

Suggested Low Maintenance Plants List

an inspiration for your landscape

Category	Plant	Scientific Name	USDA Zone	Mature Height	Mature Width	Moisture	Sun	Soil	Notes
Perennial Flower	Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	3-8	2-5 feet	1.5-2 feet	Dry to medium	Full to partial	Prefers clay and heavy soil	Showy purple-pink flowers in midsummer. Seed heads provide winter texture.
Perennial Flower	Grey Coneflower	Ratibida pinnata	3-8	3-5 feet	1.5-2 feet	Dry to medium	Full	Prefers clay and heavy soil	Large yellow flowers in midsummer. Seed heads provide winter texture.
Groundcover	Sedum	Sedum spp.	4-9	3-6 inches	4-14 inches	Dry to medium	Full to partial	Prefers medium to low nutrient, well drained	Low growing succulent groundcover. Various colors from green to red. Dies back in winter.
Medium Tree	River Birch	Betula nigra	4-9	40-70 feet	40-60 feet	Medium to wet	Full to partial	Prefers clay	Great bark texture. Sparse foliage for dappled shade.
Medium Tree	Honey Locust	Gleditsia triacanthos form inermis	3-9	30-70	30-70	Adaptable	Full to partial	Adaptable	Form inermis is thornless, fast growth rate. Dappled shade. Beautiful yellow fall color.
Small Tree	Redbud	Cercis canadensis	4-9	20-30	25-35	Adaptable	Full to some	Adaptable	Beautiful fuschia spring blooms. Heart shaped leaves provide red fall color.
Perennial Groundcover flower	Catmint	Nepeta mussinii and other spp.	Varies	Varies, 2-6ft	varies, 1-4ft	Moist to dry	Full to partial	Adaptable	Purple midsummer blooms. Spike shaped flower shoots provide vertical texture.
Grass	Blue Lyme Grass	Elymus arenarius	4-10	3-4 feet	3-4 feet, spreading	Wet to dry	Full to partial		Spreads by rhizome. Blue color provides texture and contrast.
Groundcover	Wooly thyme	Thymus pseudolanuginosus	5-8	2-4 inches	8-12 inches, spreading	Medium to dry	Full to partial	Prefers sandy, coarse	Low growing habit provides pleasant scent.
Grass	Prairie dropseed	Sporobolus heterolepis	3-8	2-3 feet	2-3 feet	Moist to dry	Full	Prefers sand or loam	Native to the Great Plains. Provides beautiful flowing texture. Be sure to enjoy through winter.

This list is very far from comprehensive, and is meant as inspiration for your landscape. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to provide a comprehensive plant guide of plants that work for all regions and conditions. These are a few plants that can survive a wide variety of conditions and stress. I hope they are helpful for you, and if you have any questions, please contact me at ben@easylivingyards.com !

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