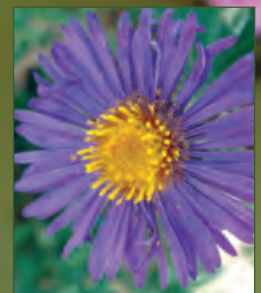
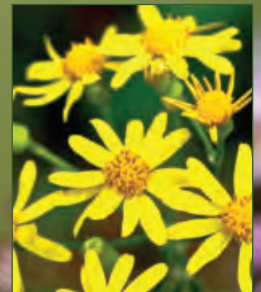




# Native Plants of the Northern Neck

Third Edition



This guide to Northern Neck native plants is provided through the **Plant NNK Natives: Go Native—Grow Native** campaign, supported by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program and developed with the assistance of a planning team of the following partners

**Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society**  
*lead organization*

Northern Neck Audubon Society  
Northern Neck Land Conservancy  
Northern Neck Master Gardeners  
Northern Neck Master Naturalists  
Northern Neck Planning District Commission  
Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District  
Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends  
The Chesapeake Bay Garden Club  
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck  
The Rappahannock Garden Club  
The Westmoreland Garden Club  
Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program  
Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

These businesses are partners in the  
**Plant NNK Natives: Go Native—Grow Native** campaign

Allison's Ace Hardware, Lottsburg  
Booth's Landscaping Company, LLC, Kilmarnock  
Dug In Farms, White Stone  
Farm and Home Supply, Kilmarnock  
Garner's Produce, Warsaw  
Huckleberry Design, Kilmarnock  
Land and Sea Farm Market, Wicomico Church  
Mid-Atlantic Native Plant Farm Inc., Cobbs Creek  
Miller's Greenhouses, Inc., Tappahannock  
Murphy's Hardware, Garden, Feed and Seed, Mt. Holly  
New Leaf Market, Kilmarnock  
Ransone's Nursery and Maintenance, Inc., Weems

**Cover Photos**

Main Photo: *Mistflower and Variegated Fritillary*  
Top right: *Rhododendron atlanticum*, Dwarf Azalea  
Middle right: *Packera aurea*, Golden Ragwort  
Lower right: *Symphotrichum novi-belgii*, New York Aster

The Plant NNK Natives campaign is a part of a Virginia coast-wide native plant marketing initiative that was coordinated and initially funded by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program. The program has been expanded to include all of Virginia and this statewide program and marketing campaign is now called "Plant Virginia Natives" - see [www.plantvirginianatives.org](http://www.plantvirginianatives.org).

Design and printing of the "Native Plants of the Northern Neck" guide, Edition One, were funded, in part, by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (DEQ) through a federal Coastal Zone Management Act grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

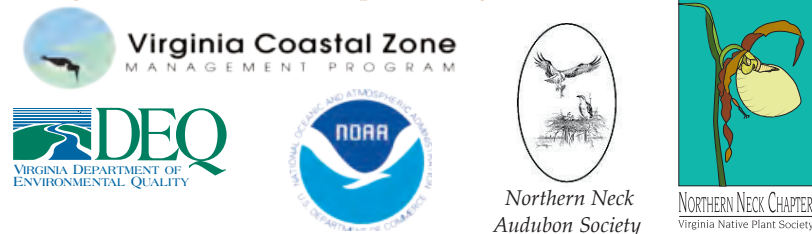
**Native plant information provided by the following sources**

*Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora*  
*Flora of Virginia*  
USDA Plants Database (United States Department of Agriculture)  
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at the University of Texas, Austin  
Division of Natural Heritage - Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation  
*Chesapeake Bay Watershed Native Plants for Wildlife and Habitat Conservation* (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)  
*Native Plants of Accomack and Northampton*  
produced by the Plant ES Natives campaign.

**Visit us on the Web**

**Plant NNK Natives: Go Native—Grow Native** at: [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)  
**Plant Virginia Native - Marketing Partnership** [www.plantvirginianatives.org](http://www.plantvirginianatives.org)  
**Monarch Butterfly Information**  
[www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/save-the-monarch](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/save-the-monarch)  
**Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program**  
[www.deq.virginia.gov/get-involved/coastal-zone-management](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/get-involved/coastal-zone-management)

**Funding for the First Edition was provided by:**



**Edition Three was supported, in part, by generous grants from the Virginia Native Plant Society and the Northern Neck of Virginia Chapter, National Audubon Society**

*Every effort has been made to provide accurate information. Errors will be corrected in future editions.*  
Edition Three 3/22 3M



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## Introduction to Northern Neck Native Plants

**W**hether you want to put in a flower garden or establish a landscape around your home there is a diverse palette of Northern Neck native plants from which to choose. Native plants not only offer practical, cost effective, and environmental benefits over non-native plants but many provide a dazzling display of foliage, flowers and fruit that surpass non-native ornamentals. Native plants give our landscapes a sense of place letting us know our gardens are part of the beautiful Northern Neck while protecting the watershed upon which the history, culture, economy, and beauty in the Northern Neck depend.

Plants native to the Northern Neck are those that were part of the local ecology for thousands of years, long before European settlement and are adapted to the local soils and climate conditions. Consequently, they often tolerate the varying conditions found on the Northern Neck, such as sandy soils, drought, and flooding. Northern Neck natives

typically require less watering and less care once established and little to no fertilization or pesticide application. In fact, a landscape with a diversity of native plants will attract a wide variety of beneficial insects, songbirds, and other wildlife. A diversity of native plants will create a habitat that is a great deal more ecologically balanced with far fewer outbreaks of pests and other problems.

Although this guide is not comprehensive, the Northern Neck Native Plants featured here were selected because they are attractive, available to the home gardener, easy to maintain, and offer various benefits to wildlife and the environment. Be inspired about how native plants work to support the biodiversity of the Northern Neck while also promoting clean water, soil health and the wonderful sense of place and beauty. Join an increasing number of gardeners who have discovered that Virginia's Northern Neck natives can be a wonderful addition to gardening and landscaping plans.



*A comprehensive list of native plants of the Northern Neck is available at the Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society website under the Resources button. See [www.nnonps.org](http://www.nnonps.org)*

*Several species of orchids are also native to the Northern Neck. We have not included the orchids in our list because they are not easy to propagate or transplant. If you find native orchids growing naturally, please do not disturb them.*

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## Bring Life to Your Garden: Our Wildlife and Pollinators Need Your Help

**A** garden planted with a diverse array of locally native plants is not only beautiful, but offers blooms, fruit, and color from early spring until late fall, all while supporting an amazing diversity of wildlife and a living web of connections. Many pollinators have specialized relationships with specific native plants and cannot produce a new generation without these plants. For example, the caterpillars of many of our beautiful butterflies and moths can only feed on certain groups of native plants, even though the adults may obtain nectar from a wide variety of plants. These adults must find that specific native plant (host plant) on which to lay their eggs so that their developing caterpillars have the required food. The Monarch butterfly's caterpillars are the poster child for this connection – they feed only on members of the milkweed family; no milkweed, no eggs, no caterpillars, no adults, no more. This is true for many of our showiest butterflies - for many species of Fritillary caterpillars it's violets; for Zebra Swallowtails it's pawpaw, for Spicebush Swallowtails it's spicebush. Butterfly populations have declined dramatically in recent years and, in part, this is due to the loss of native habitat and the specific native host plants their young depend on.

This host plant connection repeats over and over again among more than just butterflies and moths and it is a relationship that has co-evolved over millions of years. Many other pollinators, such as bees, have developed similar specialized relationships with particular species of native plants. Adult bees may obtain nectar from a diverse array of plants, but their larvae depend on pollen from one or more specific species. Many populations of pollinators have declined precipitously, paralleling the decline in our native plants and their habitats. Without their native host plants, these pollinators cannot survive in our landscapes and enrich

our gardens with their ecological services. The plants themselves have evolved these specialized relationships with certain species to insure their own successful pollination and seed dispersal; the benefits go both ways.

This tale of the living web of relationships continues up the food chain with our birds whose populations have plummeted about 30% in the last 50 years with grassland birds declining over 50%. Multiple studies have indicated the young of over 90% of our songbirds eat only soft bodied insects, especially caterpillars, regardless of what the adults feed on. They are unable to eat or survive on seeds or other food sources that adults might use. Recent research has shown that a single brood of young chickadees (about 6-8) requires 6,000–10,000 caterpillars until they fledge (about 16 days). Think about that – over 300 caterpillars a day or more than 25 per daylight hour that a parent must gather and bring back to the nest. The research has led to the realization that a landscape without at least 70% native plants cannot provide enough food for the chickadee parents to raise their young successfully. We now know that the plants we choose for our gardens really do make a profound difference in the diversity of life around us.

By planting a wide variety of native plants in layers, from tall overstory trees to shrubs and flowering perennials and groundcovers, we can support a diverse array of wildlife and pollinators and help reverse, or at least limit, the trend in wildlife loss and extinction. At the same time, we can enjoy the beauty of our gardens year-round as well as create a vibrant landscape full of life.





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## Coastal Plain of Virginia

**T**he Northern Neck lies in the Coastal Plain of Virginia, a mostly flat region underlain with sands, silt, gravels, ancient shell deposits and clay. This peninsula is bounded by the Potomac River to the North, the Rappahannock River to the South, and the Chesapeake Bay to the East. The Coastal Plain and entire Northern Neck are interlaced with numerous tidal and freshwater streams and tributaries. These include numerous freshwater marshes, increasingly rare seepage swamps, tidal swamp forests, to brackish salt marshes along the Bay and the many streams and rivers. Our coastal plain contains the largest percentage of wetlands in Virginia, 22%, contributing to our rich abundance of fauna and flora.

The Southeastern Coastal Plain of the U.S., including Virginia, has been identified as one of the most biodiverse hotspots in the world, with over 1800 species of endemic plants. Sadly, the region has lost over 80% of its natural habitat. Many of the region's state parks, wildlife refuges, state forests, and natural area preserves that define the character of the

Northern Neck contain beautiful wildflowers, hardwood forests and pristine swamps but our other natural areas are disappearing, along with the bees, butterflies, birds and even lightning bugs that lived in them.

The good news is that the Northern Neck still supports a resilient and diverse palette of native plants that offer beauty, habitat, and low maintenance. The many exotic alternative plants sold by most nurseries and big box stores offer little in the way of wildlife support and ecological function to our landscapes. It is more important than ever to reverse the loss of biodiversity in the Northern Neck by adding native plantings in our own yards and communities. They will provide unparalleled beauty while supporting clouds of pollinators, butterflies, birds, as well as other wildlife, and greatly enhance our own properties.

This Guide will “guide” you to that goal.









## Plant NNK Natives: Go Native–Grow Native Campaign

The Plant NNK Natives: Go Native – Grow Native campaign seeks to inspire Northern Neck residents and businesses to use native plants in their gardens and protect native vegetation in the landscape. Northern Neck native plants are indigenous; that is, they were likely growing in one or more of the four Northern Neck Counties (Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland) before European settlers came to the area.

The partners supporting the Go Native – Grow Native campaign (listed on page 2) believe that native plants provide many ecological benefits. For example, they serve as sources of food (berries, seeds, nectar) and habitat year round for resident and migratory birds. They also provide energy sources and host plants for many pollinators and their larvae,



which in turn become bird food. Native plants need less watering, so they assist in water conservation efforts important to maintaining a potable water supply on the Neck. Like most plants, they absorb nutrients and soak up water before it runs off the ground, helping to prevent stream pollution. And, they

typically require less fertilizer and fewer pesticides than non-native plants, thus reducing the introduction of pollutants to the environment.

See also the statewide program *Plant Virginia Natives* at [www.plantvirginiannatives.org](http://www.plantvirginiannatives.org)

Go Native – Grow Native campaign activities will increase both the demand for and supply of Northern Neck native plants.

In addition to this guide, products include:

- New educational signage on native plants found in local demonstration gardens
- Native plant identification tags and promotional banners for partner retail establishments to help gardeners identify native plants for their gardens
- “Native Plant of the Month” feature articles in local newspapers
- Our chapter’s website and Facebook pages provide up-to-date information on activities and educational materials of the Go Native – Grow Native campaign. Visit [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)
- A table-top exhibit for use at special events
- Garden Plans for sunny and shady gardens, available at [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)
- Specialized guides on Deer Resistant Northern Neck Native Plants, Salt Tolerant Northern Neck Native Plants and Native Plants for Northern Neck Bay-Friendly Properties, all available at: [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)
- Comprehensive List of Northern Neck Native Plants, available at [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)





*Reduce lawn, plant in layers, preserve native woody trees and shrubs*



*Riparian buffers and shorelines are the perfect place to plant natives to protect the watershed and create wildlife corridors*



*Create a diverse native pollinator border along a drive or path*



*Native Plants define property line while offering beauty, privacy & a pollinator buffet*



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## Landscaping with Native Plants: Getting Started

**A**dding Northern Neck native plants to your garden does not have to be overwhelming. Start small and gradually transform your garden into an ecologically functional and beautiful space that nurtures both you and your family while sustaining local wildlife.

