

# Plan-t Now for Late Summer and Fall Bloom

Most people do all of their plant shopping in the spring, choosing plants that are blooming then. It should come as no surprise that most landscapes don't look as nice in late summer and fall as they do in spring. Plan-t (Plan/Plant) ahead for beauty all season.

Here are some of our favorite suggestions!

Plant	Color	Size	Comments
Grasses and Sedges	A range	8 inches to 10 feet	There is a wide range of beautiful native grasses and sedges with late season and even winter interest. Please, see our grasses handout for descriptions.
Aromatic Aster	Bluish-Purple	3 feet tall by 3 feet wide	No plants bloom in fall with so much color and profusion as the asters, and no aster is so easy to work into modern American landscapes as the aromatic aster. Informal mounds are smothered with bloom in September and October. Butterflies love it.
Smooth Aster	Bluish	4-5 feet tall 3 feet wide	Another stunning aster that doesn't overwhelm the garden. Try the cultivar "Bluebird".
Perennial Sunflowers	Yellows	6-8 feet tall spreading	These typically bloom in late summer, and are just lovely. They are aggressive spreaders, however, best left to more natural gardens or areas.
Coneflower	Rose to red, orange, yellow, and lime	4 feet by 3 feet	The new colors available in coneflower suddenly make this old standby seem fresh and exciting. Many of the new varieties are fragrant, too. Seed heads are ornamental and feed birds.
Black Eyed Susan	Golden Yellow	to 3 feet tall and wide	You'll want the species <i>Rudbeckia fulgida var sullivantii</i> . This plant blooms later than others (LATE summer into fall), is more refined, and doesn't spread. Seed heads remain beautiful through the winter, and are a food source for birds. Great with switchgrass as a backdrop.
Goldenrods (multiple species)	Yellow	3 to 6 feet	Wonderful late summer to fall bloom, then flowers dry to silvery fluff for winter interest.
Ironweed	Violet	5-8 feet or more	Intense purple blooms in fall, plus dried seed heads that are divine. Natural companion to goldenrod.
Joe Pye (multiple species)	Mauve	5-9 feet	There are great selections of Joe Pye that WILL fit into your landscape. These are great wildlife plants, and stunning in late summer.
Helen's Flower	Yellow	3-4 feet	<i>Helenium autumnale</i> An underutilized regional native. Blooms for a long period, late summer into late fall.

## Shy Valley Native Habitat Nursery and Herbarry

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