

# NATIVE PLANTS FOR CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK VIRGINIA



**Plant Central**  
**Rapp Natives**  
BEAUTIFUL  
BENEFICIAL  
SUSTAINABLE



# PLANT CENTRAL RAPP NATIVES!



The Plant Central Rapp Natives logo features a Black and White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) feeding on caterpillars feeding on White Oak leaves (*Quercus alba*) including the caterpillar of the Horace's Duskywing butterfly (*Erynnis horatius*).

[WWW.PLANTCENTRALRAPPNATIVES.ORG](http://WWW.PLANTCENTRALRAPPNATIVES.ORG)

This guide is provided by the Plant Central Rapp Natives Campaign to promote the use of regional natives in urban and suburban landscapes for their many social, cultural, and economic benefits, and to increase the availability of these native plants from plant providers throughout the region.

## Campaign Partners:

Caroline County

Friends of the Rappahannock

George Washington Regional Commission

Hanover-Caroline Soil & Water Conservation District

Master Gardener Association of the Central Rappahannock Area

Master Naturalists, Central Rappahannock Chapter

Plants Map

The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District

University of Mary Washington

USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service

Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program/VA Dept of Environmental Quality

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Native Plant Society

Virginia Natural Heritage Program/VA Dept of Conservation & Recreation

Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association

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This guide showcases the colorful, beautiful variety of plants native to the Central Rappahannock area – Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford counties and the City of Fredericksburg. In North America, plant species are generally described as native if they occurred here prior to European settlement. This distinction is made because of the large-scale changes that have occurred since the arrival of the European settlers. These plants form the primary structure of the living landscape and provide food and shelter for native animal species, including migratory birds and pollinators. All plants highlighted in this guide, and listed in the index are native to the Central Rappahannock area according to the Digital Atlas of Virginia Flora.

Although this guide is not comprehensive, the native plants featured were selected because they are attractive, relatively easy for the home gardener to acquire, easy to maintain, and offer various benefits to wildlife and the environment.



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# WHY VIRGINIA NATIVES ARE THE BEST CHOICE



**Central Rappahannock native plants provide visual beauty year round.** Many native plants are referred to as 4-season plants because they have interesting characteristics in each season. Unique flowers, vibrant fall colors of leaves and stems, fruit shapes and colors, bark textures, are all attractive reasons to purchase native plants.

**Local native plants support more wildlife species than non-native plants.** Native plants host specific insects and are essential for pollinators. Local and migratory birds, mammals, and invertebrates, in addition to feeding on native plants, rely on these insects to survive. Native plants also provide shelter.

**Native trees, shrubs, and vines that feed the insects, birds, and animals are essential for maintaining biodiversity.** As natural habitats are lost to development, home gardeners and professional landscapers more than ever need to landscape with native plants to support the local ecosystem.

**Central Rappahannock native plants show a sense of place.** Black-eyed Susans, Trumpet Honeysuckle, Flowering Dogwood, and Tulip Poplar let you know you are in the Central Rappahannock Area. If we demand more local native plants, the supply will be greater and more plant species will become available for the home garden.

**Planting Central Rappahannock native plants is essential for a healthy watershed.** Local native plants provide oxygen and habitat for fresh and salt water ecosystems, or communities. Plant roots absorb nutrients and prevent sediment from entering our local waterways; reducing pollution and improving water quality. Native plants have adapted to our local soils so require less fertilizers than non-natives, which reduces the harmful release of chemicals into the watershed.

**Local native plants are adapted to local temperature and rainfall fluctuations.** Once established they require less watering, saving natural resources, time, and money.

**Central Rappahannock native plants are beautiful, beneficial, and sustainable!**



(Center and left) Goldfinch eating seeds from Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*. Photos by Seig Kopinitz, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS.

Cover Photos: (left to right) *Amelanchier canadensis* - Canada Serviceberry, Juneberry by Phillip Merrit, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS; *Hepatica americana* - Round-lobed Hepatica, Liverleaf by Gary Fleming, DCR-NH; *Hypericum prolificum* - Shrubby St. Johnswort by Gary Fleming, DCR-NH; *Eurybia divaricata* - White Wood Aster by Sue Dingwell, VNPS.

