

Selected Great Perennials for Cape Cod

From The Spring Horticultural Happy Hour with C.L. Fornari

Sun to Part-Sun

Alchemilla mollis (lady's mantle) – early summer – self-seeds

Amsonia hubrichtii (narrowleaf bluestar) – spring native

Asclepias tuberosa (butterfly weed) – summer native

Aurinia saxatilis (basket-of-gold) - spring

Baptisia australis (false indigo) - June native

Calamintha nepeta (lesser calamint) – summer into fall

Crocosmia (crocosmia 'Lucifer') – summer

Dendranthema (garden mum, fall daisies) – fall

Echinacea purpurea (coneflower) – summer native

(Hemerocallis) daylily – summer

Hibiscus (hardy hibiscus) – late summer native

Liatris (liatris or gayfeather) – summer native

Monarda (bee balm) – summer native

Nepeta (catmint) - early summer

Nipponanthemum nipponicum (Montauk daisy)

Peonia (peony) – early summer

Perovskia atriplicifolia (Russian Sage) – summer into fall

Phlox paniculata (summer phlox) – summer native

Phlox subulata (creeping phlox) – spring

Rudbeckia (black-eyed Susans) – summer native

Sedum (sedum 'Autumn Joy' and others) - late summer

Solidago (goldenrod) – late summer native

Stokesia laevis (stokes aster) – summer native

Symphyotrichum or Eurybia (perennial asters) – fall native

Shade to Part-Shade

Achillea millefolium (yarrow) summer native

Actaea simplex (bugbane) – late summer native (some have purple leaves)

Alchemilla mollis (lady's mantle) – early summer – self-seeds

Athyrium felix-femina (lady fern) native

Chelone (turtlehead) – late summer – some are native

Crysogonum virginianum (green and gold) – spring native

Dicentra species (bleeding heart) – spring (D. eximia is native)

Epimedium (barrenwort) – spring – 'Sulphureum' is especially weed-smothering

Geranium macrorrhizum (bigroot cranesbill) – pt sun/shade – weed smothering

Hakonehloa macra (Japanese forest grass) – yellow varieties are colorful

Helleborus orientalis and niger (hellebores) – winter or spring

Heuchera (coral bells) – spring native colorful leaves

Hosta – summer – buy the size you want – low ones make good groundcover

Lobeila cardinallis (cardinal flower) – summer – native okay in sun if soil is moist

Tiarella (foam flower) - spring native