Start by removing any invasive plants that are damaging the ecosystem and displacing our Northern Neck natives and the wildlife they support. Replace them with appropriate Northern Neck native plants. This Guide has a specific section on invasives and native alternatives on pages 48-49. See also [www.nnvnp.org/resources](http://www.nnvnp.org/resources)

Protect and conserve any existing native trees and shrubs. They support more wildlife than other plants and will give your landscape the gracious look of age. They also form the structure and backbone of your landscape.

Reduce lawn. Maintaining a lawn is extremely labor intensive and often is the source of runoff and pollutants into the streams, rivers, and Bay. Our waters are so very important to the quality of life in Northern Neck. Lawns support little to no wildlife, so consider reducing your lawn into small areas for recreation and 'rivers' or paths through your garden.

Be inspired by nature and plant in sweeps or masses and vertical layers to support the most biodiversity and beauty. Layers are especially important for wildlife food and shelter.

- Perhaps, focus on woody plants first, trees and shrubs, to create the structure of your landscape. Woody plants support the greatest diversity of wildlife (including

caterpillars) while soaking up stormwater runoff, removing or absorbing carbon dioxide, producing oxygen, cooling our properties, and protecting our watersheds. A single oak supports over 500 species of butterflies and moths alone which in turn are the main diet of baby birds and other wildlife. Plant an oak!

- Consider adding a few understory trees and shrubs beneath your canopy trees. Flowering Dogwoods, Eastern Redbuds, or native Viburnums will add beautiful spring blooms and vibrant fall color and fruit to your landscape, while also providing abundant food for pollinators and wildlife.
- Weave these together with perennials and ground covers. These will act as a living or green mulch, support pollinators and beneficial insects, and help 'knit' the landscape together creating a professionally designed look all while reducing maintenance and adding habitat.

Be sure to preserve or plant wide riparian buffers of native shrubs, grasses, and perennials around your waterfront or along streams or rivers or wetlands. These will not only add beauty and help wildlife but protect your shoreline from erosion and absorb and filter out excess nutrients and pollutants before they reach our precious watersheds – which are the heart and life-blood of the Northern Neck.

## Northern Neck Native Plants

(Partial List) \*

All the plants in this list are indigenous to the Northern Neck of Virginia, according to the most recent research available (Flora of Virginia and the Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora at [vaplantatlas.org](http://vaplantatlas.org)). They were probably growing here prior to European colonization.

Plant names in Green and Boldface are highlighted in the next section of this guide starting on page 20.

They have been selected because they are likely to do well in your garden, have special wildlife benefits and are relatively easy to purchase or propagate.



Shoreline gardens offer beauty and protect the Chesapeake Bay with Common Yarrow, Seaside Goldenrod, Seashore Mallow and Switchgrass.

## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow
<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>	Doll's Eyes
<i>Actaea racemosa</i>	Bugbane
<i>Agalinis purpurea</i>	Purple False Foxglove
<i>Ageratina altissima</i>	White Snakeroot
<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>	Wood Anemone
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Thimbleweed
<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	Plantain-leaf Pussytoes
<i>Antennaria solitaria</i>	Single-head Pussytoes
<b><i>Aquilegia canadensis</i></b>	<b>Eastern Red Columbine (page 20)</b>
<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Wild Sarsaparilla
<b><i>Arisaema triphyllum</i></b>	<b>Common Jack-in-the-pulpit (page 20)</b>
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Common Wild Ginger
<b><i>Asclepias incarnata</i></b>	<b>Swamp Milkweed (page 20)</b>
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<b><i>Asclepias tuberosa</i></b>	<b>Butterfly-weed (page 20)</b>
<b><i>Baptisia tinctoria</i></b>	<b>Yellow Wild Indigo (page 21)</b>
<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Nodding Beggar-ticks
<b><i>Caltha palustris</i></b>	<b>Marsh Marigold (page 21)</b>
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	Blue Cohosh
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Common Partridge-pea
<b><i>Chelone glabra</i></b>	<b>White Turtlehead (page 21)</b>
<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>	Striped Wintergreen
<b><i>Chrysopsis mariana</i></b>	<b>Maryland Golden-aster (page 21)</b>
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	Spring Beauty
<i>Clitoria mariana</i>	Butterfly Pea
<b><i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i></b>	<b>Mistflower (page 22)</b>
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Long-stalk Coreopsis
<i>Desmodium paniculatum</i>	Narrow-leaf Tick-trefoil

\* For a comprehensive listing of Northern Neck Native Plants click on the Resources button at [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)



## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	<i>Limonium carolinianum</i>	Sea Lavender (page 24)
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Tall Scouring Rush	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal Flower (page 24)
<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>	Hyssop-leaf Thoroughwort	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia (page 24)
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Boneset	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Sundial Lupine (page 24)
<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	White Wood Aster	<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>	False Solomon's-seal
<b><i>Eutrochium dubium</i></b>	<b>Three-nerved Joe-pye-weed (page 22)</b>	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>	Indian Cucumber-root
<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i>	Hollow Joe-pye-weed	<i>Micranthes virginiensis</i>	Early Saxifrage
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	Sweet-scented Joe-pye-weed	<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	Square-stemmed Monkeyflower
<i>Geranium carolinianum</i>	Carolina Geranium	<b><i>Mitchella repens</i></b>	<b>Partridge-berry (page 25)</b>
<b><i>Helenium autumnale</i></b>	<b>Common Sneezeweed (page 22)</b>	<i>Mitella diphylla</i>	Two-leaved Miterwort
<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	Woodland Sunflower	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Spotted Beebalm
<i>Heuchera americana</i>	American Alumroot	<i>Nuphar advena</i>	Common Spatterdock
<b><i>Hexastylis virginica</i></b>	<b>Virginia Heartleaf (page 22)</b>	<i>Nuttallanthus canadensis</i>	Blue Toadflax
<i>Hieracium venosum</i>	Rattlesnake Weed	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	White Water-lily
<b><i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i></b>	<b>Swamp Rose-mallow (page 23)</b>	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Common Evening-Primrose
<i>Houstonia caerulea</i>	Common Bluets	<b><i>Oenothera fruticosa</i></b>	<b>Southern Sundrops (page 25)</b>
<i>Houstonia purpurea</i>	Summer Bluets	<b><i>Opuntia humifusa</i></b>	<b>Eastern Prickly-pear (page 25)</b>
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	Virginia Waterleaf	<i>Orontium aquaticum</i>	Golden Club
<i>Hypericum gentianoides</i>	Pineweed, Orange-grass	<i>Osmorhiza longistylis</i>	Aniseroot
<i>Hypericum mutilum</i>	Dwarf St. John's-wort	<b><i>Packera aurea</i></b>	<b>Golden Ragwort (page 25)</b>
<i>Hypericum punctatum</i>	Spotted St.-John's-wort	<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	Arrow-arum
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	Orange Jewelweed	<i>Penstemon laevigatus</i>	Smooth Beard-tongue
<i>Ionactis linariifolia</i>	Stiff-leaved Aster	<b><i>Phlox paniculata</i></b>	<b>Garden Phlox (page 26)</b>
<b><i>Iris versicolor</i></b>	<b>Northern Blue Flag (page 23)</b>	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Northern Obedient-plant
<i>Iris virginica</i>	Virginia Blue Flag	<b><i>Podophyllum peltatum</i></b>	<b>Mayapple (page 26)</b>
<b><i>Kosteletzkya pentacarpos</i></b>	<b>Seashore Mallow (page 23)</b>	<b><i>Polygonatum biflorum</i></b>	<b>Solomon's-seal (page 26)</b>
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Round-headed Lespedeza	<b><i>Pontederia cordata</i></b>	<b>Pickerelweed (page 26)</b>
<i>Liatris pilosa</i>	Grass-leaf Gayfeather	<i>Pycnanthemum incanum</i>	Hoary Mountain-mint
<b><i>Lilium superbum</i></b>	<b>Turk's-cap Lily (page 23)</b>	<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	Narrow-leaf Mountain-mint

## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Rhexia virginica</i>	<b>Virginia Meadow Beauty (page 27)</b>
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	<b>Black-eyed Susan (page 27)</b>
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cut-leaf Cornflower
<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	<b>Brown-eyed Susan (page 27)</b>
<i>Ruellia caroliniensis</i>	<b>Carolina Wild-petunia (page 27)</b>
<i>Sabatia angularis</i>	Rose-pink
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	Broad-leaved Arrowhead
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	<b>Lyre-leaf Sage (page 28)</b>
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Bloodroot
<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	<b>Lizard's-tail, Water-dragon (page 28)</b>
<i>Scutellaria elliptica</i>	Hairy Skullcap
<i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i>	Hyssop Skullcap
<i>Sericocarpus asteroides</i>	Toothed White-top Aster
<i>Silene stellata</i>	Starry Campion
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	<b>Narrow-leaved Blue-eyed-grass (page 28)</b>
<i>Sisyrinchium atlanticum</i>	Eastern Blue-eyed-grass
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	Tall Goldenrod
<i>Solidago caesia</i> var. <i>caesia</i>	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Early Goldenrod
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i> var. <i>nemoralis</i>	Gray Goldenrod
<i>Solidago odora</i>	Sweet Goldenrod
<i>Solidago pinetorum</i>	Small's Goldenrod
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Rough-stemmed Goldenrod
<i>Solidago mexicana</i>	<b>Seaside Goldenrod (page 28)</b>
<i>Symphyotrichum grandiflorum</i>	Large-flowered Aster
<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i> var. <i>laeve</i>	Smooth Blue Aster
<i>Symphyotrichum novi-belgii</i>	<b>New York Aster (page 29)</b>

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Symphyotrichum pilosum</i>	White Old-field Aster
<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	Skunk Cabbage
<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	Common Tall Meadow-rue
<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i>	Rue-anemone
<i>Trillium pusillum</i>	Virginia Least Trillium
<i>Uvularia perfoliata</i>	Perfoliate Bellwort
<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>	Sessile Bellwort
<i>Veratrum virginicum</i>	Virginia Bunchflower
<i>Veratrum viride</i>	Green Hellebore
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain
<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	<b>New York Ironweed (page 29)</b>
<i>Viola cucullata</i>	Marsh Blue Violet
<i>Viola labradorica</i>	Dog Violet
<i>Viola pedata</i>	<b>Bird's-foot Violet (page 29)</b>
<i>Viola sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaved Violet
<i>Viola sororia</i>	Common Blue Violet
<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	Common Yucca



## Ferns

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Northern Maidenhair Fern
<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	Ebony Spleenwort
<i>Athyrium asplenoides</i>	Southern Lady Fern
<i>Botrypus virginianus</i>	Rattlesnake Fern
<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	Hay-scented Fern
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	Crested Wood Fern
<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	Evergreen Wood Fern
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	Marginal Wood Fern
<b><i>Onoclea sensibilis</i></b>	<b>Sensitive Fern (page 30)</b>
<b><i>Osmunda spectabilis</i></b>	<b>Royal Fern (page 30)</b>
<b><i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i></b>	<b>Cinnamon Fern (page 30)</b>
<b><i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i></b>	<b>Christmas Fern (page 30)</b>
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Southern Bracken Fern
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	Marsh Fern
<i>Woodwardia areolata</i>	Netted Chain Fern
<i>Woodwardia virginica</i>	Virginia Chain Fern



## Grass and Grass-Like Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Agrostis perennans</i>	Autumn Bentgrass
<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>	American Beach Grass
<b><i>Andropogon glomeratus</i></b>	<b>Bushy Bluestem (page 31)</b>
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broomstraw
<i>Arundinaria tecta</i>	Switch Cane
<i>Carex crinita</i>	Long-fringed Sedge
<i>Carex lurida</i>	Sallow Sedge
<i>Carex scoparia</i>	Broom Sedge
<b><i>Carex stricta</i></b>	<b>Tussock Sedge (page 31)</b>
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Fox Sedge
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	River Oats
<i>Danthonia sericea</i>	Silky Oatgrass
<i>Danthonia spicata</i>	Poverty Oatgrass
<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i>	Deer-Tongue Grass
<i>Dichanthelium commutatum</i>	Variable Panic Grass
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	Saltgrass
<i>Dulichium arundinaceum</i>	Three-way Sedge
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Bottlebrush Grass
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wild Rye
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Purple Lovegrass
<i>Juncus canadensis</i>	Canadian Rush
<b><i>Juncus effusus</i></b>	<b>Common Rush (page 31)</b>
<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	Black Needle Rush
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice Cutgrass
<i>Luzula multiflora</i>	Common Woodrush
<i>Panicum amarum</i>	Southern Seabeach Grass
<b><i>Panicum virgatum</i></b>	<b>Switchgrass (page 31)</b>
<b><i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i></b>	<b>Little Bluestem (page 32)</b>
<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	Common Threesquare

