Native Plants for Clay Soils

**Acer macrophyllum**  
Big-leaf Maple  
A tree with a large, often multi-stemmed trunk and a loose, broad crown of large leaves. Height: 65-100 feet (20-30 meters) tall with trunk 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters)diameter.

**Alnus rubra**  
Red Alder  
A fast-growing deciduous tree well suited to disturbed sites. Fixes nitrogen, can flourish in poor soils. Height: Up to 80 feet (25 meters).

**Caltha biflora**  
Marsh Marigold  
Perennial herb with large white flowers held above broadly rounded leaves; grows in wet subalpine meadows. Height: 16 inches (40 cm).

**Caltha palustris**  
yellow marsh marigold  
Large yellow flowers top this creeping, perennial, semi-aquatic herb. Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm).

**Equisetum arvense**  
Field Horsetail  
Succulent, hollow, jointed stems with whorls of branches. Height: 6-24 inches (15-60 cm).

**Grindelia integrifolia**  
Entire-leaved Gumweed  
Seaside perennial with sticky heads of yellow flowers. Can tolerate nutrient-poor, clay-like soils. Height: Can grow up to 32 inches (80 cm) in height.

**Lysichiton americanum**  
Skunk Cabbage  
A wetland plant with very large waxy erect leaves and yellow flower spikes enclosed in a large yellow sheath. Common in wet soils under cedar trees. Height: 1-5 feet (30-150 cm).
**Scirpus maritimus**  
Seacoast Bulrush

**Thuja plicata**  
Western Red Cedar  
Large conifer with branches that droop and then turn back up (J-shaped), broad crowns.  
Prefers nutrient rich soils with poor drainage.  
Height: 100-230 feet (30-70 meters).

**Xerophyllum tenax**  
Beargrass  
Forms a tall grass-like clump of tough leaves topped by a large dense cluster of white flowers.  
Tolerates a wide range of soils.  
Height: 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters).