

What You Can Do:

- * Learn more about native plants.
- * Buy nursery propagated plant material.
- * Don't dig plants from the wild.
- * Protect native plant and natural area habitat.
- * Promote responsible landscaping practices.
- * Avoid planting invasive plant species.

For more information

Botanical Gardens at Asheville
151 WT Weaver Boulevard • Asheville, NC 28804
828/252-5190

Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road • Gatlinburg, TN 37738
423/436-1706

North Carolina Botanical Garden
Conservation Curator
CB 3375, Totten Center
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3375
919/962-0522

Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council
(TN-EPPC)
P.O. Box 40692 • Nashville, TN 37204
www.se-eppc.org

Southern Appalachian Man and
The Biosphere Cooperative
<http://samab.org>

Contact your local County Cooperative Extension
Service Office



JEWELWEED

Useful Websites:

Plants Database - plants.usda.gov/plants/
VA Native Plant Society - www.vnps.org
Center for Plant Conservation - www.mobot.org/cpc/
Plant Conservation Alliance - www.nps.gov/plants/
Backyard Conservation -
www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/ccs/backyard.html

Text, Maps and Plant List by

- Blue Star Consulting
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition
- Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Cooperative
- Tennessee Natural Areas Program—Natural Heritage Div.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

- North Carolina Arboretum
- North Carolina State University
- Western North Carolina Tomorrow
- Yellow Creek Botanical Institute

Other Plant Artwork by

- Ron Lance

Printing of brochure made possible by

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Other Co-sponsors

- Botanical Gardens of Asheville



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Blue Ridge Mountains Part of the Southern Appalachians



JOE PYE WEED

LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Reprinted and distributed
by the Hiwassee River
Watershed Coalition, Inc.
For more information, call
(828) 837-5414 or email
hrwcoalition@brmemc.net

PROMOTES BIODIVERSITY

*and endorses a land ethic that
celebrates our natural heritage*



post-consumer recycled paper

✱ Don't dig plants from the wild.

Taking wild plants devastates native plant populations and often the plants removed do not survive in backyards.

Basics About Using Native Plants?

Maximize your success by matching the right plants with the right site conditions. Do your homework before planting:

- ✱ Assess the available light, moisture, and soil pH at your planting site.
- ✱ Have your soil tested to learn the pH and if the soil needs to be improved.
- ✱ Choose native plants that match your site conditions. Use this list as a guide.

Remember, landscaping with native plants is art imitating nature. Look to a nearby natural area to observe how native plants naturally occur for ideas.

The Invasive Plant Dilemma

A very small number of nonnative plants have become highly invasive and destructive. These are plants that have been accidentally or deliberately introduced by people. The natural controls, such as disease and insects, that normally kept these plants "in check" in their homeland do not exist here. This gives these invasive plants an advantage, making it easy for them to grow out of control and take over the habitat of other plants. These invasions affect native wildlife and insects, too. The balance and diversity of our mountain environment will decline as these invasive plants continue to spread. Some of the invasive plants considered most destructive are:

- Japanese honeysuckle - *Lonicera japonica*
- Japanese barberry - *Berberis thunbergii*
- Japanese spirea - *Spiraea japonica*
- autumn-olive - *Elaeagnus umbellata*
- plume grass - *Miscanthus einensis*
- multiflora rose - *Rosa multiflora*
- tree of heaven - *Ailanthus altissima*
- princess tree - *Paulownia tomentosa*
- oriental bittersweet - *Celastrus orbiculata*
- bush honeysuckle - *Lonicera maackii*
- privet - *Ligustrum sinense*, *L. obtusifolium*, and *L. vulgare*



ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET

*Varieties less invasive may be available; talk to your local nursery.

✱ Buy nursery-propagated plant material.

The practice of growing native plants from seeds and cuttings protects wild populations.

