



FY 2014 Task 54  
Virginia Coastal Zone  
Management Program  
Grant Report

## Plant NNK Natives Campaign Phase II



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Submitted to:  
Northern Neck Planning District  
Commission

## Summary

The goal of the *Plant NNK Natives Campaign* (Campaign) is to increase use of native plants on private property on the Northern Neck, and help protect existing native vegetation in the landscape.



The Northern Neck Planning District Commission (NNPDC) worked with the Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society (NNNPS) to initiate the Campaign in 2013 with the support of the VA Coastal Zone Management Program (FY10 Task 50) and other funders. Other partners in the Campaign include the Northern Neck Master Gardeners, the Northern Neck Master Naturalists, several local garden clubs and environmental organizations and local garden centers (see full list in the Appendix). The Campaign produced a full color guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck, sample garden plans, an exhibit and website ([nnnps.org](http://nnnps.org)) and other promotional and educational materials. The guide was extremely well received,

in two years, the original supply of 5,000 guides was exhausted, yet local residents continued to call for them. People remarked that it is beautiful and informative; the local paper named it the “best catalog” in the region. Most importantly, the Campaign believed it was beginning to change behavior, as reflected in an increase of native plant sales. Local garden center partners reported that customers came in with plants circled in the guide and ask how they can get them.

Phase II of the Plant NNK Natives Campaign aimed to build on the momentum of Phase I and further inspire local residents to incorporate native plants in their gardens and protect native plants found in natural areas to better sustain wildlife, conserve water and reduce pollution. This is critically important because wildlife depends on native plants for food and habitat. For example, the loss of milkweed (native to the Northern Neck) has been cited as a significant factor in the near collapse of the eastern Monarch butterfly population. Native plants also require little or no fertilizer or pesticides that would otherwise end up polluting waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. In fact, native plants are an important component of many stormwater control best management practices.

This document reports on the components of Phase II of the Plant NNK Campaign multi-media strategy implemented in 2015, including:

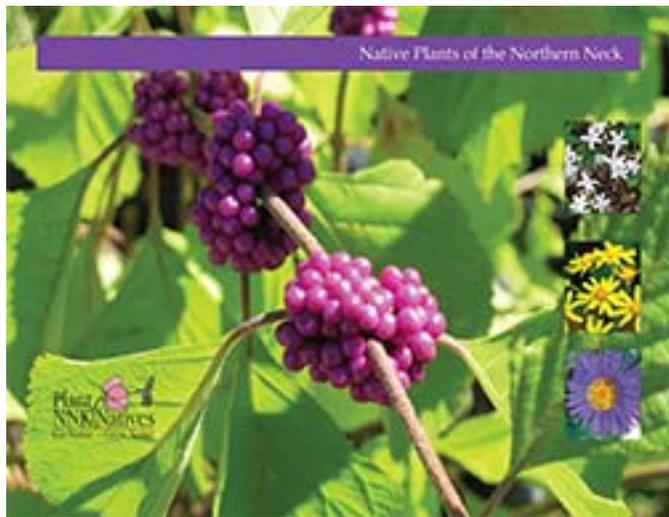
- New educational materials developed to highlight the role that native plants can play in stormwater management. Outreach to homeowners through county staff and other means now provides useful and timely information to help them meet new stormwater regulations.

- Additional materials respond directly to public requests for information on deer resistant, salt and flood tolerant native plants and a reprint of the guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck. These are available on the NNNPS website, distributed through partner garden centers and featured at farmers markets, special events and festivals on the Northern Neck.
- *A Northern Neck Native Plant Native Plant Trail* self-guided tour of the demonstration gardens on the Northern Neck has been published and will be available on our website, distributed through our partner garden centers and featured at farmers markets, special events and festivals on the Northern Neck.
- Finally, the Campaign developed and implemented a mid-campaign public survey to measure awareness of the Campaign, attitudes towards native plants, gardening behavior and reactions to proposed strategies for continuing the Campaign. Results have been published locally and will be used to set future directions for the Campaign.

## PHASE II CAMPAIGN STRATEGY COMPONENTS

### Revised Guide to Northern Neck Native Plants

A key element in the strategy is a full color 48-page guide titled, Native Plants of the Northern Neck. The Campaign updated the guide to highlight the importance of milkweed to Monarch butterflies, include references to new materials published by the Campaign, make corrections and clarifications where needed, and include new demonstration gardens. Three thousand copies were printed and made available for the fall planting season.



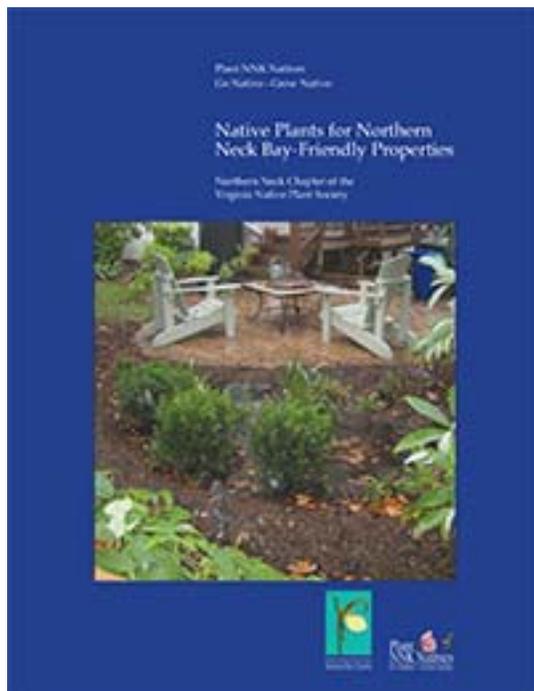
The guide highlights about 300 Northern Neck native plants, but there are actually

about 1,000 plants known to be endemic to the area. So, in line with the goal of encouraging conservation of native plants as well as gardening with them, the Campaign developed a comprehensive list based on information in the Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora. The list is available on the NNNPS website at

<http://nnnps.org/Go Native Grow Native files/NorthernNeckNativePlantGuide.pdf><http://nnnps.org/Go Native Grow Native.html>.

### Additional Outreach Materials

To complement the guide, and to meet requests from the public, the Campaign produced three new brochures. Two thousand copies were printed of each and are available at NNNPS exhibit booths at local festivals as well as on the NNNPS website.



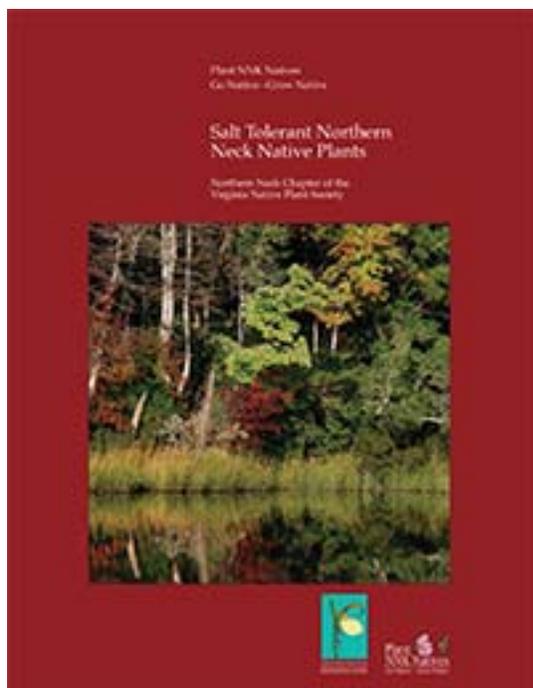
**Native Plants for Northern Neck Bay-Friendly Properties**—

outlines ways that homeowners can use native plants to reduce runoff and absorb pollutants to prevent pollutants, such as nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and oil based chemicals from cars from being delivered to local streams and eventually reaching the Chesapeake Bay.

<http://nnnps.org/Go Native Grow Native files/WaterQuality.pdf>

**Deer Resistant Native Plants for the Northern Neck**—a listing of deer resistant plants to help homeowners choose native plants to minimize damage from deer.

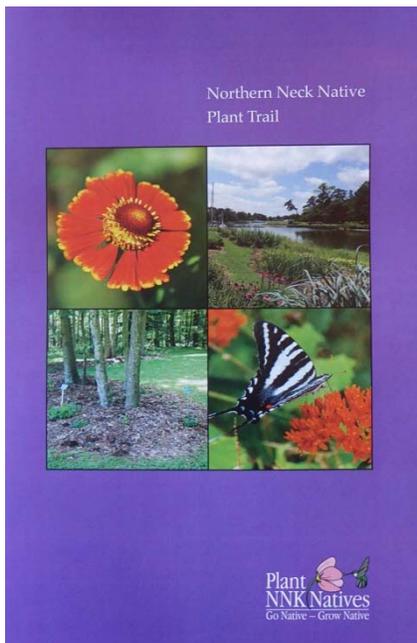
<http://nnnps.org/Go Native Grow Native files/Deer%20Resistant.pdf>



**Salt Tolerant Northern Neck Native Plants**—

this listing of salt tolerant plants helps homeowners who live along the waterways of the Chesapeake Bay to choose the native plants to meet their specific needs.

<http://nnnps.org/Go Native Grow Native files/Salt Tolerant%28%29.pdf>



**Northern Neck Native Plants Trail**—a map and brochure highlighting 13 demonstration gardens that were designed to showcase the beauty, benefits and variety of native plants. Each description includes information on the garden objective (e.g., pollinator garden, stormwater management garden) best time to visit and other areas of special interest nearby.

In addition, signs were prepared for each garden to provide information on site and to identify the individual garden as a component of the trail.



During Phase I, the Campaign purchased plant identification stakes for the 10 demonstration gardens that existed in 2013. During Phase II, an inventory was taken to make adjustments for new plantings in older gardens as well as the Northern Neck native plants in newly established gardens. As a result, 83 additional stakes were purchased.

One of the gardens highlighted in the brochure is the NNK Storm Water Management Garden. It features beautiful trees and shrubs that tolerate a range of conditions from drought to temporary inundation, while providing year-round interest (e.g., purple berries, red twigs and peeling bark).

Volunteers spent more than 300 hours researching and writing the trail guide and designing, planting and maintaining these gardens over the course of the grant and will continue to do so in the future.

### **Plant NNK Natives Campaign Outreach, Website and Mass Media Publicity**

Publicity continued to be a strong element in the Campaign and nearly 400 hours were by spent on outreach by volunteers. Every month the Campaign featured a native plant in several local

newspapers. The Campaign materials and the exhibit developed during Phase I were featured at eight events as well as the weekly farmers' markets in the area. Special presentations on the Campaign were also made at the NAARF meeting, a Master Gardeners workshop on living shorelines and a workshop on the VA Conservation Landscaping Certification Program.

NNNPS highlighted activities of the Campaign at their monthly meetings, too.

- In March 2015 a panel discussion entitled "Tools for Protecting Wetlands and Water Quality: The Role of Native Plants." Panelists Brian Barnes, Environmental Codes Compliance Officer for Lancaster County, and Stuart McKenzie, Environmental Planner, NNPDC, briefed the audience on the relationship between



- storm water and healthy watersheds, new regulations on storm water runoff and the vital role of native plants in the waterfront and home landscape. Kate Daniel, Executive Director of The Wetlands Project served as moderator.
- In April, the Native Plant Society meeting was followed by a field trip to three of the demonstration gardens to be included in the Northern Neck Native Plant Trail, including the stormwater management garden at the Northern Neck Planning District Commission. Stuart McKenzie, Environmental Planner with the PDC met with participants to explain the design of the garden and discuss maintenance challenges.
- In November, Janet Pawlukiewicz the Campaign director presented her photo journal *Native Plants through the Year* to show how native plants support birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

### **Mid-Campaign Survey**

In the fall of 2015, the Campaign published a survey to gather information on the success of the Campaign and potential actions to continue the Campaign. The Campaign used Survey Monkey to develop a questionnaire, collect responses and analyze results. The Campaign published advertisements inviting people to take the survey in local newspapers, on the NNNPS website and through emails to partner organizations. A copy of the advertisement and a full report on survey results are attached in the Appendix.

Results:

- A total of 178 people responded.

- 86% of the respondents have noticed an increase in articles about or people discussing native plants over the past couple of years.
- The majority of respondents (61%) are either knowledgeable or very knowledgeable about native plants.
- Respondents select new plants based on characteristics that are consistent with the characteristics of native plants. The top three “very important” characteristics chosen were:
  - Adapted to local soil and climate conditions (90%)
  - Attract birds and butterflies (77%)
  - Provide food and habitat for wildlife (72%)
- Three quarters of the respondents have seen the logo for the Plant NNK Natives Campaign. The great majority of respondents (85%) indicated having seen our outreach materials.
- 79% of respondents have a copy of or have seen the guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck and comments on its quality were very positive.
- The great majority (83%) shop for plants at Plant NNK Natives partner retailers.
- Asked about sources for information on native plants, the respondents predominantly turn to books (70%), the Internet (54%), the Plant NNK Natives Campaign information (53%) and neighbors, friends and relatives (50%).
- When asked about directions for the future, top responses were:
  - 99% Store display or special area of garden center devoted to native plants
  - 97% Demonstration gardens featuring native plants
  - 96% Learning more about native plants for butterfly/pollinator gardens
- Respondents were predominantly well-educated (82% college degree or higher) white (89%) seniors (80% 60 years or older) and most (2/3) lived on the Northern Neck 15 years or less.
- Examination of the responses of those who consider themselves “not very knowledgeable about native plants” showed that they are less likely to shop at Campaign partner retailers (56% v 90% for those who consider themselves “knowledgeable”) and the NNNPS plant sale (13% v 49%) and they are more likely to buy plants at large retailers such as Lowe’s and Walmart (70% v 39%). Of all the suggested new directions for the Campaign, they were most interested in store displays devoted to native plants.

## Survey Conclusions

The Plant NNK Natives Campaign has succeeded well at reaching a limited audience (those who describe themselves as knowledgeable about native plants and are recent retirees to the area) and providing them with useful information. The Campaign may want to build on this success by focusing on the new activities that this audience expressed interest in:

1. Store displays devoted to native plants. These displays could include signage that describes plant characteristics that are most important to the survey respondents. It

would be logical to work closely with partner retailers in developing plans for the displays.

