



Favorite Ferns for NC Gardens

Create a native garden in your yard, and help sustain our native plant and pollinator populations. Do your homework to make sure you choose native plants suited to your site conditions. With proper planting and care, these perennials will become established in your yard.

**North Carolina
Native Plant Society**

The native ferns below are all perennials and should return each year if planted properly. They all are available commercially. If your local nursery does not sell these native plants, encourage them to do so!

**For information about the North Carolina Native Plant Society or to find a local chapter,
Visit: www.NCNPS.org • or email: ncnpsquestions@ncwildflower.org**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Region	Comment	Soil	Features
Southern Maidenhair	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	P/C	Delicate, fills in well with wildflowers	Average	Spreads slowly
Maidenhair	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	M/P	Delicate, with distinctive horse-shoe shaped frond	Average	Spreads slowly
Southern Lady	<i>Athyrium asplenoides</i>	M/P/C	Easy to grow, some have red stipes	Average	Clumps
Hairy Lip	<i>Cheilanthes lanosa</i>	M/P/C	Some sun and dryish soil	Dryish	Spreads slowly
Silvery Glade	<i>Deparia acrostichoides</i>	M/P	Drought and sun tolerant	Average	Clumps
Dixie Wood	<i>Dryopteris australis</i>	M/P/C	Semi-evergreen, large to 4 ft. tall, vigorous growth	Average-moist	Clumps
Log	<i>Dryopteris celsa</i>	M/P/C	Semi-evergreen, large best in moist soil	Average-moist	Clumps
Intermediate	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	M/P	Evergreen, formal growth with most delicate frond	Average	Clumps
Southern Woodfern	<i>Dryopteris ludoviciana</i>	P/C	Shiny evergreen frond, likes moist soil	Moist	Clumps
Marginalis	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	M/P	Evergreen, formal growth form	Average-dryish	Clumps
Sensitive	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	M/P/C	Distinctive fronds, sterile and fertile; spreads vigorously	Average-moist-wet	Spreads
Cinnamon	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	M/P/C	Robust, large to 4 ft.	Moist	Clumps
Royal	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	M/P/C	Large to 4 ft., handsome	Moist	Clumps
Broad Beech	<i>Phegopteris hexagonoptera</i>	M/P	Triangular frond, handsome, spreads vigorously	Average	Spreads
Christmas	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	M/P/C	Best all-around, evergreen, drought tolerant	Average	Clumps
New York	<i>Parathelypteris noveboracensis</i>	M/P/C	Delicate, brittle fronds, spreads rapidly	Average	Spreads
Netted Chain	<i>Woodwardia virginica</i>	M/P/C	Colorful new fronds, interesting fertile fronds	Moist-wet	Spreads

All ferns require part sun to shade M = Mountains P = Piedmont C = Coast