Native plant rec

Common name Scientific Name type light water

small tree (up to 25 feet)

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
*Devils-walkingstick	<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	D	● →	■ → ○
Paw paw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
American hornbeam	<i>Carpinus carolina</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
Chinquapin	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	D	● → ●	□ → ○
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → ○
Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → ○
Washington hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Carolina silverbell	<i>Halesia carolina</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → ○
Common witch-hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	E	● → ●	▲ → □
Red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	E	● →	□ → ○
Umbrella tree	<i>Magnolia tripetala</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Hop-hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	D	● → ●	□ → ○
Hoptree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
American plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	D	● →	□ → ○
Pin cherry	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
*Common Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Blackhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → ○

large tree (over 25 feet)

Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	D	● → ●	■ → ○
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
Yellow buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
Yellow birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Sweet birch	<i>Betula lenta</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	D	● →	■ → □
Bitternut hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	D	● → ●	□ → ○
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrasis kentuckea</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
Tulip tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Cucumber tree	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	D	▶ → ●	▲ → □
Black tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → ○
Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	D	● →	■ → ▲
Red spruce	<i>Picea rubens</i>	E	● → ●	▲ → □
*Black cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Chestnut oak	<i>Quercus montana</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Post oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>	D	● →	□ → ○
American linden	<i>Tilia americana</i>	D	● → ●	▲ → □
Canadian hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	E	● → ●	▲ → □
Carolina hemlock	<i>Tsuga caroliniana</i>	E	● → ●	▲ → □

KEY

LIGHT

- = full sun
- ▶ = part sun
- = shade

SOIL MOISTURE

- = hydric; wet, plants periodically or often inundated by water
- ▲ = mesic; moist, adequate soil moisture retention year-round
- = sub-xeric; moist to dry, seasonally moist, periodically dry
- = xeric; dry & drought resistant, little moisture retention, excessively drained

TYPE

- D = deciduous
- E = evergreen

Recommendations

Common name Scientific Name type light water

low shrub (under 4 feet)

New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Sweetfern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>	D	● →	□ → ○
Snowhill Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea aborescens</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Shrubby St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum prolificum</i>	D	● →	■ → ○
Drooping leucothoe	<i>Leucothoe fontanesiana</i>	E	→ ●	▲ → □
Carolina rose	<i>Rosa carolina</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Swamp rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	D	● →	■ → ▲
Cranberry	<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>	E	● →	■ → ▲
Lowbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Maple-leaf Viburnum	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○

mid-size shrub (4 feet to 10 feet)

Red chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	D	● →	■ → □
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	D	● →	■ → □
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	D	→ ●	■ → □
Cinnamonbark	<i>Clethra acuminata</i>	D	● →	□ → ○
Silky dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	D	● →	■ → □
Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Bush-honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla sessilifolia</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Hearts-a-bustin	<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Large Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla major</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Dense Hypericum	<i>Hypericum densiflorum</i>	D	● →	▲ → ○
Common winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	D	● →	■ → ▲
Virginia sweetpire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Mountain laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	E	→ ●	□ → ○
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	D	→ ●	▲
Sweet azalea	<i>Rhododendron aborescens</i>	D	→ ●	■ → ▲
Flame azalea	<i>Rhododendron calendulaceum</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Carolina Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron carolinianum</i>	E	→ ●	▲ → □
Mountain rosebay	<i>Rhododendron catawbiense</i>	E	→ ●	▲ → □
Wild or Pinxter azalea	<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i>	D	→ ●	■ → □
Pinkshell azalea	<i>Rhododendron vaseyi</i>	E	→ ●	▲ → □
*Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	D	→ ●	▲
*Coral berry	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Hobblebush	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
*Highbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	D	→ ●	□ → ○
Deerberry	<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Withered Viburnum	<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □

large shrub (over 10 feet)

*Tag alder	<i>Alnus serrulata</i>	D	● →	■ → ▲
Mountain winterberry	<i>Ilex montana</i>	D	● →	▲ → □
Mock orange	<i>Philadelphus inodorus</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Rosebay Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	E	→ ●	▲ → □
*Smooth sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
*Silky willow	<i>Salix sericea</i>	D	→ ●	■ → □
*Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □

vine

Dutchman's pipe	<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Crossvine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	E	→ ●	■ → □
Trumpet creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i>	D	→ ●	□ → ○
Virgin's bower	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Climbing hydrangea	<i>Decumaria barbara</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
Coral honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □
*Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Passion flower	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → ○
Fox grape	<i>Vitis labrusca</i>	D	→ ●	▲ → □

*These plants can be vigorous growers and may need more management to control.