2. Demonstration gardens featuring native plants. This is consistent with plans underway to release and publicize the Northern Neck Native Plant Trail brochure. In Spring 2016.
3. Information on plants for butterfly/pollinator gardens. This information could be provided at the store displays or featured in special activities.

The Campaign also may want to expand the audience by providing educational materials at new locations, e.g. Walmart. In this way, the Campaign may be able to inspire people who are not already knowledgeable about native plants.

## **Future Plans**

Plant NNK Natives is a long-term Campaign to promote change in gardening practices on the Northern Neck. Affecting behavior change takes many years. In the future, the Campaign plans to continue to promote native plants and pursue the new directions indicated by the mid-Campaign survey. For example, in the Spring 2016, the Campaign will promote the new Native Plant Trail to highlight the demonstration gardens that interested many survey respondents. The Plant NNK Natives Campaign will also continue as a partner in the Virginia Native Plant Marketing Partnership (VNPMP), coordinated by Virginia CZM Program.

APPENDIX

# Plant NNK Natives Campaign Phase II

## Plant Northern Neck Natives Campaign Partners

The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS-NN) leads a broad partnership group in the effort (see list below). The Northern Neck Planning District Commission (NNPDC) is a Campaign partner and coordinated with the VNPS-NN to generate and submit grant progress and final reports.

### Plant NNK Natives Campaign Partners

Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society, Chair

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 Garden Club

The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

The Rappahannock Garden Club

The Westmoreland Garden Club

VA Coastal Zone Management

Program

VA Department of Conservation &

Recreation

Allison's Ace Hardware, Lottsburg

Beale's Landscaping, Kilmarnock

Booth's Landscaping Company,

Kilmarnock

Boxcroft Nursery, Reedville

Down to Earth Garden Center, White Stone

Edwards Produce, Wicomico Church

Farm & Home Supply, Kilmarnock

Garner's Produce, Warsaw

Judy Ripley, Landscape Design Consultant

Kemper Nursery, Farnham

Miller Greenhouses Inc., Tappahannock

Murphy's Hardware, Garden, Feed & Seed, Mount Holly

Ransone's Nursery and Maintenance Inc., Kilmarnock

Sassafras Farm, Hayes



Photo: Members of The Chesapeake Bay Garden Club showing off their displays created with native plants at a Campaign event at Stratford Hall

## Mid-Campaign Survey Advertisement



Are you a gardener? A naturalist?  
Would you like a chance to win a \$50 gift  
certificate at a local garden center?

The Northern Neck Native Plant Society is looking for  
your help. Please complete our on-line survey at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nativeplants>

and share your feedback on our partnership with  
several other local organizations to promote the use of  
native plants.

It will only take a few minutes of your time and will help  
set the future direction of our efforts. Each participant  
will have an opportunity to enter a drawing for one of  
three \$50 gift certificates.

## Mid-Campaign Survey Notice for Distribution by Partners to their Members



Are you a gardener? A naturalist?

Would you like a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate at a local garden center?

The Northern Neck Native Plant Society is looking for your help. Please complete our on-line survey at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nativeplants>

and share your feedback on our partnership with several other local organizations to promote the use of native plants.

It will only take a few minutes of your time and will help set the future direction of our efforts. Each participant will have an opportunity to enter a drawing for one of three \$50 gift certificates.

Please pass this announcement along to friends and neighbors. Thank you!

Paula Boundy, President  
Northern Neck Native Plant Society

## Mid-Campaign Survey Results



### Plant Northern Neck Natives Mid-Campaign Survey Results February 2016

#### Introduction

The *Plant NNK Natives: Go Native—Grow Native Campaign* (Campaign) seeks to inspire those who live and work in the Northern Neck to use native plants in their gardens and to protect existing native vegetation. The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society (NNNPS) partners with a number of other organizations and businesses in managing the Campaign, which was initiated in 2013. Through the generous support of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, the Campaign has undertaken a number of education and outreach projects promoting the planting of Northern Neck natives. In the fall of 2015, the Campaign published a survey to gather information on the success of the Campaign and potential actions to continue the Campaign. This document summarizes the findings of the survey and implications for future directions.

#### The Survey Instrument

The Campaign used Survey Monkey to develop a questionnaire, collect responses and analyze results. The full questionnaire with results is found in Appendix 1. The Campaign published advertisements inviting people to take the survey in local newspapers, on the NNNPS website and through emails to partner organizations (see Appendix 2).

The survey consisted of four parts. The first three questions were designed to capture some general information about respondents' familiarity with native plants, without even mentioning the Campaign. The Campaign was not even referenced in the title, "Northern Neck Native Plants Survey." The next 12 questions (Q4-15) focused on the Campaign and were designed to assess success. Question 16 sought feedback on potential future directions. Questions 17-21 focused on the respondents' preferences and behaviors and the final 6 questions were demographic in nature. Finally, respondents were invited to

participate in a drawing to win one of three \$50 gift certificates by entering their contact information.

## **Results**

A total of 178 people responded. The full results are in Appendix 1. The following provides summary information and some interpretation in italics

### **Q1: In the past couple of years, have you noticed an increase in articles about or people discussing native plants?**

86% of the respondents have noticed an increase in articles about or people discussing native plants.

*We believe this means that our activities are having an impact and our message promoting native plants has been received.*

### **Q2: How knowledgeable are you about native plants?**

The majority of respondents (61%) are either knowledgeable or very knowledgeable about native plants. An additional 24% consider themselves “somewhat knowledgeable.” Only 15% responded that they are not very knowledgeable.

*This high level of familiarity with native plants may result from self-selection, i.e., because they know about native plants they were interested in the survey, or from the fact that the survey was distributed to the Campaign partners. We think that those who rate themselves as “not very knowledgeable” are at least interested in native plants, so we delved into their responses in more depth. The findings are reported in the section below on further analyses.*

### **Q3: When you select new plants, how important are each of the following plant characteristics?**

Respondents select new plants based on characteristics that are consistent with the characteristics of native plants. The top three “very important” characteristics chosen are (totals more than 100% because respondents could choose more than one answer):

- Adapted to local soil and climate conditions (90%)
- Attract birds and butterflies (77%)
- Provide food and habitat for wildlife (72%)

Most often cited as “not important” was flood tolerant (63%), which may mean that respondents are focusing on garden plants rather than shoreline plantings. The most evenly distributed response related to deer resistance with 21% stating it was not important, 42% somewhat important and 36% very important. Perhaps this reflects whether respondents have deer visiting their properties or not.

Also, though being “colorful” is not the most important driver in selecting plants, 63% think it is somewhat important and 35% think it is very important, so focusing on the beauty as

well as practicality of native plants is probably important. Similarly, having special seasonal characteristics like berries, fall foliage or specific bloom time or foliage is an important factor with 42% considering it somewhat important and 57% considering it very important.

Finally, being easy to care for, resistant to insects and disease, drought tolerant and needing little fertilizer all received a combined total of over 90% for somewhat and very important, as did having detailed information provided with the plant.

*These findings should influence future directions, as discussed below under question 16.*

#### **Q4 Have you seen this logo for the Plant NNK Natives Campaign?**

Three quarters of the respondents have seen the logo for the Plant NNK Natives Campaign.

*This speaks well for our branding, however, the results may have been skewed by the distribution of the survey and subsequent composition of the respondents. To further establish our branding, we should consider using the logo on all products and promotions, including the "Plant of the Month" articles in local newspapers.*

#### **Q5 Have you heard of the Plant NNK Natives Campaign?**

The great majority of respondents (85%) indicated having seen our outreach materials, in the following order (totals more than 100% because respondents could choose more than one answer):

1. "NNK Native Plants Sold Here" Banners at garden centers (62%)
2. Native Plant of the Month articles in local newspapers (58%)
3. NNK Native Plant tags on plants in a garden center (53%)
4. Exhibit on Plant NNK Natives (45%)
5. Discussion at NNNPS meetings (41%)
6. NNNPS website (25%)

Under "other" nine people listed that they heard about the Campaign from partner organizations such as garden clubs and the master gardeners and naturalists.

*It appears our promotional materials are drawing attention.*

**Q6-Q15 These questions focused on specific educational materials developed by the Campaign, testing familiarity with the products and requesting assessment of the quality and usefulness of the guides.** Here is summary information on the responses by guide:

Native Plants of the Northern Neck

79% of respondents have a copy of or have seen it (138 respondents)

130 respondents commented on the quality

77% of those commenters used words such as useful, informative, reference to describe it

21% of them remarked that it is high quality, excellent

20% commented on how attractive it is, often mentioning the photos  
12% have used it to make decisions about plantings  
A few (7 people) mentioned it was an incomplete listing and 4 people have given copies to friends.

#### Deer Resistant Native Plants

Only 30% of respondents have a copy of or have seen it (52 respondents)  
35 respondents commented on the quality  
74% of those commenters used words such as useful, informative, reference to describe it  
17% of them have seen it but not used it  
17% have used it to make decisions about plantings  
5 people commented that they do not have a deer problem and did not rate the quality

#### Salt Tolerant Northern Neck Native Plants

Only 23% of respondents have a copy of or have seen it (40 respondents)  
29 respondents commented on the quality  
79% of those commenters used words such as useful, informative, reference to describe it  
12% of them have seen it but not used it  
12% have used it to make decisions about plantings  
5 people commented that it is not applicable to them and did not rate the quality  
1 person noted that it is not applicable personally but he/she has recommended it to many others

#### Native Plants for Northern Neck Bay-Friendly Properties

Only 18% of respondents have a copy of or have seen it (23 respondents)  
23 respondents commented on the quality  
70% of those commenters used words such as useful, informative, reference to describe it  
23% of them have seen it but not used it  
13% have used it to make decisions about plantings

#### Garden Plans using native plants

38% of respondents have a copy of or have seen it (66 respondents)  
55 respondents commented on the quality  
31% of those commenters used words such as useful, informative, beautiful to describe it  
27% of them have seen it but not used it  
7% have used it to make decisions about plantings  
5% say it is not useful  
5% note that it is hard to get plants

*In general, those that have copies of our guides find they are useful. There is a drop off in awareness that is consistent with the level of outreach and length of time that the products have been available. The guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck was available first and distributed through all our partner organizations, including local garden centers. The Garden Plans were published second and made available through local garden centers. The other three brochures were published last and have only been available through NNNPS exhibits, at meetings and on the web.*

**Q16 The Plant NNK Natives Campaign is considering new directions for the future. How interested would you be in the following?**

171 people responded. Interest in the suggestions (combined score of “maybe interested” and “very interested”) ranked as follows:

- 99% Store display or special area of garden center devoted to native plants
- 97% Demonstration gardens featuring native plants
- 96% Learning more about native plants for butterfly/pollinator gardens
- 85% Learning about propagating native plants
- 82% Expert advice on controlling non-native invasive plants
- 81% Expert advice on native plants for landscaping needs
- 74% Expert help on identifying native plants on one’s property

All three suggestions on recognition or award programs for planting natives received little support (< 32% interested at all).

*The Campaign should consider focusing future directions on the activities that most respondents ranked highly. For example, we could work with our partner retailers to improve store displays focusing on native plants and feature pollinator garden plants. Also, we could further promote the demonstration gardens on the Northern Neck. This is consistent with plans underway. Under the same grant that funded the survey, the Campaign has developed a demonstration garden trail guide and purchased improved signage for the gardens. These will be released in Spring 2016.*

**Q17 Where do you get your plants?**

165 people responded. They were allowed to choose more than one answer. The great majority (83%) shop for plants at Plant NNK Natives partner retailers. The second largest number of respondents shop at the NNNPS native plant sale (48%). Large retailers such as Lowe’s and Walmart are visited by 43%. Market days are next in line with 37% and catalog at 32%. When asked to list other sources of plants, 22 of the 45 respondents mentioned garden centers outside of the Northern Neck (e.g., Richmond, Northern Virginia) and 7 mentioned receiving plants from friends.

*It appears that being a retail partner in the Plant NNK Natives Campaign has benefits. Noting how many people shop outside the area, it seems that if more native plants were available locally they would sell. Given the large number of people who shop at the NNNPS plant sale, the Campaign may want to consider promoting a springtime sale with our partner retailers.*

**Q18 and Q19 focused on who influences purchases of plants and who cares for them once they are planted.** In both cases, the overwhelming response was the respondents themselves (95% and 94%, respectively). Often, someone else in the household is involved (20% and 26%, respectively). Garden center staff have some influence on purchases (8%)

and, based on other sources cited, Master Gardeners, NNNPS and garden clubs also provide some influence.

*It appears that our respondents are strongly inclined to the DIY mentality, (though some did comment that they have helpers). This may be because the survey distribution included emails to master gardeners and garden clubs. The Campaign may want to consider how to ascertain if non-gardeners rely more heavily on landscape firms and designers in order to determine if stronger outreach to those retailers is warranted.*

**Q20 What sources, if any, do you use to learn about native plants?**

Asked about sources for information on native plants, the respondents predominantly turn to books (70%), the Internet (54%), the Plant NNK Natives Campaign information (53%) and neighbors, friends and relatives (50%). Fewer numbers rely on retailer displays (36%), Master Gardeners and garden clubs (34%) catalogs and gardening magazines (31%).

*It is gratifying that so many respondents turn to Campaign materials for information.*

**Q21 If you avoid purchasing native plants, please indicate the reasons why.**

Only 43 people (24%) responded to this question concerning avoiding buying native plants. Of those respondents, the reasons given for avoiding purchasing native plants were as follows (respondents could choose more than one answer).

28% Not enough information on the plants

23% Plants not available

18% They are dull or plain

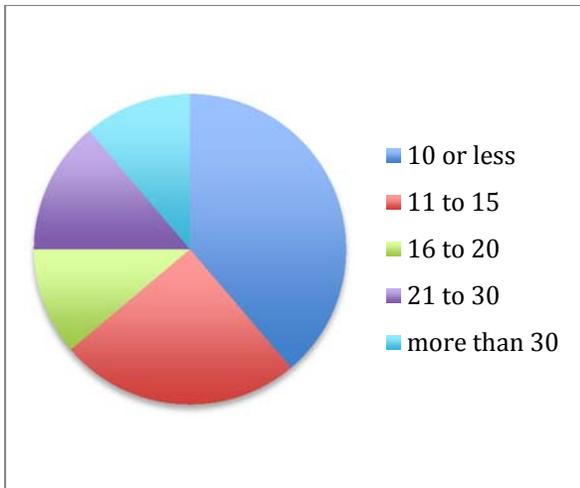
14% They are expensive

14% They are weedy

*Under the comment section, 7 people specified that they do not avoid purchasing native plants. It may be that they people who did not answer the question also do not avoid purchasing natives. Unfortunately, the question did not work well.*

**Q22 and Q23 focused on where respondents live and for how long they have resided on the Northern Neck.** The great majority of respondents live in one of the four counties of the Northern Neck (85%) with the greatest percentage in Lancaster (26%) and Northumberland (42%) counties. Most of the respondents from outside the Northern Neck live in Middlesex or Essex counties (14 of 25).

