

Plants and Trees for Green Infrastructure

Last Updated: 4/27/2021

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Trees may require additional engineered soil depth.
2. This list present some landscape favorites known for being highly drought tolerant and/or flood tolerant. The list does not represent all possible plant/tree species – there are many more native and Florida Friendly plant options that could be used. For more options, please visit:
 - UF IFAS Florida Friendly Landscaping Program
 - UF IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection & Landscaping Design
 - UF IFAS Florida Friendly Interactive Plant search tool
 - Florida Yards and Neighborhoods plant database
 - Florida Native Plant Society - Native Plants fo your Area search tool
3. Any plants on the Florida Friendly Plant (FFP) List can receive credit from Pinellas County Development Review Services if they are used in the appropriate USDA zone and meet the minimum size, spacings, grade, etc. requirements of Section 138 of the Land Development Code (LDC). If the customer chooses to use a species not on the FFP list, the plant(s) cannot be used to satisfy any plant requirement under the LDC.

Column1

Links:

<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu>

[https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/fflifasufledu/docs/FYN Plant Selection Guide 2015.pdf](https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/fflifasufledu/docs/FYN_Plant_Selection_Guide_2015.pdf)

<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants>

<http://www.floridayards.org/fyplants/index.php>

<https://www.fnps.org/plants>

https://library.municode.com/fl/pinellas_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIILADECO_CH138ZO

Common Tree Name	Family	Genus	Species	Height (ft)	Width (ft)	Growth Rate	Litter	Native	Drought tolerance	Flood Tolerance	Root Salt Tolerance	Maintenance Recommendations
Red Maple	<i>Aceraceae</i>	<i>Acer</i>	<i>rubrum</i>	60	30	F	Med	Y	Moderate	Extended	Low	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Yaupon Holly	<i>Aquifoliaceae</i>	<i>Ilex</i>	<i>vomitaria</i>	20	20	M	Low	Y	High	Extended	High	May be maintained as multi-stemmed or standard tree
Dahoon Holly	<i>Aquifoliaceae</i>	<i>Ilex</i>	<i>cassine</i>	25	10	M	Low	Y	Moderate	Extended	Low	May be maintained as a standard or with foliage full to the ground
American Holly	<i>Aquifoliaceae</i>	<i>Ilex</i>	<i>opaca</i>	20	20	S	Low	Y	Moderate	Extended	Medium	May be maintained as a standard or with foliage full to the ground
Cabbage Palm	<i>Areaceae</i>	<i>Sabal</i>	<i>palmatto</i>	50	10	S	Med	Y	High	Extended	High	Do not elevate canopy above the horizontal, remove only fully browned fronds
