



Choosing Watergarden Plants

Plants are effective in keeping pond water clear. They starve algae by competing for food.

Bog/Marginal Plants

These plants thrive in consistently moist, boggy soil. Marginal plants compete with the algae for nutrients as well as providing shade for the pond.

Yellow Flag Iris

Plants form a tall clump of green sword-like leaves bursting with canary yellow blossoms in late spring. Nice for cutting. Overwinter pots by submerging them to just above their rims, allow water to freeze around them.

Ht: 8 - 18" Sp: 2' Placement: 0 - 8" deep Zone 2

Cattail

A native water plant with a strong vertical shape and cattail blooms. Overwinter pots by submerging them to their rims, allow water to freeze around them.

Ht: 18 - 24" Placement: 4 - 8" deep Zone 2

Marsh Marigold

Very hardy plant with yellow buttercup blooms and heart shaped leaves. Overwinter pots by digging into the garden.

Ht: 8 - 20" Sp: 12" Placement: 4 - 6" deep Zone 2

Pickereel Weed

Has superb glossy foliage and bold spikes of soft blue flowers. Overwinter pots by submerging them to their rims, allow water to freeze around them.

Ht: 20 - 36" Sp: 18 - 24" Placement: 0 - 7" deep Zone 3



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Zebra Rush

Long tubular leaves have green and white horizontal stripes. Small brown spikelets at tips of stems contain the seeds. Overwinter pots by digging into the garden.

Ht: 3 - 4' Sp: 24" Placement: 4 - 24" deep Zone 4

Creeping Jenny

This groundcover perennial with yellow flowers is fast growing.

Ht: 2 - 4" Sp: 2' Placement: 0 - 1" above pot rim. Zone 2

Water Calla

A native to Alberta with white flowers that appear in June and July. Allow to freeze in the pond to overwinter the plant. Ht: 4 - 6" Placement: roots can be potted or left to float. Zone 2

Surface Floating Plants

Waterplants with leaves that float on the surface, while roots trail below. Their roots are very heavy feeders and use up vast amounts of nutrients depriving algae of much needed food.

Water Hyacinth

Popular floater that flowers during very warm conditions. Annual. Ht: 3 - 6" Sp: indefinite

Parrot's Feather

Fast growing, fine textured foliage. Great oxygenator. If you have fish, place in a mesh or net bag. Annual. Ht: 4 - 12" Long floating stems.

Water Lettuce

Velvety green leaves grown in rosettes from June to September. Prefers warm temperatures and shade. Annual. Ht: 2 - 4" Sp: Indefinite



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Deep Water Plants

Plants that have their roots in the bottom of the pond or are planted into pots and placed in deep water are extremely beneficial as they absorb nitrates, thereby starving algae. They also provide oxygen and create hiding spots for fish.

Water Lily

Very fragrant and available in many colours. Needs 4 - 5 hours in full sun and must be placed in a calm area of the pond to perform best. Overwinter by draining pot, place in plastic bag, seal and store in cool place 0 - 5 degrees. Sp: 2 - 3'. Placement: top of pot should be at least 12" under surface of the water.



Hardy Pond Lily

Produces large rounded leaves that rest on the water's surface with yellow blooms. Overwinter in pot in bottom of pond. Native to Alberta.

Sp: 24 - 36". Placement: top of pot should be at least 12" under surface of water.

Oxygenating Plants

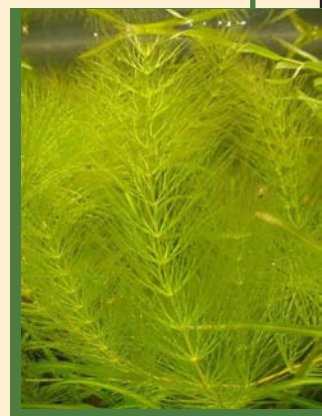
These are submerged in the water and are valued for their ability to use up waste in the water, which starves algae.

Hornwort

Purchased as free floating strands of foliage usually kept in a net bag to prevent it from becoming caught in the pump or eaten by fish.

Parrot's Feather

Can be purchased as a free floating, lead weighted plant or rooted in a pot. This potted plant can be submerged up to 18" below the surface of the water.



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PLANTS TO AVOID IN AND AROUND THE WATERGARDEN

Many of our ornamental plants in the landscape can be poisonous to aquatic life in the water garden. These plants should not be planted where fish can access any portion of the plant to ingest. Care must be taken when deciding where to place your pond, a new tree or shrub so that leaves or fruit will not come into contact with the fish. The following list of plant material should be avoided if at all possible:

Azalea
Castor Bean
Clover
Datura
Pigweed
Potato
Sweet Pea
Buttercup
Chokecherry
Horsechestnut
Lily-of-the-valley
Poison Hemlock

Red Maple
Nicotiana
Wild Bleeding Heart
Caladium
Climbing Nightshade
Jack-in-the-pulpit
Philodendron
Ponderosa Pine
Rhubarb
Tomato
Yew



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