For those who live or have property on the Northern Neck, about 2/3 have been here 15 years or less.



Number of Years Respondents Lived in the Northern Neck

*This confirms our suspicion that our audience is made up primarily of “come here’s.”*

### **Demographics**

Our respondents are predominantly well-educated (82% college degree or higher) white (89%) seniors (80% 60 years or older). Many respondents preferred not to report household income (40%). Of those who did, 50% have incomes between \$75,000 to \$125,000 per year and the rest fall in a bell-shaped curve on each side of that range.

*The Campaign is reaching a subset of the population that probably consists of individuals who retired on the Northern Neck.*

### **Additional Analyses**

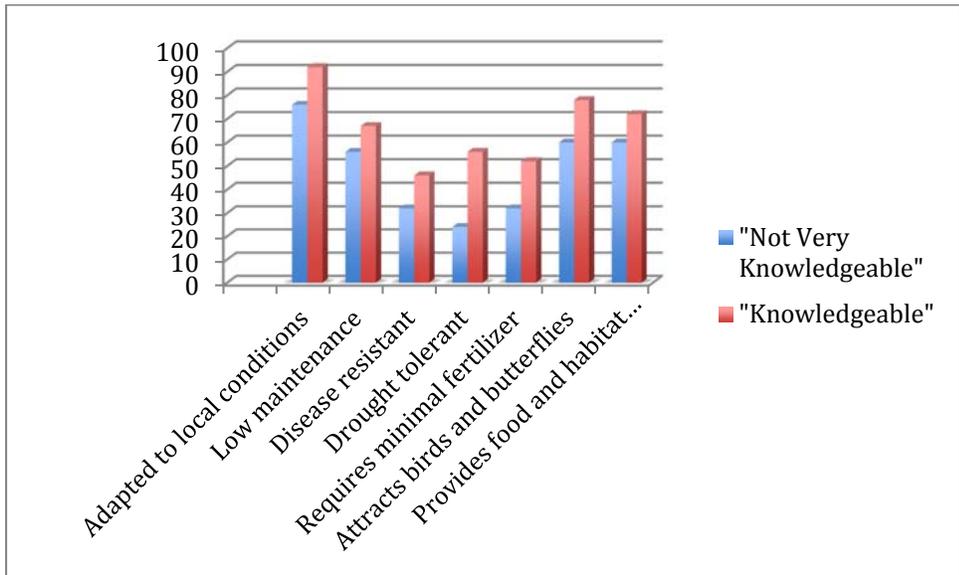
We ran a few comparisons to learn more about the preferences of certain kinds of respondents and to answer the following questions:

- Do those who consider themselves “not very knowledgeable” about native plants have different preferences than those who consider themselves “knowledgeable?”
- What about those who consider themselves “somewhat knowledgeable?”
- Do those who shop at the NNNPS plant sale differ from the full group of respondents in any significant way?
- Do those who rely on the Plant NNK Native Campaign materials differ from the full group of respondents in any significant way?

### **“Not Very Knowledgeable”**

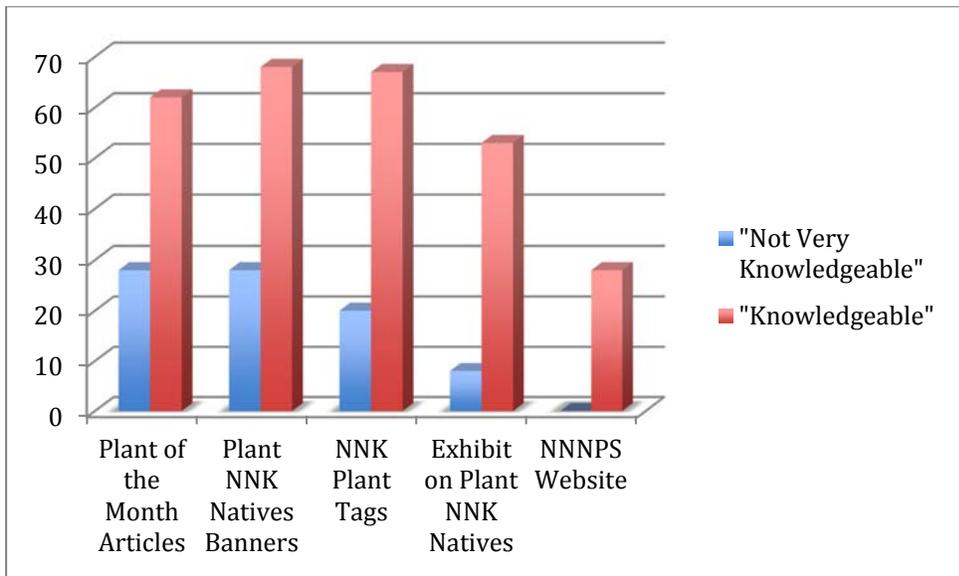
Those who consider themselves “not very knowledgeable” about native plants are not as interested in the characteristics that make native plants beneficial: adapted to local soil and

climate, low maintenance, drought tolerant, require minimal fertilizer, provides wildlife food and habitat. They are slightly more interested in colorful plants.



Percentage of Respondents Considering Characteristics "Very Important"

In addition, they are less familiar with Campaign materials and promotional activities. Only 36% have seen the logo versus 81% of those who consider themselves "knowledgeable." Also, only 36% have a copy of the guide to Northern Neck Native Plants versus 87% of those who consider themselves "knowledgeable." They are also less aware of the other promotional activities of the Campaign (see next figure).



Percentage of Respondents Reporting Having Seen Promotions

Their plant purchasing behavior also differs. They are less likely to shop at Campaign partner retailers (56% v 90% for those who consider themselves "knowledgeable") and the

NNNPS plant sale (13% v 49%) and they are more likely to buy plants at large retailers such as Lowe's and Walmart (70% v 39%). Of all the suggested new directions for the Campaign, they were most interested in store displays devoted to native plants.

*Perhaps more education on the benefits of native plants is warranted, however it will be important to find an appropriate educational medium and venue, perhaps a store display at Walmart.*

### **“Somewhat Knowledgeable”**

Those who consider themselves “somewhat knowledgeable” about native plants seem to be interested in gardening with native plants and eager to learn more. When selecting new plants, they consider characteristics that are consistent with native plants (adapted to local conditions, beneficial to wildlife, low maintenance, etc.) to be very important. However, they also look for detailed information with the plants at a higher rate than those who are knowledgeable (54% v 36%, respectively are very interested in such information). Also, they consistently rank proposed new directions a little higher than those who consider themselves “knowledgeable.” So, they are sponges for information! They are familiar with Campaign materials and value them. Here are some of their comments on the guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck:

- *Excellent, I have started selecting plants base(d) on the guide.*
- *Very useful..I find myself going to it many times.*
- *Keep it out and refer to it. Lovely publication.*
- *I love it and refer to it whenever I plan to add to my garden.*

### **NNNPS Plant Sale Goers and Campaign Materials Users**

Not surprisingly, those who patronize the NNNPS Plant Sale are very familiar with the Campaign and use the educational materials we have generated. They ranked the highest in recognizing the Campaign logo (90% and 93%, respectively versus 76% for all respondents). They also ranked higher on all of the Campaign promotions and materials.

One of the respondents who both attends the NNNPS Plant Sale and turns to Campaign materials for information commented on the guide to Native Plants of the Northern Neck saying, “Extremely useful in determining what plants will work in my yard. The guide is easy to read. It's my first go-to source for determining if a plant is native.”

As did the respondents as a whole, they were most interested in these new directions for the Campaign:

1. Store display devoted to native plants.
2. Demonstration gardens featuring native plants.
3. Butterfly/pollinator gardens.

## Conclusions/Implications

The Plant NNK Natives Campaign has succeeded well at reaching a limited audience (those who describe themselves as knowledgeable about native plants) and providing them with useful information. The Campaign may want to build on this success by focusing on the new activities that this audience expressed interest in:

4. Store displays devoted to native plants. These displays could include signage that describes plant characteristics that are most important to the survey respondents (Q3). It would be logical to work closely with partner retailers in developing plans for the displays.
5. Demonstration gardens featuring native plants. As mentioned above, this is consistent with plans underway. Under the same grant that funded the survey, the Campaign has developed a demonstration garden trail guide and purchased improved signage for the gardens. These will be released in Spring 2016. The Campaign may want to promote this strongly.
6. Information on plants for butterfly/pollinator gardens. This information could be provided at the store displays or featured in special activities.

The Campaign may want to expand the audience by providing educational materials at new locations, e.g. Walmart. In this way, the Campaign may be able to inspire people who are not already knowledgeable about native plants.

Given the large number of people who shop at the NNNPS plant sale (nearly half of the respondents), the Campaign may want to consider promoting springtime native plant sales with our partner retailers. Also, many respondents do shop for plants at Campaign partner garden centers (83%). However, many also shop outside of the Northern Neck. So, it seems that if more native plants were available locally they would sell. These results should be shared with the partner retailers in hopes that they will expand the availability of native plants.

# Native Plants of the Northern Neck



Plant  
NNK Natives  
Go Native – Grow Native



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## Monarch Butterflies Need Your Help!

### Grow Some Milkweed

Monarch butterfly populations have dramatically declined over the past few years for several reasons. One very important reason is the lack of milkweed plants in their breeding areas including the Northern Neck! Why do monarchs need milkweed to survive? They lay their eggs on milkweed and that is the only food their caterpillars will eat.

Monarchs face other challenges, too. They migrate huge distances, which is very risky, and when they get to their wintering grounds, they often find that habitat diminished.

So, monarchs need all the support they can get. You can help by growing milkweed and other native plants that provide nectar for the adults.

Milkweeds native to the Northern Neck are:

*Asclepias incarnata*, Swamp Milkweed, see page 17

*Asclepias syriaca*, Common Milkweed

*Asclepias tuberosa*, Butterfly-weed, see page 17

For more information on Monarch Butterflies,  
see [www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org) or  
<http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/save-the-monarch.shtml>.



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## Northern Neck Native Plants

Whether you want to put in a flower garden or establish the landscape around your home there are many varieties of Northern Neck native plants from which to choose. Native plants not only offer practical, cost effective, environmental benefits over non-native plants but many provide an appealing display of foliage and flowers that surpass non-native ornamentals.

Plants native to Virginia's Northern Neck are those that were part of the local ecology prior to European settlement and are adapted to the local soils and climate conditions. Consequently, they often tolerate varying conditions found on the Northern Neck, such as drought and flooding. They usually require less watering, fertilization and pesticide application than non-native plants.

Many mutual relationships exist among native plants and local wildlife. Birds, butterflies, native bees and other beneficial

insects obtain valuable food and shelter from native plants and, in turn, often serve as pollinators. Small mammals also find sustenance from and seek the protection of native plants.

Although this guide is not comprehensive, the Northern Neck native plants featured here were selected because they are attractive, relatively easy for the home gardener to acquire, easy to maintain, and offer various benefits to wildlife and the environment. 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 Plant NNK Natives button. See [www.nnnps.org](http://www.nnnps.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.

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  
Beale's Landscaping, LLC, Kilmarnock  
Booth's Landscaping Company, Kilmarnock  
Boxcroft Nursery, Reedville  
Down to Earth Garden Center, White Stone  
Edwards Produce, Wicomico Church  
Farm & Home Supply, Kilmarnock  
Garner's Produce, Warsaw  
Judy Ripley, Landscape Design Consultant  
Kemper Nursery, Farnham  
Miller Greenhouses, Inc., Tappahannock  
Murphy's Hardware, Garden, Feed and Seed, Mt. Holly  
Ransone's Nursery and Maintenance Inc., Kilmarnock  
Sassafras Farm, Hayes  
*(as of printing)*

**Cover Photos**

Main Photo: *Callicarpa americana*, American Beauty-berry  
Top right: *Rhododendron atlanticum*, Dwarf Azalea  
Middle right: *Packera aurea*, Golden Ragwort  
Lower right: *Symphytotrichum novi-belgii*, New York Aster



Northern Neck  
Audubon Society

The Plant NNK Natives campaign is a part of a Virginia coast-wide native plant marketing initiative being coordinated and funded by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program. This guide to Northern Neck native plants is an adaptation of "Native Plants of Accomack and Northampton Counties," a regional native plant guide produced by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program for the Eastern Shore through the Plant ES Natives campaign.

Design and printing of the "Native Plants of the Northern Neck" guide 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. Additional funding was provided by the Northern Neck Audubon Society and the Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society.

**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 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  
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Design/Brecher Design Group

Editing/Janet Pawlukiewicz

Photo Selection and Editing/Carol Hammer

Also thanks to our wonderful native plant photographers,  
photo credits are on inside back cover.



**Visit us on the Web**

Plant NNK Native: Go Native—Grow Native at [NNNPS.org](http://NNNPS.org)

Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at  
[deq.virginia.gov/Programs/CoastalZoneManagement.aspx](http://deq.virginia.gov/Programs/CoastalZoneManagement.aspx)

*Every effort has been made to provide accurate information.  
Errors will be corrected in future editions. Edition Two 7/15 3M*



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

**T**he **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 organizations supporting the **Go Native – Grow Native** campaign (listed on page 4) 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.

**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
- A website to provide up-to-date information on activities and educational materials of the **Go Native – Grow Native** campaign. Visit [nnnps.org](http://nnnps.org)
- A table-top exhibit for use at special events
- *Garden Plans* for sunny and shady gardens, available at [NNNPS.org](http://NNNPS.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 [NNNPS.org](http://NNNPS.org)
- *Comprehensive List of Northern Neck Native Plants*, available at [NNNPS.org](http://NNNPS.org)



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## 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 16.

