

NLI Recommended Plant List for the Mountains												
Botanical Name	Common Name	Recommended Cultivars	Notable Features	Exposure Requirement	Native	USDA Hardiness Zones	Max. Mature Height	Max. Mature Width	Very Wet	Very Dry	Moist & Well Drained	Occasionally Dry
Tree Deciduous Large (Height: 40'+)												
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	'October Glory'/'Red Sunset'	fall color	Shade/sun	x	2-9	75'	45'	x	x	x	
<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch	'Heritage'/'Cully'/'Dura Heat'/'Summer Cascade'	fast growing, multi-stemmed, papery peeling bark, play props	Shade/part sun	x	4-8	70'	60'	x	x	x	
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	hackberry		tough, drought tolerant, graceful form	Full sun	x	2-9	60'	60'	x	x	x	
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	american beech		smooth textured bark, play props	Shade/part sun	x	3-8	75'	60'			x	x
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	white ash		fall color	Full sun/part shade	x	3-9	80'	60'	x	x	x	
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	ginkgo; maidenhair tree	'Autumn Gold'/'The President'	yellow fall color	Full sun		3-9	70'	40'			x	x
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>	thornless honey locust	Shademaster®/ Skyline®	good dappled shade, fall color, quick growing, salt tolerant, tolerant of acid, alkaline, wind.	Full sun/part shade	x	3-8	75'	50'		x	x	
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	tulip poplar		fall color, quick growth rate, play props.	Full sun	x	4-9	90'	50'			x	
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	sycamore, planetree	'Bloodgood'	play props, peeling bark	Full sun	x	4-9	90'	70'	x	x	x	
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak		play props, good fall color, wet tolerant	Full sun	x	4-8	80'	50'	x	x	x	
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Little leaf Linden, Basswood	'Greenspire'		Full sun/part shade		3-7	60'	40'			x	x
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	chinese elm	'Allee'/'Bosque'	peeling bark, graceful form	Full sun/part shade		4-9	70'	50'			x	x
Tree Deciduous Medium (Height: 30-40')												
<i>Acer griseum</i>	paperbark maple		peeling papery bark, fall color	Full sun		4-8	30'	30'			x	
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	american hornbeam/ musclewood		siney bark	Shade/part sun	x	3-9	30'	40'	x	x		
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern redbud	'Forest Pansy' (purple foliage)	quick growing, play props, pink flowers in spring	Full sun/part shade	x	6-8	30'	25'		x	x	
<i>Cornus florida</i>	flowering dogwood	'Cloud 9' (white flowers)/'Rubra' (pink flowers)	white flowers in spring	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	30'	30'			x	
<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	american smoketree		scarlet feathery flowers, good fall color, drought tolerant	Full sun/part shade	x	5-8	30'	25'		x	x	x
<i>Halesia carolina</i>	carolina silverbell		play props, white spring flowers, yellow fall color	Full sun/part shade	x	4-8	40'	35'			x	
<i>Magnolia x soulangeana</i>	saucer magnolia	'Dark Alexandria'	play props, showy pink flowers in late winter to spring	Full sun/part shade		5-9	30'	30'			x	
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	chinese pistache		good fall color, drought tolerant	Full sun/part shade		6-9	35'	35'			x	x
<i>Salix x sepulcralis</i>	weeping willow		good hiding place, graceful form	Full sun/part shade		5-9	40'	50'	x	x		
Tree Deciduous Small (Height: 12-25')												
<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>	apple serviceberry	'Autumn Brilliance'	white flowers in spring, good fall color	Full sun/part shade		3-7	25'	25'			x	
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	fringe tree	'Spring Fleecing'	fringe white flowers in spring	Full sun/part shade	x	3-9	20'	15'			x	
<i>Cornus mas</i>	cornelian-cherry	'Spring Glow'	white flowers in spring, fruit is edible	Full sun/part shade		5-8	25'	18'			x	
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	common witchhazel		play props, yellow flowers in early winter, fall color	Full sun/part shade	x	4-8	25'	25'			x	x
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	crape myrtle	'Natchez'/'Tuscarora'	child-scale, good low level climbing potential, good fall color	Full sun		7-9	25'	25'	x	x		
<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	star magnolia	'Royal Star'	play props, showy white flowers in late winter to early spring	Full sun/part shade		5-8	20'	15'			x	
<i>Morus alba 'Pendula'</i>	weeping mulberry		Good for hideouts, tolerates coastal conditions	Full sun		4-8	10'	12'			x	x
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	chaste tree		child-scale, purple flowers in summer, fast-growing	Full sun		7-9	20'	15'			x	x
