

Planting Guide

The following woody plants are native to southern Ontario. These species are adapted to the local climate and are hardier than non-native species. The following species would be ideal to plant on roadsides, parks, open space, and non-roadside environments in the Township of Southwold.

Some species have very specific sun and soil moisture requirements; use the details below to guide

- (R): Listed as rare in Ontario, don't plant in large numbers.
- (C): Carolinian species, rarely found north of London
- (S): Spreads easily

Soil Moisture:

- Wet (swap, wetland habitats)
- Moist (intermediate between wet and dry)



Boulevard/Roadside:

TREES:				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture Condition	Notes
Acer x freeman	Freeman Maple	Sun	Moist (Well-drained)	Great for planting along rural roads.
Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	Sun	Wet to Moist (Prefers deep, moist acidic soil)	Can interfere with drainage tiles. Be careful when planting near buildings, sidewalks, or drainage tile. Can withstand some flooding and moderate drought tolerance.
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	Part Shade	Wet to Moist (Rich, sandy, well-drained and clay soils)	Poisonous to horses
Gleditsia triacanthos	Honey-locust	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	
Quercus macrocarpa	Burr Oak	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (well- drained sandy or clay loam soils)	Hosts beneficial insects
Quercus rubra	Red Oak	Sun	Dry	
Quercus alba	White Oak	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (deep, well-drained)	Nuts for wildlife

Gymnocladus dioica	Kentucky Coffee- tree (R, C)	Part Shade	Moist	Large seed pods
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree (C)	Sun	Wet to Moist	Showy flower
Platanus occidentalis	Sycamore	Part Shade (C)	Wet to Moist	Seed balls for wildlife
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	Sun to Part Shade	Moist	
Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry	Sun to Part Shade	Moist	

Rural Ditches/Roadside Planting Mixes:

Ontario Seed Company Rural Ontario Native Roadside Mixture (8145)

St. Williams Nursery & Ecology Centre Roadside & Forest Edge Seed Mix

Parks/Open Space/ Non-Roadside Environment:

TREES:				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture Conditions	Notes
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	Part Shade	Wet to Moist (Well-drained and clay soil)	Poisonous to horses. Prefers wet soil but has slight drought tolerance
Gelditsia triacanthos	Honey-locust	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	Moderate tolerance for both flooding and drought.
Gymnocladus dioicus	Kentucky Coffee-tree (R, C)	Part Shade	Moist (well-drained, wet and clay soils)	Large seed pods
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut	Sun	Moist (Well-drained)	Large nut, allelopathic
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar (S)	Sun	Moist to Dry	Small tree, good in hedges
Picea glauca	White Spruce	Part to Full Sun	Moist (Well-drained, moist fertile soils)	
Pinus strobus	White Pine	Part to Full Sun	Moist (Well-drained and dry soils)	Can tolerate everything from dry, rocky ridges to bogs
Platanus occidentalis	American Sycamore	Part Shade (C)	Wet to Moist (Rich soils, tolerates seasonal flooding and heavy clay)	Seed balls for wildlife
Prunus nigra	Canada Plum	Sun	Moist (Well-drained)	Small tree, edible fruit
Prunus pensylvanica	Pin Cherry	Sun	Moist to Dry	Berries for wildlife
Quercus alba	White Oak	Full to Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Nuts for wildlife
Quercus rubra	Red Oak	Sun	Dry	
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree (C)	Sun	Wet to Moist	Showy flower. Grows best in sand
Thuja occidentalis	White Cedar	Part Shade	Wet to Dry	Can be pruned to a hedge
Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (Rich and well-drained)	
Larix laricina	Tamarack	Part Shade	Variety	Drops needles in fall







SHRUBS:				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture Conditions	Notes
Amelanchier alnifolia	Saskatoon Berry	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea J	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	
Juniperus communis	Common Juniper	Sun	Dry	Low evergreen
Prunus pumila	Sand Cherry	Sun	Moist (Well-drained)	
Rosa Carolina	Carolina Rose	Sun	Dry	Showy flower
Shepherdia canadensis	Buffaloberry	Sun	Dry	
Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry	Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Showy flower
Viburnum opulus var. Americanum	Highbush Cranberry	Part Shade	Moist (Shady, well-drained)	Red fall foliage
Cornus sericea	Red Osier Dogwood	Sun	Wet to Moist	Red branches
Aronia melanocarpa	Black Chokeberry	Sun	Wet to Moist	Berries for wildlife
Amelanchier	Serviceberry	Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Berries for wildlife
Cercis Canadensis	Eastern redbud	Part Shade	Moist (but not soggy)	Seeds in capsules