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.

---

## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<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 17)</b>
<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Wild Sarsaparilla
<b><i>Arisaema triphyllum</i></b>	<b>Common Jack-in-the-pulpit (page 17)</b>
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Common Wild Ginger
<b><i>Asclepias incarnata</i></b>	<b>Swamp Milkweed (page 17)</b>
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<b><i>Asclepias tuberosa</i></b>	<b>Butterfly-weed (page 17)</b>
<b><i>Baptisia tinctoria</i></b>	<b>Yellow Wild Indigo (page 18)</b>
<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Nodding Beggar-ticks
<b><i>Caltha palustris</i></b>	<b>Marsh Marigold (page 18)</b>
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	Blue Cohosh
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Common Partridge-pea
<b><i>Chelone glabra</i></b>	<b>White Turtlehead (page 18)</b>
<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>	Striped Wintergreen
<b><i>Chrysopsis mariana</i></b>	<b>Maryland Golden-aster (page 18)</b>
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	Spring Beauty
<i>Clitoria mariana</i>	Butterfly Pea
<b><i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i></b>	<b>Mistflower (page 19)</b>
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Long-stalk Coreopsis
<i>Desmodium paniculatum</i>	Narrow-leaf Tick-trefoil

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

## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Tall Scouring Rush
<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>	Hyssop-leaf Thoroughwort
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Boneset
<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	White Wood Aster
<b><i>Eutrochium dubium</i></b>	<b>Three-nerved Joe-pye-weed (page 19)</b>
<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i>	Hollow Joe-pye-weed
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	Sweet-scented Joe-pye-weed
<i>Geranium carolinianum</i>	Carolina Geranium
<b><i>Helenium autumnale</i></b>	<b>Common Sneezeweed (page 19)</b>
<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	Woodland Sunflower
<i>Heuchera americana</i>	American Alumroot
<b><i>Hexastylis virginica</i></b>	<b>Virginia Heartleaf (page 19)</b>
<i>Hieracium venosum</i>	Rattlesnake Weed
<b><i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i></b>	<b>Swamp Rose-mallow (page 20)</b>
<i>Houstonia caerulea</i>	Common Bluets
<i>Houstonia purpurea</i>	Summer Bluets
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	Virginia Waterleaf
<i>Hypericum gentianoides</i>	Pineweed, Orange-grass
<i>Hypericum mutilum</i>	Dwarf St. John's-wort
<i>Hypericum punctatum</i>	Spotted St.-John's-wort
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	Orange Jewelweed
<i>Ionactis linariifolia</i>	Stiff-leaved Aster
<b><i>Iris versicolor</i></b>	<b>Northern Blue Flag (page 20)</b>
<i>Iris virginica</i>	Virginia Blue Flag
<b><i>Kosteletzkya pentacarpos</i></b>	<b>Seashore Mallow (page 20)</b>
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Round-headed Lespedeza
<i>Liatris pilosa</i>	Grass-leaf Gayfeather
<b><i>Lilium superbum</i></b>	<b>Turk's-cap Lily (page 20)</b>

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<b><i>Limonium carolinianum</i></b>	<b>Sea Lavender (page 21)</b>
<b><i>Lobelia cardinalis</i></b>	<b>Cardinal Flower (page 21)</b>
<b><i>Lobelia siphilitica</i></b>	<b>Great Blue Lobelia (page 21)</b>
<b><i>Lupinus perennis</i></b>	<b>Sundial Lupine (page 21)</b>
<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>	False Solomon's-seal
<i>Medeola virginiana</i>	Indian Cucumber-root
<i>Micranthes virginiensis</i>	Early Saxifrage
<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	Square-stemmed Monkeyflower
<b><i>Mitchella repens</i></b>	<b>Partridge-berry (page 22)</b>
<i>Mitella diphylla</i>	Two-leaved Miterwort
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Spotted Beebalm
<i>Nuphar advena</i>	Common Spatterdock
<i>Nuttallanthus canadensis</i>	Blue Toadflax
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	White Water-lily
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Common Evening-Primrose
<b><i>Oenothera fruticosa</i></b>	<b>Southern Sundrops (page 22)</b>
<b><i>Opuntia humifusa</i></b>	<b>Eastern Prickly-pear (page 22)</b>
<i>Orontium aquaticum</i>	Golden Club
<i>Osmorhiza longistylis</i>	Aniseroot
<b><i>Packera aurea</i></b>	<b>Golden Ragwort (page 22)</b>
<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	Arrow-arum
<i>Penstemon laevigatus</i>	Smooth Beard-tongue
<b><i>Phlox paniculata</i></b>	<b>Garden Phlox (page 23)</b>
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Northern Obedient-plant
<b><i>Podophyllum peltatum</i></b>	<b>Mayapple (page 23)</b>
<b><i>Polygonatum biflorum</i></b>	<b>Solomon's-seal (page 23)</b>
<b><i>Pontederia cordata</i></b>	<b>Pickerelweed (page 23)</b>
<i>Pycnanthemum incanum</i>	Hoary Mountain-mint
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	Narrow-leaf Mountain-mint

## Herbaceous Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name
<i>Rhexia virginica</i>	Virginia Meadow Beauty (page 24)	<i>Symphyotrichum pilosum</i>	White Old-field Aster
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan (page 24)	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	Skunk Cabbage
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cut-leaf Cornflower	<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	Common Tall Meadow-rue
<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	Brown-eyed Susan (page 24)	<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i>	Rue-anemone
<i>Ruellia caroliniensis</i>	Carolina Wild-petunia (page 24)	<i>Trillium pusillum</i>	Virginia Least Trillium
<i>Sabatia angularis</i>	Rose-pink	<i>Uvularia perfoliata</i>	Perfoliate Bellwort
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	Broad-leaved Arrowhead	<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>	Sessile Bellwort
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyre-leaf Sage (page 25)	<i>Veratrum virginicum</i>	Virginia Bunchflower
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Bloodroot	<i>Veratrum viride</i>	Green Hellebore
<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	Lizard's-tail, Water-dragon (page 25)	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain
<i>Scutellaria elliptica</i>	Hairy Skullcap	<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	New York Ironweed (page 26)
<i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i>	Hyssop Skullcap	<i>Viola cucullata</i>	Marsh Blue Violet
<i>Sericocarpus asteroides</i>	Toothed White-top Aster	<i>Viola labradorica</i>	Dog Violet
<i>Silene stellata</i>	Starry Champion	<i>Viola pedata</i>	Bird's-foot Violet (page 26)
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Blue-eyed-grass (page 25)	<i>Viola sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaved Violet
<i>Sisyrinchium atlanticum</i>	Eastern Blue-eyed-grass	<i>Viola sororia</i>	Common Blue Violet
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	Tall Goldenrod	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	Common Yucca
<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 sempervirens</i>	Seaside Goldenrod (page 25)		
<i>Symphyotrichum grandiflorum</i>	Large-flowered Aster		
<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i> var. <i>laeve</i>	Smooth Blue Aster		
<i>Symphyotrichum novi-belgii</i>	New York Aster (page 26)		

## Ferns

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Northern Maidenhair Fern
<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	Ebony Spleenwort
<i>Athyrium asplenioides</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 27)</b>
<b><i>Osmunda spectabilis</i></b>	<b>Royal Fern (page 27)</b>
<b><i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i></b>	<b>Cinnamon Fern (page 27)</b>
<b><i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i></b>	<b>Christmas Fern (page 27)</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>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Agrostis perennans</i>	Autumn Bentgrass
<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>	American Beach Grass
<b><i>Andropogon glomeratus</i></b>	<b>Bushy Bluestem (page 28)</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 28)</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 28)</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 28)</b>
<b><i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i></b>	<b>Little Bluestem (page 29)</b>
<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	Common Threesquare

## Grass and Grass-Like Plants

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	<b>Soft-stem Bulrush (page 29)</b>
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	<b>Woolgrass (page 29)</b>
<i>Sparganium americanum</i>	American Bur-reed
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	<b>Saltmarsh Cordgrass (page 29)</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>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	<b>Cross-vine (page 30)</b>
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	<b>Trumpet-creeper (page 30)</b>
<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	American Bittersweet
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	<b>Virgin's-bower (page 30)</b>
<i>Decumaria barbara</i>	Climbing Hydrangea
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	<b>Carolina Jessamine (page 30)</b>
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	<b>Coral Honeysuckle (page 31)</b>
<i>Mikania scandens</i>	Climbing Hempweed
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	<b>Virginia-creeper (page 31)</b>
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	<b>Purple Passionflower (page 31)</b>
<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	<b>American Wisteria (page 31)</b>

## Shrubs

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	Devil's Walking-stick
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	<b>Red Chokeberry (page 32)</b>
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	<b>High-tide Bush (page 32)</b>
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	<b>American Beauty-berry (page 32)</b>
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey Tea
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	<b>Buttonbush (page 32)</b>
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	<b>Sweet Pepperbush (page 33)</b>
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	<b>Silky Dogwood (page 33)</b>
<i>Epigaea repens</i>	Trailing Arbutus
<i>Eubotrys racemosus</i>	Fetterbush
<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	<b>Heart's-a-bustin' (page 33)</b>
<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>	Black Huckleberry
<i>Gaylussacia frondosa</i>	Dangleberry
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	<b>Witch Hazel (page 33)</b>
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	<b>Wild Hydrangea (page 34)</b>
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry
<i>Ilex laevigata</i>	Smooth Winterberry
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	<b>Winterberry (page 34)</b>
<i>Itea virginica</i>	<b>Virginia Sweetspire (page 34)</b>
<i>Iva frutescens</i>	Marsh-elder
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Mountain Laurel
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	<b>Spicebush (page 34)</b>
<i>Lyonia ligustrina</i>	Maleberry
<i>Lyonia mariana</i>	<b>Staggerbush (page 35)</b>
<i>Morella caroliniensis</i>	Evergreen Bayberry
<i>Morella cerifera</i>	<b>Wax Myrtle (page 35)</b>
<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	Northern Bayberry

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## Shrubs

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common</b>
<b>Name</b>	
<i>Rhododendron atlanticum</i>	<b>Dwarf Azalea (page 35)</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 35)</b>
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Upland Willow
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	<b>Common Elderberry (page 36)</b>
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	Steeplebush
<i>Stewartia ovata</i>	Mountain Stewartia
<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	<b>Early Lowbush Blueberry (page 36)</b>
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	Deerberry
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Maple-leaf Viburnum
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	<b>Arrow-wood (page 36)</b>
<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	<b>Poosum-haw (page 36)</b>
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	<b>Black Haw (page 37)</b>

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## Small/Medium Tree

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Alnus serrulata</i>	Smooth Alder
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	<b>Downy Serviceberry (page 37)</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 37)</b>
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	<b>Eastern Redbud (page 38)</b>
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	<b>Fringetree (page 38)</b>
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda Dogwood
<i>Cornus florida</i>	<b>Flowering Dogwood (page 38)</b>
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Cockspur Hawthorn
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	<b>American Holly (page 38)</b>
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	<b>Sweetbay Magnolia (page 39)</b>
<i>Morus rubra</i>	Red Mulberry
<i>Salix nigra</i>	<b>Black Willow (page 39)</b>

# Large Trees

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Eastern Boxelder	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Southern Red Oak
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	<b>Red Maple (page 39)</b>	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	Blackjack Oak
<i>Betula nigra</i>	<b>River Birch (page 39)</b>	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Swamp Chestnut Oak
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory	<i>Quercus montana</i>	Chestnut Oak
<i>Carya glabra</i>	Pignut Hickory	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak
<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	<b>Mockernut Hickory (page 40)</b>	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Water Oak
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Common Hackberry	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	<b>American Persimmon (page 40)</b>	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	<b>American Beech (page 40)</b>	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash	<i>Quercus stellata</i>	Post Oak
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	<b>Eastern Red Cedar (page 40)</b>	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	<b>Sassafras (page 42)</b>
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	<b>Bald-cypress (page 42)</b>
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	<b>Tulip-poplar (page 41)</b>	<i>Tilia americana</i>	<b>American Basswood (page 42)</b>
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	<b>Black Gum (page 41)</b>	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	<b>Sourwood (page 41)</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 41)</b>		
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Wild Black Cherry		
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak		
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	<b>Scarlet Oak (page 42)</b>		

# 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 references listed on page 43.

### 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 USDA Soil Survey at [websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx](http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx)

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 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.



*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 wood lands, meadows and swamps.  
**Benefits:** Attracts birds, butterflies, hummingbirds and beneficial insects.



*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 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.



*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.



*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.



*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.



*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.



*Solidago 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



*Campsis radicans*

### Trumpet-creeper

- 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.

- 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

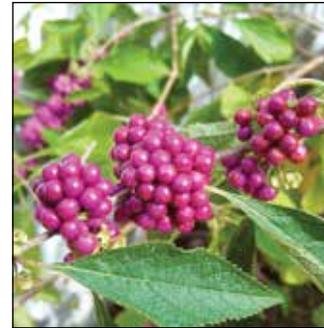
- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** 1.5-12 ft tall  
**Flowers:** Flat-topped clusters of white, five-petaled flowers with red anthers, Mar  
**Fruit:** Red berries, Sep-Dec  
**Fall Color:** Dark green, glossy leaves turn a rich, orange-red  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Dry, moist or wet, 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**

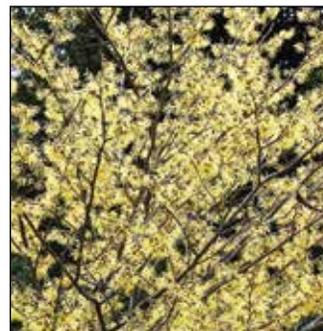
- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 6-12 ft  
**Flowers:** White, May-June  
**Fruit:** Blue berry, Aug  
**Fall Color:** Orange, red or purple  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Moist or wet, clay, loam or sand  
**Habitat:** Found in forested wetlands, floodplains, stream and pond banks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



*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.



*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.



*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.



*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.



*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.



*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.

