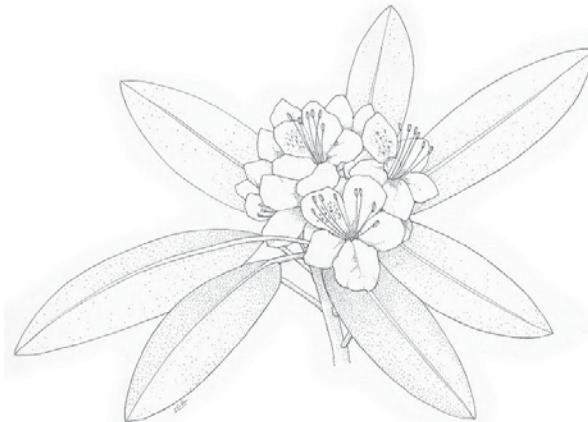


ABOUT THE NATIVE PLANTS FOR CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND LANDSCAPING PROJECT

This project is a collaboration between the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Virginia Native Plant Society. VNPS chapters across the state helped to fund the 2011 update to this brochure.

The following partners have provided valuable assistance throughout the life of this project:

The Nature Conservancy – Virginia Chapter • Virginia Tech Department of Horticulture • Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services • Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Coastal Zone Management Program • Virginia Department of Forestry • Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries • Virginia Department of Transportation



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Natural Heritage Program
804-786-7951
www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml



FOR A LIST OF NURSERIES THAT PROPAGATE NATIVE SPECIES, CONTACT:

Virginia Native Plant Society
400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2
Boyce, VA 22620
540-837-1600 | vnpsofc@shentel.net
www.vnps.org

FOR A LIST OF NURSERIES IN A PARTICULAR REGION OF VIRGINIA, CONTACT:

The Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association
383 Coal Hollow Road
Christiansburg, VA 24073
540-382-0943 | vnla@verizon.net
To search for species in VNLA member catalogs, visit:
www.vnla.org/search.asp



ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF THE FLORA OF VIRGINIA PROJECT.

Illustrators: Lara Gastinger, Roy Fuller and Michael Terry. To learn more, visit: www.floraofofVirginia.org

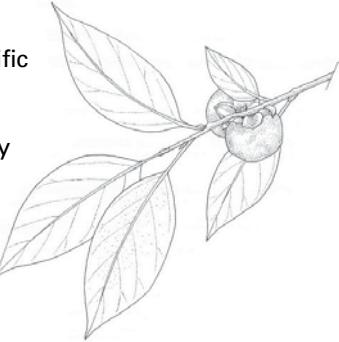


Native Plants
FOR CONSERVATION,
RESTORATION & LANDSCAPING

VIRGINIA PIEDMONT REGION

WHAT ARE NATIVES?

Native species evolved within specific regions and dispersed throughout their range without known human involvement. They form the primary component of the living landscape and provide food and shelter for native animal species. Native plants co-evolved with native animals over many thousands to millions of years and have formed complex and interdependent relationships. Our native fauna depend on native flora to provide food and cover. Many animals require specific plants for their survival.



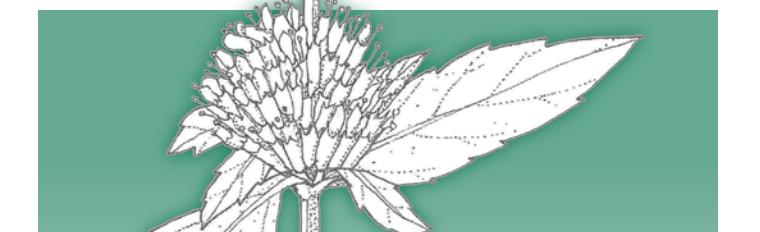
BENEFITS OF NATIVE PLANTS

Using native species in landscaping reduces the expense of maintaining cultivated landscapes and minimizes the likelihood of introducing new invasive species. It may provide a few unexpected benefits as well.