## Grass and Grass-Like Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	<b>Soft-stem Bulrush (page 32)</b>
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	<b>Woolgrass (page 32)</b>
<i>Sparganium americanum</i>	American Bur-reed
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	<b>Saltmarsh Cordgrass (page 32)</b>
<i>Spartina cynosuroides</i>	Big Cordgrass
<i>Spartina patens</i>	Saltmeadow Hay
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	Freshwater Cordgrass
<i>Tridens flavus</i>	Purpletop, Tall Redtop
<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	Eastern Gammagrass
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Common Cattail
<i>Zizania aquatica</i>	Southern Wild Rice

## Vines

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	<b>Cross-vine (page 33)</b>
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	<b>Trumpet-creeper (page 33)</b>
<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	American Bittersweet
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	<b>Virgin's-bower (page 33)</b>
<i>Decumaria barbara</i>	Climbing Hydrangea
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	<b>Carolina Jessamine (page 33)</b>
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	<b>Coral Honeysuckle (page 34)</b>
<i>Mikania scandens</i>	Climbing Hempweed
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	<b>Virginia-creeper (page 34)</b>
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	<b>Purple Passionflower (page 34)</b>
<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	<b>American Wisteria (page 34)</b>

## Shrubs

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	Devil's Walking-stick
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	<b>Red Chokeberry (page 35)</b>
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	<b>High-tide Bush (page 35)</b>
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	<b>American Beauty-berry (page 35)</b>
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey Tea
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	<b>Buttonbush (page 35)</b>
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	<b>Sweet Pepperbush (page 36)</b>
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	<b>Silky Dogwood (page 36)</b>
<i>Epigaea repens</i>	Trailing Arbutus
<i>Eubotrys racemosus</i>	Fetterbush
<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	<b>Heart's-a-bustin' (page 36)</b>
<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>	Black Huckleberry
<i>Gaylussacia frondosa</i>	Dangleberry
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	<b>Witch Hazel (page 36)</b>
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	<b>Wild Hydrangea (page 37)</b>
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry
<i>Ilex laevigata</i>	Smooth Winterberry
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	<b>Winterberry (page 37)</b>
<i>Itea virginica</i>	<b>Virginia Sweetspire (page 37)</b>
<i>Iva frutescens</i>	Marsh-elder
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Mountain Laurel
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	<b>Spicebush (page 37)</b>
<i>Lyonia ligustrina</i>	Maleberry
<i>Lyonia mariana</i>	<b>Staggerbush (page 38)</b>
<i>Morella caroliniensis</i>	Evergreen Bayberry
<i>Morella cerifera</i>	<b>Wax Myrtle (page 38)</b>
<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	Northern Bayberry



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## Shrubs

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Rhododendron atlanticum</i>	<b>Dwarf Azalea (page 38)</b>
<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i>	Pinxterbloom Azalea
<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i>	Swamp Azalea
<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	Winged Sumac
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Pasture Rose
<i>Rosa palustris</i>	<b>Swamp Rose (page 38)</b>
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Upland Willow
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	<b>Common Elderberry (page 39)</b>
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	Steeplebush
<i>Stewartia ovata</i>	Mountain Stewartia
<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	<b>Early Lowbush Blueberry (page 39)</b>
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	Deerberry
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Maple-leaf Viburnum
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	<b>Arrow-wood (page 39)</b>
<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	<b>Possum-haw (page 39)</b>
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	<b>Black Haw (page 40)</b>

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## Small/Medium Tree

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Alnus serrulata</i>	Smooth Alder
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	<b>Downy Serviceberry (page 40)</b>
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Canadian Serviceberry
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam, Muscle Tree
<i>Castanea pumila</i>	<b>Allegheny Chinquapin (page 40)</b>
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	<b>Eastern Redbud (page 41)</b>
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	<b>Fringetree (page 41)</b>
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda Dogwood
<i>Cornus florida</i>	<b>Flowering Dogwood (page 41)</b>
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Cockspur Hawthorn
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	<b>American Holly (page 41)</b>
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	<b>Sweetbay Magnolia (page 42)</b>
<i>Morus rubra</i>	Red Mulberry
<i>Salix nigra</i>	<b>Black Willow (page 42)</b>

## Large Trees

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Eastern Boxelder
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	<b>Red Maple (page 42)</b>
<i>Betula nigra</i>	<b>River Birch (page 42)</b>
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory
<i>Carya glabra</i>	Pignut Hickory
<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	<b>Mockernut Hickory (page 43)</b>
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Common Hackberry
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	<b>American Persimmon (page 43)</b>
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	<b>American Beech (page 43)</b>
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	<b>Eastern Red Cedar (page 43)</b>
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	<b>Tulip-poplar (page 44)</b>
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	<b>Black Gum (page 44)</b>
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	<b>Sourwood (page 44)</b>
<i>Pinus echinata</i>	Shortleaf Pine
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Loblolly Pine
<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	Virginia Pine
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	<b>American Sycamore (page 44)</b>
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Wild Black Cherry
<i>Quercus alba</i>	<b>White Oak (page 45)</b>
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Southern Red Oak
<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	Blackjack Oak
<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Swamp Chestnut Oak
<i>Quercus montana</i>	Chestnut Oak
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak
<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Water Oak
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak
<i>Quercus stellata</i>	Post Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	<b>Sassafras (page 45)</b>
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	<b>Bald-cypress (page 45)</b>
<i>Tilia americana</i>	<b>American Basswood (page 45)</b>
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm



# Highlighted Northern Neck Native Plants

## Key to Terms and Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*

Common Name: **Seashore Mallow, Salt Marsh Mallow**

### Plant Information

- Type:** **Perennial** means that the plant persists from year to year  
**Deciduous** means that the plant drops its leaves each fall  
**Evergreen** means that the plant stays green throughout the year
- Size:** Typically specifies height but may include spread and shape of the plant
- Flowers:** Describes bloom color and period, sometimes shape
- Fruit:** Describes fruit color, shape and time of appearance on plant
- Fall Color:** For shrubs and trees, describes the color that leaves turn in the fall
- Light:** Describes plant's requirements  
Full sun - 6 or more hrs  
Part shade - 2 to 6 hrs  
Shade - 2 hrs or less
- Soil:** Describes soil moisture and consistency
- Habitat:** Describes natural areas where plants might be found
- Benefits:** Describes benefits to wildlife
- Other:** Provides information on other benefits and characteristics

There are several resources that provide listings of what plants do well in particular habitats (e.g., woodlands, meadows, dunes, and wetlands) or can be used for specific purposes (e.g., control erosion, feature fall colors). So, be sure to check the Resources listed on page 46-47.

### A Note on Soils

Most soils on Virginia's Northern Neck are loamy soils, varying from heavier clay loams to sandy loams (loam is a mixture of sand, clay and silt). Soil types influence plant selections. Clay soils hold water longer and sandy soils dry more quickly. Remember that on sandier soils, water infiltration is much quicker, and more care should be taken in nitrogen fertilizer applications. Nitrogen fertilizer is very mobile and can leach to groundwater and move to surface water systems.

For details on soil types in your area, consult your county Soil Survey, or online, see links page.

For a soil fertility analysis, to see which nutrients may be necessary for your soil, contact your county VA Cooperative Extension office:

Lancaster	804 462-5780
Northumberland	804 580-5694
Richmond	804 333-3420
Westmoreland	804 493-8924

## Herbaceous Plants



*Aquilegia canadensis*

**Wild Columbine**  
**Eastern Red Columbine**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-3 ft, spreads the same  
**Flowers:** Bicolor red and yellow bloom, May-July  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist rich soil, but will grow in dry conditions  
**Habitat:** Grows on slopes, cliffs, ledges, pastures and roadside banks.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and beneficial insects.  
**Other:** Provides color for an extended period in the summer. Spreads by seed.



*Arisaema triphyllum*

**Common Jack-in-the-pulpit**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Striped purple or green, Apr-June  
**Fruit:** Red berry clusters  
**Light:** Dappled sun to shade  
**Soil:** Moist rich soil  
**Habitat:** Grows in moist wet woods, bogs and swamps.  
**Benefits:** Birds eat seeds.



*Asclepias incarnata*

**Swamp Milkweed**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 4-6 ft  
**Flowers:** Pink to purple, May-Aug  
**Fruit:** Pod, Aug-Nov  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, wet rich soils, but can tolerate drought  
**Habitat:** Found in tidal and non-tidal marshes, meadows, shrub swamps, woods, shores and ditches.  
**Benefits:** Flowers attract butterflies and hummingbirds. It is an important food source and host plant for the Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*).



*Asclepias tuberosa*

**Butterfly-weed**  
**Common Butterfly-weed**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-orange to bright orange, May-Sep  
**Fruit:** Pod, Aug-Nov  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist or dry, well-drained sandy soils  
Can tolerate drought.  
**Habitat:** Found in open woods, clearings and roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies and serves as an important host plant and nectar source for the Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*).  
**Other:** Butterfly-weed makes a delightful cut flower.



## Herbaceous Plants



*Baptisia tinctoria*

**Yellow Wild Indigo**  
**Horsefly Weed**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow pea-like flowers, May-Sep  
**Fruit:** Pod  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Dry, loamy, sandy, acidic soils, tolerates poor drainage  
**Habitat:** Found in dry open woods and clearings.  
**Benefits:** Serves as a host plant for Frosted elfin (*Callophrys irus*) and Wild indigo duskywing butterflies (*Erynnis baptisiae*).



*Caltha palustris*

**Cowslip**  
**Marsh Marigold**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Shiny yellow, May-June  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Wet or moist, humus-rich, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in wet woods, marshy hollows and along stream edges.  
**Benefits:** Nectar source for butterflies.  
**Warning:** Plant juices can cause blistering or inflammation on skin or mucous membranes, and can cause gastric illness if ingested.  
**Other:** Requires little care other than protection from drying winds in winter and early spring.



*Chelone glabra*

**White Turtlehead**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-4 ft  
**Flowers:** White or pink, July-Sep  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, or shade  
**Soil:** Light, rich, wet to moist soils  
**Habitat:** Found in brushy marshes, streambanks, wet ditches, low meadows and woodlands.  
**Benefits:** Nectar source for butterflies.  
**Other:** The distinctive shape of this flower is reflected in the genus name, derived from the Greek chelone (a tortoise).



*Chrysopsis mariana*

**Maryland Golden-aster**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-2.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, July-Oct  
**Light:** Full to part sun  
**Soil:** Dry sandy soils with good drainage  
**Habitat:** Grows in woods, open fields and roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attractive to bees, butterflies and birds.  
**Other:** Spreads to form ground cover. Good front of border plant.

## Herbaceous Plants



*Conoclinium coelestinum*

**Mistflower**  
**Ageratum**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Bright blue or violet, July-Nov  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist clay, loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Found along wood margins and streambanks, also in low woods, wet meadows and ditches.  
**Benefits:** Attracts late-season butterflies.  
**Other:** Spreads quickly and is good as a groundcover or for areas with poor drainage.



*Eutrochium dubium*

**Three-nerved**  
**Joe-pye-weed**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 2- 5 ft  
**Flowers:** Purple, rarely white, July-Oct  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, sandy acidic soil  
**Habitat:** Found in swamps, bogs, marshes and swales.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies, especially swallowtails and monarchs. Fluffy seed heads provide nesting materials for birds.  
**Other:** While the flower heads last a long time, this is one perennial that does not re-bloom if you remove spent blossoms. Leave old flower heads on the plant and let them go to seed.



*Helenium autumnale*

**Common Sneezeweed**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** 1.5-5 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, July-Nov  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist clay  
**Habitat:** Found in open areas along streams and ponds and wet meadows.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies.  
**Other:** The common name is based on the former use of its dried leaves to make snuff, not from the effects of its pollen. It was inhaled to cause sneezing that would supposedly rid the body of evil spirits.



