



2024 Fall Plant Sale September 29

Happy Fall! We're excited to announce a list of great plants that will be available for our annual Fall Plant Sale on September 29! A few will be available as bareroots so be sure to check them out! As always, this is a complete but partial list of what you may find set out for sale on Sunday. We look forward to seeing you September 29 from 12 – 4 PM!

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Ferns	
Name	Description
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i> (Five Finger Maidenhair Fern)	Delicate, light green fronds lay flat atop dark stems, forming a near-perfect circle. This plant loves a moist, cool, shaded area with rich soil. A native to the Eastern US, it is often found alongside rocky seeps, springs, and freshwater stream embankments.
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> 'Victoriae' (Victory Lady Fern)	Unique and choice fern with upright arching fronds of medium green that are twisted and crested at the tips. Nice specimen in the shade garden or shady container.
<i>Athyrium</i> 'Ghost' (Painted Fern)	This hybrid fern has noticeably upright, silvery foliage. The foliage is most strikingly silver in the spring and becomes more of a dark green mixed with silver later on in the growing season. Midribs of the fronds are a deep maroon.
<i>Cystopteris bulbifera</i> (Bulblet Fern)	This curious fern has the rare ability to create clones from the tiny bulblets forming on the underside of its fronds, which fall to the soil and create a whole new plant! This fern loves shady areas with rich soil and does very well planted alongside rocks as long as consistent moisture is present.
<i>Dryopteris erythrosora</i> 'Brilliance' (Autumn Fern)	Excellent vase shaped, semi-upright fern to about 2' tall for shade. The new growth of 'Brilliance' is a mix of reds and orange and dramatically stands out in the garden.
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> (Sensitive Fern)	This medium textured fern forms 18" tall mounds of bright green foliage. It turns bright yellow at the first hint of frost giving it the "sensitive fern" name. Deer resistant, easy to grow, and even works well in rain gardens.
<i>Osmunda regalis v. spectabilis</i> (American Royal Fern)	This fern has a broad geographical range, thriving in moist, shady locations in the eastern US. Growing in rather large clumps, the individual fronds are an elegant green while fertile fronds protrude from the center with rusty-orange to brown colors.
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	A common site in many of our eastern deciduous woodlands, the Christmas fern is nonetheless underutilized in the urban garden! It is a truly evergreen fern with robust and lengthy individual fronds. Dappled sun is best for this one.



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Perennial Grasses	
Name	Description
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> 'Standing Ovation™' (Little Bluestem)	This cultivar of an exemplary native grass is tolerant of a wide spectrum of soil types and conditions. Extremely drought tolerant once it has established a solid root system, this species forms a well-behaved clump with attractive green leaf blades and a touch of blue at the base. In the fall, the leaves convert to a bronze-orange, giving this grass multi-season interest.
<i>Muhlenbergia reverchonii</i> 'PUND01S' (Undaunted® Muhly Grass)	The typical muhly grass (<i>M. capillaris</i>) can be maddingly touchy in the garden. It overwinters when it feels like it, but not when you feel like it! Undaunted® is a great advancement in muhly for the garden. Fine textured, blue green foliage in mounds about 2' tall are topped in fall with clouds of pink. Native, durable, and much more reliable, this one is great for any sunny garden with reasonably well drained soils.
<i>Calamagrostis</i> 'Karl Foerster' (Feather Reed Grass)	The classic architectural grass. Strong and upright with late summer plumes of wispy flowers. Seed heads remain attractive all through the fall and winter. People argue that it is overplanted but it sure does do its job in the garden well!

