

PLANTS FOR THE SHORELINE

A directory of plants growing
at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum
Living Shoreline Demonstration Garden



Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University
www.ext.vt.edu



Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

The Riparian Buffer

Starting at the top:
The Upland Bank



Trees and Shrubs



Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)

Height: 12 – 20 ft

Bloom time: late
spring

Full sun

Regular to moderate
water



Oak Leaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)

Height: to 6ft

Bloom time: early
summer

Sun to light shade

Regular water

Leaves turn bronze
or crimson in fall



St John's Wort
'Sunburst'
Hypericum frondosum



Height : 1 – 3 ft

Bloom time:
midsummer- early
autumn

Sun – part shade

Regular – moderate
water



Sweetspire 'Henry Garnet' (*Itea virginica*)

Height: 3 – 5 ft

Bloom time: spring

Sun or partial shade

Ample to regular
water

Great fall color



Wax Myrtle
(*Myrica cerifera*)

Height: 10 – 20 ft

Sun to light
shade

Moist to dry soil



Perennials



American Boneset

Eupatorium perfoliatum

Height: 3 – 5 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Full sun – light
shade

Ample moisture, but
will tolerate drought



Autumn Sage 'Hot Lips'

(*Salvia greggii*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time:
spring – fall

Full sun

Moderate water,
needs excellent
drainage.

Drought tolerant



Beard Tongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Height: 2.5 – 3 ft

Bloom time: spring
– early summer

Sun – part shade

Regular- moderate
water



Bee Balm

Monarda didyma

Height: 2 – 3 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Sun

Ample – regular
water



Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia fulgida*)

Height: 2-3 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Full sun – light
shade

Regular – moderate
water



Blue Star Flower (*Amsonia hubrechtii*)

Height: 2.5 – 3 ft

Bloom time: late spring

Full sun – light shade

Regular to moderate
water

Exceptional fall color



Butterfly Weed

Asclepias tuberosa

Height: 2 – 3ft

Bloom time: mid-summer

Full sun

Moderate water –
good drainage



Catmint
(*Nepeta fassenii*)

Height: 2 – 3 ft

Bloom time: late
spring

Sun – light shade

Moderate water,
well-drained



Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time: mid
– late summer

Full sun

Low to moderate
water



False Indigo

(*Baptisia tinctoria* – yellow
Baptisia australis – blue)

Height: 2 – 3 ft

Bloom time: late
spring

Full sun

Moderate water



Gaura 'Whirling Butterflies' (*Gaura lindheimeri*)

Height: 2 – 4 ft

Bloom time: late
spring – fall

Full sun

Regular - low water

Lean, unfertilized
soil



Giant Coneflower (*Rudbeckia maxima*)

Height: 2 -3 ft
(leaves) with flower
spikes 5 – 6 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Full sun

Regular to
moderate water



Goldenrod 'Fireworks' (*Solidago rugosa*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time:
mid – late summer

Full sun or
light shade

Moderate water



New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae angliae*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time: Fall

Full sun

Normal water,
tolerates drought



Speedwell (*Veronica spicata*)

Height: 1 – 2 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Full sun

Regular water –
good drainage



Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*)

Height:
1.5 – 3.5 ft

Bloom time:
spring, summer

Full sun or shade

Regular to
moderate water



Stokes' Aster (*Stokesia laevis*)

Height: 1-2 ft

Bloom time:
spring – summer

Full sun

Regular water –
well-drained



Summer Phlox
(*Phlox paniculata*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time:
Summer

Full sun – light
shade

Regular moisture



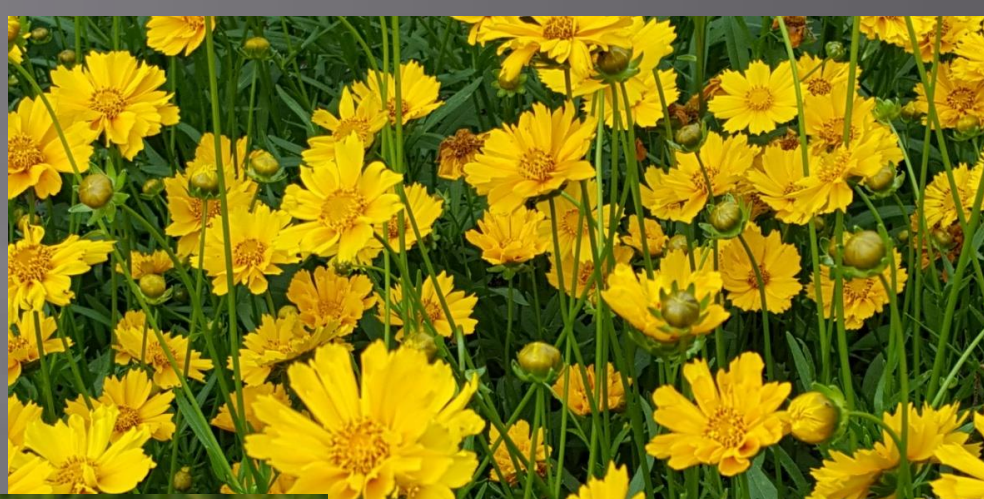
Tickseed 'Zagreb' (*Coreopsis verticillata*)

