

**Recommended Plant List for Intensive Vegetated Roofs
Fairfax County, Virginia**



February 1, 2007

RECOMMENDED PLANT LIST FOR INTENSIVE VEGETATED ROOFS – Fairfax County, Virginia

The following list of plants for intensive vegetated roofs was developed by staff from the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (Storm Water Planning Division and Urban Forest Management Division). It is a “recommended” list of plants for use in intensive vegetated roofs, that is, those with a growing medium depth of six inches or more. These plants were chosen because they are known to perform well in our area. The list is not exhaustive and is intended to give the designer a palette of plant materials to choose from. Choices for individual projects will vary by site conditions, client desire, and other factors. Other species may be used, and the acceptability of proposed plant materials is subject to review and approval by the Director. This plant list may be updated periodically to reflect other species that have been shown to perform well in intensive vegetated roofs. Please note that pH requirements differ between plants and they should be chosen accordingly. See also the recommended plant list for extensive vegetated roofs—many of the plants listed there are also suitable for intensive vegetated roof projects. Design guidelines for vegetated roofs can be found in the Public Facilities Manual § 6-1310.

KEY:

- **Light:** The amount of sunlight a plant requires is defined as:
 - Full sun ☀, the site is in direct sunlight for at least six hours daily during the growing season.
 - Partial shade ☁, the site receives approximately three to six hours of direct sunlight or lightly filtered light throughout the day.
 - Shade ☁, the site receives less than three hours of direct sunlight or heavily dappled light throughout the day.

- **Moisture:** The amount of soil moisture a plant requires is defined as:
 - Dry (D), areas where water does not remain after a rain; supplemental watering will not be needed, except under the most extreme drought conditions. Plants with the Dry designation can be considered drought tolerant.
 - Moist (M), areas where the soil is damp, and may be occasionally saturated.
 - Wet (W), areas where the soil is saturated for much of the growing season, except in droughts.

- **Mature Size:** The maximum size that a plant is likely to reach. Plant size is affected by growing medium depth and nutrient and water availability. Measurements are:
 - Height (H), in inches or feet.
 - Spread (S), in inches or feet. Competition can limit spread and some plants die back under extreme conditions or naturally over the winter.

SOURCES: For a list of sources see the notes at the end of this document.

If you have any questions about this list or suggestions for changes, please contact the Stormwater Planning Division at 703-324-5500 or the Urban Forest Management Division at 703-324-1770. Questions pertaining to the use of plants on this list for application to a specific plan should be directed to the Urban Forest Management Division.

RECOMMENDED PLANT LIST FOR INTENSIVE VEGETATED ROOFS – Fairfax County, Virginia

Botanical Name Common Name (* = native to Virginia)	Time of Bloom and other Characteristics	Conditions	Mature Size Height Spread
<u>Grasses/Sedges/Rushes</u>			
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> Big bluestem *	August – September. A warm season bunchgrass with yellow flowers; blue green blades turn tawny in fall. Often stays erect until spring.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 36" – 72" S 24" – 30"
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i> Broomsedge bluestem *	August – November. A warm season bunchgrass with reddish brown flowers; turns straw colored in fall. Often stays erect until spring. Suited to infertile soil and drought tolerant.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M W	H 36" – 72" S 24" – 30"
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> Blue gramma	August – September. Seeds grow on one side of the flower stem. Grass can be mowed. Native of southern and western U.S.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 10" – 24" S 18" – 24"
<i>Carex flacca</i> Blue sedge	June – July. Very tough; blue-grey foliage is evergreen.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 16" S 8" – 18"
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i> River oats or sea oats *	July – September. Attractive flat, drooping seed heads change from green in summer to bronze in fall and persist through winter; attracts songbirds; will naturalize and can be aggressive; can be used as a groundcover.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 48" S 24" – 36"
<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i> Deer-tongue *	May – October. Perennial warm-season bunchgrass with green flowers; drought tolerant; used to re-vegetate disturbed areas with infertile soils.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 18" – 24" S 12" – 24"

