



Native Shrubs



Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) deciduous shrub; grows 5-12 foot tall; produces white flowers in June-July and deep purple/black berries in late summer; prefers sunny, moist conditions; fruit provides excellent fall food for wildlife.



Bayberry (*Myrica pensylvanica*) deciduous shrub; grows to 12 feet; waxy berries are a good migration food for birds in winter/spring; aromatic leaves often last through winter; grows well in sunny, dry conditions; good for coastal areas.



Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) deciduous shrub; grows 6-10 feet in height; has inconspicuous greenish white flowers in June; female shrubs produce brilliant red berries that last through winter; plant in partial shade with moist conditions; fruit is an excellent winter food for wildlife.



Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea* or *C. stolonifera*) deciduous shrub; grows 4-10 feet in height; produces clusters of white flowers in spring and white fruit in summer; has showy red bark in winter; plant in sunny, moist to wet conditions; berries provide food for wildlife.



Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) deciduous shrub; grows 5-10 feet in height; produces clusters of white flowers in June; light blue berries in fall are a good food source for wildlife and birds; plant in sunny, moist to wet conditions.



Lowbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) deciduous shrub with many branches; grows to 2 feet in height; produces small white-pink flowers May-June and develops sweet, edible blueberries June to August; leaves turn bright red in autumn; fruit is an excellent summer food source for wildlife; plant in dryer soils.



Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) deciduous shrub; grows to 9 feet in height; produces densely clustered white or pinkish flowers in spring and sweet, edible blueberries in summer; leaves turn brilliant red in fall; prefers acid soils; fruit is utilized by many species of wildlife.



Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) deciduous shrub; grows to 10 feet in height; produces white flowers on spikes in July; leaves turn yellow in fall; prefers sunny, moist to wet conditions; attracts butterflies.



Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*) deciduous shrub; grows 5-10 feet in height; has maple-shaped leaves; produces white flowers in May which develop into red berries and last into winter; fruit provides important winter/spring migration food source for birds.



Pinxterbloom Azalea (*Rhododendron periclymenoides*) deciduous shrub; grows to 8 feet; showy pink blossoms in May; bright green leaves; prefers dry sites with full to partial shade; attracts butterflies.

Why Use Native Plants?

When landscaping, native plants are often a wiser choice than ornamental species because they are hardy and more likely to withstand extreme weather conditions. When carefully selected, natives can provide just as many benefits: natural color and beauty, food and shelter for wildlife, shade, erosion control and increased property value.

Because of the biodiversity of plants and animals in the New England area, native species are plentiful. The plants listed in this brochure are considered natives of New England according to the New England Wild Flower Society. These particular species are also readily available at local nurseries and lawn and garden centers.

Native plants are also friendly to wildlife. Native trees, shrubs, grasses, ground covers and even flowers provide food and shelter for wildlife. Natives can be planted strategically to attract butterflies and other beneficial insects, birds, mammals, reptiles and other wildlife. For example, migrating and nesting birds rely on insects for energy to travel long distances and raise their young. Also, birds will seek out fruit-bearing trees for food and shrubs for their nesting habitat. The leaves, flowers, fruit, nuts, acorns and branches are all important to wildlife.

Native Groundcovers & Grasses

Native Groundcovers



Canada Anemone (*Anemone canadensis*) herbaceous perennial; grows 1-2 feet in height; produces bright white flowers in late spring; grows as a dense groundcover when planted 6-12 inches apart; requires sun or partial shade with moist conditions.



Foam Flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*) herbaceous perennial; grows to 10 inches in height; produces small white flowers on an erect stem in May; plant in moderately moist soils in full to partial shade.



Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) herbaceous perennial; grows to 8 inches in height; has large heart-shaped leaves; produces inconspicuous maroon flowers in April-May; likes moderately moist soil and full to partial shade.



Labrador Violet (*Viola labradorica*) herbaceous perennial; grows to 8 inches in height; produces a 5-petaled purple flower in May; requires moist but well drained soil and full to partial shade.



Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) a small, trailing evergreen groundcover that grows to a height of 7 inches; produces pinkish-white egg-shaped flowers in May and red berries in fall; berries are attractive to wildlife; plant in sunny, dry locations.

Native Vines



Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) a climbing perennial vine; has fan-shaped leaves which turn bright red in fall; produces small, greenish clustered flowers in summer; small blue berries attract birds; plant in sun or partial shade.



Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*) an attractive perennial vine; produces clusters of white flowers in summer followed by silky white plumes adhering to the seeds in autumn; plant in sun or partial shade.

Native Grasses



Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) tall perennial grass (3-6 feet) that develops a large open head; delicate and wispy; leaves turn golden in the fall; plant is moderately salt tolerant; needs sun; grows under a wide range of soil conditions including sandy sites; provides excellent winter and spring cover for wildlife; seeds are eaten by many species of wildlife.



Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) tall perennial grass (to 7 feet) that develops soft, golden-brown plume-like seedheads in September; requires a sunny location and well drained bottom land to sandy soils; provides good habitat for wildlife; seeds are a source of food for deer and other wildlife.*



Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) a medium-height perennial grass (2 to 3 feet) that mixes well with native wildflowers; in fall the leaves turn reddish-tan and are topped by fuzzy, silvery-white seeds; provides good wildlife habitat in winter and spring; seed is eaten by songbirds and upland game birds; excellent for dry, sandy soils.*



Wild Rye (*Elymus riparius*) a medium-height (3 to 5 feet) perennial grass that tolerates flooding; grows during the cool season; plant in moist or wet sites with partial shade.*

* These grasses may not be readily available at all nurseries.

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