

Flowering Vines for Long Island: Indoors and Outdoors

This leaflet was formulated in order to give gardeners on Long Island a better idea of what flowering vines may be grown in our climate and how they are best grown. The vines suggested are grown on Long Island, and can be requested at your local garden center if they do not already carry them. Also included are ideas for creatively showcasing the vines we grow.

Outdoor Landscaping With Vines

Vines may be best displayed on a framework of some sort, a structure such as an arbor, gazebo, pergola, trellis, wall, or fence. Vines soften the union of architecture and nature, provide luscious flowers through the warmer months and fruits in the cooler ones, and more often than not add lots of character to any site.

Consider on your wall, fence or trellis a vine mosaic, a rich kaleidoscope of color achieved by growing several different vines intertwined on a wall or fence. Choose for extended bloom period, or just choose some of your favorites. Some vines will overtake others, so careful selection and pruning are essential. A vine mosaic is like living breathing dynamic art in your garden.

Arbors allow for shady resting points in the garden. Additional shade and beauty is created by the addition of a few of the above-mentioned flowering vines to your outdoor structure. An "eyelid arbor" can also be used to create unity in a garden by putting it at the first floor level to bring the garden up and disguise a basement wall. Trellis the wall and start your vine mosaic here, this approach can also extend your gardening area if space is at a premium.

A pergola can serve as a special entrance or walk, signaling a graceful transition from one part of the garden to another. Flowering vines such as annual morning glories and passion flowers are an essential facet of the beauty of such built structures in your garden.

The creative use of flowering vines can add a deeper dimension to your garden and the structures therein. Vines can beautify any structure and add grace and charm to your existing garden.

The following is a list of the choicest annual, perennial and woody vines for Long Island:

ANNUALS

Mid-summer bloom

Scientific Name

Dolichos lablab

Common Name

Hyacinth beans

Mid-summer into fall bloom

Scientific Name

Cardiospermum halicacabum

Common Name

Love-in-a-puff (*Note: this plant blooms in mid-summer, but the white flowers are not especially showy. The ornamental value of the plant is provided largely by balloon shaped fruits which are borne in the fall.*)

Ipomea alba

Moon vine

Ipomea batatas 'Blackie'

Ipomea 'Heavenly Blue'

Morning glory

+*Mina lobata*

Spanish flag

ANNUALS

Long season, spring to autumn

Scientific Name

Asarina scandens

Lathyrus odoratus

Phaseolus coccineus

Common Name

Chickabiddy

Sweet pea

Scarlet runner bean

PERENNIALS

Early to mid-summer

Scientific Name

Clematis montana var. *Rubens*

Clematis macropetala 'Blue Bird'

Clematis macropetala 'Markhams Pink'

Mid-summer into fall

Scientific Name

Clematis hybrids

Clematis paniculata

Clematis texensis 'Dutchess of Albany'

Common Name

Schizophragma hydrangeoides

Long season, spring to autumn

Scientific Name

Clematis recta

Clematis tangutica – (Note: blooms once in the spring and often again in the fall)

Clematis viticella kermesina

Passiflora sp.

Common Name

Passion flower vine/Maypops

WOODY ORNAMENTALS

Early Season

Scientific Name

Aristolochia durior

+*Bignonia capreolata*

Hydrangea petiolaris

Wisteria frutescens

Common Name

Dutchman's pipe

Cross vine

Climbing hydrangea

American wisteria

WOODY ORNAMENTALS

Mid-season

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Campsis radicans</i> *	trumpet creeper
<i>Campsis x Tagliabuana</i> 'Mme. Galen' *	trumpet vine

Late Season - Extended bloom

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Lonicera x heckrottii</i> 'Gold Flame'	
+ <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	

*Note: * = vines with an asterisk are good for attracting birds*

HOUSEPLANTS

Vining houseplants require some special care because they are both house plants and vines. Vines will generally grow rapidly, and need to be monitored closely for insect infestations which will generally occur on the new tender growth. Given the rate of growth of vines, pruning needs to be done regularly to ensure good blooming and healthy foliage. Pruning is generally best done in the spring, before the onset of heavy new growth. Prune spring flowering vines after they flower. Additional pruning may be necessary in the fall with a fast grower. Always prune just above a node, a slight swelling or the place where a leaf is or was attached. Throughout the year, it is a good idea to go through and remove dead leaves and flowers from your plants; this is an especially good time to monitor for diseases and pest problems.

Training your indoor vines may be accomplished in the same manner that you would employ outside. They may be trained up over doorways, in shapes, trailing down walls or up trellises.

Careful monitoring of soil moisture is essential; the most common killer of indoor plants is overwatering. Wait until the soil is almost completely dry before watering again. Plants need less water in the winter when it is cooler and growth is slowed. It has been suggested that the best time to water is in the morning, because it is warmest during the day, and plants will have a chance to dry out before the cool, damp night sets in.

Fertilizing your indoor vines is essential, especially during the active growing season, as they do not have a reserve of organic matter to pull from in the soil that plants growing outdoors do.

The planting medium for your vines depends largely on what species you are growing, special formulations are available commercially for different types of plants. Re-potting your vines may become essential as the vine grows. It is best to go two sizes up in pots at a time, and to transplant in the spring when growth is active.

Some locally available houseplants include:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Mandevilla splendens</i> & cultivars	
<i>Thunbergia alata</i>	Black-eyed Susan vine
<i>Tibouchina urvilleana</i>	Princess flower, Glory-bush
<i>Bougainvillea</i>	

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