Shade Perennials	
Name	Description
<i>Dicentra</i> 'White Gold' (Bleeding Heart)	With foliage that is downright luminescent, this cultivar really stands out in the shade garden amongst the darker foliage of neighboring ferns and hostas. The flowers are a bright white and about as perfectly heart-shaped as you can find.
<i>Ajuga reptans</i> 'Chocolate Chip' (Bugleweed)	A very fine textured Ajuga with deep purple foliage. The leaves on this plant are about a 1/2" wide and an 1-2' long. This variety doesn't spread as quickly as other varieties, but over time it will form an excellent mat of foliage to cover the ground. In spring, it pushes up blue/purple spikes of flower. A great planting of this can be found in the Pavilion Garden at Yew Dell.
<i>Aralia cordata</i> 'Sunking' (Japanese Spikenard)	Perennial Plant Association plant of the year for 2020 and a Theodore Klein Award winner as well! This stout perennial will mature to a 4-5' tall and wide "shrub" in the garden with brilliant gold new growth fading to a soft chartreuse later in summer. More shade, more green - more sun, more gold - but not too much sun! Small white flowers in late summer yield glossy black fruit. Fabulous!
<i>Arisaema consanguineum</i> (Himalayan Cobra Lily)	Very cool plant alert! Our native jack-in-the-pulpit's cousin from Asia who stands about 24" tall at maturity. A huge leaf of 12+ leaflets stands above the flower spathe (pulpit). Fantastic texture in the shade garden. This one multiplies easily and large masses can be had with dividing and spreading them every couple of years.
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i> (Goat's Beard)	A big beefy plant for that area of the garden that isn't quite full sun and not quite full shade. Give it some protection from the hot afternoon sun and provide adequate moisture and this plant is a show stopper. Growing to 4-6' tall, it sends up plumes of white flowers in the spring. Great texture plant for the garden.



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Shade Perennials cont.	
Name	Description
<i>Asarum canadense</i> (Wild Ginger)	Native to the entire state of Kentucky, this little woodland plant stands about 3-5" tall and covers over the small flowers that are at ground level. It isn't one of those big, cool, and showy flowers you can see from across the garden but bending down each spring to take a look at them is a gardening must. We have planted these in our incredibly-difficult-to-grow-about-anything area underneath the American Beeches at Yew Dell. The first two years in this inhospitable dry area has proven to still make them happy. They've stayed green all summer & begun creating a great ground cover.
<i>Bletilla x Yokohama</i> 'Kate' (Hardy Ground Orchid)	It is always fun to have a visitor in the garden and have them be surprised when you tell them the large, 3' tall mass of plants with pink flowers is an orchid! The foliage is 2-3" wide blades that stand straight up and beginning in June the flowers stand well above and last for weeks. Upon close inspection of the flowers, you will see their beauty and know right away that the delicate petals are indeed that of an orchid!
<i>Chelone lyonii</i> 'ARMITPP02' (Tiny Tortuga Turtlehead)	An amazing late summer bloomer we have loved in the gardens here at Yew Dell! Only reaching about 18" tall, the dark green foliage contrasts with the bright pink flowers very well. We have had a <i>Chelone</i> growing in a large container in our Walled Garden for a few years now. It hasn't missed a beat! Tiny Tortuga is a fast grower and forms a nice mass quickly. <i>Chelone</i> is a fun and easy plant to separate into single divisions in the fall to expand your own shade garden or share with friends.
<i>Epimedium</i> 'Orange Queen' (Barrenwort)	Always a favorite, 'Orange Queen' is one of the better of the orange flowered eps. 12" tall of light green spring foliage topped with clouds of yellow/orange spring blooms.
<i>Epimedium</i> 'Pink Champagne' (Barrenwort)	A big, 18-24" high selection with white/burgundy flowers and extremely speckled green and red spring foliage.
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i> <i>subsp. robbiae</i> (Wood Spurge)	Super tough shade ground cover with leathery and glossy deep green leaves and bright green spring flower masses above. Given a loose organic heavy mix this plant can form unbelievable clumps like we have seen in our nursery. Given the horrible, dry conditions like we have under the American Beech in the gardens, it will be sparse yet still glossy green.
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Candy Love' (Winter Magic™ Lenten Rose)	The breeding work of hellebores has really taken off and this is a great example. Unlike the green foliage you are used to on most of them, this series has a silverish look that makes a beautiful plant even without the loads of cream flowers that fade to a plum color and eventually green as the season progresses.
<i>Heuchera longiflora</i> (Long-flowered Alumroot)	The foliage is medium green with dark green veining with occasional silvery or red overlay on the foliage possible depending on light exposure. Compared to the <i>Heuchera americana</i> , this Coral Bells species has shorter flower stalks but with larger flowers and better drought tolerance.
<i>Heuchera villosa</i> 'Caramel' (Coral Bell)	Rightfully named, 'Caramel' has leaves colored like, well Caramel! Another great Heuchera for loose, well-drained soil or in a container placed in a shady spot.



