

## Home Quest #4

### Cover It Up!

One great way to decrease erosion and reduce the amount of runoff leaving your property is to cover certain spots in your yard with groundcover. The best spots for this are in thinly vegetated areas, under trees, or on slopes.

For this challenge you will search for a bare spot in your yard and plant a groundcover (native is preferred). Make sure you do not choose an invasive species of groundcover for this challenge. The following plants are invasive to our area: [Control of Invasive Non-Native Plants \(MD Native Plant Society\)](#)

If you don't want to make a huge commitment or investment in groundcover you can plant one plant and see if it likes the spot you chose. You can always plant more or you can let it spread on its own.

Here are some resources to help you choose a native groundcover for our region (Piedmont Region):

1. <http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/nativesmd/piedmont/piedmont-groundcover.htm>
2. [Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation/US Park Service \(See p. 72\)](#)

You can find native groundcovers at various Nurseries in our area including, but not limited to:

- Stadler Garden Center
- D.R. Snell Home and Garden Center
- Sun Nurseries
- Snell's Nursery
- Behnke
- Meadows Farms
- Dutch Plant Farm
- Potomac Farms

If you are searching for a particular variety of groundcover it's a good idea to call before you visit the Nursery.