

For more information about native plants in your area please contact:

Alabama Wildflower Society
Rt. 2 Box 115
Northport, AL 35476

Georgia Native Plant Society
Box 422085
Atlanta, GA 30342

Kentucky Native Plant Society
c/o Department of Biology
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475

Mississippi Native Plant Society
Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
111 North Jefferson St.
Jackson, MS 39202

North Carolina Wildflower Preservation Society
c/o NC Botanical Garden
Totten Center 457-A
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

South Carolina Native Plant Society
Box 759
Pickens, SC 29671

Southern Appalachian Botanical Society
c/o C. Horn
Newberry College
2100 College St.
Newberry, SC 29108

Tennessee Native Plant Society
Department of Botany
University of Tennessee
Knoxville TN 37996-1100

Virginia Native Plant Society
Box 844
Annadale, VA 22003

For more information about this brochure contact:

Environmental
Research & Services
Tennessee Valley Authority
17 Ridgeway Road
Norris, Tennessee 37828

Funded by
TVA Technology
Advancements 4/1998



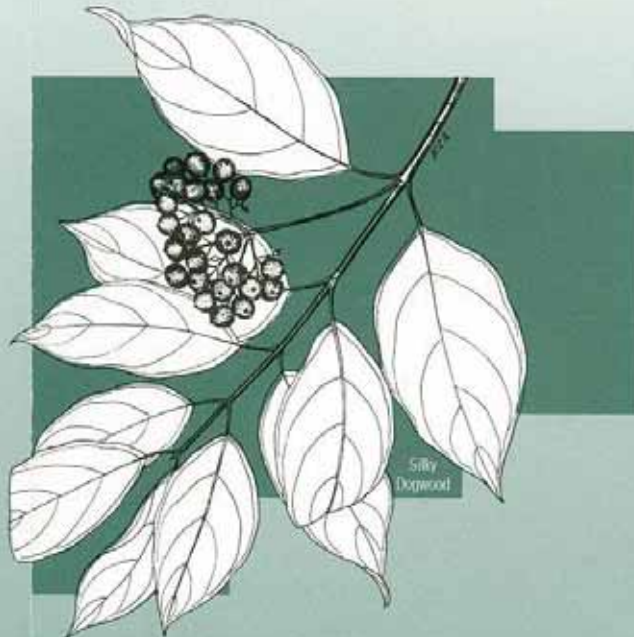
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Native Berry

Landscaping with Native Shrubs in Utility Rights-of-Way

A guide to selecting native shrubs for rights-of-way naturalization



Silky
Dogwood

The Tennessee Valley

Southern Appalachian Mountains
Ridge and Valley
Cumberland Plateau
Interior Low Plateaus
Coastal Plain



