10 Rain Garden Plants

**Elderberry (Sambucus canadensis)**
Sun to shade, dry to wet soils, tolerates all soil types, grows 12’ x 10’, white flowers in Jun-Jul, purple to black berries in Aug-Sept., high wildlife value, berries eaten by 48 species of birds

**Black chokeberry (Aronia melanocarpa)**
Sun to pt. shade, dry to wet soils, tolerates all soil types, grows 6’ x 6’, white flowers in April-May, black berries Sept.-Nov., attracts birds. **Red chokeberry (Aronia arbutifolia)** is taller, up to 13’, and has red berries in fall.

**Winterberry holly (Ilex verticillata)**
Sun to shade, dry to wet soils, tolerates all soil types, size varies, many cultivars, inconspicuous white flowers in May-Jul, bright red fruit Sept.-Feb., high wildlife value, attracts birds, berries on female plants, need male (1 M: 5 F) for pollination

**Arrowwood viburnum (Viburnum dentatum)**
Sun to shade, dry to wet soils, size 8’ x 4’, white flowers in May-Jun, attractive stems in winter, high wildlife value, attracts birds

**Virginia sweetspire (Itea virginica)**
Sun to shade, moist to wet soils, likes all soil types, size 6’ x 8’, white flowers Jun-Jul, red to purple fall foliage, attracts birds and beneficial insects
Ox-eye sunflower  
(*Heliopsis helianthoides*)
Sun to pt. sun, dry to moist soils, prefers loamy soils, size 4’ x 3’, yellow flowers June-Sept., butterfly plant, attracts hummingbirds, good cultivar is ‘Summer Sun’

Joe Pye weed  
(*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
Sun to pt. sun, dry to wet soils, clay-loamy soils, size 8’ x 4’, mauve flowers July- Oct., butterfly plant, attracts birds and beneficial insects

Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)
Sun to pt. sun, dry to wet soils, all soil types, size varies significantly with cultivar, grows in clumps, attractive summer through winter, seeds feed birds and mammals

Obedient plant  
(*Physostegia virginiana*)
Sun to pt. sun, dry to moist soils, all soil types, size 5’ x 3’, spreads, pink flowers June - Sept., cultivars are less aggressive, white flowered varieties available

Black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
Brown-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*)
Orange coneflower (*Rudbeckia fulgida*)
Sun to pt. sun, dry to moist soils, all soil types, size 3’ x 2’, yellow flowers June - Oct.