PERENNIALS:				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture Conditions	Description
Anaphalis margaritacea	Pearly Everlasting	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Grows 1-3 ft. tall and white with yellow centres. Prefers somewhat dry, sandy, or gravelly conditions.
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly weed	Sun	Dry	Low maintenance, Bushy, 1-3 ft. perennial known for its large, flat-topped clusters of bright-orange flowers. Prefers an acidic soil that is sandy or rocky.
Aster ericoides	Heath Aster	Sun	Dry	Typically grows 1-3 ft tall. With small, daisy-like flowers. Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Best in sandy loams or rocky soil with good drainage.
Aster novae-angliae	New England Aster	Sun	Moist (Well-drained)	Stout, leafy plant typically growing 3-6 ft. tall with bright, rose-purple flowers with orange centers. Grow naturally and easily in sites including prairies, marshes, and forest edges.
Campanula rotundifolia	Bluebells/Harebells	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Long lasting, Flat, star-shaped, five- lobed, light blue flowers. Does well in a variety of sites including rock gardens, sandy and well-drained soils.
Chamerion angustifolium	Fireweed	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (Well-drained)	Grows up to 2-5 ft. tall on upright, often reddish, and primarily unbranched. Easily grown in organically rich, well-drained soil. Prefers part shade in hot summer climates. This plant can be both persistent and aggressive in garden areas.
Coreopsis lanceolata	Lance-leaf Coreopsis	Sun to Part Shade	Dry	Grows in small clumps but forms extensive colonies with yellow flower heads. Found in prairies and meadows, tolerant of drought and poor, rocky soils. Thrives in a sunny and dry location and grows quickly.

Desmodium canadense	Showy Tick Trefoil	Full or Partial Sun	Moist to dry sandy conditions	Bushy, hairy plant, of pink or rose-purple pea-like flowers. Grows in moist meadows and fields, in prairies and along stream or lake shorelines and along forest edges.
Echinacea pallida	Pale Purple Coneflower	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	Known as a pale purple coneflower, is a coarse, hairy perennial of prairies. Low maintenance, easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil. Plants usually rebloom without deadheading.
Euphorbia corollata	Flowering Spurge	Sun	Dry	A slender, diffusely branched and when wounded can produce a toxic milky cell sap. Performs best in well-drained soils including prairies and meadows.
Fragaria virginiana	Wild Strawberry	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	A Wild Strawberry is a ground-hugging plant rising from a fibrous, perennial root system. Found in patches in fields and dry openings. This plant produces the finest sweetest, wild strawberry.
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke	Sun	Dry	A reddish pink to purplish, nodding, globular flowers that bloom in late spring with the fruiting heads which follow. Best grown in dry, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates deer, drought, and dry soil. Grown in mass on prairies, meadow, rock garden, or naturalized area.
Liatris aspera	Rough blazing star	Sun	Dry	Covered with lavender blooms in late summer and perfect for medium or drywell drained soils. Ideal for dry perennial borders, rock gardens or low-growing drymeadows.
Lupinus perennis	Wild Lupine	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	Blue, pea-like flowers in an upright., elongated, terminal cluster on an erect stem with palmately compound leaves. Found in sunny areas of bare sand.
Monarda punctata	Horse Mint	Sun	Dry (Well-drained)	Gives off a sweet and pleasant aroma. Dried, the leaves and flowers have a great medicinal value. Prefers hot and dry areas with slightly sandy soil.
Oenothera biennis	Evening Primrose	Sun to Part Shade	Dry	Leafy stalk bloom lemon-scented, large yellow flowers. Stem hairy, often purpletinted.
Opuntia humifusa	Eastern Prickly pear	Sun	Dry	Grows in sandy and rocky soils. A cactus bearing few yellow flowers, often with reddish centres and flat, fleshy, green pads covered with clusters of reddishbrown, barbed bristles.
Penstemon hirsutus	Hairy Beardtongue	Sun to Part Shade	Dry	A woolly-stemmed plant with open, stalked clusters of lavender to violet, trumpet-shaped flowers with whitish lips. Found in dry woodlands and open fields.
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Hairy Mountain-mint	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	Easily grown in average, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. A vigorous and sometimes aggressive grower. May be grown in open areas near ponds and streams.
Ratibida pinnata	Yellow Coneflower	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	Typically occurs in dry woods, prairies and along railroad tracks. Grows in average, well-drained soil in full sun. Prefers clay or sandy soils. Tolerates poor, dry soils.
Silphium laciniatum	Compassplant	Sun to Part Shade	Moist to Dry	A tallgrass species that has sunflower-like, yellow blooms and deeply cut, lobbed leaves.
Silphium terebinthinaceum	Prairie Dock	Sun	Moist – Slightly dry	Excellent for naturalizing in prairies, cottage, gardens, rock garden, wildflower garden or native plant garden. Very large, wide, spade-shaped basal leaves subtend 3-8 ft. flowering stalk. A bright yellow, composite flower is numerous on older plants.
Solidago rigida	Stiff Goldenrod	Sun to Part Shade	Dry – Moist (Well-drained)	Rare species in Ontario, mainly because of loss of habitat. Lots of large thick leathery leaves. The flowers are yellow and large. Thrive in sunny prairie like settings or sunny gardens. Tolerates sandy, gravelly or clay soils and some drought.
Solidago speciosa	Showy Goldenrod	Sun to Part Shade	Dry	Grows in beds and borders, cottage gardens, wildlife gardens or wildflower

