Kitsap Master Gardeners
What to Plant around (Not On) Septic Equipment, Tanks and Drain Fields

Because I know you really want to know what you can plant, here are some options.
Your environment will dictate what is best.
Use your Master Gardener Resources

Search WSU Hortsense:
search.wsu.edu/default.aspx?cx=004677039204386950923:xvo7gapmrrg&cof=FORID%3A11&q=landscaping+septic+drainfields&sa=Search

Schrubs 2’–15’ tall (if you have to use them)
- Buttercup Winterhazel
- Dwarf Currant
- Dwarf Flowering Almond
- Japanese Flowering Quince
- Japanese Spirea
- Mock Orange
- Red Choke Cherry
- Slender Deutzia
- Wintercreeper Euonymus

Herbaceous Annuals
- Ageratum or floss flower (Ageratum houstonianum)
- Begonia—Wax (Begonia semperflorens)
- Coleus (Coleus species)
- Geranium (Pelargonium x hortorum)
- Lobelia (Lobelia erinus)
- Marigold (Tagetes patula)
- Petunia (Petunia x hybrida)
- Salvia (Salvia species)
- Sweet Alyssum (Lobularia maritima)

Herbaceous Perennials
- Armeria or Sea thrift (Ameria maritime)
- Astilbe (Ameria x arendssii)
- Basket of Gold (Aurinia saxatilis) - can also be used as a ground cover
- Campanula or Bellflower (Campanula species)
- Candytuft (Iberis sempervirens)
- Coral Bell (Heuchera sanguinea)
- Cottage (and other) Pinks (Dianthus species)
- Lavender (Lavandula angustifolia)
- Lily of the Valley (Convallaria majalis)
- Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum)
Ground Covers (all perennial)
Bunchberry (Cornus Canadensis)
Carpet Bugle (Ajuga reptans)
Hens and Chicks (Sempervivum tectorum)
Irish Moss or Scotch Moss (Sagina subulata syn. Arenaria verna)
Kinnickinnik (Arctostaphylos uva-ursi)
Pachysandra (Pachysandra terminalis) - shaded areas only
Stone Crop (Sedum species)
Sword Fern (Polystichum munitum)
Thyme (Thymus species)
Wintergreen (Gaultheria procumbens)

Wildflowers
Prairie Onion (Allium stellatum) - Not in Washington
Pussytoes (Antennaria neglecta)
Blazing Star (Liatris aspera)
Butterfly Weed (Not Bush – Class B Noxious) (Asclepias tuberosa)
Bigleaf Aster (Aster macrophyllus)
Pennsylvania sedge (Carex pensylvanica)
Prairie Clover (Dalea spp.)
Purple Coneflower (Echinacea angustifolia)
Wild Geranium (Geranium maculatum)
Wild Bergamont (Monarda fistulosa)
Penstemon (Penstemon spp.)
Pasqueflower (Pulsatilla patens)
Violets (Viola spp.)

Grasses
Sideoats grama (Bouteloua curtipendula)
Blue Fescue (Festuca ovina ‘Glauc’)’
Blue grama (Bouteloua gracilis)
Little bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium)
Prairie dropseed (Sporobolus heterolepis)
June Grass (Koeleria macrantha)

Trees 6’–25’ Tall (if you have to use them)
English Hawthorn
European Filbert
Glossy Buckhorn
Japanese Flowering Crabapple
Nanking or Manchu Cherry
Sargent Crabapple
Siebold Viburnum
Willowleaf pear