# PLANTING TO ATTRACT POLLINATORS & BIRDS

## Bring Life to Your Garden

Native plants attract a variety of birds, butterflies, pollinators, and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. Native plants feed the insects that are an especially important food for young songbirds. Native plants also feed pollinators. We may not notice the hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar, yet without them, wildlife would have fewer nutritious berries and seeds and we would miss many fruits, vegetables, and nuts. By planting a diverse palette of native plants, we invite not only the plant-eating insects, but also their predators as well as pollinators, seed dispersers, and recyclers, which work together to make a garden function like a system. *Because our native plants and animals have evolved together, they support each other, and we enjoy the beauty and fruits of their labor.*

With a simple, but profound, observation that nothing was eating the Multiflora Rose he was clearing from his property, Dr. Douglas Tallamy launched a line of research that has become a cornerstone of the native plant movement. He has shown that not all plants are of equal value to wildlife and that native wildlife prefers native plants. For example, native oaks support 532 species of native caterpillars, while the non-native Butterfly Bush supports only one. Caterpillars are important because they are the primary food source for nestlings of 96 percent of all bird species. This insight led to a call embodied in the title of his book *Bringing Nature Home* to share our suburban landscape with wildlife by planting native plants.

One important aspect of landscaping for wildlife is a change in the status of turf grass. It is not that turf no longer has a place in your landscape, but it is high maintenance, high cost, and low wildlife value. Each square foot of turf should be examined and subjected to the question “Why?” “Is this an active play area?” Sometimes turf is the right cover, but that should be decided only after consideration of native plant alternatives like Pennsylvania Sedge, moss, or other materials such as mulch or stepping stones.

The use of native plants in landscaping should not and does not preclude designing a landscape that meets your needs. Landscaping for wildlife can be a mix of human and natural design concepts. The overall plan should satisfy your needs—a place for the kids and dog to play and a quiet place to sit and enjoy your yard—and should follow human design concepts. But, the execution of the plan should be informed by nature’s design concepts: using plants in layers; avoiding straight lines; and smoothing forest into field into wetland. Above all: use a diverse array of native plants!



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



Seig Kopinitz/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



Lucile Kossodo/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

# WHAT AREA DOES THIS GUIDE COVER?

## Coastal Plain and Piedmont Physiographic Provinces

Virginia is divided into several physiographic provinces based on geologic history (see map of provinces below). Each province is unique in topography, soil pH, soil depth, elevation, availability of light, and hydrology. These characteristics all combine to influence the species of plants and animals found there.

Virginia's Coastal Plain is bordered by the Fall Line to the west and by the Atlantic Ocean, the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to the east. The Coastal Plain varies in topography from north to south. The Northern Coastal Plain consists of the three peninsulas (or "necks") formed between the four major tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay; the Potomac, the Rappahannock, the York, and the James Rivers. In the north, the Northern Neck is somewhat hilly and well drained. Virginia's Piedmont Plateau province is a gently rolling upland bounded on the east by the Fall line and the west by the Blue Ridge Mountains. To the east, the Piedmont continues to slope more gently toward the Fall Line.

The Fall Line marks the zone of transition from the hard, resistant bedrock underlying the Piedmont to the softer sediments underlying the Coastal Plain. Streams are able to cut more easily through the sands, gravels, and clays of the Coastal Plain, and rivers widen as the topography flattens. In the northern part of the state this boundary is sharply delineated by falls and rapids. From foothills to rapids, these varying site conditions support a mosaic of plant communities.



This guide highlights native plants found in the Central Rappahannock region, which lies in the Northern Coastal Plain and Piedmont Physiographic Provinces.



For a detailed description of these natural communities, go to [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/nctoc](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/nctoc) and [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/document/ncoverviewphys-veg.pdf](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/document/ncoverviewphys-veg.pdf) (Overview of the Physiography and Vegetation of Virginia, Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage, February 2016)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Featured Central Rappahannock Native Plants:

