

Native Florida Plants for Freshwater Low Areas

Low areas are defined as places that may have standing freshwater or “muck” during the rainy season but slowly drain, leaving very dry soil during winter. A drainage ditch or swale may be considered a low area.

Large Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	50' +	full sun
Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>	20'-30'	full sun to part shade
Buckthorn	<i>Sideroxylon celastrinum</i>	10'-30'	light shade to part shade
Dahoon Holly	Ilex cassine	25'-30'	full sun to part shade
Green Buttonwood	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	20'-30'	full sun to part shade
Live Oak	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	to 50'	full sun
Red Bay	<i>Persea borbonia</i>	40'-50'	full sun
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	30'-40'	full sun
Sea Grape	<i>Coccoloba uvifera</i>	25'-30'	full sun to part shade
Strangler Fig	<i>Ficus aurea</i>	40'-60'	full sun to part shade
Swamp Bay	<i>Persea palustris</i>	40'-50'	full sun to part shade
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	20'-30'	full sun to part shade
White Mangrove	<i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>	30'-40'	full sun
Wild Tamarind	<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>	40'-60'	full sun to part shade

Small Trees & Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Cat's Claw	<i>Pithecellobium unguis-cati</i>	10'-15'	full sun to part shade
Cocoplum	<i>Chrysobalanus icaco</i>	10'-15'	full sun to part shade
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> subspecies <i>canadensis</i>	10'-15'	full sun to part shade
Firebush	<i>Hamelia patens</i>	8'-10'	full sun to part shade
Gallberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	6'-8'	full sun to part shade
Myrsine	<i>Rapanea punctata</i>	15'-20'	full sun to part shade
Pond Apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>	15'-30'	full sun to part shade
Snowberry	<i>Chiococca alba</i>	10'-15'	full sun to part shade
Sweet Acacia	<i>Acacia farnesiana</i>	10'-12'	full sun
Walter's Viburnum	<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	10'-15'	full sun to part shade
Wax Myrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	15'-20'	full sun to part shade
White Indigo Berry	<i>Randia aculeata</i>	8'-10'	full sun to part shade
Wild Cotton	<i>Gossypium hirsutum</i>	4'-6'?	full sun to part shade
Wild Lime	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>	12'-25'	full sun to part shade
Wild Olive	<i>Forestiera segregata</i>	4'-15'	full sun to part shade

Ferns

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Leather Fern	<i>Acrostichum danaeifolium</i>	6'-8'	full sun to part shade
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	3'-4'	full sun to part shade
Swamp Fern	<i>Blechnum serrulatum</i>	2'-4'	full sun to part shade

Palms

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Cabbage/Sabal Palm	Sabal palmetto	50'-60'	full sun to part shade
Dwarf Palmetto	Sabal minor	up to 6'	full sun to full shade
Green Saw Palmetto	Serenoa repens	6'-8'	full sun to part shade
Paurotis Palm	Acoelorrhaphe wrightii	15'-20'	full sun to part shade
Royal Palm	<i>Roystonea regia</i>	up to 75'	full sun to part shade
Silver Saw Palmetto	<i>Serenoa repens</i> 'Silver'	6'-8'	full sun to part shade

Wildflowers & Groundcovers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Bacopa	Bacopa monnieri	3 inches	full sun to part shade
Blue Eyed Grass	Sisyrinchium atlanticum	2'	full sun
Camphorweed	<i>Heterotheca subaxillaris</i>	up to 3'	full sun
Climbing Aster	<i>Symphotrichum carolinianum</i>	climbs to 10'	full sun to part shade
Horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	2'-3'	full sun to part shade
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	4'-6'	full sun to part shade
Rain Lily	<i>Zephyranthes atamasco</i> variety <i>treatiae</i>	1'	full sun to part shade
Saltmarsh Mallow	<i>Kosteletzkya virginica</i>	2'-3'	full sun
Seaoxeye Daisy	<i>Borrichia frutescens</i>	up to 3'	full sun
Spider Lily	<i>Hymenocallis latifolia</i>	2'-3'	full sun

Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	up to 2'	full sun to part shade
String Lily	<i>Crinum americanum</i>	2'-3'	full sun to part shade
Swamp Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus coccineus</i>	3'-6'	full sun to part shade
Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i>	2'-3'	full sun
Yellowtop	<i>Flaveria linearis</i>	up to 3'	full sun

Grasses

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Light Requirements
Dwarf Fakahatchee	Tripsacum floridanum	up to 3'	full sun
Fakahatchee Grass	<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	4'-6'	full sun to light shade
Saltmeadow Cordgrass	<i>Spartina patens</i>	2'-3'	full sun to light shade
Sand Cordgrass	<i>Spartina bakeri</i>	3'-5'	full sun