American Hornbeam	<i>Betulaceae</i>	<i>Carpinus</i>	<i>caroliniana</i>	25	25	S	Low	Y	Moderate	Occasional	None	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Water Oak	<i>Fagaceae</i>	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>nigra</i>	70	60	F	Med	Y	High	Occasional	Medium	Plant 8-10 ft from any hardscape, Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Sweetgum	<i>Hamamelidaceae</i>	<i>Liquidambar</i>	<i>styraciflua</i>	60	40	M	Med	Y	Moderate	Extended	Medium	Plant 8-10 ft from any hardscape, Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Pignut Hickory	<i>Juglandaceae</i>	<i>Carya</i>	<i>glabra</i>	60	30	M	Med	Y	High	Occasional	None	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnoliaceae</i>	<i>Magnolia</i>	<i>virginiana</i>	45	20	M	High	Y	Low	Extended	None	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Southern Wax Myrtle	<i>Myricaceae</i>	<i>Myrica</i>	<i>cerifera</i>	20	20	F	Low	Y	Moderate	Extended	High	Maintain as a multi-stemmed tree
Blackgum	<i>Nyssaceae</i>	<i>Nyssa</i>	<i>sylvatica</i>	70	30	S	Low	Y	High	Extended	Unk	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Pop Ash	<i>Oleaceae</i>	<i>Fraxinus</i>	<i>caroliniana</i>	40	20	F	Med	Y	Moderate	Extended	Unk	Growth may be managed with a central leader or as a multi-stemmed tree
Slash Pine	<i>Pineaceae</i>	<i>Pinus</i>	<i>elliottii</i>	90	40	F	High	Y	High	Occasional	Low	No pruning necessary
Sycamore	<i>Platanaceae</i>	<i>Platanus</i>	<i>occidentalis</i>	80	60	F	High	Y	High	Low	Medium	Plant 8-10 ft from any hardscape, Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Buttonbush	<i>Rubiaceae</i>	<i>Cephalanthus</i>	<i>occidentalis</i>	10	10	F	Med	Y	Moderate	Extended	Low	Maintain at 4-6 ft as multistemmed shrub
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodiaceae</i>	<i>Taxodium</i>	<i>disticum</i>	70	30	F	Low	Y	High	Extended	None	Plant 6-8 ft from any hardscape, Remove dead lower limbs as necessary
Pond Cypress	<i>Taxodiaceae</i>	<i>Taxodium</i>	<i>ascendens</i>	55	15	F	Low	Y	High	Extended	None	Plant 6-8 ft from any hardscape, Remove dead lower limbs as necessary
Loblolly Bay	<i>Theaceae</i>	<i>Gordonia</i>	<i>lasianthus</i>	45	15	M	Low	Y	Moderate	Extended	Unk	May be maintained as a standard or with foliage full to the ground
Sugarberry	<i>Ulmaceae</i>	<i>Celtis</i>	<i>laevigata</i>	60	60	F	Med	Y	High	Extended	Low	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
American Elm	<i>Ulmaceae</i>	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>americana</i>	80	60	F	Low	Y	High	Extended	Low	Maintain with a central leader, remove co-dominant stems with leader or laterals larger than 1/2 diameter of the central leader
Seagrape	<i>Polygonaceae</i>	<i>Coccoloba</i>	<i>uvifera</i>	50	35	F	High	Y	High	Occasional	Moderate	Can be pruned to keep shape in landscape setting