Perennials (forbs) .....	6
Small non-woody (herbaceous) flowering plants with showy flowers, generally pollinated by insects. Typically, these plants are labeled as “perennials” at your garden center. Includes good groundcover species, which are low-growing or trailing plants used to cover the ground, providing protection of the topsoil from erosion and drought.	
Ferns .....	18
Reproduce using spores rather than flowers.	
Vines .....	20
Woody or non-woody plants that do not support themselves.	
Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes .....	22
Plants with upright straplike leaves and small non-showy flowers.	
Shrubs .....	24
Small woody plants, usually with multiple stems.	
Trees .....	32
Large woody plants, usually with a single stem/trunk.	
Additional Resources .....	39
Index of Central Rappahannock Native Plants .....	40
Plants are organized by botanical category in Latin-name order. Species featured in the guide are highlighted in bold.	
Places to See Native Plants In the Ground.....	44
Invasives of Particular Concern in Central Rappahannock.....	45

**Look for this plant tag at local garden centers and nurseries.** Or ask for the species in this guide by their scientific name.

**Don't see the plant you are looking for?** Let the retailer know. Hand them a Plant Central Rapp Natives campaign “Please Carry Calling Card” (pictured below). If the retailer does not have cards available, it can be downloaded from [www.plantcentralrappnatives.org](http://www.plantcentralrappnatives.org).



Cornus amomum, Silky Dogwood with berries by Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program




Cornus amomum, Silky Dogwood in bloom by Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE


## Key to Plant Sections

scientific name ↙  
***Aquilegia canadensis*** • **Wild or Eastern Red Columbine** ↘ key

common name(s) per  
 ↙ Flora of Virginia



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 1–3 feet ← height of plant at maturity
- Nodding, red and yellow bell-like flower with upward spurred petals in April–May, occasionally June ← flower/berry color, bloom time
- Part sun/shade ← light requirement
- Sandy, well-drained soils, medium loam, sandy loam ← soil/moisture requirements
- Naturally found in dry rocky woodlands to moist, well-drained forests ← natural habitat

↖ environmental, aesthetic, and economic benefits

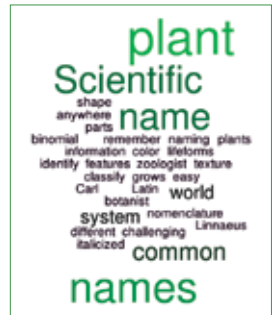
↗ interesting fact(s)

*Although a short-lived perennial, Columbine readily self-sows. The backward-pointed tubes of the flower contain nectar that attracts insects and hummingbirds with long tongues especially adapted for reaching the sweet secretion.*

A selection of the many beautiful, resilient, and beneficial plants native to Central Rappahannock are highlighted, beginning on page 6, including a photo and details on each plant's characteristics and requirements. A more comprehensive index of plant species begins on page ?? . Plants were included only if documented as native to the area by the Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora.

Plants are highlighted in the guide and listed in the index alphabetically by scientific name.




Plant names can be interesting, confusing, and intimidating, even to people in the plant business. Common names are usually easy to remember, but **one plant can be known by several different common names** depending on where you are in the world or how you first learned the name. Scientific names are based on binomial nomenclature, a two-part naming system used to classify all life forms. Carl Linnaeus, a Swedish botanist, physician, and zoologist, developed the system in the 1700s. **Each plant has only one scientific name**, in italicized Latin; that can identify it to anyone anywhere around the world. Scientific names are often challenging to read, spell and pronounce; but they can tell you a lot about a plant. Sometimes information on the plant's discoverer, where it grows, or features like color, shape, or texture are included in the parts of a plant's scientific name.






Always know and use a plant's scientific name to be sure you are getting the Central Rappahannock plant you are looking for!

## Key to Light, Moisture and Wildlife Terms & Symbols




### Light requirement:

-  Full sun: 6 or more hrs sun
-  Part sun/shade: 2 to 6 hrs sun
-  Full shade: 2 hrs or less sun

### Soil moisture:

-  Dry: no signs of moisture
-  Moist: looks & feels damp
-  Wet: saturated

### Wildlife supported by plant:

-  Food source for birds (*berries, nectar, or insects resident on plant*)
-  Nectar source for pollinators - butterflies, moths, bees, or other insects, as well as bats
-  Larval host for butterflies or moths (*larva are newly hatched forms of insects before they undergo metamorphosis*)