Native plants often require less water, fertilizer and pesticide, thus adding fewer chemicals to the landscape and maintaining water quality in nearby rivers and streams. Fewer inputs mean time and money saved for the gardener.



Native plants increase the presence of desirable wildlife, such as birds and butterflies, and provide sanctuaries for these animals as they journey between summer and winter habitats. The natural habitat you create with native plants can become an outdoor classroom for children, or a place for you to find peace and quiet after a busy day.



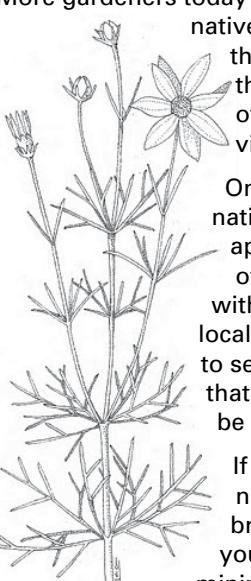
Native plants evoke a strong sense of place and regional character. For example, live oak and magnolia trees are strongly associated with the Deep South. Redwood trees characterize the Pacific Northwest. Saguaro cacti call to mind the deserts of the Southwest.

BUYING AND GROWING NATIVE PLANTS

More gardeners today are discovering the benefits of native plants and requesting them at their local garden centers. Because of this increased demand, retailers are offering an ever-widening selection of vigorous, nursery-propagated natives.

Once you've found a good vendor for native plants, the next step is choosing appropriate plants for a project. One of the greatest benefits of designing with native plants is their adaptation to local conditions. However, it is important to select plants with growth requirements that best match conditions in the area to be planted.

If you're planning a project using native plant species, use the list in this brochure to learn which plants grow in your region of Virginia. Next, study the minimum light and moisture requirements for each species, noting that some plants grow



well under a variety of conditions. Many of the recommended species are well-suited to more than one of these categories.

For more information, refer to field guides and publications on local natural history for color, shape, height, bloom times and specific wildlife value of the plants that grow in your region. Visit a nearby park, natural area preserve, forest or wildlife management area to learn about common plant associations, spatial groupings and habitat conditions. For specific recommendations and advice about project design, consult a landscape or garden design specialist with experience in native plants.

WHAT ARE NON-NATIVE PLANTS?

Sometimes referred to as "alien," or "non-indigenous," non-native plants are species introduced, intentionally or accidentally, into a new region by humans. Over time, many plants and animals have expanded their ranges slowly and without human assistance. As people began cultivating plants, they brought beneficial and favored species along when they moved into new regions or traded with people in distant lands. Humans thus became a new pathway, enabling many species to move into new locations.

WHAT ARE INVASIVE PLANTS?

Invasive plants are introduced species that cause health, economic or ecological damage in their new range. More than 30,000 species of plants have been introduced to the United States since the time of Columbus. Most were introduced intentionally, and many provide great benefits to society as agricultural crops and landscape ornamentals. Some were introduced accidentally, for example, in ship ballast, in packing material and as seed contaminants. Of these introduced species, fewer than 3,000 have naturalized and become established in the United States outside cultivation. Of the 3,500 plant species in Virginia, more than 800 have been introduced since the founding of Jamestown. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation currently lists more than 100 of these species as invasive.

In the United States, invasive species cause an estimated \$120 billion in annual economic losses, including costs to manage their effects. Annual costs and damages arising from invasive plants alone are estimated at \$34 billion.

