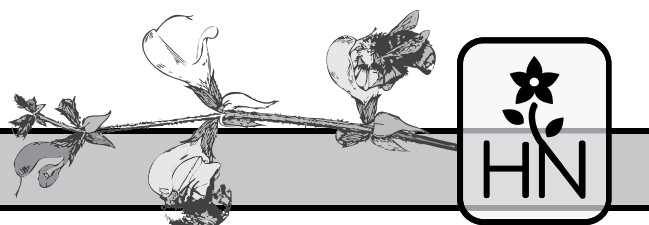


QUICK GUIDE:

Native Plants of North Carolina



With so much development in our area, one of the ways we can do our part to help support native flora and fauna is by planting native plants, and by reducing the use of invasive exotic plants. Invasive exotics displace native plants and can disrupt food webs

and habitat for native fauna. Gardens with native plants can help connect fragmented habitat by serving as biological corridors and creating more productive ecosystems. They are especially important in supporting a high level of biodiversity.

NATIVE

Perennials

ALLEGHENY SPURGE (*Pachysandra procumbens*) - Dappled sunlight to deep shade. Supports bees and predatory insects.

APPALACHIAN BLAZING STAR

(*Liatris microcephala*, *L. spicata*, *L. pilosa*) -

Full sun. Supports butterflies and bees.

ASTER (*Symphyotrichon*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, birds, and small mammals.

BEEBALM (*Monarda didyma*) - Sun to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and moths.

BLEEDING HEART, FRINGED (*Dicentra eximia*) - Part to light shade. Supports bees and hummingbirds.

BLUE-EYED GRASS (*Sisyrinchium*) - Full sun. Supports bees and birds.

***BROWN-EYED SUSAN/BLACK-EYED SUSAN**

(*Rudbeckia triloba*, *R. hirta*) Sun to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and moths.

BUTTERFLY WEED/MILKWEED (*Asclepias* spp.) - Sun to part sun. Supports endangered Monarch butterflies.

CARDINAL FLOWER (*Lobelia cardinalis*, *L. siphilitica*) - Part sun to light shade. Supports hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinators.

***COREOPSIS /TICKSEED** - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, and birds.

EASTERN BLUESTAR (*Amsonia* spp.) - Full to part sun. Supports hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

EASTERN COLUMBINE (*Aquilegia canadensis*) - Part sun to part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, hummingbirds & more.

FERNS (Cinnamon, Christmas, Dixie Wood, Marginal Wood, Northern & Southern Maidenhair, Royal, Sensitive, Southern Lady, Ostrich, Shield) - Light to full shade. Shelter for birds, frogs, and turtles.

FOAMFLOWER (*Tiarella cordifolia*) - Part sun to moderate shade. Supports bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

GAILLARDIA - Full sun. Supports bees & butterflies.

GOLDENROD (*Solidago*) - Full sun. Supports birds, butterflies, bees, and more.

GREEN & GOLD (*Chrysogonum virginianum*) - Part to light shade. Supports bees, butterflies, and songbirds.

***GREEN-HEADED CONEFLOWER** (*Rudbeckia laciniata*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, and songbirds especially goldfinches.

HELENIUM - Full sun. Supports bees and butterflies. Important for specialist bees.

HEUCHERA, AMERICAN (*Heuchera americana*, *H. villosa*) - Part to full shade. Supports bees and hummingbirds.

INDIAN PINK (*Spigelia marilandica*) - Part to light shade. Support hummingbirds.

IRONWEED (*Vernonia fasciculata*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, other pollinators, and songbirds.

JOE-PYE WEED (*Eutrochium purpureum*) Full to part sun. Supports native bees and butterflies.

JUNCUS/SOFT RUSH (*J. effusus*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports songbirds, waterfowl, quail, amphibians.

MOUNTAIN MINT (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*) - Full to part sun. Supports many insect pollinators including bees, butterflies, wasps, flies, and beetles.

MUHLER GRASS - Full sun. Supports birds and ladybugs.

NARROW LEAF SUNFLOWER (*Helianthus angustifolius*) - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, songbirds, grouse, quail, doves, and small mammals.

PENSTEMON/TALL BEARDTONGUE (*P. digitalis*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, birds, hummingbirds.

PHLOX - Creeping (*Phlox stolonifera*) - Full to part sun.

Moss (*P. subulata*) - Full to part sun. **Woodland** (*P. divaricata*) - Part sun to moderate shade. **Tall** (*P. paniculata*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees.

