

# Urban Gardening

## **Dwarf Hydrangeas:**

- For Shade – Pia or Pink Elf are great blooming dwarfs, or others that can be pruned hard to keep small that bloom on new wood each year (Endless Summer collection for example).
- For Sun – Dwarf PG types like Little Quick Fire or Little Lime. Also use a small tree option in the yard in lieu of larger flowering trees. Most can be purchased in a tree form and would get 8-10' tall as “tree”.

**Nandinas:** Great for sun and excellent foliage color. Try Burgundy Wine, Bonfire, Gulf Stream, Lemon Lime, Obsession, and many others.

**Barberries:** Deciduous but spectacular foliage color all spring/summer/fall. Golden Ruby (bright red with yellow), Gold Nugget (bright yellow), Concord (dark purple).

**Boxwoods:** Easy for focal points or low clipped hedges. Ture Dwarf, Green Gen make nice foliage hedges or specimens. Green Tower is a nice upright narrow one for pots or tight garden spaces where evergreen foliage is needed.

**Spiraeas:** Great little bloomers with nice foliage color as well. Easy pruning, low shrubby habit, and great fall color. Try new ones like Little Flirt or Little Sizzle – awesome small repeat bloomers. Fighting Deer? Try Glow Girl for nice foliage color and deer proof!

**Weigelias:** Great new repeat blooming and dwarf selections with nice foliage colors a swell. And the flowers are hummingbird favorites! Try Cocoa Crunch, Sonic Bloom (red or pick), Spilled Wine, or Fine Wine.

## **Dwarf Conifers:**

- For shade – Use Hemlocks like Moonfrost, Loowit, Cole’s Prostrate or Summer Snow. Also Yews like Sliver Spire or Beanpole (for upright and narrow), or spreading dwarf one like Nana Aurescens or Emerald Spreader.
- For Sun – Use dwarf Hinoki Cypress (green or yellow), Cis Korean Fir, Cryptomerias like Tansu or Little Champion, Pines like Slowmound. Juniperus Compressa is excellent in heat and narrow. Compact Fernspray Cypress has great texture and is nice in pots or the landscape for something a little taller as well.

## **Azaleas/Small Rhododendrons:**

- Kimono Azaleas – Great little dwarfs with a lot of spring color will grow 18” tall & wide.
- Gumpo Azaleas – Nice late bloom and dwarf habit for part shade.
- Yak Rhodies – Nice compact bloomers for shade/part shade with great foliage and flower.
- Everred – A nice new compact Rhody for part shade with showy deep red leaves.

## **Japanese Holly:**

- Soft Touch – Great dwarf evergreen, easy care and pruning.
- Sky Pencil – Nice columnar shape for containers or landscape.

**Japanese Maples:** A huge assortment of varieties suitable for growing in containers and growing in ground in smaller landscapes. Look at Mikawa Yatsubusa, Radiant, Kiyohime, Abigail Rose, Aka kawa hime (Dwarf Coral Bark) – just to name a few.

- Some more upright selections for height without as much spread include Twombly’s Red Sentinel, Tsukasa Silhouette and Butterfly.

- Some more great ones for shady spots or understory trees (or in shady pots) include any of the Ghost Series, Olsen's Frosted Strawberry and many others.

**Edibles:** Great berries to utilize in small spaces and containers

- Blueberries – Sunshine Blue, Bountiful Blue, Pink Icing, Jelly Bean, Top Hat.
- Raspberries/Brambles – Raspberry Shortcake or Baby Cakes Blackberry.
- Strawberries – Utilize any in “strawberry pots” or even window boxes.

**Vines:** For smaller trellises and even container growing

- Vancouver series – Fragrant Star, Danielle, Starry Nights.
- Boulevard Clematis – Great dwarfs for color all summer.
- Akebia – Great for larger areas and fences for a hardy selection for evergreen privacy.

**Clumping Bamboos:** Fargesias are easy clumping types for landscape or containers & for privacy from sound/motion. Choose your flavor for a height range.

**Ferns:** Deer Ferns, Tassel Ferns or Alaskan Ferns are evergreen with nice foliage and easy care for shady spots.

**Fragrance Plants:**

- For Shade – *Sarcococca humilis*, *Sarcococca ruscifolia*, *Daphne odora* varieties.
- For Sun – *Daphne* ‘Summer Ice’, *Daphne* ‘Eternal Fragrance’.

**Groundcovers/Trailing plants:** Use in ground or as spillers in more permanent containers

- For Sun – Sedums, thymes, succulents.
- For Shade – Wintergreen, *Ogon Sedum*, *Ajuga*.

**Heucheras:** Huge assortment of foliage colors and textures for sun and shade. Use in containers as fillers or group in landscape for year around colorful foliage and spring/summer bloom. Good for Hummingbirds too!

**Grasses:**

- For Sun – *Carex* varieties have orange/yellow/lime coloring & can be used in containers for color and texture or grouped in landscape for year around color and interest.
- For Shade – Black Mondo Grass can be used as a spiller in containers and also as groundcover in shady areas. Also *Carex Bowles Golden* is bright yellow and taller, and *Sea Oats* has great lime color and fantastic seeds in fall.

**Columnar Shrubs:** For tight spaces when you want height and minimal spread!

- Killamanshoro Double file *Viburnum* – White blooms, great ref color in fall.
- Black Tower Elderberry – Nice dark blackish foliage and nice spring bloom as well.
- Fine Line *Rhamnus* – Nice texture and foliage as well.
- Purple Pillar Rose of Sharon – New variety with narrow habit and awesome summer color.
- Starlight Talk Privet – A new interesting shrub that is super narrow for accents.