Tree Evergreen Large (Height: 40'+)												
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	atlantic white cedar		tolerates wet, columnar form, cones good play props	Full sun/part shade	x	3-9	90'	20'			x	
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	american holly		pyramidal to columnar form, red berries in winter, slow growth rate	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	60'	35'			x	
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	eastern redcedar	'Brodie' (columnar form)	wildlife attraction, drought tolerant, aromatic foliage and wood	Full sun	x	2-9	50'	20'			x	x
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	southern magnolia	'Bracken's Brown Beauty'/'Kay Parris'	play props, showy fragrant white flowers in late spring through summer, tolerates sand, salt	Full sun/part shade	x	7-9	80'	50'			x	
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	eastern white pine		graceful form, play props		x	3-7	80'	35'	x	x	x	
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	loblolly pine			Full sun/part shade	x	6-9	90'	40'			x	x
Tree Evergreen Medium (Height: 30-40')												
<i>Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'</i>	Foster's holly		dense, conical habit	Full sun/part shade		6-9	30'	15'	x	x		
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	sweet bay magnolia	'Wilson'	semi-evergreen tree, play props, showy white flowers, wet tolerant	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	30'	20'	x	x		

Tree Evergreen Small (Height: 10-25')												
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Japanese camellia		flowers in spring	Partial shade		7-9	15'	10'				x
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	sasanqua camellia		flowers in fall, tolerates drought	Light Shade		6-9	12'	6'				x x
Tree Edibles												
<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	pecan		edible nuts, play props, intolerant of salt	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	100'	75'				x x
<i>Malus spp.</i>	apple tree	'Gala', 'Ginger Gold', 'Empire', 'Stayman'	edible fruit, requires planting another variety that blooms at the same time for pollination			4-9	25'	25'				
<i>Morus rubra</i>	red mulberry		edible fruit	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	70'	50'				x
Shrub Deciduous Large (Height: 10'+)												
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	common witchhazel		play props, yellow flowers in early winter, fall color	Full sun/part shade	x	4-8	25'	25'				x x
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	'Laciniata'		Full sun/part shade	x	2-9	20'	15'				x x
Shrub Deciduous Medium (Height: 6-10')												
<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	common flowering quince	'Cameo'		Full sun/part shade		4-8	10'	10'				x x
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	sweet pepperbush	'Ruby Spice'	very fragrant white-pink flowers in summer, thrives in wet conditions	partial shade, but ada	x	4-8	8'	5'	x			x x
<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>	forsythia		bright yellow flowers cover the shrub before leaves emerge in spring.	Full sun/part shade		6-8	10'	12'				x
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	spicebush		spicy scent on some varieties, good fall color, attracts wildlife, shade tolerant	full sun/full shade	x	5-9	10'	10'	x			x x
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	arrowwood viburnum	'Synnestrvedt' Chicago Luster®/ 'Blue Muffin'	blue berries good play props, cream colored flowers in spring, good fall foliage color, wildlife attraction	sun/part shade	x	2-8	8'	15'				x
Shrub Deciduous Small (Height: 1-5')												
<i>Abelia x grandiflora 'Edward Goucher'</i>	Edward Goucher glossy abelia		semi-evergreen, lilac-pink flowers, attracts bees & other pollinators	Full sun/part shade		6-9	5'	6'				x
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American beautyberry	'Lactea'	play props, purple berries in fall	Full sun/part shade	x	6-10	4'	5'				x x
<i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i>	purple beautyberry	'Early Amethyst/ 'Issa'	play props, purple berries in fall	Full sun/part shade		5-8	4'	5'				x x
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	witchalder	'Mount Airy'	white, fragrant flowers in early spring, good fall color, play props	partial shade	x	4-8	5'	5'				
<i>Hypericum frondosum 'Sunburst'</i>	Shrubby St. John's Wort	'Sunburst'	drought tolerant, attracts butterflies and bees	Full sun		4-8	3'	4'				x x x
<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia sweet spire	'Henry's Garnet'	good fall color, white flowers in spring, wet tolerant	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	5'	6'	x	x		x x
<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	winter jasmine		yellow flowers in late winter, willow green stems showy in winter,	Full sun/part shade		6-10	4'	7'				x