*Hexastylis virginica*

**Virginia Heartleaf**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Purple, brown jug-like flowers beneath leaf litter  
**Light:** Dappled sun to shade  
**Soil:** Rich moist soils with leaf cover  
**Habitat:** Grows in upland woods, swamps and bogs.  
**Benefits:** Attracts pollinators.  
**Other:** Leaves are leathery, lustrous and evergreen. Plants can spread to form a ground cover for very low to no traffic areas.



## Herbaceous Plants



*Hibiscus moscheutos*

Swamp Rose-mallow  
Eastern Rose-mallow  
Crimson-eyed  
Rose-mallow

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 3-8 ft  
**Flowers:** Creamy-white, July-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Fruit:** Brown capsule, Sep-Mar  
**Soil:** Wet or moist soil  
**Habitat:** Grows in swampy forests, wet meadows and freshwater marsh edges.  
**Benefits:** Nectar source for hummingbirds.  
**Other:** Plants starts growing late in the season and flower over a long period.



*Iris versicolor*

Larger Blue Flag  
Northern Blue Flag

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 2-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Shades of purple, May-Aug  
**Fruit:** Green to brown capsule  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Wet or moist, acidic soils (can tolerate complete submergence)  
**Habitat:** Grows in meadows, along streambanks and in marshes and swamps.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds and other birds.



*Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*  
(also *K. virginica*)

Seashore Mallow  
Salt Marsh Mallow

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1.5-4.5 ft, spreads to 4 ft  
**Flowers:** Light pink, June-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, prefers sand, will tolerate clay soils, moderately salt tolerant, does best with high acidity  
**Habitat:** Grows in brackish marshes and swamps.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.



*Lilium superbum*

Turk's-cap Lily

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 4-8 ft  
**Flowers:** Red-orange or yellow-orange, July-Sep  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, loamy, sandy, acidic soils (good drainage essential)  
**Habitat:** Wet meadows, swamps and woods  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds.  
**Other:** Largest and most spectacular of the native lilies; up to 40 flowers have been recorded on a single plant.

## Herbaceous Plants



*Limonium carolinianum*

**Sea Lavender**  
**Carolina Sea Lavender**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Lavender, July-Oct  
**Light:** Prefers full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, rich clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in irregularly flooded high salt marshes. Tolerates high salinity.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for bees.  
**Other:** Makes a lovely delicate spray in fresh or dried flower arrangements.



*Lobelia siphilitica*

**Great Blue Lobelia**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-5 ft  
**Flowers:** Blue, Aug-Oct  
**Fruit:** Capsule  
**Light:** Full sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Moist, rich clay, loam or sandy soils, not drought tolerant  
**Habitat:** Grows in moist to wet woodlands, meadows and swamps.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds, butterflies, hummingbirds and beneficial insects.



*Lobelia cardinalis*

**Cardinal Flower**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-6 ft  
**Flowers:** Red, July-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, rich clay, loam or sandy soils, not drought tolerant  
**Habitat:** Grows in low areas, woodland edges, streambanks, roadsides and meadows.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds and butterflies. Depends on hummingbirds, which feed on the nectar, for pollination.



*Lupinus perennis*

**Sundial Lupine**

**Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Blue, Apr-June  
**Light:** Full to partial sun  
**Soil:** Dry sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in open woods, fields, roadsides and banks.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies.  
**Other:** Best propagated by seed.

## Herbaceous Plants



*Mitchella repens*

**Partridge-berry**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** 0.5 ft, creeping  
**Flowers:** Pinkish-white, May-July  
**Fruit:** Red berry, July-Dec  
**Light:** Part shade to shade  
**Soil:** Moist or dry, humus-rich, sandy or loamy, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Found in dry or moist woods, along streambanks and on sandy slopes.  
**Benefits:** Berries eaten by birds and mammals.  
**Other:** Can be used as a ground cover under acid-loving shrubs.



*Oenothera fruticosa*

**Narrow-leaf Sundrops**  
**Southern Sundrops**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Golden-yellow, May-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, acidic, well-drained soils (tolerant of brackish and lime soils)  
**Habitat:** Found in dry woods, meadows and along roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds, hummingbirds and beneficial insects.  
**Other:** This plant spreads rapidly under favorable conditions but does not usually become aggressive.



*Opuntia humifusa*

**Eastern Prickly-pear**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-1 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, June-July  
**Fruit:** Purplish to deep red, fleshy  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Sandy with good drainage  
**Habitat:** Grows in sandy and rocky areas, dry pastures and road banks.  
**Benefits:** Attracts native bees. Fruits attractive to turtles and birds.  
**Other:** Fruit is edible and can be used for jelly. Bristles can cause skin irritation. Plant forms large clumps.



*Packera aurea*

**Golden Ragwort**  
**Heartleaf Ragwort**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, May-Aug  
**Light:** Any sun condition  
**Soil:** Rich moist loam  
**Habitat:** Grows in moist fields, woods, floodplains and along roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies.  
**Other:** This wetland plant is evergreen and versatile with nice foliage. It provides interest in the garden from bud to bloom. Can be an aggressive spreader, so deadhead if control is desired.



## Herbaceous Plants



*Phlox paniculata*

Fall Phlox, Garden Phlox

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1.5-6.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Pink, purple, or white, June-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, organic loam  
**Habitat:** Found in open woods, thickets and meadows and along roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and beneficial insects.



*Polygonatum biflorum*

Solomon's-seal

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-6.5 ft  
**Flowers:** White, Apr-June  
**Light:** Partial sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, rich loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Found in woodlands, old fields and clearings.  
**Benefits:** Flowers visited by humming birds and bumblebees. Provides fruit for birds and small mammals in late summer. Provides wildlife cover.  
**Other:** Slowly spreads and creates a nodding blanket of foliage that turns a golden yellow in autumn.



*Podophyllum peltatum*

Mayapple

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-2 ft  
**Flowers:** White flowers under leaves in early May  
**Light:** Dappled sun to shade  
**Soil:** Rich moist loam with good drainage  
**Habitat:** Found in rich woods.  
**Benefits:** Wildlife eat the fruit.  
**Other:** Can be used as a ground cover in areas without traffic, but leaves disappear in summer. Ripe fruit is edible and can be used for jelly.  
*Warning: unripe fruit, leaves and roots are poisonous.*



*Pontederia cordata*

Pickerelweed

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** 3-3.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Purple-blue spikes, June-Nov  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in shallow, quiet water, fresh and brackish, tidal and non-tidal marshes.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for bees and butterflies. Good for wetland gardens and habitat. Seeds eaten by waterfowl. Attracts dragonflies.  
**Other:** The seeds can be eaten like nuts and the young leaf stalks cooked as greens.

## Herbaceous Plants



*Rhoxia virginica*

Virginia Meadow Beauty

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-3.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Dark pink, June-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Wet loam  
**Habitat:** Found in wet open areas.  
**Benefits:** Attracts bees, deer browse the plant.  
**Other:** Has a distinctive urn-shaped fruit that Thoreau once compared to a tiny cream pitcher.



*Rudbeckia triloba*

Three-lobed Coneflower  
Brown-eyed Susan

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1.5-4.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, orange with dark center, July-Oct  
**Light:** Full to partial sun  
**Soil:** Dry to moist soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in fields, open woods and along roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for birds, butterflies and other insects as well as seeds for songbirds.  
**Other:** Drought and pest resistant. Will self seed easily and spread.



*Rudbeckia hirta*

Black-eyed Susan

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** 1-3.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Bright yellow with dark center, June-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, or shade (may bloom longer with some afternoon shade)  
**Soil:** Moist to dry, well-drained acidic soils (drought tolerant)  
**Habitat:** Found in meadows, pastures and woodland edges.  
**Benefits:** Birds enjoy the ripe seeds. Nectar attracts bees and butterflies.  
**Other:** Excellent as cut flowers.



*Ruellia caroliniensis*

Carolina Wild-petunia  
Common Wild-petunia

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Lavender to medium bluish-purple, June-Sep  
**Light:** Full to partial shade  
**Soil:** Moist clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in open woods, fields and thickets.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for bees and butterflies. Serves as a host plant for Buckeye butterfly caterpillars.  
**Other:** Blossoms last a day or two, but new flowers form in succession. Self seeding and easily transplanted.



## Herbaceous Plants



*Salvia lyrata*

### Lyre-leaf Sage

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Pale violet, Apr-June  
**Light:** Full to partial sun  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, loam or clay  
**Habitat:** Grows in pastures, upland woods, thickets and waste areas.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.  
**Other:** Leaf shaped vaguely like a lyre. Mint family with four-sided flower stem, but no fragrant aroma. Tolerates periodic flooding and can take drought.



*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*  
(*S. graminoides*)

### Narrow-leaved Blue-eyed grass

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 0.5-1.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Blue, Apr-June  
**Light:** Full to partial sun  
**Soil:** Medium moisture, well-drained clay or loam  
**Habitat:** Found in grassy areas, woodlands, fields and meadows.  
**Benefits:** Provides cover for small wildlife and nectar for pollinators.  
**Other:** Is deer resistant. Belongs to the iris not grass family. Clump forming and spreads. Divide every 2 to 3 years to keep plantings vigorous.



*Saururus cernuus*

### Lizard's-tail Water-dragon

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1.5-4 ft  
**Flowers:** White, May-Sep  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Wet, moist, muddy soils, can be inundated up to 4 in. deep  
**Habitat:** Found in still water, wet lowlands and stream edges.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds.  
**Other:** Great spreading ground cover for moist soils, shallow water, and containers. Good for wetland gardens and habitat. Colonizes large areas.



*Solidago mexicana*  
(formerly *S. sempervirens*)

### Seaside Goldenrod

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 2-8 ft  
**Flowers:** Deep yellow, July-Nov  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found on sandy shores and in dunes.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds and migrating Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*).  
**Other:** Pinch the growing tips in June for a more compact plant. This goldenrod does not spread by rhizomes or become invasive.

## Herbaceous Plants



*Symphotrichum  
novi-belgii*

**New York Aster**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-4.5 ft  
**Flowers:** Purple, blue-violet, July-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist loam  
**Habitat:** Found in freshwater and tidal marshes.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies. A larval host to the Pearl Crescent butterfly (*Phyciodes tharos*).



*Vernonia  
noveboracensis*

**New York Ironweed**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 3.5-8 ft  
**Flowers:** Purplish-blue with yellow center, Aug-Oct  
**Light:** Full or partial sun  
**Soil:** Moist to wet loam  
**Habitat:** Found in floodplain forests, alluvial swamps, riverbanks, fens, wet meadows, low fields and freshwater marshes.  
**Benefits:** Abundant nectar source for butterflies and other pollinators.  
**Other:** Tolerates deer, will spread and is tolerant of a wide range of soils and conditions.



*Viola pedata*

**Birds-foot Violet**

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 3-6 in.  
**Flowers:** Purple with orange centers, Mar-June  
**Light:** Full to partial sun  
**Soil:** Well-drained sand or loam  
**Habitat:** Found on sandy, dry forested slopes.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for insects. Serves as larval food for some fritillary butterflies. Song birds eat the seed.  
**Other:** Makes a good ground cover. Tolerates dry soil, shallow, rocky soil, drought and deer.

### Special Note

**Please take extreme care when harvesting native plants. Although one part of a plant can be harmless, another part can be poisonous or toxic. For example, the seeds of all *Prunus* species, found inside the fruits, contain poisonous substances and should never be eaten (e.g., Black Cherry). All *Ilex* species may be somewhat toxic if ingested (e.g., Inkberry, American Holly).**

## Ferns



*Onoclea sensibilis*

**Sensitive Fern**  
**Bead Fern**

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** Height few inches to more than 3 ft  
**Flowers:** Non-flowering/ reproduces by spores  
**Light:** Part shade to full shade  
**Soil:** Moist to wet, loose, sandy or loamy, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in woodlands, flood plains, swamps and marshes and along streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Shelters salamanders and frogs and attracts birds.  
**Other:** Cut fronds are nice in flower arrangements. Fiddleheads appear in the spring in shades of pale red. The roots colonize but are usually shallow.



*Osmunda spectabilis*

**Royal Fern**

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** 2-5 ft high, 18 in. wide  
**Flowers:** Non-flowering/ reproduces by spores  
**Light:** Part shade to full shade  
**Soil:** Wet, sandy, clay or loam, acidic soils, tolerates year-round shallow water  
**Habitat:** Grows in freshwater wetlands and along streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Provides cover for wildlife.  
**Other:** Can spread to become a ground cover.