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<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> Purple lovegrass *	July – October. Perennial warm-season bunchgrass with delicate bronze-red inflorescences; green foliage turns bronze-red in fall; very drought tolerant, will not do well in frequently saturated soils.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 10" – 12" S 12" – 18"
<i>Festuca gautieri (scoparia)</i> Bearskin fescue	Inconspicuous flowers in June. Forms evergreen, pincushion-like mounds.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 2" – 12" S 6" – 12"
<i>Pennisetum species</i> Fountain grass	July – October. Soft, bottle-brush seed heads persist into winter. Forms large clumps.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 60" S 24" – 36"
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Little bluestem *	August – October. Purplish-bronze inflorescences; blue-green foliage turns bronze-orange in fall; useful for erosion control; highly drought tolerant; also tolerates flooding; will tolerate some shade.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 24" – 48" S 12" – 24"
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> Indian grass *	August – September. Tall clump grass with golden brown plume like flowers; adapted to dry or wet sites; nutritious seed heads for wildlife; grows rapidly.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 30" – 72" S 12" – 24"
<i>Tridens flavus</i> Purpletop tridens *	August – November. Perennial, yellow-green native grass with a reddish-purple inflorescence; highly drought tolerant; host plant for the Crossline Skipper butterfly.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 60" S 18" – 30"

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<u>Perennials/Ground Covers</u>			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> and <i>A. tomentosa</i> Common yarrow* and wooly yarrow	July – August. <i>Millefolium</i> has white flowers and is found throughout the US; <i>tomentosa</i> has yellow flowers and is not native to the US. Both are widely used on green roofs.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 16" S 6" – 12"
<i>Allium cernuum</i> Nodding onion*	June – August. Flowers are pink, rose, or white. In its natural habitat, nodding onion grows on ledges, gravel, and rocky or wooded slopes.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 28" S 12" – 18"
<i>Allium oreophilum</i> Ornamental onion	June – July. Very tough, low-growing onion from central Asia with fuchsia flowers.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 8" S 2" – 5"
<i>Antennaria</i> species Pussytoes *	April – July. Insignificant white flowers that attract butterflies. Leaves grow in a basal rosette. Native to upland meadows of the piedmont and mountains.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 1" – 16" S 9" – 18"
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterflyweed *	May – July. Showy orange blooms, butterfly nectar plant; monarch butterfly host plant; does well in poor, dry soils; will naturalize.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 36" S 18" – 24"
<i>Aster (Symphyotrichum) laevis</i> Smooth or blue bird aster *	August – October. Showy pale lavender-blue flowers with yellow centers in loose clusters; attracts butterflies.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 42" S 18" – 24"
<i>Aster pilosus</i> Heath aster*	August – November. Delicate foliage and dainty white flowers with yellow centers.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D	H 12" – 48" S 12" – 18"

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<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i> (syn. <i>Alyssum saxatile</i>) Basket of gold	June – July. Sweet-scented, tiny yellow flowers in tight bunches. Trailing habit; silvery evergreen foliage.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 3" – 6" S 9" – 10"
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> Harebell*	June – September. Blue bell-like flowers.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 12" S 6" – 8"
<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> Hardy plumbago or Leadwort	July – September. Spreading ground cover with blue flowers; foliage becomes dark red in the fall.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 18" S 6" – 18"
<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i> Maryland golden aster *	July – October. Produces yellow flowers that look like small sunflowers or yellow daisies.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D	H 6" – 30" S 24" – 36"
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> Threadleaf coreopsis *	June – October. Yellow daisy-like flowers attract butterflies; can be used as a groundcover.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 36" S 18" – 24"
<i>Dianthus</i> species Sweet William, cottage pink	May – October, depending on the species. Many varieties in different colors can be used on green roofs. Some are not hardy in our zone; check that the species selected is hardy to zone 6 or colder.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 4" – 18" S 8" – 12"
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> Purple coneflower*	June – September. Purple daisy-like flowers. Seed heads provide winter interest as well as food to birds.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 36" – 48" S 18" – 24"
<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i> Robin's plantain*	April – September. Flowers may be blue, pink, or white. Good as an understory planting. Other <i>Erigeron</i> species are also suitable.	Light: Moisture: D ☀	H 6" – 28" S 12" – 16"

