldsteinia (syn. *Geum fragarioides*)

Zizia aptera, *Z. aurea*

