

TROPICAL MARGINALS, cont'd

STAR GRASS Cyperaceae

Dichromena colorata, Zone 9 - 10

An evergreen sedge that grows 12"-18" tall and produces white star-shaped flowers. Sun to part shade.

TARO Araceae

Colocasia esculenta, Zone 9 - 11

Taro come in green, purple, and variegated leaves and stems. Best grown in part shade.

THREE-WAY SEDGE Cyperaceae

Dulichium arundinaceum, Zone 6 - 10

Not a true bamboo, but looks like bamboo at 18" to 24". Sun to part shade.

UMBRELLA PALM Cyperaceae

Cyperus alternifolius, Zone 7 - 11

Dark green leaves radiate out like an umbrella with a height of 2' to 5'. Sun to part shade

BORDERLINE MARGINALS

CARDINAL FLOWER Campanulaceae

Lobelia cardinalis, Zone 6 - 9

It is a perennial, herbaceous plant 18" tall with rosy red flowers. Sun.

CHAMELEON PLANT Saururaceae

Houttuynia cordata, Zone 6 - 10

Place container in shallow water 1" - 2". It has heart-shaped, bluish green leaves and 1" flower spikes with white bracts. Sun to shade.

FLOWERING RUSH Butomaceae

Butomus umbellatus, Zone 6 - 10

Green leaves with pink flower stalks in July and August. Place in shallow water. Sun to part shade.

GOLDEN CLUB Araceae

Orontium aquaticum, Zone 6 - 10

Small, golden flowers on 4" spikes with 12" long/4" wide oval leaves. Sun.

POWDERY THALIA Marantaceae

Thalia dealbata, Zone 6 - 9

Canna like leaves with purple flower stalks that stand 2' to 6' tall.

Thalia geniculata, Zone 6 - 9

Red stemmed, stands 5' to 6'. Sun to part shade.

BORDERLINE MARGINALS, cont'd

ROSE MALLOW/SWAMP HIBISCUS Malvaceae

Hibiscus moscheutos, Zone 5 - 11

This woody plant grows to 4' with 4" - 6" flowers in red, pink, or white. This plant dies back in the Winter and starts fresh in late Spring. Sun

SEDGE Cyperaceae

Cyperus longus, Zone 6 - 10

Triangular stems that grow to 2'-4' tall. Leaves radiate from the top with brown spike-lets.



Marginal Plants

Hardy & Tropical

*For more information about the
Colorado Water Garden Society
or other aspects of pond keeping along
the front-range go to:*

<http://www.colowatergardensociety.org>

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info@colowatergardensociety.org

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This brochure will investigate marginal plants by species. Marginal plants are used in the shallow part of your pond. Water plants are listed with a hardiness zone where they are best grown, but with some care most water plants can be kept year-round. Most water plants are listed as hardy or tropical. For those of us living in Metro Denver, depending on our Winter, "hardy" translates to mean zone 5 or 6. A tropical to us is normally zone 7. What that means is any plant with a zone 7 or higher must be protected, while zone 6 is borderline. Protection can mean protection from freezing to treating the plant as a houseplant for the Winter.

HARDY MARGINALS

ARROW ARUM Araceae

Peltandra, Zone 5 - 9

Arrowhead shaped leaf on a 1' - 2' tall stem

Peltandra sagittifolia can produce white flowers.

Peltandra virginica can produce green flowers. Sun to shade.

ARROWHEAD Alismataceae

Sagittaria latifolia, Zone 5 - 10

Arrow-shaped green leaves with small white flowers. Sun.

BOGBEAN Menyanthaceae

Menyanthes trifoliata, Zone 3 - 10

An herbaceous perennial 9" - 12" tall with three-lobed, dark green leaves with short-lived white flowers in the Spring. Sun.

CATTAIL Typhaceae

Typha, Zone 3 - 11

Typha angustifolia has a narrow-leaf cattail and grows to 4'.

Typha minima, Dwarf grows 12" to 18".