<i>Spiraea x bumalda</i>	Spiraea	'Anthony Waterer/ 'Goldmound'	spring blooming	Full sun/part shade		5-9	4'	5'				x x
Shrub Evergreen Large (Height: 10'+)												
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Japanese camellia		flowers in spring	Partial shade		7-9	15'	10'				x
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	sasanqua camellia		flowers in fall, tolerates drought	Light Shade		6-9	12'	6'				x x
Shrub Evergreen Medium (Height: 6-10')												
<i>Abelia chinensis</i>	Chinese abelia	'Rose Creek'		Full sun/part shade		7-9	7'	6'				x
<i>Juniperus chinensis 'Hetzi'</i>	Hetz blue juniper			Full sun		4-8	10'	15'				x x
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	common juniper			Full sun	x	2-8	10'	12'	x	x		x x
<i>Raphiolepis umbellata</i>	Indian hawthorn		glossy leaves, white flowers, tolerates salt spray	Full sun		6-10	6'	10'				x x x
Shrub Evergreen Small (Height: 1-5')												
<i>Gardenia jasminoides 'Kleim's Hardy'</i>	Kleim's hardy gardenia		scented white flowers, glossy leaves, compact, refined form, very tolerant of any soil type, tolerates salt	Full sun/part shade		7-10	3'	3'				x x
<i>Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'</i>	dwarf yaupon holly		scented herb, used in cooking, vigorous, tolerant of heat and humidity, purple flowers in summer, gray-green foliage	Sun/Partial Shade	x	7-10	5'	8'	x			x x
<i>Lavandula x intermedia 'Provence'</i>	Provence lavender		scented herb, used in cooking, very hardy, drought tolerant, small lavender flowers in winter/early spring	Full sun		5-11	3'	3'				x x
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	rosemary			Full sun/part shade		4-9	4'	4'				x x
Shrub Edibles												
<i>Vaccinium species</i>	blueberry	'Premiere', 'Tifblue', 'Powderblue', 'Southland'	edible fruit, needs full sun for best fruit, clusters of bell-shaped flowers in spring, choose species appropriate to your area.	Full sun	x	3-8	6'	5'				x

Vine Deciduous												
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	European honeysuckle		fragrant flowers in summer/fall	Full sun/part shade		5-9	20'	n/a			x	
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper		vigorous, red fall foliage, shade tolerant	Full sun/part shade	x	3-11	30'	n/a	x	x	x	x
Vine Evergreen												
<i>Akebia quinata</i>	chocolate vine		burgundy/purplish flowers in spring, play props, edible fruit occasionally produced, vigorous, shade tolerant	Full sun/part shade		5-8	40'	n/a			x	x
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	cross vine	'Tangerine Beauty'	shade tolerant, orange to dark reddish flowers in spring, quick growing	Full sun/part shade	x	6-9	50'	n/a		x		x
<i>Clematis armandii</i>	Armand clematis		white flowers in spring, textural leaves	Full sun/part shade		7b-9	20'	n/a			x	x
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	coral honeysuckle	'Cedar Lane'	shade tolerant, coral flowers in late-spring to summer, semi-evergreen depending on climate,	Full sun	x	4-10	3'	n/a			x	
<i>Rosa banksiae</i>	lady banks rose		vigorous, few to almost no prickles, clusters of yellow - white blooms in spring, some scented some not	Full sun		6-10	20'	n/a			x	
Vine Edibles												
<i>Actinidia arguta</i>	Hardy kiwi	'Issai', 'Anna', 'Meader'	deciduous vine, edible fruit in late fall, borne on year-old or older wood, larger white flowers, need male & female plants for fruit.	Full sun/part shade		8-9	30'	n/a			x	
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	passion flower		deciduous, hardy vine, spreads from seed, unique showy flowers bloom in summer. play props, edible fruit	Full sun	x	5-9	20'	n/a			x	x
<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	muscadine grape	'Triumph'	deciduous vine, edible fruit - grapes, bears large fruit in small clusters. Some self-fertile, some need both male & female plants to produce fruit	Full sun	x	5-9	100'	n/a			x	
Perennials												
<i>Achillea x 'Coronation Gold'</i>	Yarrow	'Coronation Gold'	yellow flowers all summer, dead heads add winter interest	Full sun	x	3-9	2'	3'			x	x
<i>Agastache 'Blue Fortune'</i>	Hummingbird mint	'Blue Fortune'	licorice-scented foliage, flowers attract butterflies	Full sun		5-9	4'	3'			x	x
<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	chives		purple flowers, leaves used in cooking	Full sun	x	4-8	2'	2'			x	
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterfly bush	'Blue Chip'/ 'Purple Haze'/ 'Miss Ruby'	Blooms all summer and attracts butterflies	Full sun		5-9						
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	threadleaf coreopsis		sunny yellow blooms in summer, sun loving, drought tolerant	Full sun	x	5-9	3'	2'			x	x
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower		big purple flowers in summer, can handle sun-light shade	Full sun	x	3-8	4'	2'			x	x
