

Pachysandra procumbens

Allegheny Spurge

Tried and True
Native Plant Selections
for the Mid-Atlantic



Why plant English Ivy, Vinca, or Liriope when you can enjoy this southern,* semi-evergreen gem? Fragrant, white flower spikes, which appear in early spring, later become camouflaged by a new flush of gorgeous, crisp green foliage. Leaves have a scalloped margin and take on an attractive mottling.

Ground Cover	Spring Flowers, Foliage in July and January	
Height: 6–10 inches		
Spread: 1–2 feet		
Bloom Color: White, Pink		
Characteristics		
Clumping, decumbent , semi-evergreen perennial		
Alternate , whorled , ovate , blue-green to mottled (with silver or purple) foliage, scalloped toward apex, untoothed at the base; winter foliage remains green in warmest zones, but may brown or undergo loss in colder zones; in Zone 7 it may become sparse or ragged; old foliage is replaced in spring		
Fragrant white to pinkish flower spikes in early spring rarely followed by small, dry fruit capsules		
Spreads slowly by rhizomes to form colonies		
Attributes		
Tolerates dense shade, heat, and drought; no serious pests or diseases (less susceptible to leaf blight than <i>P. terminalis</i>); deer rarely damage		
Will not overgrow an area like invasive <i>P. terminalis</i>		
Attracts bees and predatory insects		
Growing and Maintenance Tips	Excellent Replacement for	
Soil Requirements : Organic, acidic, well-drained	Arum italicum - Italian Arum	
Light Requirements : Partial Shade, Shade	Hedera helix - English Ivy	
Water Requirements : Moist	Liriope spicata - Creeping Liriope	
In order to establish a ground cover, place starter plants 6–12 inches apart	Pachysandra terminalis - Japanese Pachysandra	
Use under trees, near foundations, or along walkways where lawn growth is poor or en masse in woodland gardens	Vinca minor - Periwinkle	
Hardiness : USDA Zones 4a–9b	* Native to the South, it is concentrated in the Allegheny Mountains of KY and TN. In the Mid-Atlantic Region it has been reported only in Delaware, Philadelphia and Montgomery counties of PA where it may have been introduced.	

developed by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, serving Arlington and Alexandria

Images by Mary Free, Quarry Shade Garden and
by Elaine Mills (bottom right), private garden, Arlington, VA