**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 MALLOWS/WAMP 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.

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
or send an e-mail to:
info@colowatergardensociety.org

Written by Bob Hoffman, originally published 2005
Revised by Bob Hoffman & Edited by Dorothy Martinez 2013
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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 sagitifolia* 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.

**CATTAI** 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* ‘Gracieful’ 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 scorpoides* 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 3-7  
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 sarmontosa*, 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.