



5 Great Early Blooming Shrubs (Midwest)

Kate Karam | February 1, 2018

We know, it's February when you are reading this, but spring is around the corner and if you observe carefully, some shrubs are already showing signs of life.

Not in your yard?

If you're wondering "where's the color," here are five easy-growing shrubs that bloom very early and then transition to gorgeously green landscape stalwarts. Most look great as a stand-alone shrub, but all look even better when massed for the kind of colorful impact you crave this time of year. Put them on your spring shopping list. Next year, you will be so happy!

(For even more choices, check out other regions as zones can overlap: [Northeast](#), [Southeast](#), [South](#), [Southwest](#), [Northwest](#))

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Magical® Gold Forsythia *Forsythia x intermedia* 'Kolgold'

Top 3 reasons you need forsythia: bloom super early; transition to a useful, large green backdrop shrub; budded branches are easily forced indoors. Mass for extra pow! Full sun. Up to 5 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 5 - 9



Rosebud Azalea (*Azalea x* *'Rosebud'* (Gable Hybrid))

Gable hybrid azaleas are very bud-hardy and perform exceptionally well in cold climates. They also sport some of the best looking foliage of all azaleas. We love this one. Partial shade to partial sun. Up to 4 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 5 - 9



Korean Spice Viburnum *(Viburnum carlesii)*

We have a near obsession with fuss-free viburnum shrubs and this one is no exception. Early spring brings large clusters of spicy-scented, waxy pink flowers that fade to white. Partial to full sun. Up to 6 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 4 - 8



Diane Witch Hazel *(Hamamelis x intermedia* *'Diane')*

If you need a large native



Ramapo Rhododendron *(Rhododendron x 'Ramapo'* *(H-1)*

Little leaved varieties such as



shrub that thrives in cold northern climates, witch hazel is an exceptional choice. 'Diane' is one of the best of the red flowering varieties. Full sun. Up to 8 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 5 - 9



this very compact dwarf with its large trusses of lovely purple spring flowers are perfect for small gardens in cool, damp climates. Partial sun. Up to 4 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 4 - 8

Get inspired!



Rosebud Azalea

Azalea x 'Rosebud' (Gable Hybrid)
Item #0845
Showy Spring Flowers



Korean Spice Viburnum

Viburnum carlesii
Item #7395
Fragrant Spring Flowers



Diane Witch Hazel

Hamamelis x intermedia 'Diane'
Item #3924
Sensational Winter Flowers



Ramapo Rhododendron

Rhododendron x 'Ramapo' (H-1)
Item #1005
Showy Spring Flowers



Magical® Gold Forsythia

Forsythia x intermedia 'Kolgold'
Item #1754
Early Spring Flowers

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