

Plants for Wet Areas

Naturally Moist Fertile Soil or Poor Drainage

Wet areas can be naturally moist, but well drained; or areas with poor drainage, where standing water fills air spaces in soil and smothers plant roots. Heavy clay soils, soil compacted by construction equipment, swales, or low-lying areas tend to have poor drainage.

Checking for Potential Problem

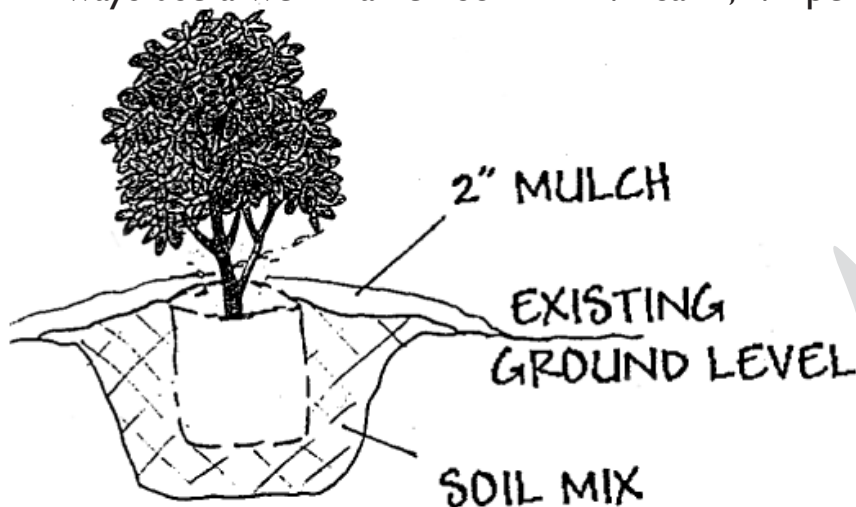
Dig a hole in desired area 2 ft. deep and fill with water. If level drops less than 1/10" per hour or is not completely drained in 24 hours a problem exists. NOTE: Good topsoil over poor or compacted subsoil when cultivated for planting may collect water in a pothole effect.

Solution

Elevate plants on mounds or raised beds. Select moisture tolerant plants.

NOTE: Few plants tolerate standing water for long periods of time.

Always use a well drained soil mix 1/4 sand, 1/4 perlite, 1/4 topsoil, 1/4 peat.



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Plants that will tolerate a wet or soggy site. Plant that will tolerate true swampy conditions are marked with an *

Deciduous Shrubs

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> *	Chokeberry
<i>Chioanthus virginicus</i>	White Fringe Tree
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Summersweet
<i>Cornus alba</i> 'Sibirica'*	Red Twig Dogwood
<i>Cornus sericea</i> *	Yellow Twig Dogwood
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry
<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia Sweetspire
<i>Myrica pennsylvanica</i>	Bayberry
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Highbush Blueberry
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	European Cranberry Viburnum
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	American Cranberry Viburnum

Evergreen Shrubs

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry Holly
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Mountain Laurel
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	American Arborvitae

Trees

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acer rubra</i> *	Red Maple
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> *	Serviceberry
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay Magnolia
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Salix</i> *	Willow
<i>Taxodium</i>	Bald Cypress