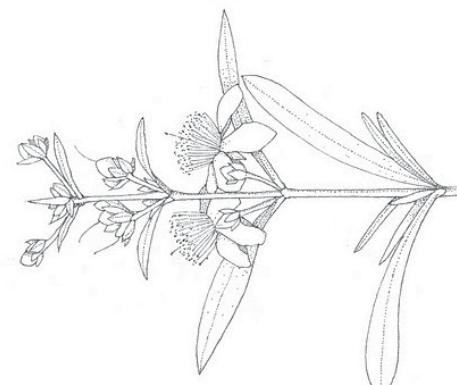
NATIVE PLANTS VS. INVASIVE PLANTS

Invasive plants have competitive advantages that allow them to disrupt native plant communities and the wildlife dependent on them. For example, kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) grows very rapidly and overtakes forest canopy, thus shading other plant species from the sunlight necessary for their survival. A tall invasive wetland grass, common reed (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*), invades and dominates marshes, reducing native plant diversity and sometimes eliminating virtually all other species.

Invasive species can marginalize or even cause the loss of native species. With their natural host plants gone, many insects disappear. And since insects are an essential part of the diet of many birds, the effects on the food web become far reaching. Habitats with a high occurrence of invasive plants become a kind of "green desert." Although green and healthy in appearance, far fewer native species of plants and animals are found in such radically altered places.

Virginia Piedmont Region

Rocky falls and rapids on the Potomac, Rappahannock and James rivers mark a transition from the softer sediments of the Coastal Plain to the resistant bedrock underlying the Piedmont. Moving west, the rolling hills of Virginia's Piedmont Plateau steadily climb from the fall line to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which form the western boundary of the Piedmont. The hills of the Piedmont become steeper to the west, where monadnocks — remnants of ancient mountains — rise above the farms and forests. The Piedmont is known for moderately fertile but highly eroded clay soils that formed from deeply weathered bedrock. Most of this land was converted to farmland during European settlement. Today, however, mixed pine-oak-hickory forests arising from abandoned farmlands are found throughout the region.



Recommended Uses

W = Wildlife

H = Horticulture & landscaping

C = Conservation & restoration

D = Domestic livestock forage

Minimum Light Requirements

S = Shade

P = Partial sun

F = Full sun

Moisture Requirements

L = Low moisture

M = Moderate moisture

H = High moisture

Some species are marked with the following footnote symbols:

