

Ridge (top of slope) Plants		
Native yarrow	Achillea millefolium (plant)	white flowers; much lower profile than any other yarrow; does not compete well with seeded or turf grass and spreads slower than cultivated yarrows; grown in a clump in visible rivulets it will anchor brilliantly
bloody cranesbill	Geranium sanguineum (plant)	fast spreading via rhizome, prefers full sun but dappled light is OK in moister areas. Low profile
bluestar	Amsonia tomentosa (plant)	fast spreading ground cover. Tolerant of foot traffic and salt. Spreads via runners
field pussytoes	Antennaria plantaginacea (plant)	low, slow-spreading ground cover with striking greyish leaves
blueets, Quaker Ladies	Houstonia caerulea (plant)	6" clumps spread via rhizome; prefers tree shade where moss grows. Very early nectar and pollen for shorter-tongued pollinators
fruiting strawberries	Fragaria x ananassa (plant)	spread quickly via stolon (runners), low-growing, very foot traffic tolerant. Wildlife food source
purple love grass	Eragrostis pectinacea (plant)	very low profile compared to other native grasses; drought tolerant. Best planted where up-close observation is possible: color of blades (blueish tufts) and purple blooms are beautifully unusual; creates a hazy upper layer
hairy beardtongue	Penstemon hirsutus (plant)	good for alvar and clay habitats with thin soil like outcrops. Spreads via underground runners like Monardas. 12-18" tall with brilliant red flowers
smooth penstemon	Penstemon laevigatus (plant)	similar size and cultural requirements as above with periwinkle coloring
black-eyed susans	Rudbeckia	drought-tolerant, spreads via rhizome, lower profile than Echinacea but similar spread habits

	(plant and seed)	
tickseed	Coreopsis (seed)	drought-tolerant
sundrops	Oenothera fruticosa (seed)	native evening primrose. Clumping habit, 3' spread, up to 36" tall. Best in sand
cinquefoil	Potentilla simplex (plant)	ground cover preferring part shade in poor soils; spreads via stolon or runners like strawberries. Low profile

Slope Plants		
little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium (seed)	1-2' tall blades, late summer flowering stems reach up to 5'
creeping phlox	Phlox stolonifera (plant)	spreads up to 2', 3-8" tall. Anchors soil
bee balm (2 of 3)	Monarda didyma, punctata (plants)	spreads via underground runners, flood tolerant but these 2 varieties are prone to powdery mildew in standing water
canada ryegrass	Elymus canadensis (seed)	fast sprouting and growth. Grows 2-4' blades
Indian grass	Sorghastrum nutans (seed + plant)	3'-5' tall, clumps spread 2-3' wide. Gorgeous autumn blooms of orange anthers
switchgrass	Panicum virgatum (seed + plant)	known for erosion control due to extensive rhizome root system. Quick sprouting and growing. color varies based on variety
NY asters	S. novi-belgii (seed)	existing in landscape
NE asters	S. novae-angliae (seed)	existing in landscape

golden alexander	Zizia aurea (seed)	carrot family; early flowers for short-tongued pollinators; highly self-seeding; each plant spreads about 2'; 18–36" tall
boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum (seed)	incredibly well-anchored and widely re-seeding. Puffy white flowers loved by moths and small native bees
Appalachian barren strawberry	Waldsteinia fragarioides (plant)	thrives in all soils and situations; footfall tolerant. Light yellow early spring blooms spread via rhizome. Dense mats anchor soil beautifully
coneflower	Echinacea purpurea (plant)	flood and clay tolerant, nearly doubles in size annually
ninebark	Physocarpus opulifolius (plant)	5'-9' tall, 6'-8' spread native shrub. Pink blushed spires-like white flowers
ox-eye sunflower	Heliopsis helianthoides (plant + seed)	clump-forming like rudbeckia and echinacea but taller than both

Swale Plants		
American cranberry	Viburnum trilobum (plant)	8'-12' tall, 10' spread bushy shrub prefers well-draining moist soil. Wildlife food, nesting site
American plum	Prunus americana (plant)	12-20' shrub grows 2' per year; fruits in 2-3 yrs. Very early season. self-pollinating
joe pye weed	Eutrochium purpureum (plant)	soggy, wet habitat; 2-3' tall
spiderwort	Tradescantia virginia (plant)	clumping habit; vivid purple flowers bloom in late spring and again in late summer. Prefers some shade during the day, loves wet feet. 2' tall

red osier dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i> (plant)	suckering wetland twigs for winter interest and wildlife habitats
great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> (plant)	2-3' tall, loves constant moisture. Widely self-seeding
bee balm (1 of 3)	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> (plant)	less prone to powdery mildew than other 2 varieties, flood tolerant
swamp rose mallow	<i>Hibiscus moschentos</i> (plant)	native version of the invasive rose of Sharon. Looks very similar but far more compact and shapely. 3-6' spacing between plants. Grows 4-6' tall with up to 4' spread. Long taproot stabilizes bank area and allows for unparalleled drainage to water table. Showy; favorite of hummingbirds and songbirds. Constant moisture
blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium rosulatum</i> (plant)	related to irises vs grasses but only reaches 8" tall. Slow spreading semi-evergreen perennial spread by corms and self-seeding. Pretty small violet flowers
oatstraw	<i>Avena sativa</i> (seed)	fast-sprouting grass with unparalleled immediate slope stabilization, especially good for steep areas where other plants need another season or two to root strongly. Best choice for freshly-created swale edges