				meadows. Deer resistant. Easy to grow, low care and trouble free. Bear dense, pyramidal, terminal clusters, up to 12. In. long, packed with tiny bright yellow flowers.
Verbena stricta	Hoary Vervain	Sun	Moist to Dry	Thrives in dryish, sandy soils. Good drought tolerance. Plants usually bloom in the second year after seeding. Typically occurs in prairies, glades, thickets, fields, waste ground and along railroads and roadsides.
Aster laevis	Smooth Blue Aster	Sun	Dry	This plant is a lavender-blue, star-like flowers. The yellow flower-centre turns reddish, later in the season. Typically, about 3 ft. with arching branches, tough stems allow it to stay upright. Grows best in full sun in well-drained soil.
Aster oolentangiense	Sky Blue Aster	Sun	Dry	Grows quickly in prairie grasslands and sandy soils, blooms in the fall. Has an abundant light blue to light purple flowers that occur in branched, sprawling clusters at the terminal end of the plant.
Campanula americana	Tall Bellflower	Sun to Part Shade	Moist (rich, medium, well- drained but adaptable – clay is well tolerated)	Upright annual or biennial that is native to moist open woods, moist meadows, and streambanks. Effective in lightly shaded woodland areas where plant can be left alone to naturalise. Mass or large groups are best.
Coreopsis tripteris	Tall Coreopsis	Sun	Dry to Moist (Well-drained)	Easily grown in dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Thrives in poor sandy or rocky soils with good drainage. This plant is 3-8 t. tall and is usually unbranched, except for flowering stems along the upper half.
Desmodium canadense	Showy Tick-trefoil	Sun	Dry to Moist	Highly adaptable and can take over a small garden. Hundreds of rose-coloured, pea like flowers occur in dense, nodding clusters at the top of the stems.
Heliopsis helianthoides	False Sunflower	Sun	Dry to Moist (Well-drained)	Easily grown in average, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates drought but does better regularly watered. Tolerates a wide rand of soils. Effective in a wild garden or as part of prairie areas.
Maianthemum stellatum	Starry False Solomon's Seal	Sun to Part Shade	Dry to Moist	Adapts to a variety of sites and soils and increases rapidly. It can be used as a ground over.
Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	Sun to Part Shade	Dry to Moist	Thrives in a wide range of soils. Less tolerant of flooding but can take it in the winter.
Penstemon digitalis Foxglove	Beardtongue	Sun	Dry to Moist	Typically grows 3-5 ft. tall and occurs in prairies, fields, wood margins, open woods and along railroad tracks.
Rudbeckia hirta	Black-eyed Susan	Sun	Dry to Moist	Bright-yellow, 2-3 in. wide, daisy-like flowers with dark centers. Thrives in full sunshine and best if the soil is fertile.
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	Part Shade	Wet to Dry (Medium to well drained)	Tinged purple and bear grass-like leaves. Showy clusters of blue to rose, three- petaled flowers top the stems. Found in moist meadows, prairies, and thickets.
Vernonia missurica	Ironweed	Sun	Moist to Wet	Branched clusters of tiny, fluffy, vivid purple disks in mid-summer to early fall. Excellent choice for wildflower gardens, prairies, and meadows.











Seed Mixes for Storm Water Management Ponds:

St. Williams Nursery & Ecology Centre Waters Edge Seed Mix Ontario Seed Company Stormwater Pond Native Seed Mixture (8190)

Seed Mixes for Designated Pollinator Areas:

St. Williams Nursery & Ecology Centre Pollinator Meadow Seed Mix Ontario Seed Company Native Pollinator Seed Mixture (6824)