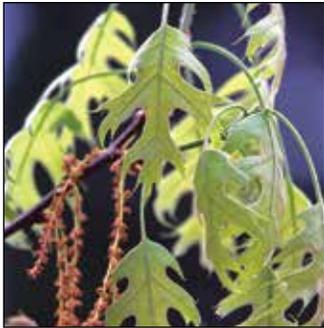


*Platanus occidentalis*

**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 coccinea*

### Scarlet Oak

- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height 40-75 ft, spread 50-75 ft  
**Flower:** Yellow-green catkin, Mar-May  
**Fruit:** Reddish-brown acorn, Sep-Oct  
**Fall Color:** Scarlet  
**Light:** Full sun  
**Soil:** Dry to moist loam or sandy soils  
**Habitat:** Found in dry uplands and on slopes.  
**Benefits:** Acorns provide food for squirrels, chipmunks, mice, deer, wild turkey, bluejays and redheaded woodpeckers.



*Sassafras albidum*

### Sassafras

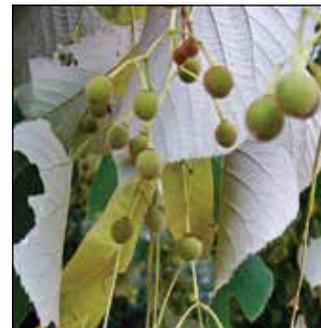
- Type:** Deciduous  
**Size:** Height and spread 35-50 ft  
**Flowers:** Yellow-green, Apr  
**Fruit:** Dark blue, Sep-Oct; need both male and female plants to produce berries  
**Fall Color:** Yellow, orange, purple  
**Light:** Full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** Rich, moist, sandy loam  
**Habitat:** 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.

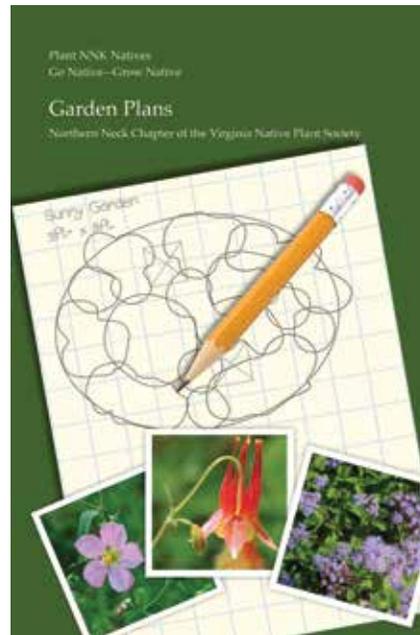
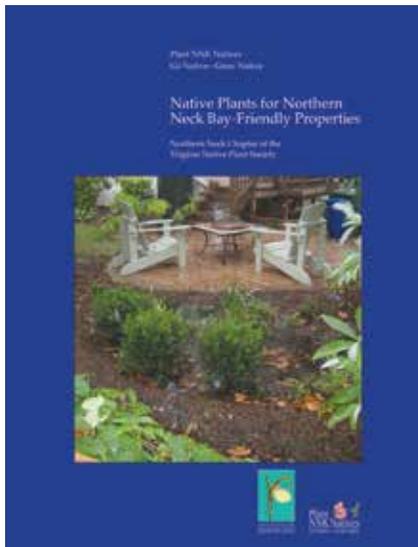
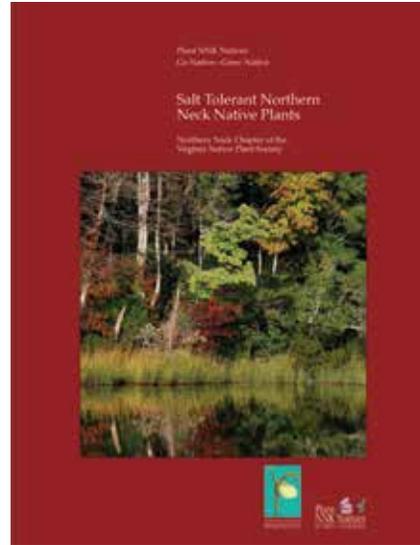
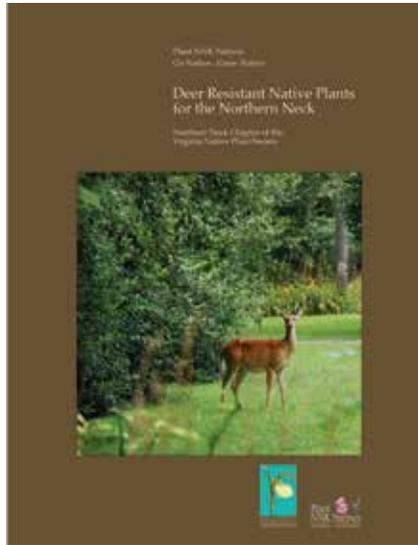


*Tilia americana*

### 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.

## More Information Available



### Other Online Sources

To find the most accurate information, use the scientific name when searching databases.

#### Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping: Chesapeake Bay Watershed. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

[nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake](https://nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake)

#### Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

[wildflower.org](https://wildflower.org)

#### USDA Plants Database (United States Department of Agriculture)

[plants.usda.gov/java](https://plants.usda.gov/java)

#### Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Natural Heritage Program

[dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/nativeplants.shtml](https://dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml)

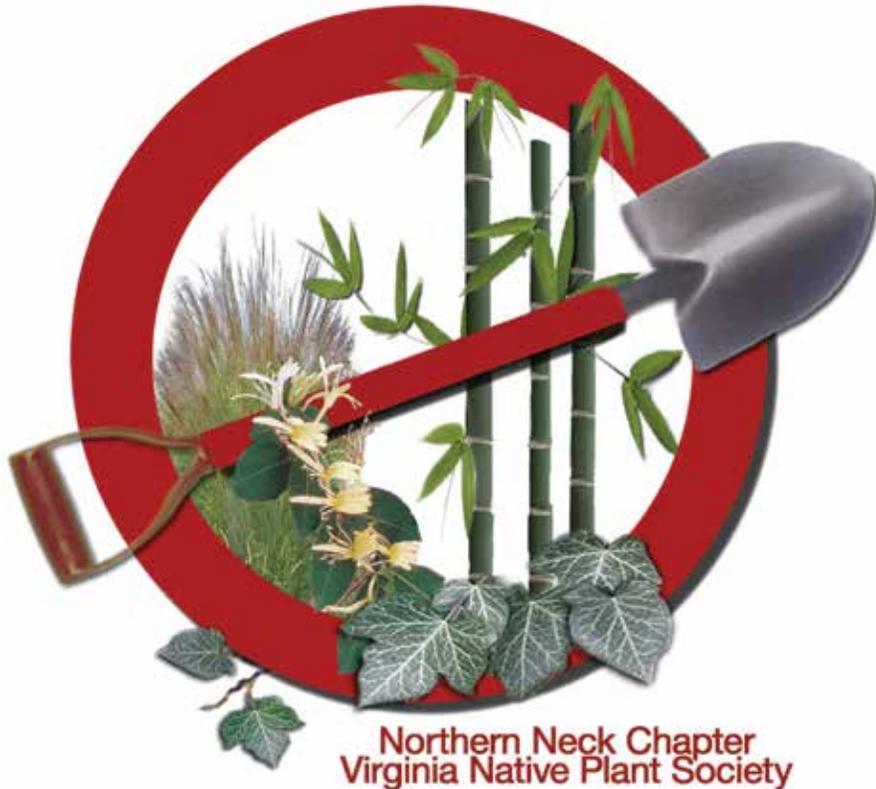
See the brochures on Coastal Plain Native Plants and Grasslands Native Plants

#### Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora

[vaplantatlas.org](https://vaplantatlas.org)

These brochures are available on line at [NNNPS.org](https://NNNPS.org). Go to the Plant NNK Natives page.

# Friends Don't Let Friends Plant Invasives



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## 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 115 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/invspdfliiss](http://dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/invspdfliiss)

Unfortunately, many of these invasive plants are available for purchase. Please avoid planting non-native invasive plants. Use the chart, at right, to find Northern Neck native plants, highlighted in green, that serve as excellent alternatives for invasive plants.

If you find invasive plants on your property, you may want to take steps to eradicate them. Find advice at [invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/controlplans.shtml](http://invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/controlplans.shtml)

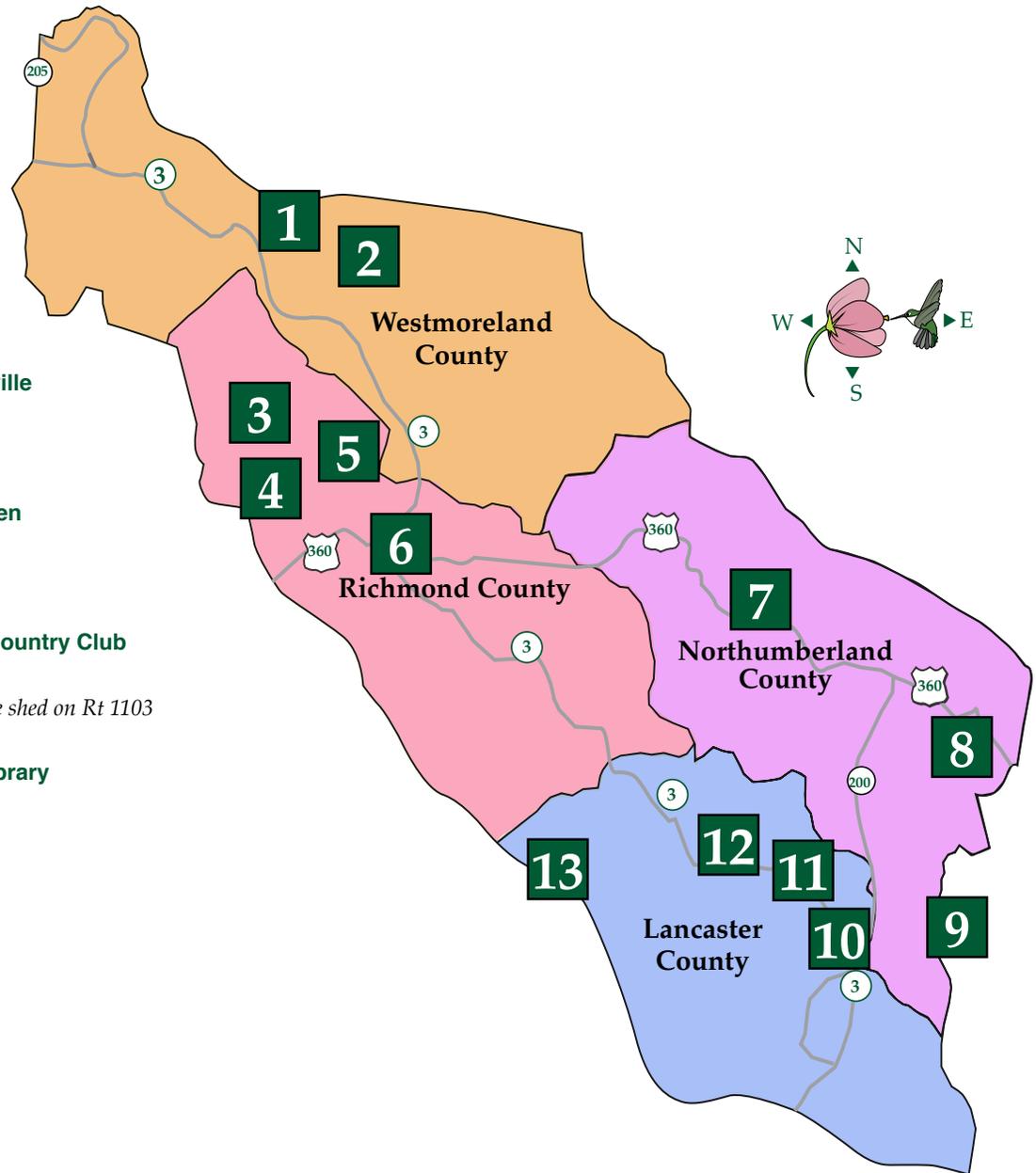
*Image used with permission of the artist, Elizabeth Gruben*

<i>Non-Native Invasive Plants/ Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>	<i>Native Plant Substitutes/ Scientific Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa Tree	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Barberry	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Sweet Pepperbush
		<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	Heart's-a-bustin'
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witch Hazel
		<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn Olive	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	High-tide Bush
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Cross-vine
		<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Yellow Jessamine
		<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia-creeper
		<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral Honeysuckle
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	Orange Daylily	<i>Lilium superbum</i>	Turk's-cap Lily
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese Privet	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry
		<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
		<i>Morella cerifera</i>	Wax Myrtle
		<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Yellow Jessamine
		<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral Honeysuckle
		<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Maypop
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	China Berry	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	Wax Myrtle
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry	<i>Morus rubra</i>	Red Mulberry
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Princess Tree	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Sourwood
		<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	Japanese Knotweed	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Sweet Pepperbush
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Swamp-rose
<i>Vinca major/ Vinca minor</i>	Periwinkle Vine	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge-berry
		<i>Epigaea repens</i>	Trailing Arbutus
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	American Wisteria

# Demonstration Gardens on the Northern Neck

Want a closer look at the natives featured in this guide? Visit these demonstration gardens on the Northern Neck. These public sites feature Virginia native plants, many of which are indigenous to the Northern Neck, and were designed to showcase the beauty, benefits and variety of native plants. More demos are planned! For more information and updates visit the “Go Native, Grow Native” campaign website [nnpns.org/Go\\_Native\\_Grow\\_Native](http://nnpns.org/Go_Native_Grow_Native).