<i>Heuchera micrantha</i>	Coral bells		great color plant for shade, semi-evergreen	Shade- part sun		5-8	1'	1'			x	x
<i>Hemerocallis spp.</i>	daylily	'Happy Returns'/ 'Buttered Popcorn'/ Stella d'Oro'	clumps of broad grassy leaves, with lily-like flowers in late spring.	Full sun - part shade		3-9	3'	2'				
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	Rose Mallow	'Lord Baltimore'	Large blooms all summer	Full sun		5-9	4'	3'	x		x	
<i>Hosta spp.</i>	hosta		lots of varieties to choose from, grown mostly for leaf color & patterns, also blooms with blue-purple flowers in summer.	Part-full shade		3-8	3'	3'			x	
<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>	Red-hot poker	'Pfitzer's Hybrids'	Large red-orange blooms make great play props	Full sun		5-8	3'	3'			x	x
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	beebealm	'Jacob Cline'	early summer red blooms, attracts butterflies & bees, leaves are scented, likes sun-part shade	Part sun	x	3-8	3'	2'	x		x	
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	royal fern		broad triangular fronds, likes shade, wet tolerant	Part shade		3-8	4'	4'	x		x	
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas fern		small evergreen fern, likes moist soil	Part-full shade	x	3-8	2'	2'	x		x	
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	black-eyed susan, orange coneflower	'Goldsturm'	yellow flowers in summer, drought tolerant, clump-forming	Full sun- light shade	x	4-10	2.5'	2.5'				x
<i>Sedum spp.</i>	stonecrop, sedum	'Autumn Joy'	textural leaves, flower head good play prop, sun loving, drought tolerant	Full sun		3-8	18"	24"			x	x
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	lamb's ears		soft fuzzy leaves, textural & play props, drought tolerant	Full sun		4-8	12"	24"			x	
<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	spiderwort		white/blue/purple flowers in spring-summer, clump-forming and grass-like, wet tolerant, likes sun to part-shade to full shade	Part-full shade	x	5-8	3'	3'			x	
Grasses												
<i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i>	feather reed grass	'Karl Foerster'	play props	Full sun/part shade		4-9	4'	2'	x	x	x	x
<i>Juncus effusus 'Spiralis'</i>	corkscrew rush		rush with spiralling foliage, good play props.	Full sun/part shade		4-9	2'	1-2'	x			
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	flame grass	'Adagio'	clump-forming, graceful and textural, foliage turns reddish in fall, with silver plumes, good hiding places	Full sun/part shade		3-9	5'	3-5'	x			x
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	pink muhly grass		delicate pink hazy flowers in early fall, easy to grow, tolerates some drought & some wet, sun loving	Full sun/part shade	x	6-9	3'	2.5'	x	x	x	x
<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	Mexican feather grass		upright clumping, textural, drought tolerant, salt tolerant, good hiding places	Full sun/part shade	x	6-9	2'	1'			x	x
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switch grass	'Shenandoah'/ 'Cheyenne Sky'/ 'The Blues'/ 'North Wind'	clump forming, graceful and textural, foliage turns reddish in fall, with silver plumes, good hiding places	Full sun/part shade	x	5-9	6'	3'			x	x
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>	fountaingrass		clump forming, play props, textural	Full sun		5-9	3'	2-4'			x	
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	'Prairie Blues'	blooms in late summer, drought tolerant	Full sun	x	3-9	3'	1'			x	x

Groundcover															
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	ajuga		evergreen matting groundcover with blue flowers in spring. Good at spreading out, handles some drought. full sun to full shade.	Partial shade		4-8	6"	3'							x
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	candytuft		evergreen, tends to spread, white flowers in spring	Full sun		3-8	2'	1.5'							x
<i>Liriope muscari</i>	liriope	'Big Blue/ 'Variegata/ 'Royal Purple'	evergreen, forms large clumps, purple flowers, play props.	Part shade to shade		6-9	2'	12"							x
<i>Rubus calycinioides</i>	Creeping raspberry		Evergreen, small white flowers, spreads over time.	Sun to part shade		6-10	1'	6'				x	x	x	
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	lyreleaf sage		low groundcover, pale lavender flowers in early spring, easy to grow	Sun to shade	x	6-8	12"	1.5'							x
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	lamb's ears					4-8	8"	1.5'							
<i>Thymus pulegioides</i>	lemon thyme		lemon-scented herb, pale purple summer flowers, wildlife attraction	Full sun		5-8	12"	10"							x
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	common thyme		scented herb, tiny lilac flowers in late spring/summer, gray-green leaves, drought tolerant, wildlife attraction	Full sun		5-9	12"	1.5'							x