

"Prevail with Perennials"

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Perennials live for many years so starting them off right.

Site Selection & Soil Preparation

- Allow for changes in sunlight based on the seasonal arc of the sun for sun/shade requirements
- Mix organic matter such as bark or compost ahead of time and use a variety since they decompose at different rates
- Plant using the 1x3 guide, dig hole 1 times the depth of pot and 3 times the width, unless soil is already loose
- "Plant them high never die"
- Soak pot before planting
- Adding mulch around the plant hold in moisture, keeps the soil cooler, and slowly breaks down releasing nitrogen

Planning your Flower Bed

- Separate by height, color, bloom time, and style
- Space according to max size
- Spring bloomers are primarily the shortest and are placed in the front
- Most of the middle sized plants are summer bloomers
- Fall bloomers are usually the tallest making them the best for backdrops or accent plan
- Tag your perennials for reference and so you don't trample them in early spring
- Save the plant tags
- Deadheading encourages future flowers

Top 22 Varieties for Tidewater

<u>Best for Beginners</u>	<u>Most Colorful</u>	<u>Longest Blooming</u>	<u>Easiest to care for</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Four O'Clocks▪ Daisy's▪ Hosta▪ Lirope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Peony▪ Columbine▪ Lantana▪ Coneflower▪ Salvia▪ Phlox▪ Verbena▪ Obedient Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Daylilies▪ Mexican Petunia▪ Black-eyed Susan▪ Coreopsis▪ Gaura▪ Bleeding Hearts▪ Russian sage▪ Autumn sage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stonecrop▪ Sedum▪ Ice Plant

Perennial Quick Picks

<u>Attract Butterflies</u>	<u>Drought Tolerant</u>	<u>Fall Bloomers</u>	<u>Wet Sites</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Hyssop▪ Aster, all▪ Black eyed Susan▪ Butterfly weed▪ Cardinal Flower▪ Coneflower▪ Coreopsis▪ Joe Pye Weed▪ Mist Flower▪ Valerian, red	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Aster, Japanese▪ Bloody Cransbill▪ Blue Mist▪ Blue Star▪ Butterfly Weed▪ Coreopsis▪ Ice Plant▪ Sea Holly▪ Sage, autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Aster, all▪ Black Eyed Susan▪ Boltonia▪ Chrysanthemum▪ Clematis, some▪ Ginger lily▪ Goldenrod▪ Mist Flower▪ Obedient plant▪ Sage, autumn▪ Sage, Russian▪ Sneezeweed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bee Balm▪ Bog, Sage▪ Cardinal Flower▪ Golden-ray▪ Hibiscus▪ Iris, blue flag▪ Jack in the pulpit▪ Obedient plant▪ Seashore mallow▪ Turtlehead▪ Valerian, common