Common Herbaceous Veg Name	Scientific Name	Height (ft)	Width (ft)	Light	Growth Rate	Native	Drought Tolerance	Flood Tolerance	Salt Tolerant?	Type	Flower Color	Qualities	Maintenance Recommendations
Beach Sunflower	<i>Helianthus Debilis</i>	2 - 4	2 - 4	Full Sun	Fast	Y	High	Low	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Attracts Butterflies; provides a thicket of protection for small birds and animals	Readily self-seeds; Space 18 to 24 inches apart; does not tolerate wet soils
Muhly Grass	<i>Muhlenbergia Capillaris</i>	2 - 3	3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Y	High	High	Yes	Perennial	Pink/Purple	Forms a canopy that small animals can use for shelter and refuge. Small birds eat the seeds.	Can reach up to 5' tall; can be trimmed down to 6"-8" in late winter to remove older, dead blades before growing season
Elliott's Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis elliottii</i>	1 - 3	1 - 2	Full Sun	Fast	Y	High	Occasional	Yes	Perennial	White/Tan	Small birds and other wildlife consume the seed. Larval host for zabulon skipper (<i>Poanes zabulon</i>)	Winter dormant
Purple Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	2 - 4	2 - 3	Full Sun	Fast	Y	High	Low	No	Perennial	Purple	Small birds and other wildlife consume the seed. Larval host for zabulon skipper (<i>Poanes zabulon</i>)	For best spring growth, plant can be cut back to a few inches above the ground in winter
Blue Flag Iris	<i>Iris virginica</i>	3 - 4	1 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Medium	High	No	Perennial	White or Purple	Showy flowers; great for rain gardens	Winter dormant; will grow in standing water
Milkweed (Butterflyweed)	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	2 - 3	2 - 3	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Medium	Low	No	Perennial	Orange	Larval host to the monarch butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>), queen butterfly (<i>Danaus gilippus</i>) and soldier butterfly, (<i>Danaus eresimus</i>). Attracts various pollinators and hummingbirds.	Plant will not flower freely until well established; may be toxic if ingested in large quantities
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias perennis</i>	1 - 3	1	Full Sun to Part Shade	Slow	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	White/Dark Pink	Larval host to the monarch butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>), queen butterfly (<i>Danaus gilippus</i>) and soldier butterfly, (<i>Danaus eresimus</i>). Attracts various pollinators and hummingbirds.	Needs moist soil; may be toxic if ingested in large quantities
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	0.75 - 1.5	0.5 - 2	Full Sun	Medium	Y	High	Low	Yes	Annual	Red-Orange-Yellow	Showy flowers; attracts birds, butterflies, and pollinators	Winter dormant; readily re-seeds itself; deadheading spent blooms will prolong the bloom time
Wild Sage (Wild Lantana)	<i>Lantana involucrata</i>	4 - 6	4 - 6	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Y	High	Low	Yes	Perennial	White	Attracts birds and butterflies; good hurrican wind resistance; blooms year-round	Does not require any supplemental water once established
Blue Porterweed	<i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i>	4 - 8	4 - 8	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Y	High	Low	Yes	Perennial	Blue/Purple	Attracts birds, butterflies, and pollinators; host plant for tropical buckeye; blooms year-round	Propagation via seeds and cuttings; lifespan is about 5 years, but it readily self-seeds
Tropical Sage	<i>Salvia coccinea</i>	2 - 6	0.5 - 2	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	High	Occasional	Yes	Annual	Red	Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies	Readily self-seeds and can be fairly aggressive
Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa Americana</i>	4 - 8	3 - 6	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Medium	Occasional	Yes	Perennial	White/Pink	Attracts birds; has magenta or white colored fruits	May self-seed each year; usually no serious pests
Dwarf Fakahatchee (Florida Gamma) Grass	<i>Tripsacum floridanum</i>	2-3	2-3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	High	High	Yes	Perennial	Green	Seeds are eaten by birds. Larval host for Byssus Skipper (<i>Problema byssus</i>).	Evergreen; one of the most shade tolerant grasses; can get messy after a cold spell
Sand Cord Grass	<i>Spartina bakeri</i>	3 - 4	3 - 4	Full Sun	Medium	Y	Medium	Intermittent	Yes	Perennial	Copper/Brown	Evergreen; interesting foliage; great along the edges of ponds, lakes, and wetlands	Dense, clumping habit
Saw Palmetto	<i>Serenoa repens</i>	3 - 8	4 - 6	Full Sun to Part Shade	Slow	Y	High	Seasonal	Yes	Perennial	White	Evergreen; highly valuable for wildlife and used by hundreds of native species of animals, including birds and butterflies	Spreading habit; good hurricane wind resistance
Salt Grass	<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	1 - 2	Spreading	Full Sun	Medium	Y	Low	High	Yes	Perennial	Green	Evergreen; birds and other wildlife consume the seeds; attracts butterflies; larval host for the Sandhill Skipper (<i>Polites sabuleti</i>)	Spreading habit; good for the edges of saltwater
Bushy Bluestem	<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>	3 - 5	1 - 3	Full Sun	Medium	Y	Low	Occasional	No	Perennial	Green/NA	Seeds eaten by various small birds and other wildlife. Possible larval host plant for Delaware skipper (<i>Anatrytone logan</i>), Georgia satyr (<i>Neonympha areolata</i>), neamathla skipper (<i>Nastra neamathla</i>), swarthy skipper (<i>Nastra lherminier</i>) and twin-spot skipper (<i>Oligoria maculata</i>) butterflies.	May fall over at the end of the season. Neater appearance if old stalks are removed before new growth starts in spring.

