Shade Tolerant - Ground Covers

**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, mderate 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
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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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