- + May be aggressive in a garden setting
- * Due to the rarity and sensitivity of habitat in Virginia, these species are recommended for horticultural use only. Planting these species in natural areas could be detrimental to the survival of native populations.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Uses W H C D S P F L M H	Light Moisture
Herbs			
Achillea millefolium	common yarrow	•	
Ageratina altissima	white snakeroot	•	
Anemone nemorosa	wood anemone	•	
Anemone quinquefolia	rue anemone	•	
Anemone thalictroides	field pasqueflower	•	
Aquilegia canadensis	wild columbine	•	
Arisaema triphyllum	goatsbeard	•	
Aruncus dioicus	wild ginger	•	
Asarum canadense+	swamp milkweed	•	
Asclepias incarnata	common milkweed	•	
Asclepias syriaca+	butterfly weed	•	
Asclepias tuberosa*	blue wild indigo	•	
Baptisia tinctoria	nodding beggar-ticks	•	
Bidens cernua+	partridge pea	•	
Chamaecrista fasciculata+	white turtlehead	•	
Chelone glabra	green and gold	•	
Chrysogonium virginianum	Maryland golden aster	•	
Cimicifuga mariana	black cohosh	•	
Cimicifuga racemosa	Maryland butterfly pea	•	
Clintonia mariana	blue mistflower	•	
Conoclinium coeruleum	longstalk coreopsis	•	
Coreopsis lanceolata	golden tickseed	•	
Coreopsis tripteris	tall coreopsis	•	
Coreopsis verticillata	threadleaf coreopsis	•	
Delphinium tricorne	dwarf larkspur	•	
Desmodium paniculatum	narrow-leaf tick trefoil	•	
Dicentra cucullaria	Dutchman's breeches	•	
Dicentra eximia	wild bleeding heart	•	
Doellingeria umbellata	flat-top white aster	•	
Equisetum hyemale	horsetail	•	
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Joe-pye weed	•	
Eurybia divaricata	common boneset	•	
Geranium maculatum	white wood aster	•	
Gilia trilobata	wild geranium	•	
Helenium autumnale	bowman's root	•	
Helianthus angustifolius	sneezeweed	•	
Helianthus decapetalus	narrow-leaf sunflower	•	
Helianthus divaricatus	ten-petaled sunflower	•	
Heliospermum hirsutissimum	woodland sunflower	•	
Heuchera nobilis var. obtusa	oxyeye sunflower	•	
Heuchera americana	round-lobed hepatica	•	
Hibiscus moscheutos	alumroot	•	
Iris cristata	Eastern rosemallow	•	
Iris virginica	dwarf crested iris	•	
Lespedeza capitata	Virginia blue flag	•	
Liatris pilosa var. pilosa	round-head bush clover	•	
Liatris squarrrosa	grass-leaf blazing star	•	
Lilium canadense	plains blazing star	•	
Lilium superbum	Canada lily	•	
Lobelia cardinalis	Turk's cap lily	•	
Helianthus decapetalus	cardinal flower	•	
Helianthus divaricatus	great blue lobelia	•	
Heliospermum hirsutissimum	lupine	•	
Heuchera nobilis	false Solomon's seal	•	
Mertensia virginica	Virginia bluebells	•	
Mimulus ringens	monkeyflower	•	
Monarda fistulosa	wild bergamot	•	
Monarda punctata	Horse-mint	•	
Nymphaea odorata	American water lily	•	
Oenothera fruticosa	sundrops	•	
Oenothera humifusa	Eastern prickly-pear	•	
Packera aurea+	golden ragwort	•	
Peltandra virginica	arrow arum	•	
Penstemon canescens	gray beardtongue	•	
Penstemon digitalis	foxglove beardtongue	•	
Penstemon laevigatus	smooth beardtongue	•	
Phlox paniculata	woodland phlox	•	
Phlox subulata	moss phlox	•	
Physostegia virginiana+	obedient plant	•	
Polygonatum biflorum	mayapple	•	
Pontederia cordata	Jacob's ladder	•	
Podophyllum peltatum+	Solomon's seal	•	
Polemonium reptans	pickerel weed	•	
Polygonatum multiflorum	summer phlox	•	
Pycnanthemum incanum	fire pink	•	
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	hoary mountain mint	•	
Rhexia virginica	narrow-leaved mountain mint	•	
Rudbeckia fulgida	Virginia meadow-beauty	•	
Rudbeckia hirta	early coneflower	•	
Rudbeckia laciniata	black-eyed Susan	•	
Rudbeckia triloba	cut-leaved coneflower	•	
Sagittaria latifolia	three-toed coneflower	•	
Salvia lyrata+	broodleaf arrowhead	•	
Sanguinaria canadensis	lyre-leaf sage	•	
Saururus cernuus	bloodroot	•	