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<i>Eupatorium (Ageratina) rugosum</i> White snakeroot *	July – October. Bright, white flowers are tiny and tuft-like; attracts butterflies; will naturalize.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☔ Moisture: D M	H 48" – 60" S 24" – 30"
<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i> Blue mist flower *	July – October. Blue-violet, tuft-like flower clusters attract butterflies; will naturalize.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☔ Moisture: D M W	H 24" – 36" S 24" – 36"
<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i> Hyssop-leaved thoroughwort*	July – October. Produces clouds of small white flowers. Attracts butterflies, songbirds, and beneficial insects.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 52" S 12" – 24"
<i>Gaillardia grandiflora</i> Blanket flower	May – August. Flowers are in shades of red and yellow, usually mostly red with yellow tips. Extremely tolerant of dry, sandy soils.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 8" – 24" S 10" – 24"
<i>Geranium maculatum</i> Spotted geranium *	April – July. Delicate lavender or pink blooms attract butterflies and beneficial insects; long-bloom period; will naturalize; very adaptable; can be used as a ground cover.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 18" – 24" S 12" – 18"+
<i>Iris cristata</i> Crested iris*	April – May. Dwarf purple iris with spreading habit. <i>Iris pumila</i> , from eastern Europe, can also be used. It has purple or yellow flowers. Another choice is <i>Iris humilis</i> , with yellow flowers.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 8" S 6" – 12"
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i> Mediterranean lavender	June – October. Lavender color flowers are held above the dusty blue-gray foliage on long straight stems. Very fragrant; attracts butterflies and other beneficial insects.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 30" – 36" S 18" – 36"

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<i>Lespedeza capitata</i> Round-head bush clover*	July – October. Yellowish white flowers produce seeds that attract songbirds and small mammals. Best planted in large drifts because individual plants can become tall and skinny.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 24” – 72” S 12” – 24”
<i>Liatris graminifolia</i> Grass-leaf blazing star *	August – October. Spikes of purple flowers are borne on long stems above the dark green, narrow-leaved foliage. Flowers attract butterflies.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12” – 42” S 12” – 24”
<i>Liatris pilosa</i> Grass-leaf blazingstar *	August – October. Striking spikes of red-purple flowers and delicate green foliage; attracts butterflies and songbirds; moderate drought tolerance.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12” – 54” S 12” – 24”
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal flower *	July – October. Brilliant scarlet red flowers arranged along tall stems attract hummingbirds and butterflies; biennial; will naturalize; long bloom period. Prefers to be in moister areas, but surprisingly hardy.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: M W	H 24” – 48” S 12” – 24”
<i>Monarda punctata</i> Horsemint*	June – October. Flowers are combination yellow/purple. Found in open sandy fields; attracts butterflies.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 12” – 42” S 12” – 24”
<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> Narrow-leaved sundrops *	May – September. Yellow flowers; attracts hummingbirds and songbirds; long bloom period.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 12” – 36” S 12” – 24”

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<i>Opuntia humifusa</i> * (syn. <i>O. compressa</i>) Prickly pear cactus *	June – July. Showy, bright yellow flowers; edible fruit used to make jelly. This cactus is native to eastern and central U.S. It has sharp spines so should not be planted near spaces used by the public. Like most cacti, it is very drought tolerant.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 6" – 24" S 16" – 20"
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> Talus slope penstemon *	June – August. White flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies; clump-forming; will naturalize; drought tolerant.	Light : ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 48" S 12" – 36"
<i>Phlox stolonifera</i> Creeping phlox*	April – June. Rose, violet or blue flowers; attracts butterflies; evergreen; can be used as a groundcover; will naturalize.	Light : ☀ ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 12" S 12" – 18"
<i>Phlox subulata</i> Moss phlox*	April – June. Rose pink or white flowers carpet this low-growing, spreading groundcover. Extremely low maintenance; attracts butterflies.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 2" – 6" S 18" – 36"
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> Obedient plant *	June – September. Showy spires of pink or white flowers; attracts butterflies; will naturalize rapidly and can escape cultivation.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 24" – 48" S 18" – 36"
<i>Pycnanthemum</i> species Mountain mint *	July – September. Small bunches of tiny white to purplish flowers are produced along the upper stems. Mountain mints prefer at least partial shade, but many are tough and drought tolerant.	Light: ☀ ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 16" – 36" S 14" – 36"
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> Early coneflower *	July – October. Yellow-orange flowers with black centers attract butterflies; provides food and cover for songbirds; will naturalize.	Light: ☀ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 18" – 36" S 18" – 24"