*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*

**Cinnamon Fern**

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6 ft  
**Flowers:** Non-flowering, thick spore-bearing spikes, that turn from green to chocolate brown, appear Apr-May.  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Muddy, sandy, clay or loam, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in boggy areas and shaded ledges.  
**Benefits:** Fuzz that covers the young fiddleheads is a favorite nesting material for birds.  
**Other:** Bristly root crown, called osmunda fiber, used as a potting medium for orchids.



*Polystichum acrostichoides*

**Christmas Fern**

- Type:** Perennial, evergreen  
**Size:** Height 1-3 ft  
**Flowers:** Non-flowering/ reproduces by spores  
**Light:** Part shade to full shade  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained, humus-rich, sandy, acidic soils (does not tolerate standing water)  
**Habitat:** Found in moist to dry rocky woods.  
**Benefits:** Provides cover for birds and food for turtles.  
**Other:** Good, evergreen border or accent plant.



## Grasses and Grass-like Plants



*Andropogon glomeratus*

### Bushy Bluestem

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 2-5 ft  
**Flowers:** White, brown, Aug-Nov  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Wet or moist, relatively sterile, sandy, clay or loam soils, tolerates salinity  
**Habitat:** Found in low, moist grassland areas often with poor drainage.  
**Benefits:** Provides seed and nesting material for birds.  
**Other:** Can be a luxurious addition to a fall flower display and is ideal for wetland gardens. Best for large-scale gardens and landscapes, because the seeds are heavy and may fall over once the plant reaches maximum height.



*Carex stricta*

### Tussock Sedge Upright Sedge

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** 1-3 ft high, 3 ft wide  
**Flowers:** Greenish/brownish spikes, Apr-Aug  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in swamps, low woods and seasonally flooded sites.  
**Benefits:** Excellent nesting habitat for rails and snipes.  
**Other:** Harvested for insulation in ice packing houses and used for rug making.



*Juncus effusus*

### Common Rush Soft Rush

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 1-4 ft  
**Flowers:** Small, greenish-brown, June-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Wet or moist, clay, sandy or loam soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in swamps and on damp open ground.  
**Benefits:** Birds find shelter among the stems. Provides very good shoreline protection.



*Panicum virgatum*

### Switchgrass

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 3-6 ft  
**Flowers:** Red-purple seed head, Aug-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, sandy, clay or loam soils, tolerates poor drainage  
**Habitat:** Found in open areas and along streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Seeds eaten by songbirds. Provides cover from the wind and nesting material. Larval host to Delaware Skipper (*Anatrytone logan*).  
**Other:** The rich, yellow-colored clumps last throughout the winter.

## Grasses and Grass-like Plants



*Schizachyrium scoparium*

### Little Bluestem

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Very dense mounds at 1.5-4 ft high  
**Flowers:** White seed head, Aug-Oct  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Dry, well-drained, sandy, clay or loam soils  
**Habitat:** Grows along woodland edges on hillsides and slopes and in open areas.  
**Benefits:** In winter the seeds, fuzzy white at maturity, are of particular value to small birds.  
**Other:** Wonderful planted en masse, it provides ranges from blue-green stems in late summer to radiant mahogany-red with white cotton-tufted seedheads in fall. A reddish-tan color persists through winter.



*Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani* (*Scirpus validus*)

### Soft-stem Bulrush

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 4-10 ft  
**Flowers:** Stalked, reddish-brown spikelets, May-June  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Moist or wet, usually poorly drained soil, tolerates a wide range of salinity  
**Habitat:** Found in deep or shallow water, or in muddy or marshy ground around lakes, ponds, streams and wooded wetlands.  
**Benefits:** Provides food and cover for fish, muskrats, otters, ducks, shorebirds and marsh birds. Provides erosion control from wind and wave action.



*Scirpus cyperinus*

### Woolgrass

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 4-5 ft  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Flowers:** Woolly bristles surround clusters of brownish nutlets atop a triangular stem, Aug-Sep  
**Soil:** Moist to wet clay, loam, or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in tidal and nontidal marshes, swamps, forested wetlands, wet meadows, ditches, ponds and bogs.  
**Benefits:** Provides food and cover for waterfowl and other wildlife.  
**Other:** Grows in large clumps.



*Spartina alterniflora*

### Saltmarsh Cordgrass Smooth Cordgrass

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Height 2-7 ft  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Flowers:** Greenish, May-Aug  
**Soil:** Wet clay, loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Grows in tidal marshes, salt flats and overwash ponds.  
**Benefits:** Provides food and cover for songbirds, waterfowl and other wildlife.  
**Other:** Good for shoreline stabilization.

## Vines



*Bignonia capreolata*

### Cross-vine

- Type:** Perennial, evergreen  
**Size:** Height 36-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Two-tone, red and yellow trumpets, Mar-May  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade.  
Best flowers in full sun  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained, acidic or calcareous, sandy or clay soils, tolerates cold and brief flooding  
**Habitat:** Found in floodplain forests, swamps, dry upland forests and rocky woodlands.  
**Benefits:** An early nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds.  
**Other:** Claws at the end of its tendrils allow crossvine to cling to stone, bricks and fences without support.



*Campsis radicans*

### Trumpet-creeper

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** Up to 35 ft high  
**Flowers:** Reddish orange, June-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Well-drained, sandy, loam or clay soils, high drought tolerance  
**Habitat:** Found moist woods or along fence rows in old fields.  
**Benefits:** Bright trumpet-shaped flowers attract hummingbirds.  
**Other:** With its vigorous growth habits, trumpet vine is a good soil stabilizer. Cut back branches to two buds in the winter to encourage bushier growth and more blooms.



*Clematis virginiana*

### Virgin's-bower

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** 12-15 ft  
**Flowers:** Clusters of creamy white flowers that into showy clusters of silky seeds that glisten with backlighting. July-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist to dry, rich soils  
**Habitat:** Found in woods, clearings and along fence rows.  
**Benefits:** Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.  
**Other:** Lacking tendrils, the vine supports itself by means of twisted stems, or petioles, that wrap around other plants. These stems can grow 20 ft in one year. They may be pruned at any time during the growing season.



*Gelsemium sempervirens*

### Carolina Jessamine Yellow Jessamine

- Type:** Perennial, evergreen  
**Size:** 10-20 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, Dec-May  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade (best in sun)  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained, humus-rich, sandy or clay soils, adaptable to any range of pH and tolerant of heat and cold  
**Habitat:** Found in sandy woodlands, swamps and clearings  
**Benefits:** Aromatic, showy evergreen vine whose flowers attract hummingbirds and Swallowtail butterflies.  
**Other:** It is quite adaptable and tenacious, with no serious disease or insect problems. All parts of this plant are toxic.



## Vines



*Lonicera sempervirens*

### Coral Honeysuckle Trumpet Honeysuckle

- Type:** Perennial, evergreen  
**Size:** 3-20 ft  
**Flowers:** Red flowers with some yellow, Mar-June  
**Fruit:** Bright-red berries  
**Light:** Full sun (best), part shade  
**Soil:** Rich, moist soils preferred, tolerates poor drainage for short periods  
**Habitat:** Found in upland forests and woodlands, floodplain forests, dunes and in clearings and disturbed areas.  
**Benefits:** Frequently visited by hummingbirds and butterflies. Fruits attract Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Hermit Thrush, and American Robin.  
**Other:** This beautiful vine is great for arbors.



*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

### Virginia-creeper

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** 3-40 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green, May-June  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained, clay, loam and sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in open woodlands and shaded woods, and along stream and riverbanks.  
**Benefits:** Birds eat fruit through the winter.  
**Other:** Leaves turn brilliant mauve, red and purple in early fall. Berries turn from red to blue to black. A vigorous grower, it adheres via adhesive discs rather than penetrating rootlets.



*Passiflora incarnata*

### Purple Passionflower Maypop

- Type:** Perennial  
**Size:** Up to 25 ft, with sprawls on ground  
**Flower:** Lavender, Apr-Sep  
**Fruit:** Orange-yellow berry, June-Sep  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, rich, clay and sandy, non saline soils  
**Habitat:** Found along roadsides, streams and riverbanks and in meadows, woodland edges or opens.  
**Benefits:** Birds eat fruit and flower attracts butterflies.  
**Other:** Showy ornamental for arbors and fences, walls and columns. Maypop refers to pop of the berries when crushed.



*Wisteria frutescens*

### American Wisteria

- Type:** Perennial, deciduous  
**Size:** 25-30 ft  
**Flowers:** Lilac or bluish purple, May-June  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist, rich, sandy, loam or clay, neutral to slightly acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Moist or wet woods, upland thickets and along river banks.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies. Larval host to Zarucco duskywing skipper (*Erynnis zarucco*).  
**Other:** Large, fragrant, drooping clusters of flowers appear after the plant has leafed out. This makes it different from the more aggressive Asian species.

## Shrubs



*Aronia arbutifolia*  
(*Photinia pyrifolia*)

### Red Chokeberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** 1.5-12 ft tall  
**Flowers:** Flat-topped clusters of white, five-petaled flowers with red anthers, Mar  
**Fruit:** Red berries, Sep-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Dark green, glossy leaves turn a rich, orange-red  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Dry, moist or wet, clay loam and sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in forested wetlands, shrub bogs and upland forests and fields.  
**Benefits:** Berries provide winter food for songbirds.  
**Other:** Reddish-brown, exfoliating bark adds color in the winter.



*Baccharis halimifolia*

### High-tide Bush Groundsel Tree

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-12 ft  
**Flowers:** White to green, Aug-Oct  
**Fruit:** Silvery, plume-like seeds on female plants, Oct-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Purple  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Wet to dry, clay, sandy, or loam soils  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh to salt marshes, ditches, shores and dunes.  
**Benefits:** Marsh wrens and other small birds frequently nest in the openly branched, brittle stems.  
**Other:** Small gray-green oval leaves create a soft look. Tolerant of saltwater spray, thus some times called Salt Bush.



*Callicarpa americana*

### American Beauty-berry French-mulberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 3-6 ft  
**Flowers:** Small pink flowers, June-Aug  
**Fruit:** Dense clusters of lavender berries, Sep-Mar  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, rich, sandy and clay, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Found in upland forests, forest edges and disturbed areas.  
**Benefits:** Seeds and berries are important foods for many species of birds.  
**Other:** Useful as a screen in wet or wooded locations or under shade trees in a garden setting. If overgrown, can be pruned to 6-18" tall. It will regain height in one season.



*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

### Buttonbush

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 6-12 ft  
**Flowers:** White or pale pink flowers resembling pincushions, July-Aug  
**Fruit:** Green to brown button-like balls, Sep-Jan  
**Fall Color:** Yellow-green  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Wet, clay and sandy soils, tolerates poor drainage or standing water  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh tidal marshes, swamps, forested wetlands, lakes and pond edges.  
**Benefits:** Ducks and other water birds and shorebirds consume the seeds and its nectar attracts bees and butterflies.

## Shrubs



*Clethra alnifolia*

**Coastal White-adler  
Sweet Pepperbush**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-12 ft in mounded clumps  
**Flowers:** Spike-like, upright clusters of fragrant white flowers, July-Aug  
**Fruit:** Brown capsules, Sep-Feb  
**Fall Color:** Dull yellow to orange  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Wet to moist, acidic  
**Habitat:** Grows in tidal and nontidal forested wetlands, swamps, woods and lakeshores. Tolerates salt spray.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies and other beneficial insects, songbirds, and waterfowl.



*Cornus amomum*

**Silky Dogwood**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-12 ft  
**Flowers:** White, May-June  
**Fruit:** Blue berry, Aug  
**Fall Color:** Orange, red or purple  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist or wet, clay, loam or sand  
**Habitat:** Found in forested wetlands, floodplains, stream and pond banks and clearings.  
**Benefits:** High wildlife value for songbirds, waterfowl and small mammals.



*Euonymus americanus*

**Strawberry-bush  
American  
Strawberry-bush  
Heart's-a-bustin'**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 2-6 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green or greenish purple, Mar-June  
**Fruit:** Yellow rounded capsule with a warty surface, summer-fall  
**Fall Color:** Dark red leaves and fruit capsules, which break open exposing bright red seeds, Sep-Oct  
**Light:** Partial to full sun  
**Soil:** Well-drained, humus-rich  
**Habitat:** Grows in deciduous woods, sandy thickets, swamps, shady edges, ravines and stream sides.  
**Benefits:** Provides food for deer, rabbit, wild turkey and songbirds.  
**Other:** In winter, the green twigs are attractive.