Bank Plants - all in plant form		
North sea oats	<i>Chasmanthium catifolium</i> (plant)	Gorgeous looking and sounding grass, about 2-3' tall and spread. Spreads quickly underground and self-seeding. Prefers periods of shade
buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> (plant)	5'-10' suckering shrub, seeds eaten by water birds and shorebirds
nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i> (plant)	10' wide suckering shrub, ideal for bank erosion. 15' tall
spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoia</i> (plant)	forsythia of the wilds: understory shrub, likes cool and damp dappled shade. 5'-7' low shrub creates natural thickets beloved by swallowtails. unaffected by black walnut (rare)

Lady fern	Athyrium Felix-femina	dappled shade; short, bright green
Cinnamon fern	Osmundastrum cinnamomeum	mostly shade; very tall flowering stalks; hairy base
ostrich tail fern	Matteucia struthiopteris	mostly shade
horsetail	Equisetum hyemale	also called common scouring rush. spreads quickly by rhizomes, very low growing
canada anemone	Anemone canadensis (plant)	12-24" ground cover, fast spreading through rhizomes. full sun
cardinal lobelia	Lobelia cardinalis	gorgeous crimson stalks and blooms with dark leaves. Wet, full sun, 3-6' tall in ideal habitat
winterberry	Ilex verticillata	holly family shrub grows up to 1' per year reaching 3-10' tall and wide. Slow suckering spread. Fall and winter color and wildlife food. Needs pollination based on flowering time (some varieties flower in summer, some in autumn). 1:3 female to male ratio per planting area
highbush blueberry	Vaccinium corymbosom	highly prolific food and nesting source for birds. Native shrub with 5' spread, 6-8' tall. Shallow root system is like a matrix for slope bottoms. requires constant moisture, well-draining required.
trillium	numerous varieties	need shade and moisture, 12-18" tall. 6 state-protected varieties: endangered: flexipes, sessile vulnerable: undulatum, ceruum, erectum, grandiflorum

Littoral Zone (shallow water) Plants - all in plant form		
pussy willow	Salix discolor	aggressive suckering root system stabilizes silty soil; 15-20' tall shrub with spread of 4-10' wide

marsh marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	also known as cowslip; 2' tall. Plant in drifts; does especially well beneath swamp rose mallow
marsh St. John's wort	<i>Triadenum virginicum</i>	plant in shallowest shoreline. Low (under 1'), fast-spreading creeping plant with delicate pink flowers
swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepius incarnata</i>	2-4' tall, plant in sunny area, dappled shade OK. vital to monarch larvae
sweetflag	<i>Acorus calamus</i>	leaves are similar to iris. spreads via rhizome, grows up to 5' tall
three square rush (bulrush)	<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	up to 4' tall. Plant within 2" of bank. Aggressively clump-forming for erosion control in silt
sensitive fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	grows up to 4' tall. Prefers shade if in damp sand or silt; if planted in standing water, full sun will do.
water sedge	<i>Carex aquatilis</i>	1-5' tall (will grow taller if it's in deeper water). Fine in full sun and deep water. Waterfowl food
common soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	20-40" tall; spreads via rhizome and grows in clumps. plant just along bank or in very shallow water
American frogbit	<i>Limnobium spongia</i>	plant in deeper water; leaves float on surface: perfect insect landing pad
American brooklime	<i>Veronica americana</i>	also known as speedwell. Will only grow to 20" high; in shallower water can reach just 4". Plant into bank silt or among bank edge rocks
water willow	<i>Justicia americana</i>	spreads via underwater stolon into colonies; withstands standing water up to 3' high
pickerelweed	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	plant in water up to 1' deep. grows up to 4' tall
cattails	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	only for deeper shoreline areas. fast spreading, awesome bank erosion control. Creeping rhizomes. Full sun. 5-10' tall

Northern blue flag	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	grows about 2' tall in full direct sun and in up to 6" standing water
NE bulrush	<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	less than 5 left in NYS. Tall, prefers sand where water level fluctuates. does well beneath viburnum
lizard's tail	<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	also known as American swamp lily. Plant in full to mostly sun in shallow water. Underground runners form large colonies up to 4' wide. bottlebrush spike of white flowers can be up to 6" long.
spikerush	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	shoreline mat-forming sedge spread by rhizomes. up to 4' tall. Waterfowl food
rush junctus	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	does best planted in 3" of water but will tolerate up to 8" for periods. Spread by rhizomes. Tight clumps grow 2' tall
marsh mermaid weed (submerged)	<i>Proserpinaca palustris</i>	red and green sawtoothed foliage is brightest and most vibrant in water about 6" high where intense light can reach
water star grass (submerged)	<i>Heteranthera dubia</i>	related to pickerelweed. Can form colonies up to 6' long underwater. Pale yellow flower blooms on surface.