

Container-Grown Planning for Planting Schedule

This guide is intended to help homeowners and native plant enthusiasts in the Washington, DC region gauge the ideal times to purchase and plant different species of native plants from Bona Terra specifically. While some information listed may be broadly applicable, all of the information detailed in this guide is based on Bona Terra's environmental growing standards, which may differ from growers in other regions and other local growers using different nursery practices.

Bona Terra grows all of its plants outdoors, and while this means that the plants are acclimatized and can be planted year-round, each species has its own growth and dormancy cycle that does not always align with our gardening plans. Use this guide as you plan your native gardening projects throughout the year to help increase your planting success rate and increase the viability of your native plantings.

Glossary of Terms

General good time to plant: Months highlighted with this color indicate times when this species can be planted, even if it is currently dormant.

Best time to buy: Months highlighted with this color indicate the times of the highest planting success rates for this species.

Good to plant, keep an extra eye on watering: This is a great time to plant **only if** you're able to monitor the soil moisture levels regularly (at least 2-3 times per week)

Yes for planting, but may have some cautions: Months highlighted in this color have some species-specific requirements. See the notes section when planting at this time of the year.

Don't plant: Months highlighted in this color have low to no viability of planting success at this time.

No data yet: This may be a new plant that we have added to the Bona Terra inventory, and we haven't had enough time to observe its lifecycle in our area to provide information. We'll keep updating this guide as we learn more!

Special Notes

- For lifespans of trees and shrubs, consult ***Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture and Propagation and Uses*** by Michael A. Dirr



Key

Green	General good time to plant
Dark Green	Best time to buy
Light Blue	Good to plant, keep an extra eye on watering
Yellow	Yes for planting, but may have some cautions
Red	Don't plant
Grey	No data yet

Herbaceous Species		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
Species	Common Name													
Achillea millefolium LE	Yarrow													Lives 5-7 years
Ageratina altissima LE	White Snakeroot													Lives 5-7 years
Agrimonia striata LE	Roadside Agrimony													Lives 10+ years
Allium cernuum	Nodding Onion													Lives 10+ years
Amsonia tabernaemontana var. salicifolia	Willow Bluestar													Lives 10+ years
Antennaria neglecta LE	Field Pussytoes													Lives 10+ years
Apocynum cannabinum	Dogbane													Lives 10+ years
Aquilegia canadensis	Red Columbine													Applies to plugs only: have no feeder roots, so it can be difficult to plant at the proper depth. Root damage exposes them to rot Nov-Dec. Lives 3-5 years.

<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Tall Coreopsis								Lives 10+ years
<i>Desmodium canadense</i> LE	Showy Ticktrefoil								Legume; lives 5-7 years
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower								Lives 3-5 years
<i>Elephantopus tomentosus</i> LE	Elephant's Foot								Short rhizome, lives 5-7 years
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Rattlesnake Master								Lives 5-7 years
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	Tall Boneset/Giant Ironweed								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5 years
<i>Eupatorium capillifolium</i> LE	Dogfennel								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5+ years
<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i> LE	Hyssop-leaved Thoroughwort								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5 years
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Common Boneset								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5 years
<i>Eupatorium rotundifolium</i> LE	Roundleaf Thoroughwort								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5 years
<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i> LE	Late Boneset								No lifespan data, likely lives 3-5 years
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	Flowering Spurge								Lives 10+ years
<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	White Wood Aster								Lives 7-10 years
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Flat-Top Goldenrod								Lives 10+ years
<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i> LE	Hollow Joe Pye Weed								Lives 7-10 years
<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i> LE	Spotted Joe Pye Weed								Lives 7-10 years
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i> LE	Purple JoePye Weed								Lives 7-10 years
<i>Filipendula rubra</i> LE	Queen of the Prairie								Lives 10+ years
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	Bottle Gentian								Lives 7-10+ years
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Sneezeweed								Lives 3-5 years, but suckers