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Broomsedge	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	3 - 5	0.5	Part Shade	Fast	Y	High	Seasonal	No	Perennial	Green/NA	Interesting foliage; great as a background planting; provides nesting material and food for many small animals and birds; larval host for the Zabulon Skipper butterfly (<i>Poanes zabulon</i>)	Winter dormant; bunching habit
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3 - 4	2 - 3	Full Sun	Medium	Y	High	Seasonal	Yes	Perennial	Reddish-Brown	Suitable for rain gardens, roadsides, and as a background planting in a moist wildflower garden; larval host for Tawny Edged Skipper; flowers summer-fall	Winter dormant; clumping habit; can be trimmed back in winter
Sandswamp Whitetop	<i>Rhynchospora latifolia</i>	2 - 3	1.5 - 2	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Intermittent	No	Perennial	White	Flowers spring-summer; good for rain gardens; attracts pollinators	Winter dormant
Eastern Gamagrass	<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	4 - 6	2 - 4	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low to Medium	High	Yes	Perennial	Red/Orange/Yellow	Evergreen; provides food for deer; provides excellent cover for small animals; larval host for Three-spotted Skipper (<i>Cybaeus tripunctus</i>), Clouded Skipper (<i>Lerema accius</i>) and Byssus Skipper (<i>Problema byssus</i>)	Readily self-seeds; can be trimmed back at the end of winter
Giant leather fern	<i>Acrostichum danaeifolium</i>	6 - 12	5 - 10	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	High	Yes	Perennial	NA	Evergreen; useful along the edges of freshwater or brackish waterbodies; provides good cover for wildlife	Plants reproduce by spores-can be grown from spores; small plants can be transplanted; can be trimmed to improve appearance but should not be drastically pruned more than once per year
Lemon Bacopa	<i>Bacopa caroliniana</i>	0.25 - 0.5	Mats	Full Sun	Medium	Y	Low	Seasonal	No	Perennial	Blue	Pleasant lemon fragrance; showy flowers; good as a ground cover for the edges of rain gardens and retention ponds; flowers all year long	Winter dormant; spreading, mat-forming habit; can be grown from cuttings
Swamp Fern	<i>Blechnum serrulatum</i>	2 - 4	1 - 2	Part Shade to Shade	Fast	Y	Low	Intermittent	No	Perennial	NA	Useful in wetland restoration; good for moist, shady sites	Winter dormant; can be grown from spores; can spread aggressively given the right conditions; periodic removal of the old fronds is recommended
Swamp Lily	<i>Crinum americanum</i>	1 - 2	1	Full Sun to Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Seasonal	Yes	Perennial	White	Evergreen; showy flowers; fragrance; attracts pollinators; wetland plant-good for rain gardens	Winter dormant; can be grown from seeds
Lanceleaf Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	1.5 - 2.5	0.5 - 1.5	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Medium	Occasional	No	Perennial	Yellow	Attracts butterflies and other pollinators; provides food for small animals and birds; flowers of the genus <i>Coreopsis</i> are designated as the State of Florida official wildflower; shorter bloom period than <i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i>	Will self-seed; winter dormant; may be selectively thinned to improve appearance; mulching will help keep weeds at bay and conserve moisture; spent flowers can be deadheaded to encourage new blooms
Common Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i>	1.5 - 3	0.5 - 1.5	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Low	Seasonal	No	Annual	Yellow	Flowers all year long; flowers of the genus <i>Coreopsis</i> are designated as the State of Florida official wildflower; attracts butterflies; provides pollen and nectar for pollinators; common along roadsides in moist areas	Can be grown from seed; recruits readily in exposed soil
Golden Creeper	<i>Ernodea littoralis</i>	2 - 3	2 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	High	Seasonal	Yes	Perennial	White/Orange/Pink/Red	Provides food for birds and other wildlife; good for dunes and coastal areas; flowers all year long	Can be propagated via cuttings
Scarlet Rosemallow	<i>Hibiscus coccineus</i>	5 - 8	2 - 4	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Y	Medium	High	No	Perennial	White/Red	Provides nectar for butterflies and food and cover for wildlife; attracts hummingbirds; showy flowers	Winter dormant; will not grow or flower well in the shade
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	3	4	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	High	Low	Perennial	Green	Evergreen; provides food, cover, and nesting material for wildlife; good for freshwater marshes; great for mitigation/restoration wetlands and to place on border of retention ponds	Can be propagated by seed; very tolerant of wildlife grazing
Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	2 - 3	1 - 2	Full Sun	Medium	Y	High	Seasonal	No	Perennial	Yellow	Showy flowers; common wildflower along roadsides; provides nectar for pollinators	Readily self-seeds