Height: : 2.5 – 3 ft

Bloom time:
Summer – autumn

Full sun

Moderate – drought
tolerant



Turtlehead (*Chelone lyonii*)

Height: 2 – 3 ft

Bloom time: fall

Light shade

Ample to regular
water



Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

Height: 3 ft

Bloom time:
summer, early
fall

Full sun

Moderate water,
very well-drained



Stonecrop 'Autumn Joy' (*Sedum spectabile*)

Height: 1.5 – 2 ft

Bloom time: late summer, autumn

Full sun or light shade

Regular to moderate water



White Heath Aster
Symphyotrichum ericoides

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time: fall

Full sun

Regular water



Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

Height: 1 – 2 ft

Bloom time:
Spring

Full sun or
filtered shade

Regular water



The Riparian Buffer

The Lower Bank

Plants that can thrive in damp soils
and with occasional inundation





Cup Plant *Silphium* *perfoliatum*

Height: 6 – 8 ft

Bloom time:
July – Sept

Sun – part shade

Tolerates moist to
dry soils, clay soil,
drought



Iris, Southern Blue Flag (*Iris virginica*)

Height: 2.5 – 3.5 ft

Bloom time: spring

Full sun – part
shade

Wet, moist acidic
soils. Grows in
brackish/saline
habitats



New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*)

Height: 5 – 8 ft

Bloom time: late
summer

Full sun – light
shade

Much – little water,
wet or dry soils



Rose Mallow/ Marsh Hibiscus (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)

Height: 3 – 6 ft,
shrub-like

Bloom time:
July – Sept

Full sun – part
shade

Wet or moist soil.
Tolerates occasional
inundation



Sea Shore Mallow (*Kosteletzkya virginica*)

Height: 2 – 4 ft

Bloom time:
July – Sept

Full sun

Moist soil, tolerates
occasional
inundation, brackish
water



Swamp Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*)

Height: 5 – 6 ft

Bloom time:
Sept – Oct

Full sun

Moist, well-drained
soil but drought
tolerant



Grasses



Field Love Grass
'Wind Dancer'
(*Eragrostis eliottii*)

Height; 3 ft

Bloom time: June – July

Full sun

Tolerates drought

Fine textures, white seed
heads maturing to tan



Little Bluestem 'The Blues' (*Scizachrium scoparium*)

Height:: 2 ft

Bloom time: Summer

Full sun

Regular water, well drained soil

Blue foliage, golden fall color,
silver seeds.



Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)

Height: 3 – 5 ft

Bloom time: late
summer – fall

Full sun

Regular water – will
tolerate drought
and moist soils



Switchgrass 'Heavy Metal'

Height: : 3 – 5 ft

Bloom time: Fall

Full sun

Tolerates drought
and moist soils

Stiff, upright
growth, Attractive
metallic blue blades



Switchgrass 'Northwind'

Height: 4 – 6 ft ft

Bloom time: Late
summer

Full sun

Tolerates drought and
moist soils.

Very upright growth.
Wider, dark green
blades.



Switchgrass 'Dewey Blue' (*Panicum amarum*)

Height: 3 – 4 ft

Bloom time: fall

Full sun

Tolerates drought and moist
soils

Blue foliage, fountain-like
growth habit.



The Shoreline



Saltmarsh Bullrush (*Scirpus robustus*)

Height: 2 – 3 ft

Bloom time:
Summer

Sun/part shade

Grows in mid to
high tide line.
Tolerates fluctuating
salinity



Salt Marsh Hay
(*Spartina patens*)

Height: 1 – 3 ft

Bloom time: summer

Sun/part shade

Tolerates occasional
inundation and
drought.



Smooth Cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*)

Height: 2 -4 ft

Bloom time: Summer

Full /part sun

Grows in the intertidal area. Requires twice daily inundation by brackish water. Will not survive if roots are permanently underwater.



Soft Rush (*Juncus effusus*)

Height: 2 – 4 ft

Bloom time:
summer

Full/part sun

Grows mid – high
tide.

Evergreen clumps.



Visit the RFM Garden

- ▣ Located on Main Street, Reedville, behind Bethany United Methodist Church and adjacent to the Reedville Fishermen's Museum.
- ▣ Most plants are labeled and there is an interpretive sign at the entrance to the garden.
- ▣ The garden is maintained by Northern Neck Master Gardener volunteers, who work there most Thursdays, April – October, 8:30 -10:30 pm. They welcome visitors!

