



# Native Plants for Your Backyard

Native plants of the Southeastern United States are more diverse in number and kind than in most other countries, prized for their beauty worldwide. Our native plants are an integral part of a healthy ecosystem, providing the energy that sustains our forests and wildlife, including important pollinators and migratory birds. By “growing native” you can help support native wildlife. This helps sustain the natural connections that have developed between plants and animals over thousands of years. Consider turning your lawn into a native garden. You’ll help the local environment and often use less water and spend less time and money maintaining your yard if the plants are properly planted.

The plants listed are appealing to many species of wildlife and will look attractive in your yard. To maximize your success with these plants, match the right plants with the right site conditions (soil, pH, sun, and moisture). Check out the resources on the back of this factsheet for assistance or contact your local extension office for soil testing and more information about these plants.

Shrubs	Trees	Vines	Wildflowers	Grasses
American beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Trumpet creeper <i>Campsis radicans</i>	Bee balm <i>Monarda didyma</i>	Big bluestem <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>
Sweetshrub <i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	Redbud <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Carolina jasmine <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Fire pink <i>Silene virginica</i>	Little bluestem <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Blueberry <i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	Red buckeye <i>Aesculus pavia</i>	Crossvine <i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Cardinal flower <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Purple lovegrass <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>
Carolina rose <i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina silverbell <i>Halesia carolina</i>	Passionflower <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Blazing star <i>Liatris spicata</i>	Bottle brush <i>Elymus hystrix</i>
Oakleaf hydrangea <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Fringe tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Virgin’s bower <i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Black-eye Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Switch-grass <i>Panicum virgatum</i>
New Jersey tea <i>Ceanothus americana</i>	Red bay <i>Persea borbonia</i>	Coral honeysuckle <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Purple coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Indian grass <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Virginia willow <i>Itea virginica</i>	Sourwood <i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Virginia creeper <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Wild phlox <i>Phlox carolina</i>	Eastern gamma grass <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>
Cinnamonbark <i>Clethra acuminata</i>	Pawpaw <i>Asimina triloba</i>	Fox Grape <i>Vitis labrusca</i>	Foam flower <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Broomsedge <i>Andropogon virginicus</i>
Spice bush <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Flowering dogwood <i>Cornus florida</i>		Partridge pea <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Pink muhlygrass <i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>
Fragrant Sumac <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Witch hazel <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>		Jewelweed <i>Impatiens capensis</i>	
Mock orange <i>Philadelphus inodorus</i>	Carolina laurel cherry* <i>Prunus carolina</i>		Wild geranium <i>Geranium maculatum</i>	
Sweet Azalea <i>Rhododendron canescens</i>	Yaupon holly* <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>		Butterfly-weed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	
Possum-haw <i>Ilex decidua</i>	American holly* <i>Ilex opaca</i>		Tickseed <i>Coreopsis spp.</i>	
Winterberry <i>Ilex verticillata</i>			Sunflower <i>Helianthus spp.</i>	
Mountain laurel* <i>Kalmia latifolia</i>			Indian Blanket <i>Gaillardia puchella</i>	
Drooping leucothoe* <i>Leucothoe fontanesiana</i>			Joe-pye weed <i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	
Yaupon* <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>			Ironweed <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	



Joe-pye weed by Randy Burroughs

Southern waxmyrtle\*  
*Myrica cerifera*  
\*evergreen