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Coontie	<i>Zamia integrifolia (floridana)</i>	2 - 4	3 - 5	Full Sun to Part Shade	Slow	Y	High	Low	Yes	Perennial	NA	Evergreen; attracts butterflies; is known as a Cycad, a type of ancient plant (although it looks like a palm); larval host for the Atala butterfly (<i>Eumaeus atala</i>) and Echo moth (<i>Seirarctia echo</i>)	CAUTION: the plant and its seeds and tubers are poisonous to people and pets; grows best in partial shade but can tolerate full sun; although Atala caterpillar feeding can cause the plant to temporarily appear raggedy, the plant will recover
Chain Fern	<i>Woodwardia areolata</i>	2	0.5	Shade	Fast	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	NA	Grows well in shade; provides cover for small wildlife; plant has a neat, compact form; commonly occurs in floodplains, swamps, and marshes; highly deer resistant	Winter dormant; reproduces via spores
Spider Lily	<i>Hymenocallis latifolia</i>	1 - 3	3 - 5	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	High	Occasional	Yes	Perennial	White	Evergreen; showy, fragrant flowers; commonly grows along the edges of mangrove swamps	Readily re-seeds itself - when planted on 3 to 5 feet centers, a thick groundcover can form after about 2 years.
Alligator Lily	<i>Hymenocallis palmeri</i>	1	1	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Seasonal	No	Perennial	White	Grows well in shade, fragrant flowers; common habitat is in marshes	Plant in a moist setting
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	3 - 4	3 - 4	Part Shade to Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Intermittent	No	Perennial	NA	Evergreen; grows well in shade; common in freshwater marshes and swamps	Needs periodic removal of dead fronds
Lizard's Tail	<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	2 - 3	1	Part Shade to Shade	Medium	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	White	Showy, fragrant flowers; good for rain gardens and along pond/lake edges and ditches; provides food for birds and nectar for pollinators	Wetland plant; spreading habit-can form dense swaths
Dotted Smartweed	<i>Polygonum punctatum</i>	1 - 2	0.5	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	White	Provides food for birds and other wildlife; found in shallow ditches, ponds, and marshes	Propagules can remain viable for more than one year
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	3 - 4	3	Part Shade to Shade	Medium	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	NA	Grows well in shade; useful around ponds	Winter dormant; needs periodic removal of dead fronds; can be grown from spores
Seaside Goldenrod	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	3 - 6	2 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Medium	Intermittent	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Attracts butterflies, songbirds, and pollinators; deer resistant; blooms from August to October	Clumping habit; low maintenance
Saltmeadow Cordgrass	<i>Spartina patens</i>	1 - 2	1 - 1.5	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Occasional	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Evergreen; attracts birds; serves as pollution filter and buffers against flooding and shoreline erosion	Good hurricane wind resistance; excellent for bank stabilization at the edge of waterbodies; grows largest in freshwater
Seaside Gentian	<i>Eustoma exaltatum</i>	1 - 3	1 - 2	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Low	Occasional	Yes	Annual	Purple	Showy purple flower; flowers all year long; dry-moist-wet areas; salt flats	Can be grown from seed
Sea Oxeye	<i>Borrichia frutescens</i>	2 - 3	2 - 3	Full Sun	Slow	Y	Medium	High	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Attracts butterflies; flowers all year long; good for swales and ditches	High pest resistance; spreads by rhizomes
Narrowleaf yellotops	<i>Flaveria linearis</i>	2 - 3	2 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Medium	Seasonal	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Showy flowers; attracts butterflies and pollinators	Can have weedy appearance after flowering - cut back to ground after flowering; can be grown easily from seed
Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum alatum</i>	3 - 4	3 - 6	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Low	High	No	Perennial	Lavender	Showy flowers; attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and pollinators; good for around ponds, lakes, and ditches	Winter dormant; may spread by rhizomes; pruning occasionally can give the plant a neater appearance; moderately resistant to deer
Pine Lily	<i>Lilium catesbaei</i>	2 - 3	1 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Y	Low	Seasonal	No	Perennial	Red-Orange	Showy flowers; blooms in summer; does tolerate flooding; attracts butterflies; listed as a threatened species in Florida	Winter dormant; can be difficult to grow from a bulb