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Shade Perennials cont.	
Name	Description
<i>Heucherella</i> 'Pink Revolution' (Foamy Bells)	This plant is a bit on the small side but really packs a punch with its looks. The foliage is a gorgeous emerald green with purple margins, but the real standout feature of this plant is the great number of bubble gum-pink flowers that bloom on vertical stalks.
<i>Heucherella</i> 'Pumpkin Spice' (Foamy Bells)	This intergeneric hybrid (<i>Heuchera x Tiarella</i>) uses <i>H. villosa</i> in its background giving it better staying power in Kentucky's heat and humidity. Foliage emerges in spring with stunning orange/copper color and darker centers. Late spring white flowers on 10-12" spikes.
<i>Heucherella</i> 'Sweet Tea' (Foamy Bells)	A 20" tall plant while in flower of eye popping color. Heucheras and Heucherellas can be finicky in this area if in the wrong soil. If in the right spot, they flourish and live for years if not decades! In the wrong spot, well, plan on a short life. For this reason we like to recommend these plants in containers in a shaded area of the garden or patio. They overwinter perfectly in the container left out all winter and they love the well-draining properties of a potting mix.
<i>Hosta</i> 'Feather Boa' (Plantain Lily)	A small Hosta that came to us via our friend Gene Bush. Only reaching around 10" tall has narrow yellow foliage and a ruffled edge. It will do great in a planter or used as ground cover around larger shade perennials.
<i>Hosta</i> 'Praying Hands' (Hosta)	Unique hosta selection with long, lanceolate leaves held in upright mounds.
<i>Hosta</i> 'Purple Profusion' (Plantain Lily)	A smaller, more compact hosta that is not here to wow you with its foliage but with its dazzling multitude of deep purple flowers. This hosta is a bit more sun tolerant than others, but more shade will result in a deeper green on the leaves.
<i>Hosta</i> 'Royal Standard' (Hosta)	With exceptional heat and drought tolerance, this good-sized mounding hosta has glossy green foliage that are wavy with appressed venation. 3' tall flower scapes emerge from the foliage with white, fragrant blooms.
<i>Iris cristata</i> 'Powder Blue Giant' (Dwarf Crested Iris)	This is a more robust selection of our much beloved native woodland wildflower. 6-8' masses of sword-like foliage and rich blue spring iris flowers. The flowers of 'Powder Blue Giant' are much larger than the straight species and can reach up to 3' across! Grow in filtered light on well-drained soil. This selection was made not far from Louisville. Samuel Norris (1921-2002) of Owensboro, Kentucky discovered this selection growing in Leitchfield, Kentucky.
<i>Mazus reptans</i> 'Alba' (Creeping Mazus)	The classic filler-inner plant with a twist. Mazus grows only a few inches tall and creeps along the ground producing tiny leaves and blue/white flowers in spring. 'Alba' is, well, alba, the white form. Great for filling in around stepping stones, creeping along the edge of a mixed border or anywhere else you need a fill in. Takes a little foot traffic. Not bothered by deer.