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> <b>Westmoreland State Park</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>145 Cliff Road<br/>Montross, VA 22520</p>                     | <p><b>7</b> <b>Old Courthouse, Heathsville</b><br/>72 Monument Place<br/>Heathsville, VA 22473</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>8</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>3</b> <b>Menokin</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>4037 Menokin Road<br/>Warsaw, VA 22572</p>                                    | <p><b>9</b> <b>Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club</b><br/>(along road before entrance)<br/>Park across from maintenance shed on Rt 1103<br/>Kilmarnock, VA 22482</p> |
| <p><b>4</b> <b>Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge</b><br/>Wilna Lodge<br/>336 Wilna Road<br/>Warsaw, VA 22572</p> | <p><b>10</b> <b>Lancaster Community Library</b><br/>16 Town Centre Drive<br/>Kilmarnock, VA 22482</p>   |
| <p><b>5</b> <b>Wild Bunch Wildlife Refuge</b><br/>Flight Cage<br/>7231 Newland Rd<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>6</b> <b>Northern Neck Planning District Commission</b><br/>457 Main Street<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>13</b> <b>Belle Isle State Park</b><br/>Visitors' Center<br/>1632 Belle Isle Road<br/>Lancaster, VA 22503</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*

### Additional Photo Credits

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Top Insert  
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#### 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 2  
Monarch butterfly on *Asclepias syriaca*, Common Milkweed

### Page 8

Eastern tailed-blue  
butterfly on  
*Antennaria plantaginifolia*,  
Plantain-leaf Pussytoes

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Plant  
NNK Natives  

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Go Native – Grow Native

Plant NNK Natives  
Go Native—Grow Native

# Native Plants for Northern Neck Bay-Friendly Properties

Northern Neck Chapter of the  
Virginia Native Plant Society



Virginia Native Plant Society  
NORTHERN NECK CHAPTER

Plant  
NNK Natives  
Go Native – Grow Native

In the Chesapeake Bay watershed, one of the greatest threats to its health comes from development of the land. Transformation of the natural landscape to buildings, rooftops, streets and lawns leads to less rainwater soaking into the ground where it is naturally filtered before supplementing the aquifer or returning to our streams and rivers. Instead, more water “runs off” our properties and travels along our impervious corridors of lawn, driveways and streets carrying pollutants including fertilizers and pesticides along the way and delivering them to our streams and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

*Rainwater running through a downspout and pipe erodes the lawn and washes onto the sidewalk. Though this does not look dramatic, the cumulative impacts from many sites like this can be great. Nutrients (such as phosphorus and nitrogen) dissolved in the runoff make their way to our creeks and estuaries. The excess nutrients can lead to harmful algal blooms, which eventually decrease the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water for fish, crabs and oysters.*



*In some areas, runoff is so great that gullies form and stream banks and shorelines are eroded. Here, mud carried from an eroded bank in Lancaster County washes out a small tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. The sediment from eroded stream banks covers oyster beds, smothering and suffocating the oysters.*

#### Imagine this!

**Runoff from a typical 1" rainfall on a 1600 square foot roof would fill more than twenty 50-gallon bathtubs or rain barrels.**

### So what can YOU do?

Every parcel of land in the Northern Neck affects the quality of the Bay. So, all of us need to be concerned about runoff. There are many ways to *retrofit* your existing landscape to be more Bay-friendly; several are outlined in this brochure. In fact, though all of us should take action, those who are undertaking new construction that disturbs 2,500 sq ft or more are required to control runoff from their property under new Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Stormwater regulations.

### How do Native plants fit in?

Northern Neck native flowers, grasses, shrubs and trees are beautiful and add value to your landscape by providing diverse colors and textures year round. Once established, they need little maintenance. They nurture birds, butterflies and other wildlife by providing food and shelter. Most importantly for management of runoff, they help to slow down runoff and filter out pollutants as the water is slowly absorbed into the ground. The Plant Northern Neck Natives: Go-Native—Grow Native campaign prepared this brochure to help you choose ways to use native plants to protect water quality by reducing runoff from your property.

### Practices for a Bay-Friendly Northern Neck Property

The goal is to reduce the volume of water that runs off your property and remove pollutants, such as nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and oil based chemicals from cars before they are delivered to local streams and eventually reach the Chesapeake Bay. There are many ways that a homeowner can accomplish this. The following practices use native plants to reduce runoff and absorb pollutants.

Rain gardens accept runoff from a roof, driveway, or parking lot that would otherwise go to the street, storm drain, ditch, nearby stream or other waterway, including wetlands. The garden has a shallow depression that collects runoff. Natural soils may need to be replaced with sandier ones to allow the water to soak into the ground. The garden is planted with a mix of native plants that filter out pollutants, take up some of the water and slow down the flow.

Rain gardens are not suitable for areas where the water table is very close to the surface. In these areas it is better to manage the runoff without replacing natural soil with sand, for example by creating swales or shoreline buffers planted with native perennials, grasses, shrubs and /or small trees to retain and absorb runoff.

Lawns often make up a significant portion of individual properties and have been shown to produce more runoff (as much as 4 to 5 times) than their forested counterparts. So, reducing lawn areas and replacing them with mulched beds filled with native flowers, shrubs and trees is an effective way to reduce runoff. Trees create a leafy canopy that intercepts rainfall and reduces runoff and they produce shade to cool your home, too. On the remaining lawn areas, be sure to use bay-friendly lawn care such as reducing or eliminating fertilizers and other chemicals, keeping mulched clippings on the grass and increasing the porosity of your lawn so that water will filter through it to the soil below.

#### The Times They Are A-Changin’

**In the past, downspouts were designed to drain onto a paved area and conduct water away from the building site as quickly as possible. This meant that polluted runoff was rapidly conveyed to nearby streams and eventually the Bay. Today, the goal is to keep runoff on the property so that it is filtered as it seeps into the ground slowly and recharges groundwater.**

In addition, there are several ways to reduce runoff that do not use native plants. For example, homeowners can redirect the flow of water from downspouts to vegetated areas such as rain gardens, swales and garden beds. They can also use rain barrels to capture runoff from the roof and reuse it for watering. Or they may want to install permeable pavers on driveways and sidewalks to allow rainfall to pass through the pavers and soak into the ground.

#### Tips On Rain Barrels

**In a typical rainfall, one rain barrel can only accept a small portion of the runoff from your roof. So, be sure to use the water in the barrel for irrigation between storms. Also, be sure the overflow from the barrel is directed away from your foundation and into a rain garden or other permeable area.**

For more details on any of these techniques visit the websites in the list of Technical Resources in this brochure.

## Technical Resources

Is the sample rain garden plan on the back of this brochure right for you? If not, you can find many more plans and lots more information on how to make your property *Bay-Friendly* on the websites listed below.

- Homeowner Guide For a More Bay-Friendly Property (Chesapeake Stormwater Network) [www.chesapeakestormwater.net/be-bay-friendly](http://www.chesapeakestormwater.net/be-bay-friendly). This guide presents a step-by-step approach for analyzing your property to find out whether it makes sense to install a rain garden or other *Bay-Friendly* practices. It also provides information on the design and installation of many runoff control practices, such as rain barrels and permeable pavers.
- Rain Garden Design Templates (Low Impact Development Center) [www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/raingarden\\_design/templates.htm](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/raingarden_design/templates.htm)
- Rainscaping.org [www.rainscaping.org](http://www.rainscaping.org), click on Rainscaping
- BayScapes program (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay) [www.allianceforthebay.org/our-work/healing-the-land/bayscapes](http://www.allianceforthebay.org/our-work/healing-the-land/bayscapes)
- *Eight Essential Elements of Conservation Landscaping* (Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council) [www.chesapeakelandscaping.org/eight-essential-elements](http://www.chesapeakelandscaping.org/eight-essential-elements)
- *Gardener for the Bay* program (Chesapeake Bay Foundation) [www.cbf.org/join-us/more-things-you-can-do/gardeners-for-the-bay](http://www.cbf.org/join-us/more-things-you-can-do/gardeners-for-the-bay)

- *Habitat At Home* Guide (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries) [www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/habitat-at-home/](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/habitat-at-home/)
- *Landscapes for Life* (American Society of Landscape Architects) [www.landscapeforlife.org](http://www.landscapeforlife.org)
- Virginia Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse [www.vwrrc.vt.edu/swc/](http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/swc/)

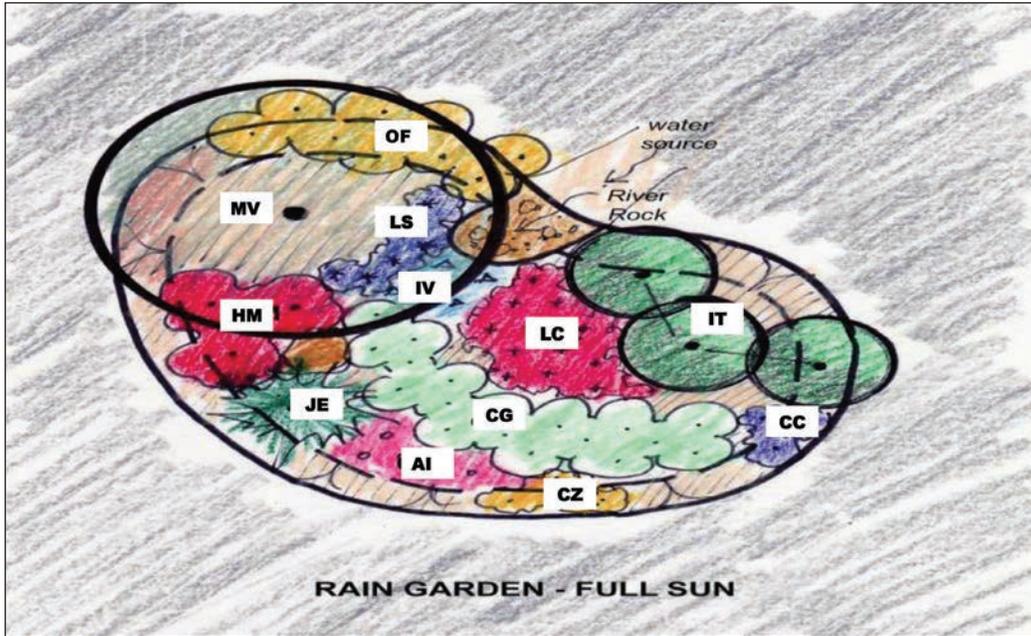
## Information on Native Plants and Vendors (Wholesale and Retail)

- Northern Neck Native Plants—For a comprehensive list of native plants suitable for rain gardens, swales, and buffers on the Northern Neck see the Plant Northern Neck Natives, Go Native—Grow Native section at [www.nnnps.org](http://www.nnnps.org).
- For local retailers see Plant Northern Neck Natives: Go Native—Grow Native retail partners at [www.nnnps.org](http://www.nnnps.org).
- Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society Plant Sale, first Saturday after Labor Day in September, Wicomico Parish Church (Episcopal), Route 200, Wicomico Parish, VA.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife, list of native plant suppliers in the Chesapeake Bay Region, [www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/bayscapes.htm](http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/bayscapes.htm). Look under *Finding Natives* for a list of Native Plant Nurseries in the Chesapeake Bay.
- Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association's Guide [www.vnla.org/Grower-Guide](http://www.vnla.org/Grower-Guide)

## Technical and Financial Assistance to Homeowners

The following is a list of programs that may be able to provide technical (T), financial (F) or other (O) types of assistance to homeowners installing stewardship practices on their residential property in the Northern Neck.

Organization	Name of Program(s)	Website/Contact	Type of Assistance		
			F	T	O
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay	Chesapeake RiverwiseCommunities	<a href="https://allianceforthebay.org/category/our-work/riverwise/">https://allianceforthebay.org/category/our-work/riverwise/</a>	X	X	X
Friends of the Rappahannock	Rainscape Retrofits and Healthy Rivers Begin at Home	Richard Moncure, Tidal Rappahannock River Steward Phone: (804) 443-3448 Email: <a href="mailto:richard.moncure@riverfriends.org">richard.moncure@riverfriends.org</a> <a href="http://www.riverfriends.org">www.riverfriends.org</a>		X	X
Northern Neck Master Gardeners	Shoreline Evaluation Program	<a href="http://www.nnmng.org/">http://www.nnmng.org/</a>		X	X
Northern Neck Planning District Commission	Environmental Planning	Stuart McKenzie, Environmental Planner Phone: (804) 333-1900, ext 25 Email: <a href="mailto:smckenzie@nnpdc17.state.va.us">smckenzie@nnpdc17.state.va.us</a> <a href="http://www.nnpdc.org">http://www.nnpdc.org</a>		X	
Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District	Stormwater Education and Assessment	Brandon Dillistin, District Technical Manager Phone: (804) 313-9102, ext 102 <a href="http://www.nnswcd.org/">http://www.nnswcd.org/</a>	X	X	X
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality	Virginia Stormwater Management Program	Xing Lin, Stormwater Compliance Specialist Cell: (804) 238-2977 Email: <a href="mailto:xing.lin@deq.virginia.gov">xing.lin@deq.virginia.gov</a>		X	
Lancaster County	Environmental Codes Compliance	Brian Barnes, Environmental Codes Compliance Officer Phone: (804) 462-5220 Email: <a href="mailto:bbarnes@lancova.com">bbarnes@lancova.com</a>		X	
Northumberland County	Zoning	Philip H. Marston, Zoning Administrator Phone: (804) 580-891 Email: <a href="mailto:pmarston@co.northumberland.va.us">pmarston@co.northumberland.va.us</a>		X	
Richmond County	Code Compliance	T. Richard English, Code Compliance Officer Phone: (804) 333-3408 Email: <a href="mailto:renglish@co.richmond.va.us">renglish@co.richmond.va.us</a>		X	
Westmoreland County	Planning & Community Development	Bob Fink, Director of Planning & Community Development Phone: (804) 493-0120 Email: <a href="mailto:bfink@westmoreland-county.org">bfink@westmoreland-county.org</a>		X	



Source: Anne Guillette, Low Impact Design Studio

Plant List for a Sunny Rain Garden with Perennials, Shrubs and Trees							
LABEL	LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE <sup>1</sup>	QTY	PLANTING ZONE		
					1	2	3
TREE and SHRUB							
MV	Magnolia virginiana	Sweetbay Magnolia	8-10'	1	x	x	x
IT	Itea virginica	Virginia Sweetspire	5 gal	3	x	x	x
PERENNIALS, SEDGES + GRASSES							
AI	Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	QT	9	x	x	
CC	Conoclinium coelestinum	Mistflower	QT	3			x
CG	Chelone glabra	White Turtlehead	QT	18	x	x	
CZ	Chrysopsis mariana	Maryland Golden-aster	QT	3			x
HM	Hibiscus moscheutos	Swamp Rose-Mallow	#1	3	x	x	
IV	Iris versicolor	Blue Flag Iris	#1	5	x	x	
JE	Juncus effusus	Soft Rush	#1	1	x	x	
LC	Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	QT	12	x	x	
LS	Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	#1	6	x	x	
OF	Oenothera fruticosa	Narrow-leaf Sundrops	#1	9	x	x	x
<sup>1</sup> Refers to the size of the container: gallon (#1) or quart							

### Credits

Project Director / Janet Pawlukiewicz

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Photos: *Lawn Runoff* / Steve Saari, District Department of the Environment / *Stream Erosion* / Center for Watershed Protection

Advisors / Paula Boundy, Jackie and Nick Ferriter, Susan Lindsey, Stuart McKenzie, Anne Olsen, Jeff Wainscott

Thanks to the Chesapeake Stormwater Network for providing an adaptable copy of the Homeowner Guide For a More Bay-Friendly Property that served as the basis for this brochure.