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Marsh elder	<i>Iva frutescens</i>	2 - 10	6 - 12	Full Sun	Medium	Y	Medium	Occasional	Yes	Perennial	Greenish-White	Evergreen; found in coastal marshes and shores; good for habitat restoration and stabilization; provides food and cover for wildlife; attracts birds	Better suited to natural landscapes; high hurricane wind resistance; can be grown from cuttings and seeds; little to no maintenance required
Beach elder	<i>Iva imbricata</i>	2 - 3	2 - 3	Full Sun	Fast	Y	High	Occasional	No	Perennial	Green	Evergreen; excelent stabilizer of beach dunes and banks in sandy coastal areas; flowers summer to fall	Can br grown from cuttings or seeds
Firebush	<i>Hamelia patens</i>	6 - 12	5 - 8	Part Sun to Shade	Fast	Y	Medium	Occasional	No	Perennial	Red-Orange	Showy flowers; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; fruit provides food for birds and other animals	No serious pests normally seen on the plant; spreading habit - can be a good hedge; may die back in a freeze; good hurricane wind resistance; avoid non-native varieties of this shrub

Common Aquatic Veg Name	Scientific Name	Height (ft)	Width (ft)	Light	Growth Rate	Native	Salt Tolerant?	Type	Flower Color	Qualities	Maintenance Recommendations
Pickerelweed	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	2 - 4	1 - 2	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	No	Perennial	Purple	Ducks love them	Winter dormant
Lance-leaf Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria lancifolia</i>	3 - 5	1- 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Yes	No	Perennial	White	Showy flowers; birds and other wildlife eat the fruit; attracts pollinators	Winter dormant
Yellow canna	<i>Canna flaccida</i>	3 - 6	4	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	No	Perennial	Yellow	Provides protection to fish, amphibians, and other aquatic life; safe place for dragonflies to metamorphose; larval host to the Brazilian skipper butterfly (<i>Calpododes ethlius</i>); shades water keeping it cooler which lowers dissolved oxygen and protecting fish from dying; attracts pollinators; provides food for birds	Spreads quickly by suckering
Smooth Cordgrass	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	2 - 6	2 - 10	Full Sun	Fast	Yes	Yes	Perennial	Yellow	Erosion control along estuarine shorelines; does not tolerate shade. Habitat for wading birds, juvenile fish & crustaceans. Aaron's skipper (<i>Poanes aaroni</i>) larvae feeds exclusively on this plant.	Evergreen; optimum water depth for establishing plants is 1 - 18 inches; grows at elevations from mean high tide and above
California bulrush	<i>Scirpus californicus</i>	3 - 9	1 - 2	Full Sun	Fast	Yes	No	Perennial	Brown	Provides cover and food for wildlife; useful for lake/pond stabilization, water quality improvement, wetland creation/restoration, and as a background plant for wetland ponds.	Pruning usually not required; has fairly aggressive spreading tendency
Horsetail	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	2 - 4	0.5	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	No	Perennial	Green	Interesting foliage; provides good cover for wildlife at the edge of waterbodies.	Evergreen; spreading habit
Broadleaf arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	2 - 4	1 - 3	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	No	Perennial	White	Underground tubers are preferred by at least fifteen species of ducks and by snapping turtles	Winter dormant; spreading habit
Softstem bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	4 - 8	3 - 6	Full Sun	Fast	Y	Yes	High	Reddish-Brown	Grows in ditches and wet depressions along roadsides, as an emergent aquatic plant, and along the edges of ponds/lakes/wetlands/marshes; good for erosion control; provides food, cover, and nesting material for waterbirds and other wildlife	Will sometimes spread aggressively, forming dense colonies

