

Starter Plant List for Shade

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	Wild Ginger Asarum canadense	Red Bloom Early	↔  1.5 ft <u>∓</u> .5 ft	The hidden blooms attract diverse insects. A host plant and nice ground cover at the base of ferns, fall asters and goldenrods.
	Foam Flower Tiarella cordifolia	<ul> <li>White Bloom</li> <li>Early</li> </ul>	↔  1-2 ft <u>∓</u> .5 ft	Early bloom for bees. Attractive season-long ground cover and larval host plant.
	<b>Columbine</b> Aquilegia canadensis	Red Bloom Early	↔  1 ft <u>∓</u> 1.5 ft	Dryer soils. Early nectar source for hummingbirds and long- tongued bees. Host plant for a specialist moth and butterfly. Prefers well-drained sites.
	Wild Geranium Geranium maculatum	Purple Bloom Early-Mid	<b> ↔ </b> 1 ft <u>∓</u> 1-1.5 ft	An early season pollinator powerhouse to plant amongst the later blooming asters. Watch it forcibly eject seeds to spread widely.
	Christmas Fern Polystichum acrostichoides	Dark Green Fronds Early-Late	<ul> <li> ↔  2 ft</li> <li>1.5 ft</li> </ul>	<b>Avoid wet soils.</b> Attractive clumps of shiny green fronds year round providing shelter and food for birds and mammals. Also a host plant.
	Flowering Raspberry Rubus odoratus	Pink Bloom Mid	↔  4 ft <u>∓</u> 3 ft	Moister soils. A spreading shrub with rose-like flowers and large maple shaped leaves; a pollen source for native bees and fruits for birds and humans.
	American Spikenard Aralia racemosa	White Green Bloom Mid	↔  3-4 ft <u>∓</u> 3-4 ft	Moister soils. Seems like a shrub but dies back to the ground each winter. Long trusses of flowers and berries are attractive to insects and birds.
	<b>Blue-stemmed Goldenrod</b> Solidago caesia	<ul> <li>Yellow Bloom</li> <li>Late</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>↔ 1-2 ft</li> <li>1.5-2 ft</li> </ul>	Floral wreath-like stems. Important nectar source for late season butterflies and next year's bumble bee queens pre-hibernation.
×	<b>Big Leaf Wood Aster</b> Eurybia macrophylla	White or Blue Bloom Late	↔  1-2 ft <u> </u> 2 ft	Attractive large-leaved ground cover and host plant. Important nectar source for late season butterflies and next year's bumble bee queens pre-hibernation.
	Heart-leaved Aster Symphyotrichum cordifolium	Blue Bloom Late	<b> ↔ </b> 2-3 ft <u> </u> 2-4 ft	Clouds of blue flowers. Host plant. Important nectar source for late season butterflies and next year's bumble bee queens pre- hibernation.