***PURPLE CONEFLOWER** (*Echinacea purpurea*) - Full sun. Supports bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

ROSEMALLOW (*H. moscheutos*) - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, bees, moths, and hummingbirds.

RIVER OATS/SEA OATS - Dappled sun to part shade. Supports caterpillars, small mammals, and birds.

***SMOOTH OXEYE/FALSE SUNFLOWER** (*Heliopsis helianthoides*) Full sun to part shade. Supports pollen specialist bees, songbirds, and butterflies.

SOLOMON'S SEAL (*Polygonatum commutatum*) Shade.

SUNDROPS (*Oenothera fruticosa*) - Full to part sun. Supports hummingbirds and specialized bees.

SWITCHGRASS (*Panicum virgatum*) Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, songbirds, small mammals.

VIRGINIA SPIDERWORT (*Tradescantia virginiana*) - Part sun to light shade. Supports bees and butterflies.

* Keystone Species, see p.3



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NATIVE

Shrubs

AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY - Full to part sun. Supports songbirds, foxes, opossum, raccoons, and squirrels.

AMERICAN WITCHHAZEL (*Hamamelis virginiana*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports noctuid moths, turkeys, birds, and small mammals.

ARROWWOOD (*Viburnum dentatum*) - Full to part sun. Supports spring azure butterflies, songbirds, grouse, turkeys, and squirrels. Plant two varieties for fruit.

NATIVE AZALEAS - Part sun to light shade. Supports swallowtail butterflies and hummingbirds.

BUSH HONEYSUCKLE (*Diervilla sessilifolia*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds. Takes windy, sunny, dry sites.

BUTTONBUSH (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) - Full to part sun. Extremely valuable to wildlife. Supports bees, moths, butterflies, and over 50 species of birds. Can grow in wet soil.

CATAWBA RHODENDRON (*Rhododendron catawbiense*) Part sun to light shade. Supports bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

CHOKEBERRY (*Aronia arbutifolia*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, flower flies, songbirds.

EASTERN ARBORVITAE (DWARF) - Full to part sun. Provides nesting and cover for birds.

ELDERBERRY - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, mammals, and many songbirds.

FOTHERGILLA (*F. major*) - Full sun to light shade. Supports birds, bees, & butterflies.

INKBERRY (*Ilex glabra*) - Full sun to light shade. Supports bees, butterflies, quail, turkey, and small mammals.

***HIGHBUSH BLUEBERRY** (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, grouse, turkey, squirrels, and songbirds.

MOUNTAIN LAUREL (*K. latifolia*) - Afternoon shade. Supports hummingbirds, butterflies, & other pollinators.

NINEBARK (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) - Full to part sun. Supports bees, butterflies, birds.

NORTHERN SPICEBUSH (*Lindera benzoin*) - Supports butterflies and songbirds. Part sun to light shade.

OAKLEAF HYDRANGEA (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) - Part sun, part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

POSSUMHAW VIBURNUM (*V. nudum*) - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, hummingbird moths, songbirds, turkeys, and squirrels.

SMALL ANISE-BUSH (*Illicium parviflorum*) - Part sun to moderate shade.

SMOOTH HYDRANGEA (*H. arborescens*) - Part sun to moderate shade. Lacecap forms supports bees and other pollinators.

SUMAC (*Rhus glabra*, *R. typhina*) - Full sun. Supports bees, butterflies, pheasant, quail, and turkey.

SWEET PEPPERBUSH (*Clethra alnifolia*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, small mammals, and songbirds.

SWEETSHRUB/ SWEET BETSY/CAROLINA ALLSPICE (*Calycanthus floridus*) - Full sun to full shade. Supports butterflies, pollinator beetle, and beneficial predatory insects.

VIRGINIA SWEETSPIRE (*Itea virginica*) - Part to light shade. Supports butterflies, other pollinators, and songbirds.

WALTER'S VIBURNUM - (*Viburnum obovatum*) - Sun with afternoon shade. Supports bees, butterflies, birds.

WAX MYRTLE - Full sun to light shade. Supports bees, butterflies, and birds especially yellow-rumped warbler.

WINTERBERRY - Full sun to light shade. Supports cellophane bees, butterflies, many birds, and small mammals.

NATIVE

Trees

***AMERICAN BEECH** (*Fagus grandifolia*) - Full sun to light shade. Supports small mammals, foxes, turkeys, woodpeckers, and other birds.

AMERICAN HOLLY (*Ilex opaca*) - Full sun to light shade. Supports butterflies, songbirds, turkeys, quail, squirrels, & other small mammals.