Saxifraga virginiana	lizard's tail	•	
Sedum ternatum	early saxifrage	•	
Senna marilandica	wild stonecrop	•	
Silene virginica	Maryland wild senna	•	
Silphium perfoliatum	fire pink	•	
Solidago caesia	cup plant	•	
Solidago odora	bluestem goldenrod	•	
Solidago pinnatifida	sweet goldenrod	•	
Solidago puberula	pinewoods goldenrod	•	
Solidago rigida+	downy goldenrod	•	
Symphoricarpon occidentale	rough-stemmed goldenrod	•	
Symplocarpus foetidus	Eastern silver aster	•	
Thlaspium integrifolium	heart-leaved aster	•	
Tiarella cordifolia	frost aster	•	
Tradescantia virginiana+	early meadow Rue	•	
Trillium grandiflorum	foamflower	•	
Verbena hastata	Virginia spiderwort	•	
Vernonia noveboracensis	blue vervain	•	
Viola cucullata	New York ironweed	•	
Viola pedata	marsh blue violet	•	
Viola pubescens	birds-foot violet	•	
Yucca filamentosa	yellow violet	•	
	common yucca	•	
Ferns & Fern Allies			
Adiantum pedatum	maidenhair fern	•	
Asplenium platyneuron	ebony spleenwort	•	
Botrychium asplenoides	Southern ladyfern	•	
Dennstaedtia punctilobula+	rattlesnake fern	•	
Dryopteris intermedia	hay-scented fern	•	
Dryopteris marginalis	evergreen woodfern	•	
Oncidium sensibilis+	marginal shield-fern	•	
Osmunda cinnamomea	sensitive fern	•	
Osmunda regalis	cinnamon fern	•	
Polystichum acrostichoides	royal fern	•	
Thelypteris palustris	Christmas fern	•	
	marsh fern	•	
Grasses, Sedges & Rushes			
Agrostis perennans	autumn bentgrass	•	
Andropogon gerardii	big bluestem	•	
Andropogon glomeratus	bushy bluestem	•	
Arundinaria tecta	broomedge	•	
Carex crinita	switch cane	•	
Carex lurida	long hair sedge	•	
Carex pensylvanica	sallow sedge	•	
Carex plantaginea	Pennsylania sedge	•	
Carex stricta	plantain-leaved sedge	•	
Chasmanthium latifolium+	tussock sedge	•	
Danthonia sericea	river oats, sanglegrass	•	
Danthonia spicata	silky oatgrass	•	
	poverty oatgrass	•	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Uses W H C D S P F L M H	Light Moisture
Dichanthelium clandestinum	deer-tongue grass	•	
Dichanthelium commutatum	variate panicgrass	•	
Dulichium arundinaceum	bottlebrush grass	•	
Elymus hystrix	Virginia wild rye	•	
Juncus canadensis	Canada rush	•	
Juncus effusus	soft rush	•	
Leersia oryzoides	rice cutgrass	•	
Panicum virgatum	switch grass	•	
Saccharum giganteum	giant plume grass	•	
Schizachyrium scoparium	little bluestem	•	
Scirpus cyperinus	woollygrass bluish	•	
Sorghastrum nutans	Indian grass	•	
Spartanium americanum	American bur-reed	•	
Tridens flavus	redtop	•	
Tripsacum dactyloides	giant grass	•	
Typha latifolia	broad-leaved cattail	•	
Vines			
Bignonia capreolata	crossvine	•	
Campsis radicans	trumpet creeper	•	
Celastrus scandens	climbing bittersweet	•	
Clematis virginiana	virgin's bower	•	
Lonicera sempervirens	trumpet honeysuckle	•	
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	•	
Passiflora incarnata	Purple passionflower	•	
Shrubs & Small Trees			
Ailanthus altissima	hazel alder	•	
Aronia arbutifolia	red chokeberry	•	
Aronia melanocarpa	black chokeberry	•	
Castanea pumila	Allegheny chinquapin	•	
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey tea	•	
Cephaelanthus occidentalis	buttonbush	•	
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	•	
Craatagus crus-galli	cockspur hawthorn	•	
Eubotrys racemosa	featherbrush	•	
Euonymus americanus	American strawberry-bush	•	
Gaultheria procumbens	wintergreen	•	
Garrya elliptica	black huckleberry	•	
Gaultheria shallon	witch hazel	•	
Hamelia patens	silky willow	•	
Hamelia patens	shrubby St. Johnswort	•	
Ilex decidua	deciduous holly	•	
Ilex verticillata	winterberry	•	
Kalmia latifolia	mountain laurel	•	
Lindera benzoin	spicebush	•	
Rhododendron catawbiense	ninebark	•	
Rhododendron maximum	Catawba rhododendron	•	
Rhododendron periclymenoides	great rhododendron	•	
Rhus aromatica	pinxter flower		