FERNS

Maidenhair fern	<i>Adiantum petiolatum</i>
Ebony spleenwort	<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>
Lady fern	<i>Athium filix-femina</i> exp. <i>asplenoides</i>
Hay-scented fern	<i>Demissaella proserpina</i>
Wood fern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>
Sensitive fern	<i>Oclochlaena acrostichoides</i>
Crevice fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
Interrupted fern	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>
Royal fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
Christmas fern	<i>Polytaenium acrostichoides</i>
New York fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>
Chain fern	<i>Woodwardia arborescens</i>
Common scottish	<i>Woodsia obtusa</i>

GRASSES AND SEDGES

Big bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardi</i>
Broomsedge	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>
River cane	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i> var. <i>virginicus</i>
Parakeetgrass	<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>
Plantain-leaved sedge	<i>Carex plantaginifolia</i>
River oats	<i>Chaetochloa latifolia</i>
Oat grass	<i>Danthonia corymbosa</i>
Some brush	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>
Scorch-grass	<i>Festuca ovina</i>
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Eastern gamma grass	<i>Typharion dactyloides</i>

MOSAIC FOR FULL SUN

Butterfly-weed	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
New England aster	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>
Gulf aster	<i>Aster laevis</i>
Hairy cornflower	<i>Centaurea puberula</i>
Joe-Pye weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>
Blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
Cardinal flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
Bee balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>
Wild blue phlox	<i>Phlox carolinensis</i>
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>

FRUIT TREE



MOSAIC FOR SHADE

Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Anemone hepatica</i>
Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Tritillium	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
Sharp-lobed hepatica	<i>Hepatica acutiloba</i>
Alumroot	<i>Heuchera americana</i>
Partridge berry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>
Christmas fern	<i>Polytaenium acrostichoides</i>
Coonsee bells	<i>Shocia galactifolia</i>
Fauntleroy	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>



SERVOLETTA



DWARF CRISTATA JUNCUS

GROUND COVERS

Fussy's toes	<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>
Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Green-and-gold	<i>Chrysogonum virginicum</i>
Mouse-eared corydalis	<i>Corydalis aurea</i>
Wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>
Wintergreen	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>
Little brown jugs	<i>Hebeclaya pinnata</i>
Dwarf crested iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>
Partridge berry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>
Allegheny spurge	<i>Pachysandra percutanea</i>
Phacelia	<i>Phacelia tomentosa</i>
Chalice phlox	<i>Phlox amara</i>
Wild blue phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>
Creeeping phlox	<i>Phlox subulnifolia</i>
Golden aster	<i>Pycnospora grandifolia</i>
Christmas fern	<i>Polytaenium acrostichoides</i>
Coarse-bark	<i>Shorea galatensis</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Syntherisma monocaulum</i>
Fauntleroy	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>
Yellow-root	<i>Xanthoxylum americanum</i>

