

Shade: Shrubs

Shade limits plant growth. The heights listed here are for less than ideal conditions. Many plants will grow larger when grown in full sun with adequate moisture.



Bush honeysuckle forms a dense cover on the edge of this parking lot. It's a good choice for a tough, low growing shrub in the shade.



Viburnum opulus 'Compactum' is also a good choice for shady conditions. Spring flowers, summer fruit, and fall color provide interest throughout the year.

Compiled by Pam Hartley, Cathy LeVahn and Sheryl Engstrom, Anoka County Master Gardeners, who have answered many questions about growing shrubs. Anoka County Master Gardeners teach classes in the community, including a series called *Lasting Landscapes* and other Community Education classes.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height/ Width	Soil Type	Zone	Exposure
Evergreen					
<i>Buxus</i> 'Green Velvet'	Green Velvet boxwood	2'3'	loose, well-drained	4-8	light shade
<i>Taxus cuspidata</i> 'Dwarf Bright Gold'	Dwarf Bright Gold yew	4'6'	moist, well-drained	2-7	full sun to heavy shade
<i>Taxus xmedia</i> 'Tauntonii'	Taunton yew	3'6'	moist, well-drained	4-7	medium to heavy shade
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> 'Holmstrup'	Holmstrup arborvitae	8'3'	moist, well-drained	2-9	light shade
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i> 'Aurea Compacta'	aurea compacta hemlock	6'6'	moist, well-drained	3-8	full sun to heavy shade
Deciduous					
<i>Andromeda polifolia</i> 'Blue Ice'	bog or marsh rosemary	2'3'	acidic, moist, well-drained	2-6	light shade
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> 'Autumn Magic'	Autumn Magic chokeberry	5'4'	avg., well-drained	3-8	light to heavy shade
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese barberry	4'4'	avg., well-drained	4-8	full sun to heavy shade
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> 'Hummingbird'	summersweet	3'3'	moist	3-8	medium to heavy shade
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	15-25'	average	2-8	full sun, light to medium shade
<i>Cornus hessei</i> 'Garden Glow'	Garden Glow dogwood	5-6'	average, moist	4-6	medium to heavy shade
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	8'6'	moist, well-drained	2-9	light shade
<i>Cornus sericea</i> 'Cardinal'	ted-twig dogwood	10'10'	moist, well-drained	2-9	full sun to heavy shade
<i>Diervilla sessifolia</i> 'Butterfly'	bush honeysuckle	3'5'	avg./moist	4-8	light shade
<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i> xmajor 'Mount Airy'	witch alder	6'4'	acidic, moist, well-drained	4-9	light to medium shade
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> 'Annabelle'	Annabelle hydrangea	5'5'	moist, well-drained	3-9	light shade
<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	panicle hydrangea	9'8'	moist, well-drained	3-9	light to medium shade
<i>Rhododendron</i> Northern Lights Series	Northern Lights azaleas	5'3'	well-drained, pH 4.5-5.5	3-7	light to medium shade
<i>Rhus typhina</i> 'Bailtiger'	Tiger Eye sumac	6'6'	sandy, well-drained	4-8	light to medium shade
<i>Stephanandra incisa</i> 'Crispa'	lace shrub	1'3'	avg.	4-7	light to medium shade
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	snowberry	4'4'	avg./moist	4-7	light to medium shade
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	nannyberry	15'6'	avg./moist	4-7	light to medium shade
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	highbush cranberry	10'5'	avg.	2-7	light to medium shade
<i>Viburnum opulus</i> 'Nanum'	dwarf European viburnum	2'3'	moist, well-drained	3-8	light to medium shade