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Shade Perennials cont.	
Name	Description
<i>Phlox divaricate</i> 'Blue Moon' (Woodland Phlox)	Awarded the 2022 Garden Club of America's Montine McDaniel Freeman Medal Winner. First introduced to this plant by our friends at North Creek Nurseries, it quickly became a favorite at Yew Dell. Vigorous growing woodland creeper, it produces fine textured spring foliage and clouds of beautiful blue spring blooms. Excellent selection for the lightly shaded garden. The fall color is a beautiful maroon color that will persist into the mild months of winter. Don't let the deer know you planted this one!
<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i> 'Brise d'Anjou' (Jacob's Ladder)	This low-growing selection was discovered in a French nursery as a naturally occurring mutation. The ladder-like appearance of the pinnate leaves are how it got the common name Jacob's Ladder. This selection, though, has creamy yellow to white variegation all over the bright green foliage which makes for a real standout appearance. In late spring to early summer, flower stalks emerge with dainty cup-shaped violet-blue flowers.
<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i> 'Variegatum' (Solomon's Seal)	An essential for any shade garden . . . 18-24" arching masses of erect stems produce clean, medium green leaves edged in white. Spring blooms are small white bells that hang from each leaf axil. It has excellent clear yellow fall color. Spreads slowly but is long lived, dependable, and deer resistant.
<i>Pulmonaria</i> 'Trevi Fountain' (Lungwort)	This Theodore Klein Plant Award winner is one of the best and most heat tolerant <i>Pulmonarias</i> on the market today. Slightly fuzzy, strap-like green leaves with silver spots are set off with royal blue spring flowers. If you want to grow <i>Pulmonaria</i> , this is the one to grow!
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> (Bloodroot)	A giant white flower that blooms across Kentucky in spring. As the plant emerges, the leaf is wrapped around the flower bud. You will see what looks like little green/grey bundles poking out of the ground that start to unfurl and a single white flower will open, do its business, and form a seed pod. As the petals begin to fall off the flower, the single leaf of the plant will begin to grow and will persist until summer before going dormant. Well established, mature clumps of this plant can have leaves nearly a foot across!
<i>Saxifraga stolonifera</i> (Strawberry Begonia)	Looks like a begonia but runs like a strawberry. Sometimes common names make sense! A wonderful little groundcover for the shade with mottled green/silver leaves and quite possibly one of the prettiest flowers in the garden. Now they may be one of the smallest flowers in the garden, but they make up for it in show! And it's very hardy.
<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i> (Celandine Poppy)	A bright yellow flowering, readily reseeding Kentucky native spring ephemeral. What's not to love?! This is continuously one of the first plants to bloom in the spring. After blooming, the plant develops large, fuzzy seed pods which to some can add another short season of interest or an opportunity to do some seed propagation!
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> 'Running Tapestry' (Foamflower)	A vigorous running groundcover with red speckled, deeply dissected, maple-like foliage. This plant produces a plethora of white flower spikes in spring and is a wonderful companion plant with spring ephemerals, ferns, and other such shaded-woodland species.



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Shade Perennials cont.

Name	Description
<i>Tiarella</i> 'Fingerpaint' (Foamflower)	A great perennial for the shady area of the garden either in the ground or in a planter. Low, mounding plants with heavily lobed green leaves with maroon centers. In early spring, the plant is covered in upright bottlebrush white flowers. A great texture plant to pair with the boldness of a hosta or hydrangea.
<i>Viola walteri</i> 'Silver Gem' (Walter's Violet)	This compact violet is an enchanting groundcover with beautiful silvery-blue, heart-shaped foliage. Throughout spring and early summer, small violet flowers protrude from beneath the foliage. It is ideal for shady woodland settings but once established, it is very drought tolerant. Individuals spread somewhat, but colonies are only created by seed-set.
<i>Zingiber mioga</i> (Hardy Ginger)	Quite simply, the only tropical looking, ground-level flowering, edible shade perennial we know! 3-4'-tall masses of bold foliage emerge in spring and remain in great shape all through the summer. In fall, yellow orchid-like blooms form at the base of the plants. Wickedly cool texture plant. And both the flowers and young, spring shoots are edible. (just don't eat the mature shoots - they're poisonous!)