*Hamamelis virginiana*

**Witch Hazel**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 10-30 ft, spreading branches form an open crown.  
**Flowers:** Fragrant, yellow flowers, Sep-Dec  
**Fruit:** Brown capsule, Oct-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Gold  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Rich, well-drained clay, loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Found in moist or dry woods and brushy fields.  
**Benefits:** Birds eat the fruit.  
**Other:** The plant is very aromatic. Commercial witch-hazel is an alcohol extract from the smooth, gray bark.



## Shrubs



*Hydrangea arborescens*

Wild Hydrangea  
Smooth Hydrangea

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 3-6 ft  
**Flowers:** White, June-Aug  
**Fruit:** Brown capsule, Oct-Jan  
**Fall Color:** Yellow  
**Light:** Part to full shade  
**Soil:** Rich, moist well-drained soils  
**Habitat:** Found in rocky upland or floodplain woods and streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Provides some food for mammals and songbirds.  
**Other:** Leaves are poisonous to humans.



*Ilex verticillata*

Winterberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 3-10 ft  
**Flowers:** Inconspicuous greenish-white flowers, June-July  
**Fruit:** Dense clusters of bright red berries, Aug-Feb; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Fall Color:** Yellow to brownish black  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist acidic soils, tolerates poor drainage  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh tidal swamps and forested wetlands.  
**Benefits:** Provides food for birds in the winter.



*Itea virginica*

Virginia-willow  
Virginia Sweetspire

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-10 ft mound with arching branches  
**Flowers:** White drooping 4-inch spires, Apr-June  
**Fall Color:** Red to purple, persisting into winter  
**Fruit:** Brown capsule, Aug-Mar  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, acidic soils, tolerates poor drainage  
**Habitat:** Grows in forested wetlands, shrub swamps, streambanks and shallow water.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds, water fowl, small mammals and beneficial insects.  
**Other:** Most effective in massed plantings. Will form thickets.



*Lindera benzoin*

Spicebush

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-16 ft  
**Flowers:** Dense clusters of tiny, pale yellow flowers, Mar-May  
**Fruit:** Scarlet berry, Sep-Oct; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Fall Color:** Golden-yellow  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist, sandy, well-drained  
**Habitat:** Found in woods and floodplain forests.  
**Benefits:** A larval host for the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*) and Spicebush swallowtail (*Papilio troilus*) butterflies. Wood Thrushes eat the fruit.

## Shrubs



*Lyonia mariana*

### Staggerbush

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 0.5-6.5 ft  
**Flowers:** White, pale pink, May-June  
**Fruit:** Brown capsule, Sep-Feb  
**Fall Color:** Red  
**Light:** Part to full shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Found in swamps and moist or dry woods.  
**Benefits:** Attracts native bees.



*Rhododendron atlanticum*

### Dwarf Azalea

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 1-2.5 ft, forms colonies  
**Flowers:** White to pinkish, funnel-shaped fragrant flowers, Apr -May  
**Light:** Part to full shade  
**Soil:** Moist sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in dry to damp, sandy forests, pine woodlands and clearings.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds and bumble bees.



*Morella cerifera*

### Wax Myrtle Southern Bayberry

- Type:** Evergreen  
**Size:** Height 6 - 15 ft, multi-trunked, wispy  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green, Mar-June  
**Fruit:** Pale blue berries, Sep-Apr  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Wet, sandy, slightly acidic, tolerates poor drainage and drought  
**Habitat:** Found in tidal and nontidal fresh and brackish marshes, swamps, sandy dune swales and upland woods.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds and butterflies.  
**Other:** Light olive-green foliage has spicy fragrance. Colonists made fragrant candles from the waxy fruit.



*Rosa palustris*

### Swamp Rose

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6 - 8 ft upright shrub with numerous, bushy-branched, thorny stems.  
**Flowers:** Dark rose-pink flowers, June-Aug  
**Fruit:** Red hips (berries), July-Mar  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist to wet, rich soils, tolerates salt and poor drainage  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh tidal and non tidal marshes, forested wetlands, shrub swamps and streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Flowers provide nectar for bees and butterflies. Rose hips are eaten by birds.

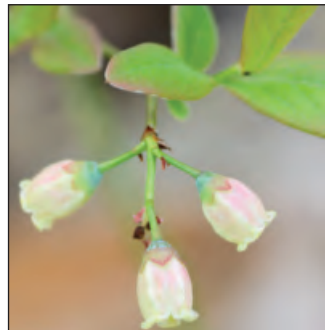
## Shrubs



*Sambucus canadensis*

### Common Elderberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-12 ft  
**Flowers:** Broad, flat, conspicuous white clusters, June-July  
**Fruit:** Dark purple berry, Aug-Sep  
**Fall Color:** Yellow green  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, full shade  
**Soil:** Dry, moist or wet clay, loam, sandy or organic soils  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh tidal and nontidal marshes, swamps, wet meadows, moist woods and fields.  
**Benefits:** Berries eaten by many bird species.  
**Other:** Seeds used to make pies, jelly and wine.



*Vaccinium pallidum*

### Early Lowbush Blueberry Hillside Blueberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 1.5-2 ft  
**Flowers:** Green-white to reddish-pink flowers, Apr-May  
**Fruit:** Dark blue berries, July-Aug  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist or dry, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in dry woods and barrens.  
**Benefits:** Sweet berries have a high wildlife value for butterflies, songbirds and small mammals.



*Viburnum dentatum*

### Arrow-wood

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-15 ft with erect-arching stems  
**Flowers:** White, flat-topped clusters, May-June  
**Fruit:** Dark blue berries, Sep-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Yellow to wine red  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Dry to wet, acidic soils and sands  
**Habitat:** Found in swamps, wet woods, bogs, floodplain forests and streambanks.  
**Benefits:** Attracts Eastern bluebird, Northern flicker, Gray catbird, and American robin.  
**Other:** Plant is flood, insect and disease tolerant.



*Viburnum nudum*

### Southern Wild Raisin Possum-haw

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6.5-20 ft  
**Flowers:** White to cream, June-July  
**Fruit:** Red to blue then black berry, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Red to purple  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, full shade  
**Soil:** Moist or wet acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in wet woods, swamps, margins of vernal ponds and heath bogs.  
**Benefits:** High wildlife value for bees, songbirds, waterfowl and small mammals.  
**Other:** Fruit is edible but very acidic. Has fibrous, shallow roots and transplants easily.



## Shrubs



*Viburnum prunifolium*

### Black Haw

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 12-24 ft  
**Flowers:** White clusters, Apr-May  
**Fruit:** Pinkish berries turn blue-black, July-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Reddish purple  
**Light:** Full sun to full shade (best flowers and fruit with 4-5 hrs of sun/day)  
**Soil:** Moist to dry, well-drained  
**Habitat:** Found in woods, thickets, fields and along roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Fruit is eaten by songbirds.  
**Other:** Plant is durable and pest free. Will colonize and can be trained as a small tree. Prune immediately after flowering.

## Small and Medium Trees



*Amelanchier arborea*

### Downy Serviceberry

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 15-30 ft  
**Flowers:** White, Mar-May  
**Fruit:** Red to purple fruit, June-Aug  
**Fall Color:** Yellow, orange, red  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained acidic  
**Habitat:** Found in upland woodlands, swamps and woody riverbanks.  
**Benefits:** Important early summer food for numerous bird species, including Cardinals, Cedar Waxwings and Towhees.  
**Other:** The fruits taste similar to blueberry and can be eaten fresh or cooked in pastries or puddings.



*Castanea pumila*

### Allegheny Chinquapin

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 12-20 ft  
**Flowers:** Pale yellow, June  
**Fruit:** Dark brown nuts, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Yellow or purple  
**Light:** Sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Dry loamy or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Found in dry open woods and old fields.  
**Benefits:** Flowers attract butterflies. The nuts are an important food source in the fall and winter for grouse, bobwhite, wild turkey, squirrels and deer.

## Small and Medium Trees



*Cercis canadensis*

**Eastern Redbud**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 15-35 ft with one to several trunks and a wide, umbrella-like crown of heart shaped leaves.  
**Flowers:** Deep purplish-pink, Apr-May before new leaves appear  
**Fruit:** Black pod, July-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Golden yellow  
**Light:** Part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist, fertile, well-drained  
**Habitat:** Found in woodlands, old fields and roadsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts butterflies, songbirds and native bees.



*Chionanthus virginicus*

**Fringetree**  
**Old Man's Beard**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 15-35 ft  
**Flowers:** Showy, fragrant, drooping white clusters, May-June  
**Fruit:** Dark blue, grape-like clusters, Sep-Oct; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Fall Color:** Yellow  
**Light:** Full sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, sandy or loamy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in upland forests, on moist streambanks and on ridges in sandy to deep rich soils.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds.



*Cornus florida*

**Flowering Dogwood**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 20-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Creamy white, Apr-May  
**Fruit:** Red to orange berry clusters, Sep-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Scarlet red  
**Light:** Part shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist loam  
**Habitat:** Found in woods, woodland edges and openings.  
**Benefits:** Resident and migratory birds eat the berries.  
**Other:** Virginia state tree.



*Ilex opaca*

**American Holly**

- Type:** Evergreen  
**Size:** Height 15-50 ft, spread 8-40 ft, pyramidal shape  
**Flowers:** White or cream, May-June  
**Fruit:** Bright red berries on female plants; need male and female plants to produce berries  
**Light:** Full sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Moist, well-drained, acidic loam and sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in sandy woods.  
**Benefits:** Songbirds and mammals eat the bitter berries.  
**Other:** Twigs with berries often used for holiday decorations. The wood is well-suited for inlays in cabinetwork, handles and carvings.

## Small and Medium Trees



*Magnolia virginiana*

**Sweetbay**  
**Sweetbay Magnolia**  
**Swamp Magnolia**

- Type:** Semi-evergreen  
**Size:** Height and spread 12-30 ft  
**Flowers:** Velvety-white, fragrant flowers, May-July  
**Fruit:** Dark red fruits expose bright red seeds, Sep-Oct  
**Light:** Sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Rich moist, acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Found in forested wetlands, along seeps, stream and pond edges and in sandy woods.  
**Benefits:** Seeds are a good source of food for birds in the fall.



*Salix nigra*

**Black Willow**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 35-60 ft, spread 20-35 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green fuzzy catkins change to flowers, Mar-Apr  
**Fruit:** Greenish yellow cone-like fruit, Apr-May  
**Light:** Full sun, part shade, shade  
**Soil:** Moist to wet clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in fresh tidal marshes and swamps, forested wetlands, floodplains and wet meadows.  
**Benefits:** Early season food for songbirds. A larval host for the Eastern tiger swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*) butterfly.

## Large Trees



*Acer rubrum*

**Red Maple**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 40-100 ft, spread 30-75 ft  
**Flowers:** Small red flowers, Mar-Apr  
**Fruit:** Red-brown or yellow winged seeds, Apr-Jun  
**Fall Color:** Red, orange, yellow  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist to wet clay, loamy or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in swamps, rocky hillsides and upland woods.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds and small mammals.



*Betula nigra*

**River Birch**

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 50 - 75 ft, spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green, Apr-May  
**Fruit:** Green to tan cone-like fruit, Aug-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Golden yellow  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in floodplain forests and on streambanks  
**Benefits:** Provides high wildlife value for songbirds and small mammals.  
**Other:** The tree's satiny, silver bark peels to reveal a cinnamon-brown trunk beneath. Tree is fast growing and long-lived.



## Large Trees



*Carya tomentosa*

### Mockernut Hickory

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 60-100 ft, spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Light green, May-June  
**Fruit:** Light reddish-brown nut, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Yellow  
**Light:** Part sun to full shade  
**Soil:** Dry, rich soils  
**Habitat:** Grows on ridges, dry hills and hillsides.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds, waterfowl and small mammals.



*Diospyros virginiana*

### Common Persimmon American Persimmon

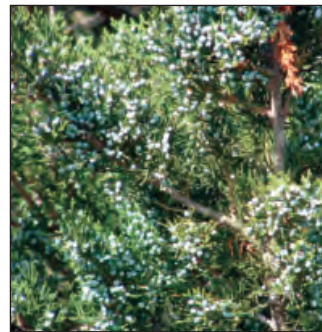
- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 50-75 ft, spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Greenish yellow to cream, June  
**Fruit:** Large orange berry, Sep-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Yellow or purple  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Dry to moist clay or loam  
**Habitat:** Grows in open, disturbed areas and woods.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds and is a host to Luna moth larvae (*Actias luna*).  
**Other:** On old trunks the dark gray bark is thick and broken into squarish blocks.