AMERICAN HORNBEAM/ IRONWOOD (*Carpinus caroliniana*) - Part shade to full shade. Supports butterflies, songbirds, grouse, quail, turkeys, foxes, and squirrels.

AMERICAN YELLOWWOOD (*Cladrastis kentukea*) - Full to part sun. Supports songbirds, bees, and other pollinators.

BALD CYPRESS (*Taxodium distichum*) - Full to part sun. Supports ducks, turkeys, squirrels, waterfowl, amphibians.

BLACK GUM (*Nyssa sylvatica*) - Full sun

to part shade. Supports bees, songbirds, turkeys, foxes, raccoons, and opossums.
BLACK LOCUST (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) Full sun to part shade. Supports bees, butterflies, birds.

***DOGWOOD** (*Cornus florida*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports butterflies, songbirds, grouse, quail, turkeys, foxes, skunks, and squirrels.

EASTERN RED CEDAR (*Juniperus virginiana*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports songbirds, Cooper's hawks, turkeys, butterflies.

***EASTERN WHITE PINE** (*Pinus strobus*) - Full sun to light shade. Support songbirds and small mammals ie.

squirrels and rabbits.

FRINGETREE, AMERICAN (*Chionanthus virginicus*) - Full sun to part shade. Supports songbirds, turkeys, and small mammals.

***HAWTHORN 'WINTER KING'** (*Crataegus phaenopyrum* 'Winter King') - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds, quail, turkeys, and small mammals.

***LIVE OAK** (*Quercus virginiana*) - Full to part sun. Supports moths, butterflies, woodpeckers, blue jays, & small mammals.



* Keystone Species, see p.3



TREES, continued

***LOBLOLLY PINE** (*Pinus taeda*) - Full sun. Supports moths, birds, and squirrels.

LONGLEAF PINE (*Pinus palustris*) - Full sun. Supports songbirds, small mammals, quail, foxes, turkeys.

***OAK, SHUMARD** (*Quercus shumardii*) - Full to part sun. Supports moths, butterflies, songbirds, turkeys, waterfowl, deer, and squirrels.

***OAK, WHITE** (*Quercus alba*) - Full to part sun. Supports moths, butterflies, woodpeckers, blue jays, small mammals, turkeys, deer.

***OAK, WILLOW** (*Quercus phellos*) - Supports waterfowl, turkeys, blue jays, woodpeckers, deer, fox, squirrels.

PAWPAW (*Asimina triloba*) - Full sun to deep shade. Supports beetles, songbirds, butterflies, squirrels, raccoons, opossums, and foxes.

PERSIMMON (AMERICAN) - Full to part sun. Supports luna moth, birds, small mammals, foxes, and raccoons.

***PIN OAK** - Full to part sun. Supports songbirds, turkeys, squirrels, and ducks.

RED BUCKEYE - Part sun to light shade. Hummingbirds, butterflies, bees.

REDBUD - Supports many butterflies, other insects, songbirds, and small mammals. Morning sun with afternoon shade.

***RED MAPLE** - Full to part sun. Supports bees, moths, birds, and squirrels.

***RIVER BIRCH** - Full sun to part sun. Supports hundreds of species of moths and butterflies, grouse, turkey, small birds, and squirrels.

SASSAFRAS - Supports songbirds, quail, turkeys, woodpeckers, rabbits, squirrels, moths, and butterflies.

SERVICEBERRY - Supports bees, butterflies, and many birds.

SOURWOOD - Full sun to moderate shade. Supports butterflies, reptiles, amphibians, bats, and bees.



NATIVE

Vines

AMERICAN WISTERIA (*Wisteria frutescens*) - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies.

CAROLINA JESSAMINE (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) - Full to part sun. Supports hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and songbirds.

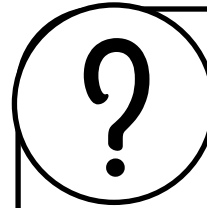
CLIMBING ASTER (*Symphytotrichum carolinianum*) - Full to part sun. Supports butterflies, bees, songbirds, and small mammals.

CROSSVINE (*Bignonia capreolata*) - Full to part sun.

Supports butterflies and hummingbirds.

CORAL HONEYSUCKLE (*Lonicera sempervirens*) - Full to part sun. Attracts hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

VIRGINIA CREEPER (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) - Supports bees, many birds, squirrels.



Are **NATIVARS** as attractive to pollinators as the “regular” species?

Nativars are cultivars (cultivated varieties) of native plants. Test results from the Mt. Cuba Center research and trial gardens have shown time and time again that nativars generally attract just as many pollinators as species.

SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA - Full to part sun. Supports moths, butterflies, songbirds, turkeys, rabbits, and small mammals.

SWEET BAY MAGNOLIA - Full to part sun. Supports moths, butterflies, songbirds, and small mammals.

VIRGINIA PINE (*Pinus virginiana*) - Full sun. Supports birds and the Imperial Moth.

YAUPON HOLLY - Full sun to light shade. Supports cellophane bee, butterflies, songbirds, gamebirds, turkeys, foxes, raccoons, squirrels.



For more information, visit the North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox website, the NC Native Plant Society website, the books *Native Plants of the Southeast* by Larry Mellichamp, and *Gardening With Native Plants of the South* by Sally Wasowski, and the websites of the Xerces Society and Mt. Cuba Center.

- **KEYSTONE PLANTS** are native plants critical to the food web and necessary for many wildlife species to complete their life cycle. Without keystone plants in the landscape, butterflies, native bees, and birds will not thrive. 96% of our terrestrial birds rely on insects supported by keystone plants. Keystone plants are marked with an asterisk (*).



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Ideas For Native Plant Combinations

Perennial Bed/Plant Combination for Sun

- Beebalm
- Butterfly Weed
- Eastern Bluestar
- Aster
- Black-Eyed Susan (Brown?)
- Rose Mallow
- Creeping or Moss Phlox

Perennial Bed/Plant Combination for Shade

- Eastern Columbine
- Cardinal Flower
- Ferns (see Perennials List)
- Green & Gold
- Virginia Spiderwort
- Allegheny Spurge

Native Shrubs for Foundation of House in Sun

- American Beautyberry
- Buttonbush
- Dwarf Wax Myrtle
- Dwarf Inkberry
- Eastern Arborvitae (dwarf unless using where height is needed)
- Dwarf Yaupon Holly

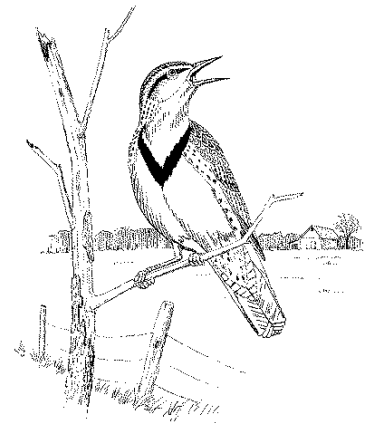
Native Shrubs for Foundation of House in Shade

- Smooth Hydrangea
- Cawtawba Rhododendron
- Dwarf Yaupon Holly
- Virginia Sweetspire
- Dwarf Inkberry

Native Shrubs & Trees for Privacy in Sun or Light Shade

All of these plants grow well in full sun to part or light shade. In dense shade, they will be thinner, with less foliage, and will provide less privacy.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| • American Holly | • Sweetbay Magnolia |
| • Eastern Red Cedar | • Southern Magnolia |
| • Eastern White Pine | • Yaupon Holly |



ENCOURAGING A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM IN YOUR LANDSCAPE

Include a diversity of native plants in your landscape. Provide plants that produce winter cover (evergreens), seeds, fruits, and nectar attractive to birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. Also, use plants that are known hosts for the larvae of native butterflies.

Select plants that flower and bear fruit or seed at different times of the year thereby assuring food sources will be available year-round. **Check to make sure the plant will fruit.** Only the female of some plant species produces fruit. In this case, be sure to provide at least one male plant for pollination or confirm local wild populations exist.

Consider the moisture and light requirements of plants when including them in your plan. Map moisture-loving plants in low-lying areas, and position shade-loving plants underneath large trees or on the shady side of your home.

Cluster similar types of vegetation to allow wildlife easy access to seasonally abundant food sources without excessive movement and increased exposure to predators.

Plant low-growing herbs and shrubs under taller shrubs and trees. This helps to provide the layering important to birds. Different birds eat and nest on the ground and in the shrub, midstory, and canopy layers of a landscape.

Minimize soil disturbance to protect ground-nesting bees and beneficial fungal networks in the soil.

Avoid synthetic fertilizers and toxic pesticides. Make sure to read the label for important application information. Spray in the evening after bees have gone home, and avoid dust formulations which can be picked up as pollen. Adopt the 15 Foot Rule and spray only if damage is seen at 15 feet away. Ask us for help!

Remain patient. It generally takes 3 to 5 years before the results of landscaping efforts pay off and wildlife use of native plants becomes obvious.