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<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> Black-eyed susan *	June – October. Yellow flowers with black centers attract butterflies; provides food and cover for songbirds; will naturalize and can be invasive.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 36" S 12" – 24"
<i>Salvia lyrata</i> Lyre-leaved sage *	April – June. Purple flowers on long stems attract butterflies. Plants will reseed readily and do well in poor soils. Other <i>Salvias</i> are also appropriate.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 12" – 24" S 9" – 12"
<i>Silene</i> species Pink*	Flowers bloom at different times, depending on species, but generally April – July. Flower color can range from white to dark pink or almost red.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 36" S 8" – 18"
<i>Solidago</i> species Goldenrod *	July – November. Tough plant that colonizes easily; yellow flowers. There are many drought tolerant species to choose from. Most will attract butterflies, songbirds, small mammals, and beneficial insects.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 12" – 24" S 12" – 36"+
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i> (syn. <i>S. graminoides</i>) Blue-eyed grass*	April – June. Blue-violet flowers with yellow centers open during the day and close at night. Foliage looks like grass, but this plant is actually an iris.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 18" S 6" – 15"
<i>Stachys byzantia</i> Lamb's ear	July – September. Small, purple flowers, attractive to bees and butterflies. Grown mostly for its silvery, soft, touchable leaves. Pleasant scent when crushed.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 6" – 12" S 12" – 15"
<i>Talinum teretifolium</i> *	Rose-pink flowers bloom June – October. Native to the mid-Atlantic region, this plant is on the threatened list due to loss of habitat. Planting it on roofs can aid in its conservation.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D	H 4" – 12" S 6" – 12"

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<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> Common Virginia spiderwort *	April – July. Spiderwort has a long bloom period. Grass-like foliage and deep blue-purple showy flowers with a triangular shape; medium drought tolerance.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M	H 12" – 24" S 18" – 24"+
<i>Veronica</i> species Speedwell	Very large number of species. Many, especially the matt-forming types, are suitable for vegetated roofs. Flowers usually blue to purple, but can also be pink or white. Height, spread, and bloom time depend upon species.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M	H 6" – 24" S 6" – 24"
<u>Shrubs/Small trees</u>			
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i> Abelia	May – October, depending on variety. Semi-evergreen with abundant tubular flowers that are usually white to pink. Some are fragrant.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M	H 2' – 6' S 3' – 5'
<i>Aronia (Photinia) arbutifolia</i> Red chokeberry *	April – June. Deciduous shrub with white flowers, developing red berries; has medium tolerance for flooding; can be pruned as a hedge; red fall foliage.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M W	H 6' – 10' S 3' – 5'(10')
<i>Aronia (Photinia) melanocarpa</i> Black chokeberry *	April – May. White flowers that develop into black berries in September/November; can be pruned as a hedge; more drought tolerant than red chokeberry.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M W	H 5' – 8' S 5' – 10'
<i>Azalea</i> species and cultivars Azalea	May – June, depending on variety. There are many Azaleas that are suitable; make sure that plants chosen are tolerant of USDA hardiness zone 6 or colder.	Light: ☀️ 🌑 Moisture: D M	H 2' – 6' S 2' – 6'

