Perennial

| Height: 1–2½ feet |
| Spread: 1–1½ feet |
| Bloom Color: Pink buds, turning to blue flowers |

**Characteristics**

- Erect, clump-forming, ephemeral perennial
- Big, floppy, bluish-green leaves and fleshy stems
- Blooms March to April for about 3 weeks
- Pink/bluish/purplish buds arranged in a scorpioid cyme (coiled flower cluster with oldest flower at end of main stem) open to a showy, bell-shape and usually turn light blue as flowers mature

**Attributes**

- Dormant in summer; foliage dies to the ground and does not reappear until the next spring
- Tolerates rabbits and Black Walnut; intolerant of waterlogged, winter soil; no serious pests or diseases; deer seldom severely damage

**Ethnobotanic uses**

- Attracts honeybees and native bees, butterflies, Sphinx moths and hummingbirds; en masse plantings also provide cover for wildlife

**Growing and Maintenance Tips**

- Soil Requirements: Rich, well-drained soil
- Light Requirements: Partial Shade, Shade
- Water Requirements: Moist, Wet
- Use at edge of woodland path or by a shaded pond or in borders, rain or rock gardens with later spreading perennials, like ferns, which will cover the void left when the bluebell foliage dies back
- Hardiness: USDA Zones 3–8

**Excellend Replacement for**

- Mertensia virginica - Virginia Bluebells, Virginia Cowslip

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Spring has finally sprung when the pink buds of Virginia Bluebells show themselves in late winter and early spring, evolving from being coiled up like a scorpion’s tail to opening into light blue nodding flowers in drifts of woodland* carpets. The Virginia Native Plant Society named Virginia Bluebells as Wildflower of the Year in 1989.