Common Groundcover Name	Scientific Name	Size	Light	Growth Rate	Native	Drought Tolerance	Flood Tolerance	Salt Tolerant?	Qualities	Maintenance Recommendations
Bahia	<i>Paspalum notatum</i>	8"-20"	Full Sun	Slow	No	Moderate	Occasional	No	Does not require irrigation once established; generally least pest issues than other turf grasses	Can be mowed to 3"-4"; seed heads can grow tall and need regular mowing in spring/summer/fall; open growth habit; can be established via sod or seed
Perennial Peanut	<i>Arachis glabrata</i>	0.5'-1'	Full Sun to Part Shade	Slow	No	High	Occasional	Yes	Requires little to no water or fertilizer; little to no pests or diseases; great for right-of-way and medians	Can be mowed to 3" - 4"; does not tolerate shade; not suitable for areas of high foot traffic; thickness/cover may be reduced in the shade
Sunshine Mimosa (Sensitive Plant)	<i>Mimosa strigillosa</i>	0.5'-1'	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	Moderate	Occasional	Yes	Attracts butterflies; purple/pink powderpuff flowers	Can be mowed to 4"; low foot traffic; spreads easily so should be contained by edging where needed; mat forming habit
Seashore Paspalum	<i>Paspalum vaginatum</i>	3.5" - 10"	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Yes	Low	High	Yes	Evergreen; highly salt tolerant; similar in appearance to St. Augustine Grass; can be used in wet meadows	Must be mowed frequently; does not tolerate heavy foot traffic; can be aquired as sod; spreading habit
Blue-Eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	0.5' - 1.5'	Full Sun	Medium	Yes	Low	Seasonal	No	Winter-summer flowering season	Winter dormant; can tolerate foot traffic
Beach Bean	<i>Canavalia rosea</i>	0.5' - 1'	Full Sun	Fast	Yes	High	Intermittent	Yes	Evergreen; great for sand dune stabilization; attracts pollinators; flowers all year long	Sprawling vine groundcover; can be aggressive; seeds and seed pods are poisonous
Oblongleaf Snakeherb	<i>Dyschoriste oblongifolia</i>	0.5' - 1'	Full Sun to Part Shade	Medium	Yes	High	Low	No	Attracts pollinators; larval host for the Common Buckeye butterfly (<i>Junonia coenia</i>)	Winter dormant; sprawling wildflower groundcover; can be grown from seed
Railroad Vine (Bayhops)	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	3" - 9"	Full Sun	Fast	Yes	High	Low	Yes	Nice groundcover in dry yards; flowers all year long; great for sand dune stabilization; nectar plant for butterflies	Can be grown from seeds or cuttings
Frogfruit	<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	3"-6"	Full Sun to Part Shade	Fast	Yes	High	Occasional	Yes	Attracts butterflies; great groundcover-forms dense mats; small white and purple flowers	Can be mowed to 4"-6"; low foot traffic
Shoreline Seapursplane	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i>	3" - 8"	Full Sun	Fast	Yes	High	Occasional	Yes	Important for sand dune stabilization; flowers all year long	Can be grown from seeds or cuttings
Gopher Apple	<i>Licania michauxii</i>	1' - 5'	Full Sun to Part Shade	Slow	Yes	High	Low	Yes	Flowers all year long; attracts butterflies/pollinators; provides food and cover for wildlife; the fruits are a favorite of gopher tortoises; fruit is edible	Forms large patches by underground stems spreading; ideal for stabilizing sandy banks and roadsides; very hardy groundcover that thrives in nutrient-poor sandy soil
Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	1" - 2"	Part Shade to Full Shade	Slow	Yes	Low	Low	No	Evergreen; showy white flowers and red fruits; bird eat the fruits	Not an aggressive grower-not appropriate for large, expansive sites; tolerates minimal foot traffic