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<i>Callicarpa americana</i> American beautyberry *	June – August. Lavender pink flowers on new wood; tolerates heavy pruning; lavender berries are persistent during winter and food source for birds; high wildlife value; high drought tolerance.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 4' – 8' S 4' – 8'
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> New Jersey tea *	May – September. White flowers and brown seeds; tolerates moisture for short periods; fixes nitrogen; drought tolerant; attracts butterflies.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D	H 3' – 4' S 3' – 5'
<i>Comptonia peregrina</i> Sweet fern *	April – May. Insignificant green-yellow flowers. Scented fern-like foliage on woody stems.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D	H 2' – 4' S 4' – 8'
<i>Cornus racemosa</i> Grey dogwood *	May – June. White flowers on red stems, followed by red berries with high wildlife value. Tolerant of a wide range of conditions.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 8' – 15' S 8' – 15'
<i>Cornus sericea (stolonifera)</i> Redosier dogwood (NE native)	May – July. White flowers, white berries; red twigs (with white pith) and red/maroon fall color; excellent bank stabilizing shrub, sprouts easily from twigs; high wildlife value.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: M	H 7' – 9' S 8' – 10'
<i>Cotoneaster</i> species Cotoneaster	April – May. Spreading shrub with glossy foliage, often with reddish fall color. Small pink flowers are followed by attractive red or black berries.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 1' – 6' S 1' – 8'
<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i> Black huckleberry *	May – June. Reddish white flowers; black, bluish seedy berries in the fall; fruit edible; high wildlife value. Good understory plant.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 1' – 3' S 2' – 4'

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<i>Hydrangea</i> species and cultivars Hydrangea	May – October, depending on variety. Flowers range from white to pink to blue. There are many Hydrangeas that are suitable; make sure that plants chosen are tolerant of USDA hardiness zone 6 or colder.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 3' – 8' S 3' – 8'
<i>Hypericum densiflorum</i> Bushy St. John's wort *	July – September. Yellow, flat topped clusters of flowers; tolerates a variety of moisture conditions.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 4' – 6' S 3' – 4'
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> Winterberry holly *	June – July. Greenish white flowers; red berries in the fall, persistent through the winter; food source for birds; high wildlife value; need male plant to pollinate female in order to bear berries.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: M W	H 6' – 10' S 6' – 8'
<i>Ilex glabra</i> Inkberry holly *	May – June. Greenish white flowers and black berries in the fall that persist through the winter; male and female flowers on separate plants; high wildlife value; tolerates some flooding. Many other <i>Ilex</i> species are also suitable.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: M	H 6' – 8' S 8' – 10'
<i>Lindera benzoin</i> Northern spicebush *	March – May. Early, small yellow flowers; bright red berries are favored by many birds; stem and leaves very fragrant when crushed; yellow fall color; high wildlife value; butterfly host plant.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M W	H 6' – 12' S 6' – 12'
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> Common eastern ninebark *	May – July. White to pink flowers; orange to red capsule; yellow to purple fall color; exfoliating bark adds winter interest; drought tolerant and adaptable.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 6' – 10' S 6' – 10'

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<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i> Pinxterbloom azalea *	April – May. Pink, purple or white flowers. Tolerates thin soils; susceptible to disease and insects.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 3' – 10' S 6' – 12'
<i>Rhus aromatica</i> Fragrant sumac *	March – May. Greenish yellow flowers, dark wine red berry; red fall color; fuzzy edible berry clusters and aromatic leaves; male and female separate plants; high wildlife value.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D	H 5' – 6' S 6' – 10'
<i>Rhus glabra</i> Smooth sumac *	June – July. Greenish flowers, red fuzzy berry clusters; very drought resistant; male and female may be on separate plants; high wildlife value.	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H 10' – 15' S 10' – 15'
<i>Rosa carolina</i> Pasture rose *	May – June. White to pale pink flowers, red berry-like hips August – March; hips are edible; has thorns.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 3' – 5' S 6' – 10'
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i> Lowbush blueberry *	May – June. Tiny white-pink flowers; edible blue-black berries in July-August; red fall color; can be used as a ground cover; good wildlife plant.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 1' – 2' S 2' – 3'
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> Highbush blueberry *	April – June. Tiny white-pink urn-shaped flowers; edible blue-black berries in July-August; yellow to red fall color; commonly cultivated.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M W	H 6' – 12' S 6' – 12'
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i> Deerberry *	April – June. Tiny white-purple flowers; blue-black berries in September – October; berries are edible but sour.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H 3' – 16' S 6' – 12'

