

# SUCCESS WITH PERENNIALS



Perennials are defined as plants that return in the garden 3 years or more from the same root base. Their bloom cycles vary from early to late season, short and long lived, but they can adapt, grow, and naturalize in places where annuals cannot, and once established are less overall maintenance. When inspecting your garden site consider the amount of sunlight in the area, soil type, wind, rainfall, irrigation, and fertilizer. Most sun loving perennials prefer 6+ hours of direct sun; part-shade plants need 4-6 hours of sun, and shade tolerant plants require 4 hours or less. Perennials thrive in various soil conditions, but most prefer well-drained, nutrient rich soil, worked 10-12" deep. This can be achieved by adding 2-3" of organic matter, peat, compost, manure, or Petitti Planting Mix each season. Then apply a slow-release fertilizer, such as Osmocote® or Plant-tone® at least once in the spring and again in midsummer. After planting, cover the soil with 1-2" of organic mulch, such as pine bark or hardwood, being careful not to cover the crowns of the plants. The mulch will suppress weed growth and hold in moisture to keep the roots cool. Irrigate 1" of water, once per week for the first growing season and your perennials will flourish.

During the growing season, be sure to remove spent flowers by deadheading/shearing. Deadheading will not only promote more blooms, but also increases stem strength to reduce staking, and will prevent insect and disease problems. Also try reducing weeds throughout the season by pulling or carefully spraying a non selective herbicide such as Captain Jack's™ Deadweed Brew or a weed seed killer like Preen®. Once perennials get too large for an area or their bloom cycle declines try dividing and transplanting. Do this the opposite season they bloom; mid-summer bloomers can be divided spring or fall. Clean up perennials in late fall or spring by cutting stems and foliage back to just above the soil level. Try to leave seed heads/winter interest semi-woody (lavender, Russian sage) plants up until next spring. Try these perennials for varied garden sites and conditions:

## Full Sun

- *Achillea* (Yarrow)
- *Alcea* (Hollyhocks)
- *Gaillardia* (Blanket Flower)
- *Heliopsis* (Perennial Sunflower)
- *Iris*
- *Liatis* (Blazing Star)
- *Papaver* (Poppy)
- *Perovskia* (Russian Sage)
- *Salvia* (Meadow Sage)
- *Sedum*
- Long-Blooming Perennials\*
- *Achillea* (Yarrow)
- *Coreopsis* (Tickseed)
- *Dicentra eximia* (Wild Bleeding Heart)
- *Echinacea* (Coneflower)
- *Gaillardia* (Blanket Flower)
- *Geranium*
- *Hemerocallis* 'Stella'&'Happy'
- *Nepeta* (Catmint)
- *Rudbeckia* (Black-Eyed Susan)
- *Scabiosa* (Pincushion Flower)

## Long-Blooming Perennials\*

- *Achillea* (Yarrow)
- *Coreopsis* (Tickseed)
- *Dicentra eximia* (Wild Bleeding Heart)
- *Echinacea* (Coneflower)
- *Gaillardia* (Blanket Flower)
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## Part-Shade

- *Aquilegia* (Columbine)
- *Baptisia* (False Indigo)
- *Centranthus* (Valerian)
- *Hemerocallis* (Daylily)
- *Heuchera* (Coral Bells)
- *Hypericum* (St. John's Wort)
- *Lychnis* (Rose Campion)
- *Monarda* (Bee Balm)

## part shade continued..

- *Tradescantia* (Spiderwort)
- *Veronica* (Speedwell)

## Deer Resistant\*

- *Achillea* (Yarrow)
- *Astilbe*
- *Centaurea* (Bachelor's Button)
- *Coreopsis* (Tickseed)
- *Eupatorium* (Joe Pye Weed)
- *Helleborus* (Lenten Rose)
- *Lavandula* (Lavender)
- *Monarda* (Bee Balm)
- *Nepeta* (Catmint)
- *Perovskia* (Russian Sage)

## Shade\*

- *Astilbe*
- *Chelone* (Turtlehead)
- *Cimicifuga* (Bug Bane)
- *Ferns*
- *Hosta*
- *Ligularia* (The Rocket)

## shade continued..

- *Polemonium* (Jacob's Ladder)
- *Primula* (Primrose)
- *Pulmonaria* (Lungwort)
- *Tiarella* (Foam Flower)

## Rabbit Resistant\*

- *Acanthus* (Bear's Breeches)
- *Brunnera* (Chinese Forget-Me-Not)
- *Corydalis*
- *Doronicum* (Leopard's Bane)
- *Geranium*
- *Iris*
- *Liriope* (Lilyturf)
- *Lupinus* (Lupine)
- *Paeonia* (Peony)
- *Tradescantia* (Spiderwort)

\*Additional information sheets available on these topics



Avon | Bainbridge | Bath Twp. | Boardman | Brunswick | Canton/Jackson Twp.  
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## For Spring Color

- *Arabis* (Rock Cress)
- *Bellis* (English Daisy)
- *Dicentra* (Bleeding Heart)
- *Epimedium* (Barrenwort)
- *Helleborus* (Lenten Rose)
- *Iris*
- *Myosotis* (Forget-Me-Not)
- *Phlox*
- *Primula* (Primrose)
- *Viola*

## For Summer Color

- *Astilbe*
- *Delphinium*
- *Hemerocallis* (Daylily)
- *Leucanthemum* (Shasta Daisy)
- *Liatris* (Gayfeather)
- *Lilium* (Lilies)
- *Monarda* (Bee Balm)
- *Penstemon* (Beardtongue)
- *Phlox* (Garden Phlox)
- *Stokesia* (Stokes Aster)

