

LOW WATER PLANTS

Drought tolerant plants should be high on everyone's list of things to plant. Virginia has been in a drought situation since 2000, and things don't look to be getting much better any time soon. Plants that can withstand prolonged periods of very little or no water are quickly becoming "THE THING" in the area. Why plant something that is totally inappropriate to the area, and struggle to keep it alive, when you could plant something that would survive with little or no effort?

Listed below is a group of plants that performed very well in Richmond this past summer. They include annuals (**in bold type**), perennials, vines & evergreens.

Ornamental grasses—miscanthus
pampas
pennisetum

Lantana

Portulaca

Cypress
Nandina
Caryopteris
Echinacea
Iris

Angelonia

Sedum
Big leaf hollies
Hemlocks
Cedars
Junipers
Wisteria
Perennial hibiscus
Shrub roses—Bonica
The Fairy
Meidiland

Castor bean

Perennial blue plumbago
Dicentra (bleeding heart)
Epimedium
Physostegia (dragonhead)
Raphiolepis (Indian hawthorne)
Vitex (chaste tree)
Diablo ninebark
Chives
Oregano
Baptisia

Morning glory vine

Four o'clocks
Daylilies
Honeysuckle
Santolina
Sage
Perovskia

Verbena

Hens & chicks
Candytuft
Houttuynia
Pachysandra

This list is by no means a comprehensive one. It was compiled from employee recommendations, based on what did well for them with a minimum of water. Nothing can substitute for plenty of water. Keep that in mind when you choose plants for your landscape. Choose wisely, plant well, and care for your plants.

Your landscaping is an investment—treat it like one!