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<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i> Mapleleaf viburnum *	June. Flat-topped flower clusters are cream to pink; blue-black berries in August – December; tolerates dryness and shade; suckers; orange-purple fall color.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☦ Moisture: D M	H 3' – 6' S 3' – 4'
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> Southern arrowwood *	May – June. White flat-topped flower clusters; blue-black berries September – November; reddish-purple fall color; good winter structure; attracts butterflies and birds.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M W	H 6' – 10' S 4' – 8'
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> Blackhaw viburnum *	April – May. White flowers in flat-topped clusters; July – November blue-black berries; red-purple fall color.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☦ Moisture: D M W	H 12' – 16' S 8' – 12'
<u>Trees</u>			
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> Downy serviceberry*	March – May. White flowers and red to dark purple fleshy fruit. Used by 58 wildlife species; 35 bird species; important early summer food; edible to people.	Light: ☁ ☦ ☦ Moisture: D M	H 15' – 25' S 15' – 20'
<i>Asimina triloba</i> Paw paw *	April – June. Unusual maroon flower; very large leaves; edible yellow fruits relished by wildlife; yellow fall color; moist soil.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: M	H 20' – 35' S 20' – 30'
<i>Cercis canadensis</i> Eastern redbud *	April – May. Tolerates sun if soil is moist; tolerates irregular inundation; flowers pink to lavender prior to emergence of leaves; new leaves reddish; yellow fall color; high wildlife value.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☦ Moisture: D M	H 20' – 30' S 20' – 30'

RECOMMENDED PLANT LIST FOR INTENSIVE VEGETATED ROOFS – Fairfax County, Virginia

Botanical Name Common Name (* = native to Virginia)	Time of Bloom and other Characteristics	Conditions	Mature Size Height Spread
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> White fringetree *	May – June. Clumping or single-stemmed; white, pendulous, fragrant flowers; gold fall color; birds eat fruits; tolerates drought and irregular inundation.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 20' – 35' S 15' – 20'
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> American witchhazel *	September – December. Small tree or large shrub. Tolerates irregular flooding or dry sites; yellow fragrant strap-like flowers in fall and early winter; medicinal use.	Light: ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M	H 15' – 25' S 15' – 20'
<u>Vines</u>			
<i>Clematis virginiana</i> Virgin's bower*	July – September. White flowers followed by feathery seeds. Will tolerate a wide variety of conditions.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M	H or S 6' – 12'
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> Coral honeysuckle *	April – October. Red tubular flowers with yellow centers that attract hummingbirds, butterflies, beneficial insects, songbirds, and small mammals. Semi-evergreen and continues to bloom until frost.	Light: ☀ ☁ Moisture: D M	H or S 6' – 12'
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> Virginia creeper	June – August. Insignificant greenish-white flowers followed by bluish-black berries that are an important food source for birds.	Light: ☀ ☁ ☀ Moisture: D M W	H or S 20' – 30'
<i>Passiflora incarnate</i> Passionflower or maypops *	June – September. Spectacular purple and white flowers, just like the tropical species in this genus. The yellow, fleshy fruit is edible	Light: ☀ Moisture: D M	H or S 3' – 6'

RECOMMENDED PLANT LIST FOR INTENSIVE VEGETATED ROOFS – Fairfax County, Virginia

NOTES:

Information was obtained from the following sources:

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- *Green Roof Plants: A Resource and Planting Guide*. Snodgrass, Edmund C. and Lucie L., Portland: Timber Press, 2006.
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- Online PLANTS National Database of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture
- *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses*. Dirr, Michael A., Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing L.L.C., 1998.
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