

Groundcovers



What's a groundcover?

Groundcovers are great lawn alternatives and some will grow in poor soil and light conditions. When flowering and bearing fruit, they add important food sources to the landscape.



Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*)

Grows 4"-7" tall and spreads through runners. White flowers April to May form edible red berries. Zones 4-9.

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Lowbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)

Grows from 2"-24". Prefers untilled, acidic soil. Edible fruit are attractive to wildlife and humans. Red fall foliage.

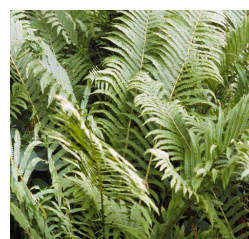
Zones 2-6. ○●≡



Cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*)

Grows 9" tall and spreads easily. Small pink flowers bloom in the spring and produce edible red berries. Zones 2-6.

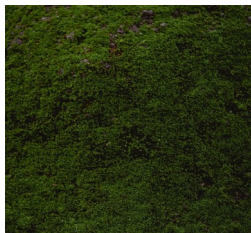
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Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*)

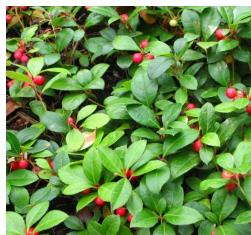
Grows 2'-3' tall and forms dense colonies. Fiddleheads are edible. Fronds have feathery appearance.

Zones 3-7. ●●●



Moss Varieties (*Bryophyta*)

Many varieties of moss, identify what is already in your yard and add more of the same. Grow in low and gentle traffic areas. ○●●●



Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*)

Also known as teaberry. Grows 6" tall and spreads 4"-6" annually. Prefers acidic soils. Evergreen leaves and red berries all winter. Zones 3-5. ●●≡



Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*)

Grows 6" tall and spreads easily. Prefers rich, acidic soils. White bracts surround small green flowers. Red berries in the fall attract birds. Zones 2-6. ○●●



Marsh Blue Violet (*Viola cucullata*)

Grows 5"-10" tall with 1' spread. Foliage attracts butterfly larvae. Blue violet flowers from late spring to mid summer. Zones 4-8. ○●●●

Plant Identification Key

- More than 5 hours of direct sun per day
- 2 to 5 hours of direct sun per day or full day of dappled sun
- Less than 2 hours of direct sun per day
- Poorly drained soils and/or wet
- ≡ Well draining soil and/or dry year round



Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)

Grows 6" tall with 3' spread. Prefers rich, acidic soil. Light pink, cup-shaped flowers turn to red berries in the fall. Can be used to prevent erosion along banks. Zones 2-6. ○●≡



Lingonberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*)

Also called Crowberry or Mountain Cranberry. Grows 7" tall and spreads. Small, glossy-green, leaves and small pink or white flowers, followed by small, red fruit. Zones 2-6. ○●●≡



Creeping Juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*)

Evergreen shrub grows 2' tall with 8' spread. Foliage is often a silvery blue color. Small, blue, berry-like fruit. Zones 3-9. ○≡



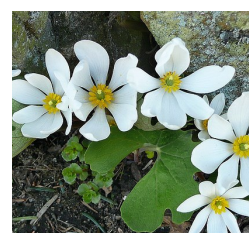
Appalachian Barren Strawberry (*Waldsteinia fragarioides*)

Grows 8" tall with 1' spread. Mats of evergreen leaves with yellow flowers. No edible fruit. Prefers acidic soil. Zones 3-9. ○●●≡



Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*)

A climbing vine up to 20' tall. Grows best on a trellis or fence. Clusters of silky seeds follow white flowers. Zones 2-10. ○●≡



Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*)

Grows 6"-12" tall and is usually found in colonies. Leaves and root contain an orange/red juice that is poisonous. Flowers in early spring. Zones 3-8. ●●●



Hay-scented Fern (*Dennstaedtia punctiloba*)

Grows 1' tall. Foliage light green with finely-divided fronds that are sweet-scented when crushed. Zones 3-8. ●●≡



Creeping Phlox (*Phlox stolonifera*)

Grows 6"-10" tall and spreads easily. Small flowers in spring, ranging from white to purple with evergreen foliage. Zones 2-9. ●●≡



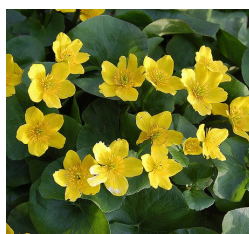
Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)

A climbing vine up to 40' tall. Small white flowers in spring and small purple berries. Foliage turns red in the fall. Zones 3-9. ○●●≡



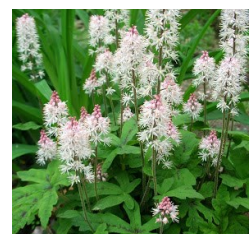
Round-leaved Violet (*Viola rotundifolia*)

Grows 2"-5" tall. Yellow flowers bloom in late spring. Leaves are large and glossy. Zones 3-9. ●●●



Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)

Grows 1'-2' tall with 1' spread. Bright yellow flowers bloom in late spring to early summer. Prefers organic, acidic soils. Zones 1-8. ●●●



Foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*)

Grows 10" tall with 1' spread. Masses of tiny white or pink flowers remain up to 6 weeks. Zones 3-8. ●●≡