<i>Ruellia caroliniensis</i> LE	Carolina Wild Petunia									No lifespan data at this time
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyre-Leaf Sage									Lives 3-5 years
<i>Sedum glaucophyllum</i> LE	Cliff Stonecrop									These plants typically lose most of their feeder roots at this time, so this is a very delicate time for transplantation. Those with abundant plant knowledge can plant at this time, but others should wait until peak growth time. Lives 10+ years.
<i>Sedum ternatum</i>	Woodland Stonecrop									These plants typically lose most of their feeder roots at this time, so this is a very delicate time for transplantation. Those with abundant plant knowledge can plant at this time, but others should wait until peak growth time. Lives 10+ years.
<i>Senna marilandica</i> LE	Maryland Senna									Legume; lives 10+ years
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i> LE	Blue-Eyed Grass									Individual plants live 3-5 years, but clump-forming suckers profusely
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	Tall Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	Giant Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Early Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i> LE	Gray Goldenrod									Lives 5-7 years
<i>Solidago odora</i>	Anisescented Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Solidago uliginosa</i>	Bog Goldenrod									Lives 10+ years
<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>	Nodding Lady's Tresses									Lives 10+ years
<i>Symphytum cordifolium</i>	Blue Wood Aster									7-10

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Native Plant Bloom Calendar														
Tree and Shrub Species		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
Amelanchier canadensis	Serviceberry							■						
Amorpha fruticosa	False Indigobush													
Aralia spinosa	Devil's Walking Stick/Prickly Elder	■												
Aronia melanocarpa	Black Chokeberry													
Asimina triloba LE	Pawpaw													
Callicarpa americana	Beautyberry													
Calycanthus floridus	Carolina Allspice													
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory													
Catalpa speciosa LE	Northern Catalpa	■												
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea	■								■				
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Buttonbush													
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud													
Clethra alnifolia LE	Sweet Pepperbush													
Corylus americana	American Hazelnut													
Decodon verticillatus	Swamp Loosestrife													
Euonymus americanus	Hearts-a-Burstin'/Wahoo	■												
Hamamelis virginiana	Witch Hazel													
Hydrangea arborescens LE	Smooth Hydrangea													
Hypericum prolificum	Shrubby St. John's Wort													
Ilex verticillata	Winterberry													

<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia Sweetspire				
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush				
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Alligator Tree				
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar				
<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	Northern Bayberry				
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark				
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine				
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Eastern Sycamore				
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry				
<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i>	Pinxter Azalea				
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac				
<i>Rhus copallina</i>	Winged Sumac				
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac				
<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	Black Raspberry				
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry				
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	White Meadowsweet				
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	Steeplebush				
<i>Swida amomum</i>	Silky Dogwood				
<i>Swida florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood				
<i>Swida racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood				
<i>Swida sericea</i>	Red Twig Dogwood				
<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> LE	Coralberry				
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress				
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Highbush Blueberry				

<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry													
<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	Possumhaw Viburnum													
Grass and Sedge Species														
Species	Common Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem													Lives 10+ years
<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>	Bushy Bluestem													No lifespan data at this time
<i>Andropogon ternarius</i>	Split-Beard Bluestem													No lifespan data at this time
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i> LE	Broom Sedge													Lives 3-5 years
<i>Carex annectens</i>	Yellowfruit Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex eburnea</i> LE	Bristleleaf Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex frankii</i> LE	Frank's Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex flaccosperma</i>	Blue Wood Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex lurida</i> LE	Sallow Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex pedunculata</i> LE	Long-Stalked Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex rosea</i> LE	Rosy Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex prairea</i>	Prairie Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Fox Sedge													Lives 10+ years
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	River Oats													Lives 7-10 years
<i>Danthonia spicata</i> LE	Poverty Oat Grass													Lives 3-5 years
<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i> LE	Deer-Tongue Grass													No lifespan data at this time
<i>Elymus hystrix</i> LE	Bottlebrush Grass													No lifespan data at this time
<i>Elymus virginicus</i> LE	Virginia Wild Rye													No lifespan data at this time
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Purple Lovegrass													Lives 3-5 years

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<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush												Individual plants live 1-2 years, but clump-forming suckers profusely	
<i>Panicum anceps</i> LE	Beaked Panicum Grass												No lifespan data at this time	
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass												Lives 10+ years	
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem												Lives 7-10 years	
<i>Tridens flavus</i> LE	Purpletop												Lives 7-10 years	
<i>Tripascum dactyloides</i> LE	Eastern Gamagrass												No lifespan data at this time	
Fern and Vine Species														
Species	Common Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Dryopteris australis</i>	Southern Wood Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral Honeysuckle													Lives 25-50 years
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Osmunda cinnamomeum</i>	Cinnamon Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Osmunda spectabilis</i>	American Royal Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Purple Passionflower/ Maypop													Lives 3-5 years, rhizomal indefinitely
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i> LE	Marsh Fern													Lives 10+ years
<i>Vitis riparia</i> LE	River Grape													Lives 50-100+ years
<i>Woodwardia areolata</i>	Netted Chain Fern													Lives 10+ years

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