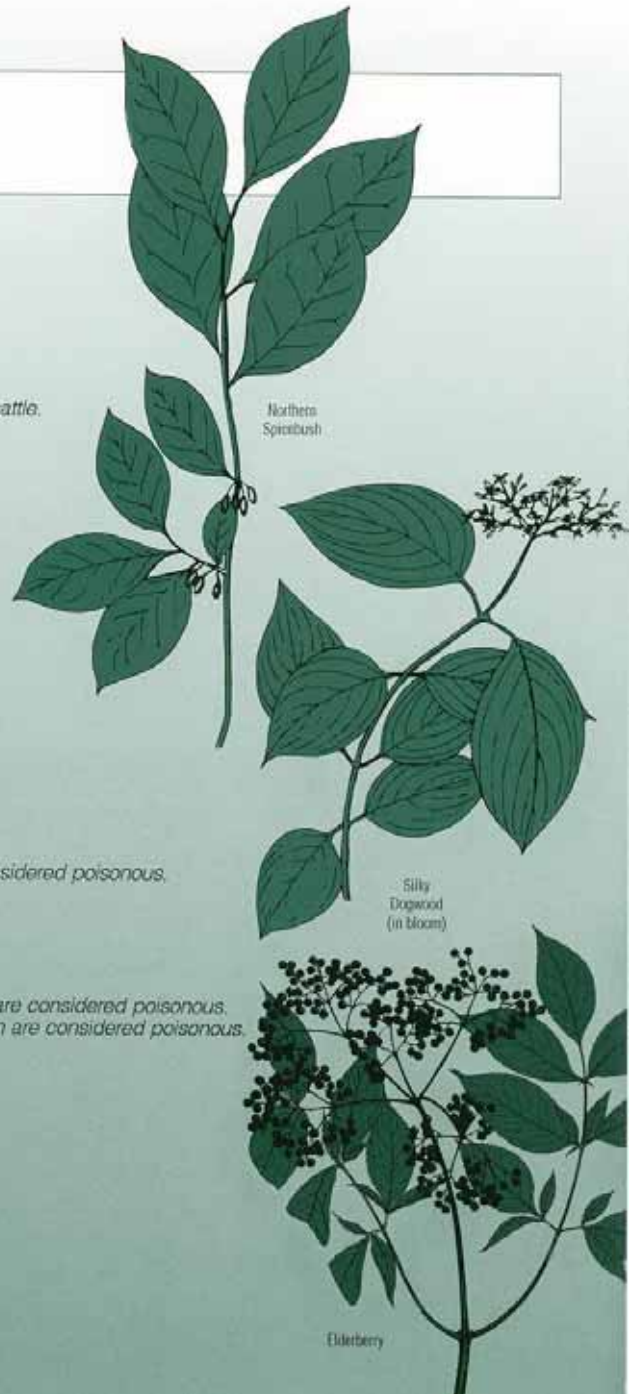
Native Shrub Recommendations

K E Y	Height	Soil Moisture	Light	Soil pH	Zone
	S= shrub <15'	W= wet, hydric	F= full sun	B= Basic	6= Areas with min. temp of -10° to 0° F
	S/T= shrub/tree 15-20'	M= moist, mesic D= dry, xeric	P= part shade S= full shade	A= Acidic	7= Areas with min. temp of 0° to 10° F

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height		Soil Moisture			Light			Soil pH		Zone	
		S	S/T	W	M	D	F	P	S	B	A	6	7
Red Buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	*			*		*	*	*		*	*	*
Hazel Alder	<i>Alnus serrulata</i>	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*
False Indigo	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	*		*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Sweetfern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Pagoda Dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>		*		*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Gray Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
American Filbert	<i>Corylus americana</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Cockspur Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus crusgalli</i>		*		*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Oneflower Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus uniflora</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Leatherwood	<i>Dirca palustris</i>	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Large Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla major</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Smooth Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Carolina Holly	<i>Ilex ambigua</i>		*		*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Deciduous Holly	<i>Ilex decidua</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>		*		*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Virginia Willow	<i>Itea virginica</i>	*		*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Drooping Leucothoe	<i>Leucothe fontanesiana</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fetterbush	<i>Leucothe racemosa</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
American Wild Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Chickasaw Plum	<i>Prunus angustifolia</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Red Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>		*		*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Rosebay Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Swamp Azalea	<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Smooth Sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Swamp Rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Silky Willow	<i>Salix sericea</i>	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*
American Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Meadow Sweet	<i>Spirea alba</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Steeplebush	<i>Spirea tomentosa</i>	*			*		*	*		*	*	*	*
American Bladdernut	<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maple Leaf Viburnum	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Arrowwood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Possumhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum nudum</i>		*		*		*	*		*	*	*	*
Yellowroot	<i>Xanthoxhiza simplicissima</i>	*			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*

