

Designing a Four-Season Garden of Color

March

Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis*) 6-10', red or yellow flowers, sun/pt shade
Harry Lauder's Walking Stick (*Corylus*), 6-8', catkins, winter interest
Forsythia 'Showoff', 5-6', sun-pt/shade
Snowdrops (*Galanthus*) blooms 8 weeks
Lenten Rose (*Helleborus*), shade, blooms 8 weeks

April/May

Amelanchier, 20', white flowers, fruit, red/orange fall color, sun/pt shade
attracts birds
Redbud (*Cercis Canadensis*), 15', pt shade/sun, lavender-rose flowers
Magnolia stellata 'Royal Star', white, 15-20', sun/pt shade, yellow fall color
Crabapples 'Ruby Tears', weeping, burgundy foliage, red fruits
Rhododendron
Viburnum carlesii
Rock Cress (*Arabis*), blooms 7-8 weeks,
'Orange Queen' Bishop's Hat (*Epimedium*), blooms 2-4 weeks, pt shade
Lungwort (*Pulmonaria*), blooms 7 weeks, pt shade/shade
Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra*), blooms 11 weeks, pt shade/sun – plant behind
hostas

May/June

'Scent & Sensibility' Lilac, 3x4', pink, sun
Weigelas, 2-5' tall, sun/light shade
Clematis 'Blue Ribbon', silver seed heads persist into early winter
Anemone leveillie, 20-24", sun/pt shade, deer resistant
Hyacinth (Camassia), blooms 4 weeks, 24-36", sun to light shade; native,
plant with coneflowers and fountain grass to hide foliage when done
blooming
Variegated Iris (*Iris pallida*), blooms 2-4 weeks, sun to light shade
Heuchera
'Bridget Bloom' Foamy Bells (*Heucherella*), blooms 8 weeks, pt shade,
rich moist soil
Ferns
Hostas (Aphrodite is fragrant)
***Salvia* 'May Night' or 'Caradonna'**, blooms 12 weeks, full sun, cut back in
June and August for a second and third period of bloom

June

Elderberry (*Sambucus* 'Sutherland Gold or 'Black Lace'), 3-5', sun/pt shade
Annabelle Hydrangea, 3-5', part shade/shade,
cut back by half in May to reduce floppiness
Quickfire Hydrangea, 3-5', sun/part shade

Goat's Beard (*Aruncus*), blooms 4-5 weeks, part shade, pretty foliage

Yarrow (*Achillea*), blooms 10 weeks, sun to lt. shade

Shasta Daisy (*Leucanthemum*), blooms 8-10 weeks, sun

Bee Balm (*Monarda*), blooms 6-8 weeks, sun to pt. shade, attracts
pollinators

Catmint 'Blue wonder' (*Nepeta*), blooms 6-10 weeks (May-Sept), sun

Coreopsis grandiflora 'Sunray', blooms 12 weeks, sun to lt. shade

Salvias, blooms into October, sun

Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*), '**Stella d'Oro**' & '**Happy Returns**', 18 weeks, sun
Overused, but long-blooming.

Try this combination: *Iris sibirica*, *Phlox paniculata*, *Arabis*, *Salvia 'May Night'*, *Echinacea
purpurea 'White Swan'*
Knockout Roses, blooms June – November,

July/August

Sweetspire (*Itea virginica 'Little Henry'*), sun to shade, 3', burgundy in fall,
Summer Sweet (*Clethra alnifolia 'Vanilla Spice'*), 3-6', part shade to sun,
Hydrangeas

Ivory Halo Dogwood (*Cornus alba*), 5-6', part shade, moist soil

Gold Splash Wintercreeper (*Euonymus*),

Hostas, Sagae - blooms 4 weeks, 30", 5' flower scapes

Hosta 'Ginkgo Craig', blooms 4-6 weeks, pretty blooms

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia*), blooms 15 weeks, 3-5', short-lived, woody
perennial

Coneflowers (*Echinacea 'Cheyenne Spirit'*), blooms 8 weeks, sun/pt. shade

Joe-pye Weed (*Eupatorium 'Gateway'*), blooms 6-8 weeks, sun

Blanket flower (*Gaillardia 'Goblin'*), blooms 12 weeks, sun, deadhead
Plant w/**coreopsis 'Zagreb'**, *Sporobolus*

Heliopsis 'Summer Sun', blooms 10-13 weeks, sun,

Japanese Aster (*Kalimeris*), blooms 10+ weeks, sun

Russian sage (*Perovskia*), blooms 12 weeks, sun 'Little Spire' is shorter

Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia*), blooms 10 weeks

August/September

Seven-Sons Flower (*Heptacodium*)

Japanese Maples

'Sweet Autumn' *Clematis*, blooms 4 weeks, sun/lt.shade, 10-12 ft in one
Season

Hakonechloa 'Aureola'

Ornamental Grasses

Sedum 'Autumn Joy', blooms 12 weeks, sun

Anemone 'Honorine Jobert', blooms 4-6 weeks, pt shade/sun (perennial of
the year)

Fall Bloomers, Fruit, and Berries

Chokeberry (*Aronia melancocarpa* 'Brilliant Red'), 6-8', sun to part shade
'Autumn Moon' Japanese Maple
Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
Serviceberry (*Amelanchier*)
Pinky Winky Hydrangea, 6-8', sun/pt. shade
Carolina Allspice 'Athens' (*Calycanthus*), fragrant, flower smell like pineapple or
bubble gum, 5-9', sun-shade
Annabelle Hydrangea, green flowers
Birchleaf Spirea (*Spirea betulifolia* 'Tor'), 2-3', sun to light shade,
'Autumn Jazz' Viburnum,

Winter – needles, bark & stems

Evergreens (Daubs Frosted Juniper), 1-2' x 3-6'
Paperbark Maple (*Acer griseum*), slowly to 20', sun to pt. shade, red fall
color, peeling bark
Prairie Fire Crabapple, shrub form (*Malus*), 10' x 15'
Ivory Halo Dogwood, 5' x 5'
Winterberry Holly (*Ilex*), need male and female

Highlighted plants are long-blooming perennials.



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