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Cover photo: *Rain Garden* / Steve Saari, District Department of the Environment

Plant NNK Natives  
Go Native—Grow Native

# Deer Resistant Native Plants for the Northern Neck

Northern Neck Chapter of the  
Virginia Native Plant Society



Virginia Native Plant Society  
NORTHERN NECK CHAPTER

Plant  
NNK Natives  
Go Native—Grow Native



Looking for plants that will not be eaten up by deer? Several Northern Neck native plants are excellent candidates. Native plants are beautiful and add value to your landscape by providing diverse colors and textures year round. Once established, they need little maintenance. They nurture birds, butterflies and other wildlife by providing food and shelter. Also, they are well adapted to the climate and ecological conditions on the Northern Neck, so many of them are either not favored food for deer or can rebound from browsing. That said, no plant is guaranteed to be deer proof.

The Plant Northern Neck Natives: Go-Native—Grow Native campaign prepared this listing of deer resistant plants to help you choose native plants to minimize damage from deer. The list is organized alphabetically by scientific name within each plant type: Herbaceous Plants, Grasses, Vines, Shrubs, Small and Large Trees. Following the scientific name, the two columns indicate whether the plant is highly or moderately resistant to damage from deer, as reported in several sources. In some cases only the genus is listed, for example, *Viola*. The asterisk (\*) indicates

that you should check to see which species are listed in Native Plants of the Northern Neck available at [www.nnnps.org/Go\\_Native\\_Grow\\_Native.html](http://www.nnnps.org/Go_Native_Grow_Native.html).

As you select plants for your landscape, keep in mind that any young plants may be susceptible to browsing by deer. It is best to keep young plants protected with screening or repellents until they are well established.

Do you need more detailed information on the other characteristics of these plants, e.g., their light and soil requirements or their bloom time and fall color?

- The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plants Society produced a guide to the Native Plants of the Northern Neck. It is available at local garden centers and on line at [www.nnnps.org](http://www.nnnps.org) (look under the tab for the Plant Northern Neck Natives campaign).
- The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center has detailed information on native plants. Visit [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

## Deer Resistant Native Plants for the Northern Neck

Common Name	Scientific Name	H	M
<b>Herbaceous Plants</b>			
Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>		x
White Baneberry, Dolls'-eyes	<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>	x	
Wild Onion, Meadow Onion	<i>Allium canadense</i>	x	
Wild Columbine, Eastern Red Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>		x
Green Dragon	<i>Arisaema dracontium</i>	x	
Common Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	x	
Common Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>		x
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>		x
Butterfly-weed, Common Butterfly-weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>		x
Cross-vine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>		x
Mistflower, Ageratum	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>		x
Long-stalk Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>		x
Honewort	<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	x	
Tall Scouring Rush	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	x	
Late Thoroughwort	<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>	x	
Common Sneezeweed, Autumn Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>		x
Alumroot, Americana Alumroot	<i>Heuchera americana</i>		x
Swamp Rose-mallow, Eastern Rose-mallow, Crimson-eyed Rose-mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>		x
Larger Blue Flag, Northern Blue Flag	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	x	
Virginia Blue Flag, Southern Blue Flag	<i>Iris virginica</i>	x	
Seashore Mallow, Salt Marsh Mallow	<i>Kosteletzkya pentacarpos</i>		x
Grass-leaf Blazing Star, Grass-leaf Gayfeather	<i>Liatris pilosa</i>		x
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>		x
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>		x
Sundial Lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>		x
Narrow-leaf Sundrops, Southern Sundrops	<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>		x
Common Yellow Wood-sorrel	<i>Oxalis stricta</i>	x	
Common Pokeweed	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	x	
Obedient-plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>		x
Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	x	
Longleaf Pondweed, American Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton nodosus</i>	x	

Common Name	Scientific Name	H	M
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	x	
Southern Dewberry	<i>Rubus trivialis</i>		x
Lizard's-tail, Water-dragon	<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	x	
Lyre-leaf Sage	<i>Salvia lyrata</i>		x
Goldenrod*	<i>Solidago sp*</i>		x
Skunk Cabbage	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>		x
Common Tall Meadow-rue	<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	x	
Rue-anemone	<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i>	x	
Virginia Least Trillium, Virginia Dwarf Trillium	<i>Trillium pusillum</i>		x
Venus' Looking-glass, Common Venus' Looking-glass	<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i>	x	
Common Purslane Speedwell	<i>Veronica peregrina</i>		x
Violets*	<i>Viola sp*</i>		x
Common Yucca, Adam's Needle	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	x	
<b>Grasses</b>			
Bushy Bluestem	<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>	x	
Prairie Three-awn Grass	<i>Aristida oligantha</i>	x	
Eastern Woodland Sedge	<i>Carex blanda Dewey</i>	x	
River Oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	x	
Fragrant Flatsedge, Rusty Flatsedge	<i>Cyperus odoratus</i>	x	
Green Flatsedge, Marsh Flatsedge	<i>Cyperus pseudovegetus</i>	x	
Purple Lovegrass, Tumblegrass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	x	
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	x	
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	x	
Eastern Gamagrass	<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>		x
Common Cattail, Broadleaf Cattail	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	x	
<b>Vines</b>			
Trumpet-creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i>		x
Climbing Bittersweet, American Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	x	
Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>		x
Yellow Jessamine, Carolina Jessamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>		x
Trumpet Honeysuckle, Coral Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>		x
Purple Passionflower, Maypop	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>		x
Yellow Passionflower	<i>Passiflora lutea</i>	x	
Virginia-creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>		x
Poison Ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	x	
American Wisteria	<i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	x	
<b>Shrubs</b>			
Devil's Walking-stick	<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	x	
Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>		x
American Beauty-berry, French-mulberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>		x
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>		x
Sweet Pepperbush, Coastal White-alder	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>		x
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	x	
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>		x
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>		x

Common Name	Scientific Name	H	M
Smooth Winterberry	<i>Ilex laevigata</i>	x	
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>		x
Virginia-willow, Virginia Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>		x
Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>		x
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>		x
Southern Bayberry, Wax-Myrtle	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	x	
Northern Bayberry	<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	x	
Common Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>		x
Steeplebush, Hardhack	<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	x	
Arrow-wood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	x	
Black Haw	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>		x
<b>Trees</b>			
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>		x
Downy Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>		x
Canadian Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>		x
Pawpaw, Common Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	x	
River Birch, Red Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	x	
American Hornbeam, Muscle Tree, Ironwood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	x	
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>		x
Sugarberry, Southern Hackberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>		x
Fringetree, Old Man's Beard	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>		x
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>		x
Common Persimmon, American Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	x	
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	x	
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	x	
Green Ash, Red Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>		x
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	x	
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>		x
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>		x
Tulip-Poplar, Yellow Poplar, Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>		x
Sweetbay, Sweetbay Magnolia, Swamp Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	x	
Black Gum, Sour Gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	x	
Sourwood, Sorrel Tree	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>		x
Eastern White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>		x
Sycamore, American Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	x	
Eastern Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	x	
Oaks*	<i>Quercus sp*</i>		x
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>		x
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>		x

\* check to see which species are listed in Native Plants of the Northern Neck available at [www.nnps.org/Go\\_Native\\_Grow\\_Native.html](http://www.nnps.org/Go_Native_Grow_Native.html)

## References

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)

Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping [www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/pdf/chesapeakenatives.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/pdf/chesapeakenatives.pdf)

Ohio Landscape Association [www.myohiolandscape.com/deer-resistant-plants.cfm](http://www.myohiolandscape.com/deer-resistant-plants.cfm)

Rutgers Cooperative Extension [www.njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance/?search=Fringe+tree&submit=Search](http://www.njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance/?search=Fringe+tree&submit=Search)

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Plant NNK Natives  
Go Native—Grow Native

# Salt Tolerant Northern Neck Native Plants

Northern Neck Chapter of the  
Virginia Native Plant Society



Virginia Native Plant Society  
NORTHERN NECK CHAPTER

Plant  
NNK Natives  
Go Native – Grow Native

Looking for plants that will do well along your shoreline? Many Northern Neck native plants are excellent candidates. They add value to your landscape by providing diverse colors and textures. Once established, they need little maintenance. They nurture birds, butterflies and other wildlife by providing food and shelter. Most importantly for shoreline plantings, they are well adapted to the climate and ecological conditions on the Northern Neck, so many of them tolerate salt spray and being inundated by salty water.

- Intertidal Brackish Marsh—Lower salinity (less than 15 ppt) and flooded each day by the tides, typically found upriver and along protected creeks.
- Near Shore Areas—Flooded periodically and bordering dry land, e.g., from the high tide line to the upland bank.
- Upland Bank—Subject to occasional salt spray or storm surge.



Kayakers enjoy a natural shoreline bordered with salt tolerant grasses, shrubs and trees.

Plants suited for sandy beaches and dunes are highlighted with asterisks.

After you review the list, you may want to look near your property to find plants that naturally grow in your area. Those will likely be the best candidates for your shoreline, too. Be sure to check plant references to learn more about the specific characteristics and requirements of these suggested plants (e.g., size, bloom, sun, shade) and determine if they are well suited for your particular site.

Do you need more detailed information and assistance?

- The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plants Society produced a guide to the Native Plants of the Northern Neck. It is available at local garden centers and on line at [www.nnnps.org](http://www.nnnps.org) (look under the tab for the Plant Northern Neck Natives campaign).
- The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center has detailed information on native plants. Visit [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).
- The Northern Neck Master Gardeners Shoreline Evaluation Program gives workshops and provides recommendations on preventing erosion by creating *living shorelines*. Find more information on this program at [www.nnmg.org](http://www.nnmg.org).

The Plant Northern Neck Natives: Go-Native—Grow Native campaign prepared this listing of salt tolerant plants to help you choose the native plants that might work best in your situation. The list is organized alphabetically by scientific name within each plant type: Herbaceous Plants Ferns, Grasses, Vines, Shrubs, Small and Large Trees. Following the common name, the four columns indicate the suitable location(s) for the plant:

- Intertidal Salt Marsh—Higher salinity (greater than 15 ppt) and flooded each day by the tides, typically found along the Chesapeake Bay and wide open river-front properties.

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Intertidal Salt Marshes (greater than 15 ppt salinity)	Intertidal Brackish Marshes (less than 15 ppt salinity)	Near Shore Areas (periodically flooded, bordering dry land)	Upland Bank (subject to salt spray and occasional storm surge)
					*appropriate for sandy shores	* appropriate for dunes
Herbaceous Plants						
	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Wild Columbine, Eastern Red Columbine				x
	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly-weed, Common Butterfly-weed				x
	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	Swamp Rose-mallow, Eastern Rose-mallow, Crimson-eyed Rose-mallow		x	x	x
	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Larger Blue Flag, Northern Blue Flag		x	x	x
	<i>Iris virginica</i>	Virginia Blue Flag, Southern Blue Flag		x	x	x
	<i>Kosteletzkya pentacarpos</i>	Seashore Mallow, Salt Marsh Mallow		x	x	x
	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal Flower		x		
	<i>Liatris pilosa</i>	Grass-leaf Blazing Star, Grass-leaf Gayfeather				x*
	<i>Limonium carolinianum</i>	Sea Lavender, Carolina Sea Lavender	x	x	x	
	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Sundial Lupine				x

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Intertidal Salt Marshes (greater than 15 ppt salinity)	Intertidal Brackish Marshes (less than 15 ppt salinity)	Near Shore Areas (periodically flooded, bordering dry land)	Upland Bank (subject to salt spray and occasional storm surge)
					*appropriate for sandy shores	* appropriate for dunes
	<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	Eastern Prickly-pear				x*
	<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	Arrow-arum, Tuckahoe		x		
	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Pickernelweed		x		
	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan				x
	<i>Sarcocornia pacifica</i>	Woody Glasswort, Perennial Glasswort			x	
	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Seaside Goldenrod		x	x	x*
	<i>Symphyotrichum tenuifolium</i>	Perennial Salt-marsh Aster		x		
	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	Common Yucca, Adam's Needle				x*
Ferns						
	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern				x
	<i>Osmunda spectabilis</i>	Royal Fern				x
Grasses						
	<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>	American Beach Grass			x*	x*
	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broomsedge, Broomstraw, Sedge Grass, Sage Grass				x
	<i>Bolboschoenus robustus</i>	Saltmarsh Bulrush		x	x	
	<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	Saltgrass	x	x	x	
	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Common Rush, Soft Rush		x		
	<i>Juncus roemerianus</i>	Black Needle Rush	x	x		
	<i>Panicum amarum</i>	Sea-beach Grass, Beach Panic Grass			x*	x*
	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass		x	x*	x*
	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	Saltmarsh Cordgrass, Smooth Cordgrass	x	x		x
	<i>Spartina patens</i>	Saltmeadow Cordgrass, Saltmeadow Hay	x	x	x	x*
	<i>Spartina cynosuroides</i>	Big Cordgrass, Giant Cordgrass		x		
	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem				x
	<i>Schoenoplectus americanus</i>	Olney Threesquare		x		
	<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	Common Threesquare, Chairmaker's Rush		x		
Vines						
	<i>Campsis radicans</i>	Trumpet-creeper				x
	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's-bower				x
	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Trumpet Honeysuckle, Coral Honeysuckle				x
	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia-creeper				x*
	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Purple Passionflower, Maypop				x
Shrubs						
	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	Red Chokeberry				x
	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	High-tide Bush, Groundsel Tree		x	x	x*
	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American Beauty-berry, French-mulberry				x
	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Sweet Pepperbush, Coastal White-alder			x	x
	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Silky Dogwood				x