Additional Comments

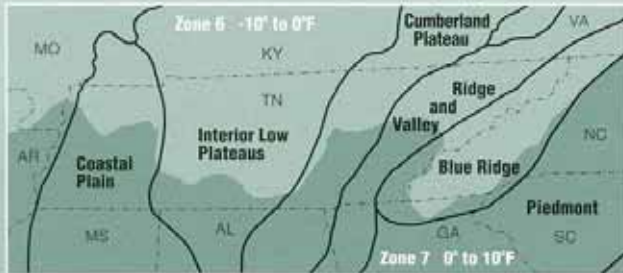
Nice flowers; good food source for wildlife.
Good for wet soil sites; tends to form thickets.
Prefers stream/river banks, and open woods.
Prefers swamps, bogs and moist woods. Not preferred by wildlife.
Very adaptable. Tends to sucker and form large colonies.
Very resistant to diseases and insects. *Seeds of this plant may be poisonous to cattle.*
May be somewhat difficult to transplant. Fixes atmospheric nitrogen.
Prefers wet soils; tolerates wide soil pH range. *Considered poisonous.*
Fixes nitrogen; good deer browse.
Does not tolerate hot dry sites; great for wildlife.
Excellent for streambank stabilization; good growth rate; great for wildlife.
Highly adaptable; great for wildlife.
Good growth rate; tends to sucker.
Needs a well drained soil; drought tolerant.
Prefers thickets and woodlands.
Thrives in moist to wet, shady areas.
Great autumn coloration; may need shade in hotter areas.
Requires fertile moist soil.
Fast growth rate; suckers freely; *twigs may be poisonous to livestock.*
Prefers moist, well drained soils of upland forests.
Good food source for wildlife.
Evergreen; prefers swamps and streambanks; suckers to form colonies.
Suckers to form colonies. Good for wet swampy areas.
Prefers swamps/streams and wet woodlands.
Beautiful flowers in summer. *May be poisonous.*
Evergreen; will not withstand drought.
Prefers banks, backwaters and swamps, tends to sucker producing thickets. *Considered poisonous.*
Prefers moist woodlands and streambanks.
Good growth rate; very adaptable; excellent for streambank restoration.
Requires well drained soil, drought tolerant; good for wildlife.
Usually found in moist soils along roadsides and field borders.
Prefers streambanks. *Considered poisonous to livestock.*
Moist soils along streams, forms dense thickets. *Most species of Rhododendron are considered poisonous.*
Grows along ponds and in swamps. Nice flowers. *Most species of Rhododendron are considered poisonous.*
Good for streambanks; suckers producing a dense colony.
Tolerant of poor dry soils; good for wildlife.
Prefers stream and pond banks.
Widely distributed in wet places, swamps, seepage areas and stream banks.
Fast growth rate; suckers profusely; good for wildlife.
Prefers bogs and wet meadows.
Prefers bogs, wet meadows, and low woodland borders.
Good growth rate; suckers; drought intolerant.
Can adapt to a wide range of soil conditions, excellent for restoration sites.
Good for shaded sites, forested uplands, needs well drained soils.
Adaptable; suckers freely from base.
Prefers streambanks and swamps, upland slopes.
Good growth rate; suckers freely; prefers moist streambanks.



The Tennessee Valley

Southern Appalachian Mountains, Ridge and Valley, Cumberland Plateau, Interior Low Plateaus, Coastal Plain

The Southern Appalachian Mountains (Blue Ridge), the Ridge and Valley, Cumberland Plateau, the Interior Low Plateaus, and the Coastal Plain all are distinct physiographic regions that make up the Tennessee Valley. Site conditions for each area are determined by topography, soil characteristics, elevation, light availability, and hydrology. These varying site conditions support a mosaic of native plant communities. These regions fall into two different USDA hardiness zones: Zone Six and Zone Seven. These zones are based on the range of average minimum temperatures.



The region addressed in this brochure includes diverse geography, geology, and soils. Soils range from those formed in alluvial sediments along stream courses to soils formed from the residual weathering of rocks like limestone, sandstone, shales, gneiss, schists, and quartzites.

Because there is a range of environmental conditions across the Valley, it is important to realize that native plant species vary as well.

The best way to learn about soils in your area is to contact your local state agricultural extension agent or your county NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) agent.

Special Concerns of Utility Rights-of-Way

Utility Rights-of-Way (ROW) usually involve the clearing of corridors of vegetation because tall trees or shrubs growing under or too close to utility lines often create problems. Branches which break during wind or ice storms can knock down lines, create dangerous situations, and disrupt service.

What is Rights-of-Way Naturalization?

Since exotic, fast growing species often invade these recently cleared corridors, naturalization of ROWs is an attempt to use low growing (< 20 ft. tall), native plants to help establish a healthy ecosystem.

Rights-of-Way Naturalization Considerations

Utility ROW pose an interesting challenge for naturalization. Due to the existence of utility lines, anything planted in or near a ROW must meet certain criteria.

Criteria to be considered for ROW planting are such things as plant height, and water, soil, and light requirements.

Why Naturalize Right-of-Ways?

- * A naturalized ROW is more aesthetically pleasing than one that is treated regularly using herbicides and/or tree cutting to keep tall plants from growing in to powerlines.
- * The ROW can be naturalized with plants that are suitable for wildlife habitat and forage.
- * Naturalizing a ROW benefits the ecosystem and promotes biodiversity.
- * A naturalized ROW does not need frequent maintenance and therefore reduces costs and the need for frequent intrusion.

Why Use Native Plants vs. Non-native Plants?

- * Species native to the Tennessee Valley have evolved over geologic time and are adapted to the conditions that exist in this area.
- * Native plants promote biodiversity and provide food and shelter for native wildlife.
- * Non-native plants often escape cultivation and displace native plants, threatening biodiversity.
- * Non-native plants can be vectors for disease and exotic pests.



Common Sorrel