

# Conservation Landscaping for the Lake Tahoe Basin



## Shade Tolerant - Ground Covers

For Erosion Control



*Aegopodium podagraria* (bishop's weed): adapted, 1'-2' height, medium water needs, variegated spreading groundcover, good for mass planting, can be invasive, plant in contained beds



*Ajuga reptans* (bugleweed): adapted, 6" height, spreading, drought tolerant, medium water needs, tolerates deep shade, fast growing



*Alchemilla mollis* (lady's mantle): adapted, 2' height, medium water needs, spreading, chartreuse flowers bloom early to mid summer, easy to grow, reseeds



*Asarum canadense* (Canadian wild ginger): adapted, 6" height, part shade to shade, medium water needs, attracts butterflies, aromatic



*Dryopteris* hybrids (wood ferns): adapted and native, 3'-4' height, medium water needs, clumping, tolerates deep shade



*Euonymus fortunei* 'Coloratus' (purple wintercreeper): adapted, 6"-9" height, sun to shade, moderate water needs, drought tolerant, spreading, climbing and cascading, do not over water, evergreen, red foliage in fall, requires little care, many cultivars available



*Fragaria virginiana* (mountain strawberry): native, 6"-1' height, medium water needs, spreading, rapid growth, white flowers in spring, groundcover, easy to transplant



*Galium odoratum* (sweet woodruff): adapted, 6" height, spreading, tolerates deep shade, medium to high water needs, white blooms, easy to grow and divide



*Hakonechloa macra* (Japanese forest grass): adapted, 1-1 1/2' height, medium water needs, slow growth

# Shade Tolerant - Ground Covers



*Hosta* hybrids (hosta): adapted, 1'-5' height, clumping, medium to high water needs, tolerates deep shade, plants form a sturdy mound of foliage topped with lily-like blooms



*Lamium* hybrids (dead nettles): adapted, 6"-2' height, needs ample water, spreading and clumping varieties, fast grower, tolerates deep shade, drought tolerant, variegated varieties



*Lysimachia nummularia* (creeping jenny): adapted, 4"-8" height, medium water needs, spreading, fast growing, spills over walls, summer bloomer



*Mahonia repens* (creeping mahonia): adapted, 1'-2' height, minimal water needs, bronze colored in winter, spreading, slow growing, evergreen, yellow flowers in spring



*Polygonatum multiflorum* (Solomon's seal): native, 3' height, medium water needs, spreading, can be divided in spring

(not shown)

*Polystichum munitum* (western swordfern): native, 2'-4' height, medium to high water needs, clumping



*Pulmonaria saccharata* (lungwort): adapted, 1' height, clumping, tolerates deep shade



*Ranunculus repens* (creeping buttercup): adapted, 1' height, high water needs, slow growing



*Rubus parviflorus* (thimbleberry): native, 2'-4' height, medium to high water needs, spreading ground cover, berries attract birds, cut to ground to create bushier growth



*Smilacina racemosa* (false Solomon's seal): native, 2'-3' height, part shade to shade, medium water needs

Note: Depending on site specific conditions, cultural practices, and individual seed or plant vigor; plant establishment, needs and care may vary. This is not a complete list.

In California:  
Tahoe Resource Conservation District  
(530) 543-1501 ext. 113  
[info@tahoercd.org](mailto:info@tahoercd.org)  
[TahoeRCD.org](http://TahoeRCD.org)

  
**Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER