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DURANGO NURSERY & SUPPLY
271 Kay Cee Lane, Durango CO
www.durangonursery.com
970-259-8800



SHALLOW ROOTING PLANTS

Planting near infrastructure and buildings such as septic tanks, sidewalks, and shallow buried pipes requires shallow rooting plants that will not disturb buried materials. Plants with prominent taproots should always be avoided. Below are lists of plants that can be planted near buried obstructions. The larger the plant, the bigger the root system. It is best to stick with smaller perennials and grasses.

Perennials for Sun		Perennials for Shade	
Plant Name	Zone	Plant Name	Zone
<i>Achillea</i> spp. – Yarrow	3	<i>Alchemilla mollis</i> – Lady’s Mantle	3
<i>Andropogon</i> spp. – Bluestem Grass	3	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> – Blue Star	4
<i>Artemisia</i> spp. – Wormwood	4-5	<i>Aquilegia</i> spp. – Columbine	3
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> – Butterfly Weed	3	<i>Astilbe x arendsii</i> – Astilbe	4
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i> – Aster	3	<i>Brunnera macrophylla</i> – Brunnera	4
<i>Baptisia</i> spp. – False Indigo	4	<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> – Plumbago	5
<i>Belamcanda chinensis</i> – Blackberry Lily	4	<i>Dicentra</i> spp. – Bleeding Heart	4
<i>Coreopsis</i> spp. – Coreopsis	4	<i>Digitalis</i> spp. – Foxglove	4
<i>Delosperma</i> spp. – Hardy Ice Plant	3-5	<i>Galium odoratum</i> – Sweet Woodruff	4
<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i> – Joe-Pye Weed	5	<i>Geranium maculatum</i> – Cranesbill	3
<i>Euphorbia</i> spp. – Spurge	4	<i>Helleborus orientalis</i> – Lenten Rose	4
<i>Gaillardia</i> spp. – Blanket Flower	3-4	<i>Heuchera</i> spp. – Coral Bells	4
<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> – Whirling Butterfly	5	<i>Hosta</i> spp. – Hosta	3
<i>Helianthus</i> spp. – Perennial Sunflower	4	<i>Lamium maculatum</i> – Spotted Dead Nettle	3-4
<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp. – Daylily	3	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> – Cardinal Flower	3
<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i> – False Red Yucca	5	<i>Phlox subulata</i> – Creeping Phlox	3
<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i> – Red Hot Poker	5-6	<i>Polygonatum</i> spp. – Solomon’s Seal	4
<i>Lavandula</i> spp. – Lavender	5	<i>Pulmonaria</i> spp. – Lungwort	5
<i>Liatris</i> spp. – Gayfeather	3	<i>Thalictrum</i> spp. – Meadow Rue	3
<i>Limonium latifolium</i> – Sea Lavender	4	<i>Tiarella</i> spp. – Foam Flower	4
<i>Nepeta</i> spp. – Catmint	4	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> – Spiderwort	3
<i>Oenothera</i> spp. – Evening Primrose, Sundrops	4-5	<i>Viola</i> spp. – Violet	3
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> – Russian Sage	4		
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i> – Plumbago	5		
<i>Rudbeckia</i> spp. – Black-eyed Susan	4-5		
<i>Salvia greggii</i> – Autumn Sage	5-6		
<i>Santolina</i> spp. – Lavender Cotton	5		
<i>Sedum</i> spp. – Stonecrop	3-5		
<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i> – Hens & Chickens	4		
<i>Solidago odora</i> – Goldenrod	4		
<i>Stachys byzantine</i> – Lamb’s Ear	4		



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Shallow Rooting Plants

Ornamental Grasses	
Plant Name	Zone
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> – Big Bluestem	3
<i>Bouteloua</i> - Blue Grama	4-5
<i>Carex</i> – Sedges	3
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i> – Northern Sea Oats	5
<i>Festuca glauca</i> – Blue Fescue	4
<i>Muhlenbergia</i> –Muhly Grass	5
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> – Switchgrass	4
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> – Little Bluestem	3
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> – Indiangrass	4
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> – Prairie Dropseed	3

Shrubs	
Plant Name	Zone
<i>Buxus spp.</i> – Boxwood	5
<i>Cornus spp.</i> – Dogwood	3
<i>Hydrangea spp.</i> – Hydrangea	3-4

Trees	
Plant Name	Zone
<i>Acer palmatum</i> – Japanese Maples	5-6
<i>Cercis canadensis</i> – Eastern Redbud	5
Dwarf ornamental tree varieties	3-5
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> – Cherry Tree	4

Plants to AVOID
<i>Acer</i> – Maples Trees (except Japanese Maples)
<i>Betula</i> – Birch Trees
<i>Pinus</i> – Pine Trees
<i>Populus spp.</i> – Aspen and Cottonwood Trees
<i>Salix spp.</i> – Willow Trees
<i>Ulmus spp.</i> – Elm Trees