Sun Perennials

Name	Description
<i>Agastache</i> 'Blue Fortune'	This tall but compact member of the mint family is covered in bottlebrush spikes of light purple/blue flowers from midsummer into fall. This gives your garden months of colors and a steady source of food for the insects that visit the flowers. Not only will the insects enjoy it, but you can crush a leaf as you walk by and get a refreshing aroma of licorice!
<i>Amsonia</i> 'Starstruck' (Bluestar)	*2023 Theodore Klein Plant Award Winner* This fabulous, compact growing sun perennial is prized for its sky-blue spring flowers, dense and high-quality summer foliage, and glowing golden fall color. It makes a good cut flower and is not browsed by deer.
<i>Aster tataricus</i> 'Jindai' (Tatarian Aster)	This species is a late blooming aster that blooms in September and still looks fresh by first frost. The purple rays and yellow central disk are very attractive to butterflies. This plant will readily spread by rhizomes in ideal conditions, turning what was a single purchase into a solid colony in your garden over time.
<i>Betonica officinalis</i> 'Hummelo' (Lamb's Ear)	This plant is a tough, durable, and attractive sun perennial with rose/purple mid-summer blooms. The highest rated selection in a Chicago Botanic Garden multi-year trial. It was also awarded the 2019 Perennial of the Year award by the Perennial Plant Association.
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> (New Jersey Tea)	This smaller, upright, deciduous shrub is a lovely native plant. A host plant for the Spring and Summer Azure Butterfly. The foliage has an interesting gray cast on the deeper green of the leaves, presenting a somewhat glossy appearance. The dainty flowers are small white clusters held at the terminal end of the stalks.



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Sun Perennials cont.	
Name	Description
<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> (Plumbago)	This selection just plain gets it done, year after year. Dense mass of glossy, deep green foliage to about 8" tall spreads to form an excellent groundcover with intense blue blooms in spring and sporadically through the summer and fall. Easy to grow in any reasonable soil in sun or part shade.
<i>Chrysanthemum</i> 'Brandywine Sunset' (Hardy Garden Mum)	This garden mum offers showy blooms of soft pink/peach with yellow centers and incredible fragrance. It is covered with dozens of different pollinators when there is little else out there blooming in the fall garden. The excellent thing about gardening with perennials is the ever changing colors throughout the growing season and garden mums fill the niche of being one of the last to show off each year!
<i>Chrysanthemum</i> 'Hillside Sheffield Pink' (Hardy Garden Mum)	In October when most everything else is well on its way to becoming dormant after a long growing season of heat, rain, drought, and storms this mum is blooming like crazy in the Pavilion Garden at Yew Dell. With few flowers left for pollinators to feed on this plant is buzzing all day long with all sorts of insects. It loves full sun and will spread over time and form a nice mass planting in the garden. It can grow to over 2' tall but a cut back in early July can control some height and make for more flowers in the fall.
<i>Chrysanthemum</i> 'Raspberry Sorbet' (Hardy Garden Mum)	This hardy garden mum offers showy blooms of bright and cheerful pink/purple with incredible fragrance. It is covered with dozens of different pollinators when there is little else out there blooming in the fall garden. Fabulous! Like all of the hardy garden mums, this plant is a reliable perennial year after year and will be one of the last plants flowering in your garden in the fall.
<i>Chrysanthemum</i> 'Springhouse Red' (Hardy Garden Mum)	This is a plant that was passed along to us by our friend Richard Weber of Springhouse Gardens in Nicholasville, KY. Richard loves the hardy garden mums and has been keeping his eye out on seedlings that come up in his gardens and selects them for different colors. 'Springhouse Red' is one of these and has fire engine red petals surrounding a yellow center.
<i>Clinopodium nepeta</i> subsp. <i>nepeta</i> (Calamint)	Perennial Plant of the Year® for 2021. Fantastic, incredibly drought tolerant sun perennial to about 1-1.5' tall with fine, gray/green minty scented foliage and dainty pale purple, almost white flowers summer to fall. It is pretty incredible how long this little plant blooms for, and the pollinator diversity drawn to those blooms is equally impressive.
<i>Coreopsis auriculata</i> 'Nana' (Ear-Leaved Tickseed)	This is a cute little fella. Not even reaching a foot tall, this small but mighty plant can form organized and attractive bunches over time. Definitely for the front of the sun garden or in smaller spaces where it won't get lost amongst all the taller perennials.
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i> 'Gold Standard' (Tall Coreopsis)	One of our favorite late-season composites. A North American native that starts to show its bright yellow blooms in late May or early June and doesn't stop until some time in fall. Drought tolerant, deer proof, good cut, and pollinator plant, this one does it all. Loves full sun and dry-ish soil.
<i>Erigeron</i> 'Azurfee' (Fleabane)	Manageable clumps of this perennial create erect stems that culminate in flowers with lavender-blue petals and a yellow center. Occasional cut backs can help this species continually bloom from summer into early fall.