*Fagus grandifolia*

### American Beech

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 50-100 ft, spread 50-75 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green, Apr-May  
**Fruit:** Orange-green nut-like fruit, Sep-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Yellow-tan, retains leaves until spring  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Grows in rich uplands and lowlands.  
**Benefits:** High value for songbirds, waterfowl and small mammals.  
**Other:** Nuts are edible.



*Juniperus virginiana*

### Eastern Red Cedar

- Type:** Evergreen  
**Size:** Height 35-75 ft, spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Red purple, Mar-Apr  
**Fruit:** Pale green to dark blue berry-like cones, July-Mar; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Dry to moist, clay, loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in dry forests, barrens and old fields.  
**Benefits:** Berries consumed by many species of birds.  
**Other:** Foliage varies from gray to blue to dark green. All colors tend to brown in winter.

## Large Trees



*Liriodendron tulipifera*

**Tulip-poplar**  
**Tulip-tree**  
**Yellow Poplar**

**Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 70-100 ft, spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Tulip-like, green, orange and yellow, June  
**Fruit:** Brown winged fruit, Aug-Nov  
**Fall Color:** Yellow. Tan cone-shaped seedheads remain after leaves have fallen.  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Rich, moist well-drained loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in bottomland woods, upland forests and old fields.  
**Benefits:** Favorite nesting tree. Flowers attract hummingbirds. Serves as host to Eastern Tiger Swallowtail larvae (*Papilio glaucus*).



*Oxydendrum arboreum*

**Sourwood**  
**Sorrel Tree**

**Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 30-70 ft  
**Flowers:** White, Lily-of-the-Valley-like flowers, July  
**Fruit:** Showy, pale yellow capsules persist past leaf drop in the fall  
**Fall Color:** Brilliant deep red  
**Light:** Part shade  
**Soil:** Well-drained acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in well-drained woodlands.  
**Benefits:** Provides nectar for native bees.



*Nyssa sylvatica*

**Black Gum**  
**Sour Gum**

**Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 30 - 75 ft, spread 20-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Greenish white, Apr-June  
**Fruit:** Blue-black, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Brilliant deep red  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist acidic soils  
**Habitat:** Grows in forested seasonal wetlands, swamp borders, upland woods and dry slopes.  
**Benefits:** Fruit is consumed by many birds and mammals.



*Platanus occidentalis*

**Sycamore**  
**American Sycamore**

**Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 75-100 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green, Apr-Jun  
**Fruit:** Brown flat seed, Aug-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Yellow  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist, sandy loams or silty clay  
**Habitat:** Grows along river bottoms and lake shores.  
**Benefits:** Plant attracts birds and is resistant to deer.  
**Other:** Showy bark.

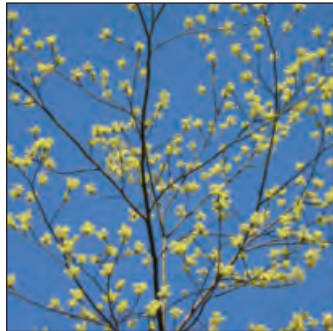
## Large Trees



*Quercus alba*

### White Oak

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 80-120 ft, spread equal to or greater than height  
**Flower:** Yellow-green catkin, Mar-May  
**Fruit:** Reddish-brown acorn, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Rich Crimson  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Dry to moist loam, clay or sand. Very adaptable.  
**Habitat:** Our most widespread oak, mesic to dry upland forests and well-drained bottomland.  
**Benefits:** Among the very best food for wildlife such as turkeys, blue jays, red-headed woodpeckers and wood ducks. Supports over 530 species of caterpillars (baby bird food).



*Sassafras albidum*

### Sassafras

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green, Apr  
**Fruit:** Dark blue, Sep-Oct; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Fall Color:** Yellow, orange, purple  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Rich, moist, sandy loam  
**Habitat:** Found in moist open woods and old fields.  
**Benefits:** Attracts songbirds and small mammals.  
**Other:** Leaves are bright green and variably oval or three-lobed or mitten-shaped. Explorers shipped quantities of the bark to Europe as a cure-all.



*Taxodium distichum*

### Baldcypress

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 50-75 ft by 50 ft wide, slender and conical  
**Flowers:** Inconspicuous purple flowers, Apr  
**Fruit:** Small, spherical cone, Oct-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Terra cotta  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist acidic sand and loams, can be deeply flooded for prolonged periods  
**Habitat:** Grows along river, lake and pond margins in coastal marshes, and river bottoms.  
**Benefits:** Provides food for birds.  
**Other:** Soft, ferny foliage with a slightly buttressed trunk at base. Knees develop in poorly drained situations.



*Tilia americana*

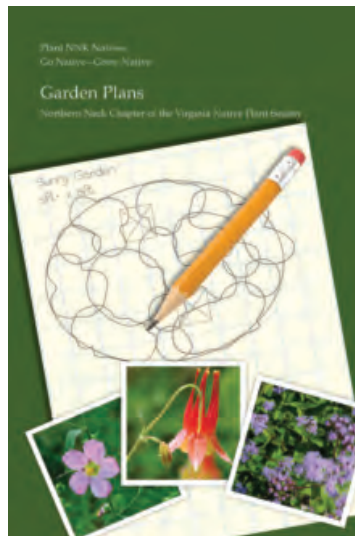
### American Basswood

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 60-80 ft, spread 50-70 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow, June-July  
**Fruit:** Tan-brown winged seeds, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Yellow or brown  
**Light:** Part sun to full shade.  
**Soil:** Moist loam or sandy soil  
**Habitat:** Grows in woods and on slopes.  
**Benefits:** Important pollen source for native bees and other pollinators. Insects attract nesting birds.  
**Other:** Attractive foliage casts dense shade.



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# Virginia Native Plant Resources



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These brochures are available online at [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)

## DIGITAL/WEB

**Flora of Virginia Mobile App** – with dichotomous and graphic keys, information on plant families, genera and species, photos, location maps by County, detailed botanical description of all plants in Virginia, and ability to save favorite plant lists by locality. Available for \$20 (2022) for all smartphones.

**Flora of the Southeastern United States.** 2020. Alan S. Weakley. 1800+ pages available online at [www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm](http://www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm)

**Seek by iNaturalist** - a free smartphone App using image recognition to identify a wide diversity of flora and fauna with a relatively high level of accuracy. Free, available for smart phones.

**Picture This - Plant Identifier** - another image recognition App for just plants. Free but contains some In-App purchase requests.

**Plant Virginia Natives** - [www.PlantVirginiaNatives.org](http://www.PlantVirginiaNatives.org) – loads of great information.

**Native Plant Finder** - [www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder](http://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder) - Collaboration between National Wildlife Foundation & Doug Tallamy, Univ. of Delaware - a wonderful resource to create a list of native plants by zip code and find their wildlife value.

**Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora** – [www.vaplantatlas.org/index.php](http://www.vaplantatlas.org/index.php) - a website similar to the smart phone app but accessible on the net.

**Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, Natural Heritage Program** – Great native plant resources at [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/nativeplants](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/nativeplants)

## PRINT

**Flora of Virginia.** 2012. Alan S. Weakley, J. Christopher Ludwig, & Johnny Townsend. Huge, expensive.

**Wildflowers of the Atlantic Southeast.** 2019. Laura Cotterman, Damon Waitt & Alan Weakley (an excellent resource for wildflowers of the Southeast.)

**Ferns and Mosses of Virginia's Coastal Plain.** 2013. Helen Hamilton & Gustavus Hall. Out of print, available on Kindle.

**Wildflowers and Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain.** 2013. Helen Hamilton and Gustavus Hall. Out of print.

**Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping: Chesapeake Bay Watershed.** 2003 (2020) [www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/resources/native-plants.html](http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/resources/native-plants.html)

# Landscaping Resources for Native Plants of the Northern Neck

## DIGITAL/WEB

### Better Backyard - A Citizen's Resource Guide to Beneficial Landscaping and Habitat Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

2001. Chesapeake Bay Program, 61 pages.  
[www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp\\_12259.pdf](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp_12259.pdf)

### Conservation Landscaping Guidelines-The Eight Essential Elements.

2013. Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council, 33 pages.  
[www.chesapeakelandscape.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/8\\_elements\\_2013.pdf](http://www.chesapeakelandscape.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/8_elements_2013.pdf)

**Habitat at Home.** 2020. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources.  
[www.dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/media/Habitat-at-Home.pdf](http://www.dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/media/Habitat-at-Home.pdf)

### Habitat Gardening for Wildlife.

Undated. Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, 34 pages.  
[www.dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-gardening.pdf](http://www.dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-gardening.pdf)

### How to Naturescape.

Website information.  
[www.plantnative.org/how\\_intro.htm](http://www.plantnative.org/how_intro.htm)

### Native Gardening with Wildflowers.

U. S. Forest Service website information  
[www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/Native\\_Plant\\_Materials/Native\\_Gardening/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/Native_Plant_Materials/Native_Gardening/index.shtml)

### Pollinators.

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service website information.  
[www.fws.gov/pollinators/Index.html](http://www.fws.gov/pollinators/Index.html)

## PRINT

### Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants.

2009. Douglas W. Tallamy  
See also [www.homegrownnationalpark.org](http://www.homegrownnationalpark.org)

### Nature's Best Hope A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard.

2019. Douglas W. Tallamy

### Chesapeake Gardening and Landscaping: The Essential Green Guide.

2015. Barbara W. Ellis

### National Wildlife Federation: Attracting Birds, Butterflies, & Other Backyard Wildlife.

2019. David Mizejewski

### Pollinators of Native Plants.

2014. Heather Holm

### The Xerces Society Guide to Attracting Native Pollinators.

2011. The Xerces Society

### The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden.

2014. Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy

### Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees.

2011. Beatriz Moisset and Stephen Buchmann



# Friends Don't Let Friends Plant Invasives



## Native Plant Alternatives to Invasive Plants

### Please Be Aware of Invasive Non-Natives

Some non-native plants can be highly invasive or aggressive and crowd out Northern Neck natives. These non-native invasive plants may have been introduced intentionally (as landscape ornamentals, for example) or non-intentionally (e.g., in ship ballasts or packing materials). In any case, they multiply rapidly and are difficult to eradicate. They can displace native plant species, reduce wildlife habitat, and alter ecosystem processes. The Virginia Department of Conservation's Division of Natural Heritage and the Virginia Native Plant Society have identified over 100 invasive alien plant species. The entire list of invasive alien plant species of Virginia is available on-line. To learn more, go to [dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/invspinfo](http://dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/invspinfo). Unfortunately, many of these invasive plants are available for purchase. **Please avoid planting non-native invasive plants.**

Use the chart, on the next page, to find Northern Neck native plants, highlighted in green, that serve as excellent alternatives for invasive plants. More examples can be found at [www.nnvnp.org/resources](http://www.nnvnp.org/resources)

If you find invasive plants on your property, you may want to take steps to eradicate them. Find advice at:

[www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/resources/native-plants.html](http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/resources/native-plants.html)

[plants.usda.gov/home](http://plants.usda.gov/home)

[www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invsp-whatyoucando](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invsp-whatyoucando)

[www.coastalisc.com/how-to-control-invasive-plants/](http://www.coastalisc.com/how-to-control-invasive-plants/)

**For an updated list of invasives along with great native alternatives, go to Resources on the chapter website [www.nnvnp.org](http://www.nnvnp.org)**

### Reference

Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas, 2021 6th Edition, National Park Service & US Fish & Wildlife Service Available in print or as a .pdf download at [www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/midatlantic.pdf](http://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/midatlantic.pdf)

