Do you have a sunny, well-drained area in your yard or community?

Creating meadows can eliminate negative impacts of lawn maintenance, while adding important habitat for insects, birds and other wildlife.

Use this plant list to create a meadow garden that benefits wildlife and creates a beautiful, low-maintenance landscape with a sense of place.

Meadows thrive without fertilizing and require only annual mowing. It is important, though, to cut back invasive vines if they are present.

Establish a meadow quickly by planting flats of plugs and broadcasting seed.

Meadow Gardens

Grasses

- Little bluestem
- Indian grass
- Purple lovegrass
- Southern wild rye
- Bottlebrush grass
- Purpletop
- River oat
- Eastern star sedge
- Fox sedge
- Schizachyrium scoparium
- Sorghastrum nutans
- Eragrostis spectabilis
- Elymus glabrius
- Elymus hystrix
- Tridens flavus
- Chasmanthium latifolium
- Carex radiata
- Carex vulpinoidea

Wildflowers

- Common milkweed
- Butterfly weed
- Patridge pea
- Narrow-leaved mountain mint
- Black-eyed susan
- New York ironweed
- Wreath goldenrod
- Wild bergamot
- Blazing star
- Blue mistflower
- New England aster
- Heath aster
- Wild blue indigo
- Tickseed
- Joepy weed
- Wild geranium
- Thin-leaved sunflower
- Oxyeye sunflower
- Sundrops
- Phlox
- Asclepias syriaca
- Asclepias tuberosa
- Chamaecrista fasciculata
- Pycnanthemum tenufolium
- Rudbeckia hirta
- Vernonia noveboracensis
- Solidago rugosa
- Monarda fistulosa
- Liatris spicata
- Conoclinium coelestinum
- Symphyotrichum novae-angliae
- Symphyotrichum ericoides
- Baptisia australis
- Coreopsis lanceolata
- Eupatorium fistulosum
- Geranium maculatum
- Helianthus decapetalus
- Helianthus helianthoides
- Oenothera fruticose
- Phlox subulata