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Sun Perennials cont.

Name	Description
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> (Rattlesnake Master)	Another Kentucky native plant that can be found in tall prairie remnants. Large basal clumps of yucca-like leaves eventually share the spotlight with protruding stalks adorned with white globe flowers that are extremely attractive to pollinators. This is a plant that you will fall in love with just because of how different it looks than other plants in your garden.
<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i> 'Gateway' (Joe Pye Weed)	The original and still hard to beat! This native perennial with deep green foliage topped with dusty pink flower heads in late summer. Outstanding pollinator plant. Excellent cut flower. Deer proof. Just give it sun and stand back!
<i>Gaillardia</i> 'Kobold' (Blanket Flower)	This Blanket Flower cultivar is a truly low-maintenance plant. Very drought and heat tolerant, resistant to deer and rabbit feeding, and a lovely pollinator plant. The individual flowers are quite large for such a low-growing plant with serrated tips on petals that are scarlet at the center fading to yellow at the margins.
<i>Geranium</i> 'Karmina' (Hardy Geranium)	This Theodore Klein Award Winner forms tight, dense masses of dark green foliage with cheerful, pale pink flowers in late spring. It makes a great edge or crevice plant and is outstanding in containers (we've had one in the same container for about 10 years!) Deer resistant.
<i>Gladiolus dalenii</i> 'Boone' (Hardy Gladiolus)	No need to dig these up in the fall to have them for next year. They are truly hardy in this area and have an exceptional yellow/orange/butterscotch color to the flower. This one multiplies pretty quickly, and you will have a nice clump in no time!
<i>Hylotelephium sieboldii</i> (Siebold's Stonecrop)	Low, mat forming succulent with rounded, blue/gray leaves and bright pink blooms in fall. Works well in the sunny rock garden or planters.
<i>Iris ensata</i> 'Variegata' (Japanese Water Iris)	Silvery-green foliage and deeply saturated purple flowers give this iris some great pairing potential in the garden. White variegation blends well with the already striking foliage and persists throughout the year.
<i>Iris</i> 'Ming Treasure' (Iris)	A 4' tall Iris! Do you really need any more of a description? This newer selection is just coming into the market and will make quite a splash. It is a cross between several species of iris and only one of them is known for sure and that is <i>Iris ampliflora</i> . The flowers are a standard purple color but the height of the foliage really is the winning feature. It will be best to have this plant in the morning sun & afternoon shade.
<i>Liatris spicata</i> 'Kobold's Original' (Blazing Star)	When a flower spike blooms it does so from the bottom up, right? Usually, but not so with this plant. Sporting a 12-18" light purple flower (much more compact than the straight species) this one is loved by butterflies.
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> (Cardinal Flower)	You can't keep the hummingbirds off these flowers! Screaming red flowers on a 2-4' native plant that does well in normal garden conditions or a wet, rain garden planting.
<i>Lycoris squamigera</i> (Naked Lady)	The classic! Late winter/early spring sprays of long, strap-like upright foliage melts away by early to mid-summer when the bare, naked lady stems shoot up from the ground to offer their huge pink trumpets. Will grow just about anywhere you can get a spade in the ground!