Typha laxmannii 'Graceful' has slender leaves at 4' tall.

Typha latifolia 'Variegata' can reach 5' to 7' tall with variegated leaves. Sun to part shade.

GIANT REED Poaceae

Arundo donax, Zone 7 - 11

This is a tall plant at 3' to 8' and looks a lot like bamboo. Sun to part shade.

HORSETAIL Equisetaceae

Equisetum, Zone 4 - 11

Equisetum hyemale grows to 4' with a hollow stem and green with black bands around.

Equisetum scorpioides is a dwarf horsetail 4" tall. Sun to part shade.

IRIS Iridaceae

Iris, Zone 4 - 9

There are many types of iris in many colors. They can be Louisiana hybrids, Siberian, and native *pseudacorus* (yellow). Sun to light shade.

LIZARD'S TAIL Saururaceae

Saururus cernuus, Zone 4 - 9

Heart-shaped leaves on 2' stems with white flower spikes. Sun to part shade.

MARSH MARIGOLD Ranunculaceae

Caltha palustris, Zone 2 - 6

Produces bright shiny yellow flowers in the Spring with dark leaves.

'Alba' will produce white flowers.

'Flore Pleno' will produce double yellow flowers. Sun.

PICKEREL RUSH Pontederiaceae

Pontederia cordata, Zone 3 - 9

Sword-like leaves with purple or white (*Alba*) flowers. Grows to 18" to 24". Sun to part shade.

RIBBON GRASS Poaceae

Phalaris arundinacea, Zone 4 - 9

Ribbon grass can be white variegated (*Picta*) or yellow (*Luteo picta*) variegated and stand up to 2' tall, Can be invasive. Part shade.

SEDGE Cyperaceae

Carex pseudocyperus, Zone 3-9

There are more than 2,000 species in the genus *Carex*, but those used in our ponds should be planted shallow. They have narrow leaves. Sun to Part shade.

SOFT RUSH/COMMON/CORKSCREW Juncaceae

Juncus effusus 'Spiralis', Zone 3 - 8

Common Rush is green with upright stems 2' to 5' tall. Corkscrew Rush have a twisting habit. Sun.

SPIKE RUSH Cyperaceae

Eleocharis montevidensis, Zone 3-11

Grass like plant 6"-12" that if left unchecked can become a weed. Sun to part shade

SWEET FLAG Araceae

Acorus, Zone 4 - 10

Acorus calamus is 2' to 4' either solid green or variegated and when the leaves are crushed, the fragrance is citrusy.

Acorus gramineus is smaller at 6" to 9" with dark green and white leaves and is also called Japanese sweet flag. Sun to part shade.

WATER PARSLEY/CELERY Apiaceae

Oenanthe sarmentosa, Zone 6 - 9

Green leaf or variegated. This plant grows to 12" and is a good water filter. Can be invasive. Sun

TROPICAL MARGINALS

BOG OR SWAMP LILY Liliaceae

Crinum americanum, Zone 8 - 11

Tropical plant with long, narrow green leaves with white flowers. Sun.

CANNA Cannaceae

Canna, Zone 7 - 10

Cannas come in all colors (flowers and leaves) and sizes. Flowers are red, pink, yellow and orange. Foliage can be tall, short, solid, or striped. Sun.

PAPYRUS, DWARF Cyperaceae

Cyperus haspan, Zone 9 - 11

Yellow-green flower heads on stems of 12" to 18". Sun to part shade.

PAPYRUS, GIANT Cyperaceae

Cyperus papyrus, Zone 10

Tall 12' to 15' with large mop heads. Sun to part shade.

PAPYRUS, MEXICAN Cyperaceae

Cyperus giganteus, Zone 8 - 11

Very tall and can grow to 12' to 15'. Erect stems with fluffy foliage. Sun to part shade.

SPIDER LILY Liliaceae

Hymenocallis littoralis, Zone 7 - 10

Planted from a bulb, the flower is white with dark green foliage. Sun to part shade.