## For Fall Color\*

- *Anemone* (Wind Flower)
- *Asters*
- *Chrysanthemum*
- *Cimicifuga* (Bug Bane)
- *Helenium* (Helen's Flower)
- *Hibiscus*
- *Lobelia* (Cardinal Flower)
- Ornamental Grasses
- *Solidago* (Golden Rod)
- *Tricyrtis* (Toad Lily)

## For Winter Interest\*

- *Clematis*
- *Echinacea* (Coneflower)
- *Eupatorium* (Joe Pye Weed)
- *Helianthus* (Perennial Sunflower)
- *Helleborus* (Lenten/X-mas Rose)
- *Heuchera* (Coral Bells)
- Ornamental Grasses
- *Perovskia* (Russian Sage)
- *Rudbeckia* (Black Eyed Susan)
- *Sedum*

## Groundcovers

- *Ajuga*
- *Arabis/Aubrieta* (Rock Cress)
- *Arenaria* (Sandwort)
- *Cerastium* (Snow in Summer)
- *Convallaria* (Lily of the Valley)
- *Cotula* (Brass Buttons)
- *Dianthus/Sweet William*
- *Galium* (Sweet Woodruff)
- *Glechoma*
- *Ivy*
- *Lamium* (Dead Nettle)
- *Laurentia* (Blue Star Creeper)
- *Lysmachia* (Moneywort)
- *Mazus*
- *Pachysandra*
- *Phlox*
- *Sagina* (Irish Moss)
- *Saponaria* (Soapwort)
- *Sedum* (Stonecrop)
- *Thymus* (Thyme)
- *Trifolium*
- *Veronica* (Speedwell)
- *Vinca* (Myrtle)

## Sunny/Dry Soil

- *Anemone Pulsatilla* (Pasque Flower)
- *Arabis* (Rock Cress)
- *Armeria* (Sea Thrift)
- *Dianthus* (Pinks)
- *Iberis* (Candytuft)
- *Lavandula* (Lavender)
- *Nepeta* (Cat Mint)
- *Saxifraga*
- *Sedum* (Stonecrop)
- *Sempervivum* (Hens & Chicks)

## Shady/Dry Soil

- *Anemone* (Windflower)
- *Bergenia*
- *Brunnera* (Chinese Forget-Me-Not)
- *Corydalis*
- *Epimedium* (Barrenwort)
- *Galium* (Sweet Woodruff)
- *Hosta*
- *Liriope* (Lilyturf)
- Male Fern/ Autumn Fern
- *Phlox divaricata* (Woodland Phlox)

## Sunny/ Wet Soil

- *Asclepias* (Milk or Butterfly Weed)
- *Eupatorium* (Joe Pye Weed)
- *Heliopsis* (Ox-Eyed Daisy)
- *Helenium* (Helen's Flower)
- *Hibiscus*
- *Iris* (except Bearded types)
- *Lysmachia*
- *Miscanthus* (Maiden Grass)
- *Monarda* (Bee Balm)
- *Physostegia* (Obedient Plant)

## Shady/Wet Soil

- *Astilbe*
- *Carex* (Sedge)
- *Chelone* (Turtlehead)
- *Ligularia*
- *Lobelia* (Cardinal Flower)
- *Fern* (Cinnamon, Lady, Ostrich)
- *Myosotis* (Forget-Me-Not)
- *Phlox divaricata* (Woodland Phlox)
- *Primula*
- *Trollius* (Globe Flower)

## Foliage Color

- *Ajuga*
- *Alchemilla* (Lady's Mantle)
- *Artemisia* (Wormwood)
- *Brunnera* (Chinese Forget-Me-Not)
- *Ferns*
- *Heuchera/Tiarella/Heucherella*
- *Hosta*
- *Lamium*
- Ornamental Grasses
- *Stachys* (Lamb's Ear)

## For Hummingbirds\*

- *Aquilegia* (Columbine)
- *Crocasmia*
- *Dicentra* (Bleeding Heart)
- *Gaillardia 'Fanfare'*
- *Heuchera* (Coral Bells)
- *Kniphofia* (Torch Lily)
- *Lobelia* (Cardinal Flower)
- *Monarda* (red and pink varieties)
- *Penstemon* (Beardtongue)
- *Salvia* (Meadow Sage)

## For Butterflies\*

- *Agastache* (Hyssop)
- *Asclepias* (Milk or Butterfly Weed)
- Daisy types (*Aster*, *Coneflower*, *Coreopsis*, *Gaillardia*, *Rudbeckia*)
- *Hemerocallis* (Daylily)
- *Hibiscus*
- *Iberis* (Candy Tuft)
- *Liatris* (Gayfeather)
- *Phlox* (all varieties)
- *Scabiosa* (Pin Cushion)
- *Sedum* (all varieties)
- *Solidago* (Golden Rod)

## Perennial Cut Flowers\*

- *Alchemilla* (Lady's Mantle)
- *Aquilegia* (Columbine)
- *Catananche* (Cupid's Dart)
- *Gypsophila* (Baby's Breath)
- *Leucanthemum* (Shasta Daisy)
- *Liatris* (Gay Feather)
- *Penstemon* (Beardtongue)
- *Peony*
- *Physostegia* (Obedient Plant)
- *Pyrethrum* (Painted Daisy)

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