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Sun Perennials cont.

Name	Description
<i>Monarda didyma</i> 'Jacob Cline' (Bee Balm)	Yew Dell Director of Horticulture and Facilities, Jacob Stidham, swears he doesn't grow this one for its name but rather for its impressive stature (he likes plants he can look in the eye!), screaming scarlet red summer flowers, and excellent mildew resistance. For hummingbirds, it's excellent and one of their favorite plants. It is also frequently visited by other summer pollinators including the awesomely cool hummingbird moths.
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> 'Claire Grace' (Bee Balm)	A selection of our native bee balm standing at 4' tall that was found by Barb and Michael Bridges and named for their daughter. In the Mt. Cuba trials, this selection was more sturdy, had glossier foliage, and was more powdery mildew resistant than the straight species. A great plant for hummingbirds!
<i>Monarda</i> 'Purple Rooster' (Beebalm)	This beebalm has the darkest, truest purple flowers of any cultivar. With about a month of full blooms and excellent powdery mildew resistance, this selection is spectacular beebalm to add to full-sun pollinator areas.
<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> 'Fireworks' (Sundrops)	A selection of our native species that is more compact with green foliage that has a tint of purple/red to it. The flower buds are red and open to the same bright yellow flowers as the straight species in late spring. Evergreen rosettes of foliage add some interest in the winter.
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> 'Onyx and Pearls' (Beardtongue)	This is an amazing selection of <i>Penstemon</i> . Deep purple evergreen foliage shoots up in spring and is covered in clear white flowers. The flowers and foliage color contrast puts on an amazing show! Great sun perennial for foliage, blooms, and pollinators. Planted in mass, it makes the obvious impact in the spring, but during the winter, the carpet of purple foliage can really help beat the winter blues!
<i>Persicaria microcephala</i> 'Red Dragon' (Knotweed)	This clump-forming, sterile cultivar was bred to be less aggressive than other Knotweed, but it is still a good idea to use this one in a container planting! Ovate to triangular leaves start red-brown, turning to silver-purple over time.
<i>Physotegia virginiana</i> 'Miss Manners' (Obedient Plant)	This cultivar of the Obedient Plant provides greater structural support for the stems so flopping is less of an issue. Compact clumps have tall, upright stems that culminate in pale lilac-pink flowers that resemble those of snapdragons.
<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i> (Blunt Mountain Mint)	A Kentucky native and possibly one of the best pollinator plants to add to the garden. Not nearly as aggressive as culinary mint, but close. Make sure to give this one space. This plant has deep green foliage, silver bracts, and flowers all summer long. Yew Dell has some of this plant along the Rain Garden below the Rounsavall Pavilion.
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i> (Grey Headed Coneflower)	A Kentucky native and one of the most prevalent plants in Yew Dell's Pollinator Meadow and one of the earliest bursts of color. This plant starts blooming in late June and really puts on a show and turns the meadow yellow.
<i>Rudbeckia maxima</i> (Giant Coneflower)	This is one big honkin' coneflower! A basal mass of bright, blue/green foliage yields an 8-9' tall stalk with multiple yellow flowers with dark brown centers in mid to late summer. Makes a huge statement in the summer garden. Loves hot, sunny sites with dryish soil once established.



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Sun Perennials cont.