*Image used with permission of the artist, Elizabeth Gruben*

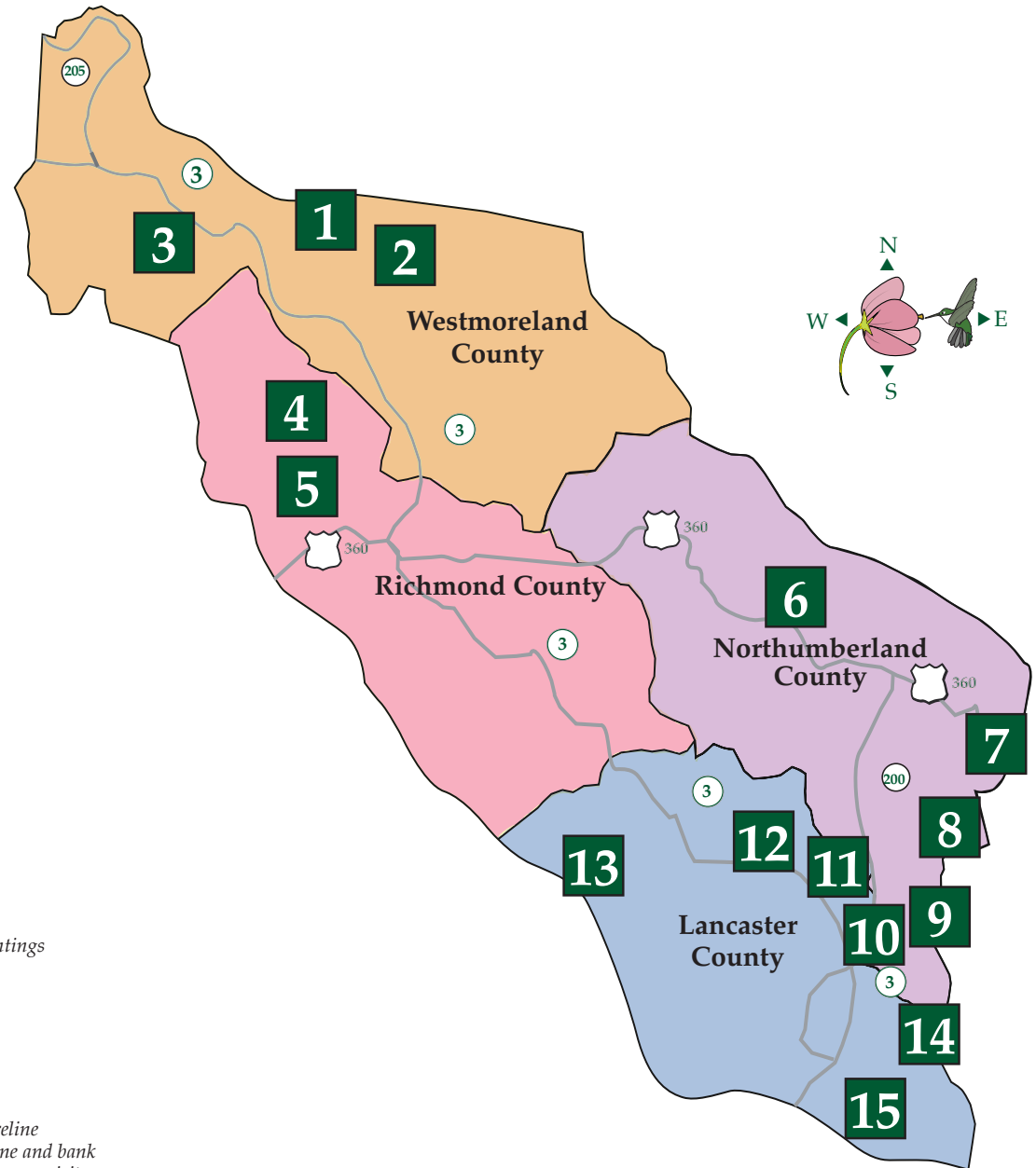


<i>Invasive Scientific Name</i>	<b>Invasive Common Name</b>	<i>Native Substitute Scientific Name</i>	<b>Native Substitute Common Name</b>
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	<b>Tree of Heaven</b>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> <i>Rhus copallinus</i>	<b>Eastern Redbud</b> <b>Winged Sumac</b>
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	<b>Garlic Mustard</b>	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i> <i>Packera aurea</i>	<b>Wild Strawberry</b> <b>Golden Ragwort</b>
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	<b>Japanese Barberry</b>	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	<b>Sweet Pepperbush</b> <b>American Beauty-berry</b>
<i>Elaeagnus umbellatus</i>	<b>Autumn Olive</b>	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	<b>High-tide Bush</b> <b>Spicebush</b>
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	<b>Burning Bush</b>	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> <i>Rhus copallinum</i>	<b>Red Chokeberry</b> <b>Winged Sumac</b>
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	<b>Yellow Flag</b>	<i>Iris versicolor or virginica</i>	<b>Blue Flag Irises</b>
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	<b>Chinese Privet</b>	<i>Ilex glabra</i> <i>Morella cerifera</i>	<b>Inkberry</b> <b>Wax Myrtle</b>
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	<b>Japanese Honeysuckle</b>	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i> <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	<b>Cross-vine</b> <b>Yellow Jessamine</b>
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	<b>Amur Honeysuckle</b>	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	<b>Arrowwood Viburnum</b> <b>Blackhaw</b> <b>Purple Beautyberry</b>
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	<b>Purple Loosestrife</b>	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i> <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	<b>Swamp Milkweed</b> <b>Cardinal Flower</b>
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	<b>Japanese Stiltgrass</b>	<i>Packera aurea</i> <i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	<b>Golden Ragwort</b> <b>Pennsylvania Sedge</b>
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	<b>Chinese Silvergrass</b>	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	<b>Switchgrass</b>
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	<b>Princess Tree</b>	<i>Oxydendron arboreum</i> <i>Tilia americana</i>	<b>Sourwood</b> <b>American Basswood</b>
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	<b>Japanese Knotweed</b>	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	<b>Sweet Pepperbush</b>
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	<b>Callery/Bradford Pear</b>	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> <i>Prunus americanus</i>	<b>Downy Serviceberry</b> <b>American Plum</b>
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	<b>Multiflora Rose</b>	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	<b>Swamp-rose</b>
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	<b>Chinese Wisteria</b>	<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	<b>American Wisteria</b>

# Demonstration Gardens on the Northern Neck

**W**ant a closer look at the native plants featured in this guide? Visit these demonstration gardens on the Northern Neck. These sites feature Virginia native plants, many of which are indigenous to the Northern Neck. These gardens were designed to showcase the beauty, benefits and variety of our native plants. For more information on best times to visit, features of each garden, and updates, visit [www.NNVNPS.org/resources](http://www.NNVNPS.org/resources).

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> <b>Westmoreland State Park</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>145 Cliff Road<br/>Montross, VA 22520</p>   | <p><b>8</b> <b>Shiloh School Garden</b><br/>ct. of VA 605 and VA 606,<br/>Kilmarnock, VA</p>  |
| <p><b>2</b> <b>Stratford Hall</b><br/>(across from entrance booth)<br/>483 Great House Road<br/>Stratford, VA 22558</p>   | <p><b>9</b> <b>Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club</b><br/>Park along Seminole Trail (Rt. 1103)<br/>Kilmarnock, VA 22482</p>  |
| <p><b>3</b> <b>Voorhees Nature Preserve</b><br/>The Nature Conservancy<br/>(Entrance Road meadow and rain swale)<br/>Rt. 674, Bristol Mine Road,<br/>Colonial Beach turn left at<br/>The Nature Conservancy<br/>sign after 0.8 miles)</p> | <p><b>10</b> <b>Towne Centre Park</b><br/>The Town of Kilmarnock<br/>(Includes Park Plantings &amp;<br/>5 stormwater ponds with plantings)<br/>150 North Main Street<br/>Kilmarnock, VA 22482</p>   |
| <p><b>4</b> <b>Menokin</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>4037 Menokin Road<br/>Warsaw, VA 22572</p>  | <p><b>11</b> <b>Boys and Girls Club</b><br/>517 N. Main St.<br/>Kilmarnock, VA 22482</p>  |
| <p><b>5</b> <b>Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge</b><br/>Wilna Lodge<br/>336 Wilna Road<br/>Warsaw, VA 22572</p>   | <p><b>12</b> <b>Lancaster County Judicial Center</b><br/>8265 Mary Ball Road<br/>Lancaster, VA 22503</p>  |
| <p><b>6</b> <b>Old Courthouse, Heathsville</b><br/>72 Monument Place<br/>Heathsville, VA 22473</p>  | <p><b>13</b> <b>Belle Isle State Park</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>1632 Belle Isle Road<br/>Lancaster, VA 22503</p>   |
| <p><b>7</b> <b>The Reedville Living Shoreline Teaching Garden</b><br/>Next to Fishermen's Museum<br/>504 Main Str<br/>Reedville, VA 22539</p>   | <p><b>14</b> <b>Dug In Farm</b><br/>(Road front display beds and new plantings<br/>in progress)<br/>155 Fleets Bay Road<br/>White Stone, VA 22578</p>   |
|   | <p><b>15</b> <b>The Tides Inn</b><br/>480 King Carter Drive<br/>Irvington, VA 22480<br/>(This private resort has extensive shoreline<br/>plantings and best practices in shoreline and bank<br/>stabilization. Please call ahead to arrange a visit<br/>(804) 438-5000)</p> |



Map not to scale.

## Photo Credits

### DOT FIELD

*Asclepias tuberosa*  
*Cercis canadensis*  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
*Eutrochium dubium*  
*Hibiscus moscheutos*  
*Juncus effusus*  
*Juniperus virginiana*  
*Lonicera sempervirens*  
*Magnolia virginiana*  
*Panicum virgatum*  
*Pontederia cordata*  
*Rudbeckia hirta*  
*Solidago sempervirens*  
*Symphotrichum novi-belgii*

### GARY FLEMING

*Andropogon glomeratus*  
*Aronia arbutifolia*  
*Baptisia tinctoria*  
*Betula nigra*  
*Bignonia capreolata*  
*Chelone glabra*  
*Chionanthus virginicus*  
*Lobelia cardinalis*  
*Nyssa sylvatica*  
*Quercus coccinea*  
*Saururus cernuus*  
*Schizachyrium scoparium*  
*Vaccinium pallidum*

### CAROL HAMMER

*Aquilegia canadensis*  
*Arisaema triphyllum*  
*Caltha palustris*  
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*  
*Hexastylis virginica*  
*Kosteletzkya pentacarpos*  
*Liriodendron tulipifera*  
*Onoclea sensibilis*  
*Polystichum acrostichoides*  
*Rhododendron atlanticum*  
*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*

### IRVINE WILSON

*Carex stricta*

### ANNE OLSEN

*Wisteria frutescens*

### JANET PAWLUKIEWICZ

*Itea virginica*  
*Mitchella repens*  
*Osmunda spectabilis*  
*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*

### ELLIS SQUIRES

*Cornus amomum*  
*Lilium superbum*

### EARLINE WALKER

*Castanea pumila*

### PHILLIP MERRITT

*Acer rubrum*  
*Baccharis halimifolia*  
*Callicarpa americana*  
*Carya tomentosa*  
*Clematis virginiana*  
*Clethra alnifolia*  
*Cornus florida*  
*Euonymus americanus*  
*Fagus grandifolia*  
*Hamamelis virginiana*  
*Hydrangea arborescens*  
*Iris versicolor*  
*Limonium carolinianum*  
*Lobelia siphilitica*  
*Lyonia mariana*  
*Morella cerifera*  
*Oenothera fruticosa*  
*Opuntia humifusa*  
*Oxydendrum arboreum*  
*Packera aurea*  
*Phlox paniculata*  
*Platanus occidentalis*  
*Podophyllum peltatum*  
*Polygonatum biflorum*  
*Rhexia virginica*

*Rudbeckia triloba*  
*Ruellia caroliniensis*  
*Salix nigra*  
*Salvia lyrata*  
*Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*  
*Scirpus cyperinus*  
*Spartina alterniflora*  
*Taxodium distichum*  
*Tilia americana*  
*Vernonia noveboracensis*  
*Viburnum dentatum*  
*Viburnum nudum*

### JAN NEWTON

*Amelanchier arborea*  
*Asclepias incarnata*  
*Campsis radicans*  
*Chrysopsis mariana*  
*Conoclinium coelestinum*  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*  
*Helenium autumnale*  
*Ilex opaca*  
*Ilex verticillata*  
*Lindera benzoin*  
*Lupinus perennis*  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*  
*Passiflora incarnata*  
*Rosa palustris*  
*Sambucus canadensis*  
*Sassafras albidum*  
*Viburnum prunifolium*  
*Viola pedata*

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*Mistflower and Variegated Fritillary*

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### CAROL HAMMER

*Middle Insert*  
*Chrysopsis mariana*

### DOT FIELD

*Bottom Insert*  
*Symphotrichum novi-belgii*

### VIRGINIA WITMER

*Page 5*  
*Lonicera sempervirens,*  
*Coral Honeysuckle*

### PAUL SERVIS

*Page 6*  
*American goldfinches*  
*on Rudbeckia hirta,*  
*Black-eyed Susan*

### JANET PAWLUKIEWICZ

*Page 8*  
*Eastern tailed-blue*  
*butterfly on*  
*Antennaria plantaginifolia*  
*Plantain-leaf Pussytote*

### BETSY WASHINGTON

*Page 3*  
*Garden featuring*  
*Northern Neck Natives*  
*Page 10*  
*Landscape Settings*  
*Page 12*  
*Shoreline Garden*  
*Page 45*  
*White Oak*

### KYLE LANGFORD

*Page 7*  
*Bush Mill Stream NAP*

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