



GROUND COVERS

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Common Name

	PLANT CHARACTERISTICS					PLANT USES							COMMENTS
	PLANT TYPE	HEIGHT	SPREAD	ENVIR. TOLERANCE	DISEASE AND INSECT TOLERANCE	STREET TREE	PLANTING STRIP WIDTH	PROPERTY PERIMETER	VEHICULAR USE AREA INTERIOR	SIGHT TRIANGLE	SCREENING	OVERHEAD UTILITY EASEMENTS	
<u>Ajuga genevensis</u> Geneva Bugle	E	4" to 12"	Var.	U	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Widespreading and very dense; tolerates sun and shade; evergreen; easily crushed if walked on.
<u>Ajuga reptans</u> Carpet Bugle	E	4" to 12"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spreads quickly; very adaptable; numerous outstanding cultivars; excellent evergreen ground cover.
<u>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</u> Bearberry	D	6" to 12"	2' to 4'	U	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Thick, broad, evergreen mat; does best in porous, sandy soils; excellent ground cover for adverse situations.
<u>Aspidistra elatior</u> Cast-iron Plant	E	1.5' to 2.5'	2' to 3'	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Easily grown; excellent for low-light areas; good plant for textured contrast. May need protection in the Piedmont.
<u>Calluna vulgaris</u> Scotch Heather	D	4" to 24"	2' to 3'	No	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Beautiful ground cover; requires rich, acid soil; only lower growing cultivars are acceptable for use in sight triangle; excellent for steep, sunny slopes; spreads rapidly.
<u>Cotoneaster adpressus</u> Creeping Cotoneaster	D	12" to 18"	4' to 8'	U,D	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Handsome horizontal branching; roots where branches touch the soil.
<u>Cotoneaster dammeri</u> Bearberry Cotoneaster	D	12" to 18"	4' to 6'	U,D	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Branches creep along the ground; vigorous and fast growing; excellent ground cover.
<u>Erica carnea</u> Spring Heath	E	6" to 18"	2' to 3'	U	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Seldom grows over 12" tall; fine-textured evergreen ground cover.



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<u>Euonymus fortunei</u> Wintercreeper Euonymus	D	4" to 6"	Var.	U	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Handsome ground cover or climbing vine; tolerates all but wet conditions; numerous outstanding cultivars such as <u>E.f. coloratus</u> (Purpleleaf Wintercreeper)
<u>Forsythia viridissima</u> Bronze Forsythia (Cultivar)	D	12" to 18"	2' to 3'	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	The cultivar 'Bronyensis' is a dwarf cultivar; excellent foliage and early spring flowers.
<u>Hedera helix</u> English Ivy	E	6" to 6"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Can be used as an evergreen vine or ground cover; tolerates heavy shade; excellent plant for a variety of uses.
<u>Hypericum calycinum</u> St. Johnswort	D	12" to 18"	18" to 24"	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Excellent for extreme slopes or sandy soils; rapid growth in sun or partial shade.
<u>Iberis sempervirens</u> Evergreen Candy Tuft	E	6" to 12"	Var.	U	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Flowering plant in March-May and in late August until frost; moderate growth rate; fine-textured; good for accent areas.
<u>Juniperus conferta</u> Shore Juniper	E	12" to 18"	6' to 9'	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Possible winter damage; very adaptable; one of the most handsome juniper ground covers, especially "Blue Pacific" variety.
<u>Juniperus horizontalis</u> Creeping Juniper	E	12" to 24"	4' to 8'	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Only the lowest cultivars are acceptable for use in sight triangle; very adaptable; excellent for any dry, sunny area; numerous outstanding cultivars.
<u>Juniperus sabina</u> Savin Juniper	E	12" to 18"	3' to 5'	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Some species are of little value, but numerous outstanding cultivars; withstands adverse conditions.



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<u>Liriope muscari</u> Lily Turf	E	12" to 18"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Tolerates almost any type of adverse condition; attractive, fine-textured, grass-like appearance.
<u>Liriope spicata</u> Creeping Liriope	E	10" to 12"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Very tolerant of adverse conditions; fine-texture; tolerates shade or partial sun.
<u>Lonicera japonica</u> 'Halliana' Hall's Honeysuckle	E	15'+	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	A vigorous ground cover for sun or shade and use on steep banks. Grows quickly.
<u>Ophiopogon japonicus</u> Monkey Grass	E	12" to 18"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Very much like Liriope muscari but a finer texture; rapid growth in shade or partial sun.
<u>Pachysandra terminalis</u> Japanese Spurge	E	8" to 10"	Var.	U	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Semi-evergreen ground cover; excellent for heavily shaded areas; avoid exposed locations.
<u>Rosa wichuriana</u> Memorial Rose	D	12"+	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Semi-evergreen ground cover or vine; excellent for preventing soil erosion.
<u>Spirea japonica</u> var. Alpine	D	8" to 12"	2' to 3'	U	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Very fast growing, delicate, fine-textured plant; handsome pink flowers.
<u>Thymus serpyllum</u> Mother-of-Thyme	D	1" to 3"	Var.	U,D	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Transplants easily; prefers dry, well-drained soils in sunny location; excellent cover for gentle slopes; or a filler among rocks or dry walls; will endure mowing and occasional tramping.



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<u>Vinca major</u> Large Periwinkle	D	3" to 6"	Var.	U	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Excellent evergreen ground cover; handsome lilac-blue flowers, prefers rich soils for faster growth; fairly drought-tolerant.
<u>Vinca minor</u> Common Periwinkle	D	3" to 6"	Var.	U	No	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Similar to Vinca major, but has a smaller leaf and is less drought-tolerant.
<u>Xanthorhiza simplicissima</u> Yellowroot	N,D	12" to 24"	Var.	No	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Suckers freely from roots; good ground cover for moist areas.