WILDFLOWERS

Dot's eyes	<i>Artemisia parryana</i>
Canada phlox	<i>Phlox canadensis</i>
Blue star	<i>Anemone labradoriana</i>
Thimbleweed	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>
Wild columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Green dragon	<i>Anisemum dioicum</i>
Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Anisemum triflorum</i>
Goat's beard	<i>Anemone thalictroides</i>
Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Butterfly-weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
White wood aster	<i>Aster divaricatus</i>
Late purple aster	<i>Aster palmeri</i>
Fine goatsbeard	<i>Astilbe biornata</i>
Wild indigo	<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>
Blue cohosh	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>
Pink turtlehead	<i>Cleome lyoni</i>
Black cohosh	<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>
Cereopsis	<i>Corydalis pubescens</i>
Bleeding heart	<i>Diandra eximia</i>
Shooting star	<i>Dryopteris acrostichoides</i>
Joe-Pye weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium macranthum</i>
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>
Sharp-lobed hepatica	<i>Hepatica acutiloba</i>
Alumroot	<i>Heuchera americana</i>
Jewelweed	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>
Blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
Turkey-cap lily	<i>Lilium superbum</i>
Cardinal flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
Lobelia	<i>Lobelia puberula</i>
Great lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
Fringed icterica	<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>
Bishop's cap	<i>Mitella diphylla</i>
Bee balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>
Carolina phlox	<i>Phlox carolinensis</i>
Garden phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
Fire pink	<i>Silene virginica</i>
Wrinkle-leaf goldenrod	<i>Solidago rigida</i>
Bush pea	<i>Thermopsis villosa</i>
New York ironweed	<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>

A Unique Region

The Southern Appalachians are known worldwide for their exceptional variety of plants and animals. This mountain region owes its great diversity to the highly variable climate, topography, and its unique geologic past.



Blue Ridge Mountains

Western North Carolina is comprised of 23 counties that lie almost entirely within the Blue Ridge Mountains of the Southern Appalachians. Soils in this region tend to be well drained, loamy, strongly acidic, and low in natural fertility. Site conditions for plants are determined by the topography, soil pH and depth, elevation, amount of sunlight, and availability of water.



These varying site conditions support a mosaic of native plant communities such as:

- ✱ Dry, south-facing slopes have extremely acidic soils that support evergreens such as mountain laurel and pines, as well as oaks, huckleberry, blueberries, and hickories.
- ✱ Moist, north-facing slopes support a mixed evergreen/hardwood community type frequently dominated by hemlock, tulip poplar, and maple.
- ✱ Species-rich cove hardwood forests dominate lower slopes and creek drainages. These sheltered sites support a broad range of flowering understory trees, showy ferns and wildflowers, and dense stands of rosebay rhododendron.



Celebrate Our Natural Heritage

The use of native plants in landscaping is a celebration of our natural heritage and an awakening of a land ethic first expressed by Aldo Leopold, the father of wildlife conservation, more than 50 years ago.

The natural processes from which natives evolve represent the cog and wheel of a healthy ecosystem sustained by a complex web of biological diversity.

Native plants have many inherent qualities and adaptive traits that make them aesthetically pleasing, practical, and ecologically valuable for landscaping.

Using native plants contributes to the health and often the restoration of an ecosystem. Landscaping with natives in an urban setting helps restore the character of the land and places fewer demands on resources.



What Are Native Plants?

Native species are those that naturally occur in an area; they have not been introduced by human action. Native species have evolved over time with the physical and biological factors specific to their region, such as climate, soil, rainfall, and interactions with other plants, animals, and insects that live in the area. Thus, native species are uniquely adapted to the local conditions and the area's wildlife, including important pollinators and migratory birds.

Benefits of Native Plants?

- ✱ Hardy and should withstand regional weather extremes when properly sited and planted.
- ✱ Promote wise stewardship of the land and the conservation of our natural resources.
- ✱ Provide food and shelter for native wildlife.
- ✱ Restore regional landscapes.
- ✱ Inspire a 'sense of place' and pride in our mountain communities.
- ✱ Prevent future invasive plant introductions.

Native Plants for Wildlife

Using native plants in landscaping helps sustain native butterflies, beneficial insects, birds, mammals, reptiles, and other native species. Spring migrating and nesting birds rely on the insects in our lush forests to give them the energy to travel long distances and raise their young. Fall migrating birds depend on high-energy fruits from flowering dogwood, spicebush, and Virginia creeper. Beech, oak, and hickory trees provide nesting habitat and important nuts and acorns for a variety of wildlife. In the winter, evergreen trees like American holly, white pine and hemlocks provide important shelter and food.