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Shade-tolerant plants

All plants need a balance of light, moisture and temperature, but these needs vary. The following list will help you choose plants for a shady spot in your garden.

Acer campestre (Hedge Maple)	Hamamelis spp. (Witchhazel)
Acer ginnala (Amur Maple)*	Hedera (Baltic Ivy)
Aesculus spp. (Horsechestnut, Buckeye)	Hibiscus (Rose of Sharon)
Amelanchier spp. (Shadbush, Serviceberry)	Hydrangea anomala petiolaris (Climbing Hydrangea)
Aronia spp. (Chokeberry)	
Azalea varieties	
	Ilex spp. (Holly)
Buxus spp. (Boxwood)	Itea spp. (Sweet Spire)
	Kalmia spp. (Mt. Laurel)
Calycanthus (Sweet Shrub)	
Cercis (Redbud)	Leucothoe
Chionanthus (Fringetree)	
Cotoneaster varieties	Microbiota decussata (Microbiota)
Clethra varieties	
Comptonia (sweet Fern)	Pachysandra
Cornus spp. (Dogwood)	Pieris spp. (Andromeda)
Diervilla (Bush Honeysuckle)	Rhododendron spp. – most varieties
Enkianthus	Symphoricarpos (Snowberry)
Euonymus – evergreen	
	Tsuga (Canadian Hemlock)
Fothergilla (Bottlebrush)	Taxus spp. (Yews)
Gaultheria (Wintergreen)	Viburnum spp. (Viburnums)
	Vinca

*This plant has been identified by a task force of the Missouri Botanical Garden as one of the top plants known to be spreading into native plant areas and crowding out native species in our region. Because of its known invasive tendencies and difficult to control dispersal mechanisms naturalists recommend against planting this plant.