Name	Description
<i>Saponaria ocymoides</i> (Rock Soapwort)	With a similar habit to Creeping Phlox and similarly stunning flower displays, the Rock Soapwort works wonderfully as a groundcover spilling over rock walls. It enjoys drier soil, is very drought tolerant, and is not browsed by deer. The foliage appears as a blanket of cascading emerald-green and the fragrant pink blooms are present from late spring to summer.
<i>Sedum rupestre</i> 'Angelina' (Stonecrop)	A wonderful, drought-tolerant groundcover that wows with vibrant chartreuse to golden yellow foliage. Best utilized in rock gardens, dry borders, and containers with a well-draining soil. The flower is star-shaped and yellow, and the foliage becomes a golden-orange in the Fall.
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> (Cup Plant)	A big beast of a plant for the sun garden. Starting with a low mound of coarse foliage, this North American native sends up towers that each produce several bright, cheerful, small, and sunflower-like flowers in mid to late summer. Its seeds are favored by a wide range of birds in late fall and early winter and make quite a statement in the garden! The name cup plant comes from the way the base of each leaf wraps around the stem and connects with the leaf on the opposite side. Because of this connection around the stem, the two leaves hold water. In the morning, a heavy dew will run down the leaves and collect in this 'cup' which provides water for insects and small birds during the heat of the summer.
<i>Solidago rugosa</i> 'Fireworks' (Rough Goldenrod)	Excellent late-summer bloomer for the bright sunny garden. Vigorous, arching sprays of foliage are topped with sparkling golden masses of flowers. Durable, long-lived, and an excellent late nectar source for pollinators. Many people mistake goldenrods for a plant that causes their allergies to act up. This simply isn't true. Goldenrods have sticky pollen that isn't able to be carried off in the wind. So go ahead and put some of these amazing late-summer plants in your garden & do not worry about a runny nose!
<i>Solidago shortii</i> 'Solar Cascade' (Short's Goldenrod)	Selected by our good friend Steve Foltz of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens, this cascading goldenrod is a great summer/fall bloomer to plant above a wall or on a slope. Brilliant yellow flowers and deep green foliage. Full sun and well-drained soil. This species is listed as endangered and only occurs in few locales in North Central KY and one area of Southern IN. It was first recorded as a species by Louisville botanist Dr. Charles Wilkins Short (1794-1863) in 1840 growing on Rock Island at the Falls of the Ohio. Talk about a plant with some local history! Another tidbit for the history and botany geeks in the audience is that Dr. Short rests at Cave Hill Cemetery here in Louisville.
<i>Stokesia laevis</i> 'Mel's Blue' (Stoke's Aster)	Improved selection of this incredibly useful sun perennial. Growing 12-18" all, it produces vivid lavender/blue pin cushion flowers in mid spring and then continuing off & on through the summer. Great cut flower & butterfly plant. Needs good drainage.
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i> 'Bluebird' (Smooth Aster)	This Mt Cuba Center introduction makes an outstanding garden plant. With strong, upright growth the dark green foliage is covered with blue/lavender flowers in late summer and fall. Foliage remains good looking all summer and doesn't get hammered by disease as happens to so many asters out there. Great pollinator plant for the end of the season.



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Sun Perennials cont.

Name	Description
<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i> 'October Skies' (Fragrant Aster)	Compared to 'Raydon's Favorite' this selection is a bit shorter and more blue/lighter purple. It provides just as much late season activity in the garden. Tough as nails and can take some pretty horrible garden conditions like drought, poor soil, and heat. This selection was discovered at the Scott Arboretum just outside of Philadelphia.
<i>Thermopsis villosa</i> (Carolina Lupine)	With a very similar look to Baptisia, this native perennial has bright yellow flowers all along erect flowering stalks that emerge above lovely green foliage. Forms a compact shrub. A nitrogen-fixing legume.
<i>Yucca filamentosa</i> 'Color Guard' (Adam's Needle)	We do not condone the use of plastic or artificial plants but the real ones that seem to be as tough as plastic get high marks in our book. This bright yellow and blue/green Yucca looks the exact same on a 5 degree day in February as it does on a 105 degree day in July. This is the plant they should plant in parking lot islands instead of Hosta and Hydrangea!!!!