

Avoid these plants

Planting invasive, non-native plants in your yard poses a major threat to our local natural areas. These plants spread aggressively, crowd out native plants, and create monocultures, destroying native habitat for wildlife. We recommend you avoid using them in your landscaping.

Non-native trees, shrubs and vines

Alder, European *Alnus glutinosa*
Barberry, Japanese *Berberis thunbergii*
Birch, European white *Betula pendula*
Buckthorn, European *Frangula alnus*
Burning bush *Euonymus alatus*
Chinese quince *Pseudocydonia sinensis*
Crabapple, plumleaf *Malus prunifolia*
Cranberrybush, European *Viburnum opulus*
Elm, Siberian *Ulmus pumila*
Bittersweet, Oriental *Celastrus orbiculatus*
Honeysuckle, Amur *Lonicera maackii*
Honeysuckle, Bell's *Lonicera x bella*
Honeysuckle, Japanese *Lonicera japonica*
Honeysuckle, Morrow's *Lonicera morrowii*
Honeysuckle, Tartarian *Lonicera tatarica*
Maple, Norway *Acer platanoides*
Mulberry, white *Morus alba*
Olive, autumn *Elaeagnus umbellata*
Olive, Russian *Elaeagnus angustifolia*
Pear, callery *Pyrus calleryana*
Pearl-bush *Exochorda racemosa*
Poplar, white *Populus alba*
Porcelain berry *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*
Rose, multiflora *Rosa multiflora*
Wintercreeper *Euonymus fortunei*

Non-native herbaceous plants

Bethlehem-bells *Ornithogalum umbellatum*
Crown vetch *Securigera varia*
Cypress spurge *Euphorbia cyparissias*
Daylily, common *Hemerocallis fulva*
Devil's paintbrush *Hieracium aurantiacum*
Goutweed *Aegopodium podagraria*
Grass, reed canary *Phalaris arundinacea*
Iris, yellow flag *Iris pseudacorus*
Ivy, English *Hedera helix*
Knotweed, Japanese *Polygonum cuspidatum*
Loosestrife, purple *Lythrum salicaria*
Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*
Mullein, common *Verbascum thapsus*
Myrtle *Vinca minor*
Pachysandra *Pachysandra terminalis*
Privet, common *Ligustrum vulgare*
Snowflake *Leucojum aestivum*
Sweet woodruff *Galium odoratum*



Landscaping with Native Plants in the Cleveland Region

Your landscaping choices affect more than just your yard. Select native plants for your property and avoid invasive non-natives to boost the region's biological diversity.

For more information

The Museum's Botany Department can help you locate local nurseries and other sources that sell native plants. Contact us at 216-231-4600, ext. 3505, or BOTANY@CMNH.ORG.



 @CMNHbotany

Choose these plants

Native plants have adapted specifically for our area's climate and soils. They are essential parts of local habitats, offering vital shelter, food, and nesting sites for birds, pollinators, and other animals.

There are also benefits for property owners who choose native species. When planted correctly, they require:

- Little maintenance
- Less irrigation once established
- No fertilizer
- Low to no use of chemicals to control pests and disease

IMPORTANT NOTE

Plants are listed in alphabetical order by common name. A single species can have several different common names, so when shopping refer to a plant by its scientific name.

Sun perennials

Aster, New England *Symphotrichum novae-angliae*
Beardtongue *Penstemon digitalis*
Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*
Butterfly-weed *Asclepias tuberosa*
Cardinal flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Columbine, wild *Aquilegia canadensis*
Cup-plant *Silphium perfoliatum*
Goldenrod, rough *Solidago rugosa*
Ironweed, tall *Vernonia gigantea*
Joe-pye weed *Eutrochium fistulosum*
Meadow-rue, purple *Thalictrum dasycarpum*
Mountainmint, Virginia *Pycnanthemum virginianum*

Obedient plant *Physostegia virginiana*
Oswego tea *Monarda didyma*
Queen of the prairie *Filipendula rubra*
Turtlehead *Chelone glabra*

Shade perennials

Aster, big leaf *Eurybia macrophylla*
Bugbane *Actaea racemosa*
Cohosh, giant blue *Caulophyllum giganteum*
Cohosh, blue *Caulophyllum thalictroides*
Geranium, wild *Geranium maculatum*
Mayapple *Podophyllum peltatum*
Phlox, wild blue *Phlox divaricata*
Solomon's seal *Polygonatum biflorum*
Spikenard, American *Aralia racemosa*
Violet, Canadian white *Viola canadensis*

Ground cover

Christmas fern *Polystichum acrostichoides*
Foamflower *Tiarella cordifolia*
Ginger, wild *Asarum canadense*
Wintergreen *Gaultheria procumbens*

Grasses/Sedges

Big bluestem *Andropogon gerardii*
Little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*
Sedge, plaintain leaf *Carex plantaginea*
Switchgrass *Panicum virgatum*

Vines

Bittersweet, American *Celastrus scandens*
Devil's darning needles *Clematis virginiana*
Honeysuckle, limber *Lonicera dioica*
Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

Wet areas and pond shores

Arrow arum *Peltandra virginica*
Cardinal flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Iris, common blue flag *Iris versicolor*
Lizard's tail *Saururus cernuus*
Lobelia, great blue *Lobelia siphilitica*
Milkweed, swamp *Asclepias incarnata*

Ferns

Christmas fern *Polystichum acrostichoides*
Intermediate wood fern *Dryopteris intermedia*
Lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*
Marginal shield fern *Dryopteris marginalis*
Ostrich fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris*
Royal fern *Osmunda regalis*

Shrubs

Bayberry, northern *Morella pensylvanica*
Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
Chokeberry, black *Aronia melanocarpa*
Dogwood, gray *Cornus racemosa*
Dogwood, red osier *Cornus sericea*
Dogwood, silky *Cornus amomum*
Nannyberry *Viburnum lentago*
Ninebark *Physocarpus opulifolius*
Purple-flowering raspberry *Rubus odoratus*
Spicebush *Lindera benzoin*
Sumac, fragrant *Rhus aromatica*
Sumac, shining *Rhus copallinum*
Viburnum, withered *Viburnum nudum* var. *cassinoides*
Winterberry *Ilex verticillata*

Small trees

Dogwood, pagoda *Cornus alternifolia*
Hawthorn *Crataegus*
Hophornbeam, American *Ostrya virginiana*
Serviceberry, Allegheny *Amelanchier laevis*
Serviceberry, common *Amelanchier arborea*
Sumac, staghorn *Rhus typhina*
Witchhazel *Hamamelis virginiana*

Large trees

Birch, yellow *Betula alleghaniensis*
Buckeye, Ohio *Aesculus glabra*
Cucumber-tree *Magnolia acuminata*
Maple, black *Acer nigrum*
Maple, red *Acer rubrum*
Maple, sugar *Acer saccharum*
Oak, bur *Quercus macrocarpa*
Oak, red *Quercus rubra*
Oak, scarlet *Quercus coccinea*
Oak, shumard *Quercus shumardii*
Sassafras *Sassafras albidum*
Tuliptree *Liriodendron tulipifera*
Tupelo or blackgum *Nyssa sylvatica*

Evergreen trees/shrubs

Cedar, eastern red *Juniperus virginiana*
Hemlock, eastern *Tsuga canadensis*
Juniper, common *Juniperus communis*
Mountain laurel *Kalmia latifolia*
Pine, eastern white *Pinus strobus*
Yew, Canada *Taxus canadensis*