



### COMMON PLANTS FOR TENNESSEE GARDENS

Tennessee offers gardeners the best of both worlds. The growing season is long and warm, making planting flowers from seed a delightful option. The winters are just long enough to chill daffodils and other plants requiring cold stratification. Between the rich soil and plentiful rains, Tennessee offers growers a chance for truly lush landscapes.



#### **Daffodils (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus* L.)**

When visiting Tennessee in the spring it is hard to miss the daffodils blooming. They are everywhere, along roadsides, in the woods and scattered throughout fields. It is little wonder that these cheerful plants are used extensively in home gardens. Preferring well-drained soil and plenty of sunshine, daffodils are a top choice for Tennessee gardeners.

#### **Irises (*Iris pallid*) and Others**

Just as popular in gardening as the Daylily, Irises can be found throughout Tennessee gardens and is the official state flower. The nutrient rich soil and plentiful sun is perfect for them. Both large and small garden centers throughout Tennessee carry Irises. One of the most popular is the "grape soda" Iris, (*Iris pallid*). Organic matter is usually provided for added nutrients and drainage when planting irises.

#### **Daylily (*Hemerocallis*)**

Daylilies are grown by home gardeners, business owners and even grow wild in Tennessee. Due to their hardy nature and ability to withstand clay soil and poor drainage, they are often planted in trouble areas. They come in many colors and sizes and offer differing bloom times. Commonly used as foundation plantings along houses or walkways, it is hard to find a Tennessee house or business that does not have at least one clump of daylilies.

#### **Nandina (*Nandina domestica*)**

Often given the name heavenly bamboo, *N. domestica* is a commonly planted shrub in Tennessee gardens. A member of the barberry family, this suckering shrub is a pest in warmer areas of the North America. Nandina grows to 8 feet if given proper care and no trimming. This plant prefers well-drained moist soils that are rich in organic matter. This garden favorite provides fall color and ornamental berries.

#### **Crepe Myrtles (*Lagerstroemia indica*)**

The crepe myrtles are among the most satisfactory of plants for the South: showy summer flowers, attractive bark, and (in many cases) brilliant fall color make them year-round garden performers. Long, cool autumns yield the best leaf display; sudden frosts following warm, humid fall weather often freeze leaves while they're still green, ruining the show.

## IT'S ALMOST SPRING

It's starting to warm up down south. Here in Tennessee we have temperatures in the 60's pushing 70 sometimes. It's time for a few things to be done.

Lawn and Landscape Pre-emergent weed control. If you haven't already done it, its time to get some weed control down. Using the pre emergent products are easier to control most weeds with. If you stop the weed before it gets out of the ground the lawn looks better, and for landscape beds if you can stop the weed from coming up, you don't have to pull them later. Some landscape plants like ground covers are particularly hard to control weeds, so pre-emergents are the only option.

Mulching and Pruning of the Landscape Beds is usually done now as well. Most people like to get this done in spring so the beds look fresh through the early season when every one is out with landscaping on their minds. Keep in mind that some plants don't need to be pruned in spring, it depends on the blooming pattern. Azaleas for example if pruned in early spring before they bloom will not bloom as well this year because you will cut off most of the blooms. A general rule of thumb is to prune after the plant blooms. But it will pay you to do a little research on your particular types of plants to see if they bloom on this years wood or last years wood. That will tell you when to prune. Feel free to contact Color Burst with any questions, we are here to help!

Color Burst has already started the pre-emergent treatments, mulching and bed maintenance to get ready for spring. Our pre-emergent treatments are covered in most of our contracts, so if we have not yet treated your yard we will be there between March and April to make sure your yard stays looking healthy and beautiful through the season.

If you are in need of mulch, now is the time, so please do not hesitate to contact us and we will send a team out to get those beds looking beautiful and ready for spring! 615-353-0722



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