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Intertidal Salt Marshes (greater than 15 ppt salinity)	Intertidal Brackish Marshes (less than 15 ppt salinity)	Near Shore Areas (periodically flooded, bordering dry land)	Upland Bank (subject to salt spray and occasional storm surge)
					*appropriate for sandy shores	appropriate for dunes
	Ilex glabra	Inkberry			x	x
	Ilex verticillata	Winterberry				x
	Iva frutescens	Marsh-elder		x	x	x
	Morella caroliniensis	Evergreen Bayberry, Pocosin Bayberry			x	x
	Morella cerifera	Southern Bayberry, Wax-Myrtle			x	x*
	Morella pensylvanica	Northern Bayberry			x	x*
	Rhus glabra	Smooth Sumac				x
	Rosa carolina	Carolina Rose, Pasture Rose				x*
	Rosa palustris	Swamp Rose		x		x
	Sambucus canadensis	Common Elderberry				x
	Viburnum dentatum	Arrow-wood				x
Small Trees						
	Amelanchier arborea	Downy Serviceberry			x	x*
	Amelanchier canadensis	Canadian Serviceberry			x	x
	Ilex opaca	American Holly				x
	Magnolia virginiana	Sweetbay, Sweetbay Magnolia, Swamp Magnolia				x
Large Trees						
	Celtis laevigata	Sugarberry, Southern Hackberry				x
	Diospyros virginiana	Common Persimmon, American Persimmon				x*
	Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Redcedar				x*
	Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum				x
	Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum, Sour Gum				x
	Pinus taeda	Loblolly Pine				x
	Prunus serotina	Black Cherry, Wild Black Cherry				x*
	Quercus alba	White Oak				x
	Quercus nigra	Water Oak				x
	Quercus phellos	Willow Oak				x
	Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak				x
	Quercus stellata	Post Oak				x
	Sassafras albidum	Sassafras				x
	Taxodium distichum	Baldcypress				x

## References

Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora [www.vaplantatlas.org](http://www.vaplantatlas.org)  
 Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)  
 Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping [www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/pdf/chesapeakenatives.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/pdf/chesapeakenatives.pdf)  
 Virginia Institute of Marine Science [www.crm.vims.edu/livingshorelines/ls\\_wetland\\_plants\\_zone.html](http://www.crm.vims.edu/livingshorelines/ls_wetland_plants_zone.html)

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 Cover photo: *A natural shoreline featuring Cordgrass, Black Gum, Sweetgum, American Holly, High-tide Bush and other Northern Neck native plants./Janet Pawlukiewicz*

# Northern Neck Native Plant Trail



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## DEMONSTRATION GARDENS ON THE NORTHERN NECK

1

### **Westmoreland State Park**

*Visitors' Center  
145 Cliff Road  
Montross, VA 22520*

2

### **Stratford Hall**

*(across from entrance booth)  
483 Great House Road  
Stratford, VA 22558*

3

### **Menokin**

*Visitors' Center  
4037 Menokin Road  
Warsaw, VA 22572*

4

### **Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge**

*Wilna Lodge  
336 Wilna Road  
Warsaw, VA 22572*

5

### **Wild Bunch Wildlife Refuge**

*Flight Cage  
7231 Newland Rd  
Warsaw, VA 22572*

6

### **Northern Neck Planning District Commission**

*457 Main Street  
Warsaw, VA 22572*

7

### **Old Courthouse, Heathsville**

*72 Monument Place  
Heathsville, VA 22473*

8

### **The Reedville Living Shoreline Teaching Garden**

*Next to Fishermen's Museum  
504 Main Str  
Reedville, VA 22539*

9

### **Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club**

*(along road before entrance)  
Park across from maintenance shed on Rt 1103  
Kilmarnock, VA 22482*

10

### **Lancaster Community Library**

*16 Town Centre Drive  
Kilmarnock, VA 22482*

11

### **Boys and Girls Club**

*517 N. Main St.  
Kilmarnock, VA 22482*

12

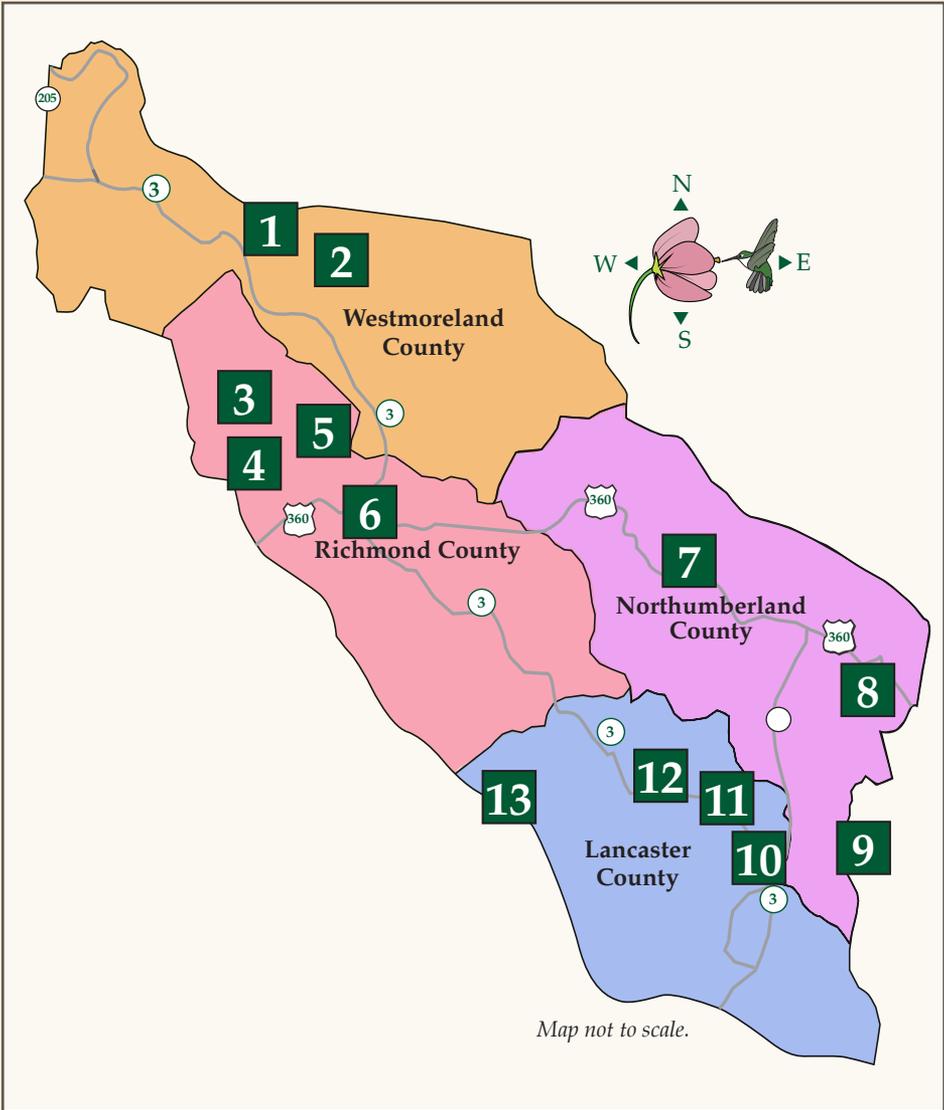
### **Lancaster County Judicial Center**

*8265 Mary Ball Road  
Lancaster, VA 22503*

13

### **Belle Isle State Park**

*Visitors' Center  
1632 Belle Isle Road  
Lancaster, VA 22503*



**W**ant a close-up look at Northern Neck native plants? Visit these demonstration gardens that were designed to showcase the beauty, benefits and variety of native plants. All of these public sites feature Virginia native plants, many of which are indigenous to the Northern Neck. For more information on each of the gardens, see [NNNPS.org/trail](http://NNNPS.org/trail).



*Aquilegia canadensis* Wild Columbine

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**1 WESTMORELAND STATE  
PARK VISITOR CENTER**  
SUNNY UPLAND GARDEN

**Garden Objective**

Demonstration of shrubs and perennials that thrive in full sun.

**Best Time to Visit**

Late spring through summer but has four-season interest.

**Other Special Interest:**

Riverside view and trails nearby. Short Bayscapes trail next to Discovery Center.

Excellent bird watching opportunities year round.

Phone: 804-493-8821

Parking fees required.

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**2 STRATFORD HALL**  
SHADY GARDEN

**Garden Objective**

Show how flowering plants that are native to the Northern Neck can grace the landscape under existing trees.

**Best Time to Visit**

Spring but has four-season interest.

**Other Special Interest**

Between the garden and the entrance road is a conservation area that shows how many lovely native plants will volunteer in woods that are left undisturbed. Here you may see Bluets, Christmas ferns and lots of lovely mosses. Also, be sure to visit Stratford Hall to learn about the

Lee family and history on the Northern Neck.

Website: [Stratfordhall.org](http://Stratfordhall.org)

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**3 MENOKIN**  
TREE TRAIL

**Garden Objective**

Trail amongst naturally existing mature trees.

**Best Time to Visit**

Late April – early May for blooms and late October for fall color.

**Other Special Interest**

Woodland trail down to Cat Point Creek. Butterfly garden behind the Visitors' Center. Public launch for kayaks available.

Website: [Menokin.org](http://Menokin.org)

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**4 RAPPAHANNOCK**  
RIVER VALLEY WILDLIFE  
REFUGE WILNA LODGE  
POLLINATOR GARDEN

**Garden Objective:**

Planting of pollinators such as hummingbirds and bees.

**Best Time to Visit**

Late spring, summer and early fall.

**Other Special Interest**

In the garden, be sure to notice the pollinator "house." The Lodge is a "green" building. Look for the pond, wetlands and trails off the parking lot.

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## 5 WILD BUNCH WILDLIFE REHABILITATION REFUGE

FLIGHT CAGE  
RAIN GARDEN

### Garden Objective

Show how a foundation planting of shrubs and perennials can both beautify a building and help to absorb roof runoff gathered by rain barrels.

### Best Time to Visit

Late summer to fall for blooms and berries.

### Other Special Interest

The flight cage is an eight-sided building for rehabilitation of birds such as hawks and owls. One side of the building has American Arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*), a common foundation shrub that is a Virginia native though not a Northern Neck native.

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## 6 NORTHERN NECK PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT GARDEN

### Garden Objective

Show beautiful trees and shrubs that tolerate a range of conditions from drought to temporary inundation from stormwater.

### Best Time to Visit

When it rains!  
Fall and winter to see the purple berries on the Beautyberry (fall), the red branching of the

Sweetspire (fall-winter) and the peeling, flaking, colorful bark of the River Birch.

### Other Special Interest

The parking lot and hardscaping are designed to manage stormwater by infiltrating and directing runoff to a detention pond

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## 7 OLD COURTHOUSE GARDEN, HEATHSVILLE

### Garden Objective

Native plants in formal setting.

### Best Time to Visit

Spring and summer but has four-season interest.

### Other Special Interest

The garden has several Northern Neck native plants and many others that are native elsewhere in the United States

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## 8 REEDVILLE LIVING SHORELINE

TEACHING GARDEN

### Garden Objective

Demonstrate “soft-scaping” the shoreline with coastal plants featuring grasses, shrubs and perennials.

### Best Time to Visit

Late summer. Come in late spring to see the delicate blooms of the Fringetree.

### Other Special Interest

Next to Reedville Fishermen’s Museum.

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**9 INDIAN CREEK YACHT  
AND COUNTRY CLUB  
FAIRWAY #12  
WETLAND GARDEN**

**Garden Objective**

Replace turf with native plants to beautify and reduce mowing around golf course pond feature.

**Best Time to Visit**

Anytime, especially when there are birds, butterflies and dragonflies using the plants.

**Other Special Interest**

Cattails (*Typha sp.*) grow in the pond whether invited or not.

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**10 LANCASTER  
COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
ENTRYWAY GARDEN**

**Garden Objective**

Beautify entrance with low growing Northern Neck native plant.

**Best Time to Visit**

Whenever you need a native plant book!

**Other Special Interest**

Visit the library!

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**11 BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB  
BUTTERFLY GARDEN**

**Garden Objective**

Butterfly garden to engage students in nature.

**Best Time to Visit**

Summer. The garden is accessible at any time on the north side the

parking lot to the right of the Administrative Office.

**Other Special Interest**

Raised beds for the Boys and Girls Club vegetable gardens are nearby. Visit the Club weekdays 3:30 PM – 6:00 for a tour of the facility.

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**12 LANCASTER  
COURTHOUSE  
RETENTION POND**

**Garden Objective**

Beautify and improve functioning of the stormwater retention pond with plants that tolerate alternating drought and flooding.

**Best Time to Visit**

Seashore Mallow blooms in summer. Baldcypress turns terra cotta in fall and is a conifer-like plant that loses its leaves.

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**13 BELLE ISLE STATE  
PARK  
VISITORS' CENTER  
GARDEN**

**Garden Objective**

Public building beautification.

**Other Special Interest**

Visitor Center has a view of the Rappahannock River and borders a coastal meadow that is maintained by controlled burns. Excellent bird watching, wetland trails and kayaking areas.

**Best Time to Visit**

All seasons.

**Phone**

804-462-5030

Parking fees required.

**T**he Plant NNC Natives: Go Native—Grow Native campaign seeks to inspire those who live and work in the Northern Neck to use native plants in their gardens and to protect existing native vegetation.

Native plants provide many ecological benefits. For example, they are sources of food and habitat for birds, butterflies and many other kinds of wildlife. Because Northern Neck native plants are indigenous,

that is, they were likely growing in one or more of the four Northern Neck counties before European settlers came to the area, they are well-adapted to local soils and climate and can tolerate varying conditions such as drought and flooding. They usually require less watering, fertilization and pesticide application than non-native plants.

**For more information, visit [NNNPS.org](http://NNNPS.org)**



*Lonicera sempervirens*  
Coral Honeysuckle

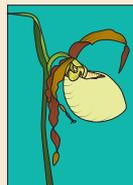
### Credits

Researched and written by Paula Boundy and Janet Pawlukiewicz, Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society.

Photographs by Janet Pawlukiewicz. Design by Brecher Design Group

Cover photographs from top left clockwise: Common Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*), Reedville Living Shoreline Teaching Garden (8), Zebra Swallowtail on Butterfly-weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Stratford Hall Shady Garden (2) shortly after initial planting.

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NORTHERN NECK CHAPTER  
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