Native Plant of the Year:

**Switchgrass**

*Panicum virgatum*

**Unique Characteristics**
Switchgrass is often used in rain gardens and provides excellent nesting and cover for birds. It can also be used for erosion control and bank stabilization.

*This plant is recommended for landscapes prone to deer damage.*

**Plant type:** ornamental grass

**Native range:** central America to southern Canada

**Sun:** full sun to part shade

**Water:** medium to wet

**Soil:** dry to moist

**pH:** 4.5 to 7.5

**Height:** 3 to 6 feet

**Wildlife:** excellent nesting and cover for birds

**Hardiness zones:** 5 to 9

**Bloom time:** July to February

**Bloom color:** pink

**Uses:** rain gardens; erosion control; cut and dried flower arrangements; used as an alternative to Miscanthus spp.