Trista Imrich/Wild Works of Whimsy

Perennial plants (also known as forbs) live for two or more years and lack woody stems at or above the ground. Usually flowers produce seed each year, but some plants reproduce by means of bulbs, tubers, woody crowns, and rhizomes. Some perennials die back to ground level at the end of the growing season, remain dormant during the winter, and resume growth in the spring (herbaceous). Others remain semi-green or totally green in winter (evergreen). Perennials are common in a wide range of landscapes including sunny, shady, dry, wet, windy, salty, formal and natural. The position and composition of leaves, stems, roots, and other parts of perennial plants are specific to an individual plant's needs in order to survive. They might have specialized stems or crowns that allow them to survive periods of dormancy over cold or dry seasons during the year. The many different colors of flowers, seeds or leaves of perennials are the showy, decorative parts of a landscape. They stand out when surrounded by complimentary or contrasting colors or surrounded by groundcovers in a landscape. Perennial plants are usually better competitors than annual plants, due to the development of larger root systems which can access water and nutrients deeper in the soil and cause them to emerge earlier in the spring.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Aquilegia canadensis* • Wild or Eastern Red Columbine



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

- 1–3 ft.
- Nodding, red and yellow bell-like flower with upward spurred petals in April–May, occasionally June
- Part sun/shade
- Sandy, well-drained soils, medium loam, sandy loam
- Naturally found in dry rocky woodlands to moist, well-drained forests

*Although a short-lived perennial, Columbine readily self-sows. The backward-pointed tubes of the flower contain nectar that attracts insects and hummingbirds with long tongues especially adapted for reaching the sweet secretion.*

Stunning flower. Attracts hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and hawk moths. Larval host to Columbine Duskywing.

## *Arisaema triphyllum* • Common Jack-in-the-pulpit



Margaret Chatham/VNPS

- 1–3 ft.
- Large, cylindrical, hooded flower, green in color with brown stripes in April; in late summer, a cluster of bright red berries appears
- Part shade to full shade
- Moist to wet soils
- Naturally found in humus-rich woods, bottomland forests

*Jack-in-the-pulpit grows most vigorously in moist, shady, seasonally wet locations. The intriguing blossom of this woodland perennial occurs on a separate stalk at the same height as the leaves. This plant has calcium oxate crystals, harmful if ingested raw and irritating to the skin.*

Excellent woods-garden plant. Birds and mammals eat the berries. Very easy to cultivate.



# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Asclepias incarnata* • Swamp Milkweed



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 2–5 ft.
- Clusters of pink, purple flowers in May–August
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist/wet, rich soils, tolerates clay, can be grown in a pond
- Naturally found in wet freshwater areas - meadow, field, riparian area, swamp, marsh

*Swamp Milkweed cannot be transplanted because of its deep taproot. It is deer resistant. Will inevitably have aphids, but the insects are not a problem unless the plant looks sick; at that point an effective treatment is to spray the plant and aphids with soapy water.*

Showy flower clusters attract butterflies and hummingbirds. It is larval host and an important food source for the Monarch caterpillar (*Danaus plexippus*).

## *Asclepias tuberosa* • Butterfly Weed



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 1–3 ft.
- Yellow-orange to bright orange flower in May–August
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist or dry, well-drained sandy soils
- Naturally found in dry/rocky open woods, glades, fields, and roadsides

*Easily grown from seed, Butterfly Weed is somewhat slow to establish and may take 2-3 years to produce flowers. Mature plants may freely self-seed in the landscape if seed pods are not removed prior to splitting open. Does not transplant well due to its deep taproot and is probably best left undisturbed once established.*

Attracts butterflies, and is a larval host and nectar source for the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). Drought tolerant.

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## *Asclepias syriaca* • Common Milkweed



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 3–8 ft.
- Pale pink to purple flower in May–July
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist; medium to fine sandy, clay, or rocky calcareous soils; also found in well-drained soil
- Naturally found in old fields, roadsides

*Common Milkweed is fragrant. Because of its long taproot, it cannot be transplanted. A vigorous grower, this plant spreads aggressively.*

Best plant to host Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*). It is a larval host, larval food source and nectar source.

## *Baptisia tinctoria* • Yellow Wild Indigo



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 2–3 ft.
- Clusters of yellow pea-like flowers in May–July
- Sun
- Dry, loam, sandy, acidic soils
- Naturally found in dry open woods and clearings

*The genus name of Yellow Wild Indigo, from the Greek baptizein (to dye), refers to the fact that some species are used as an inferior substitute for true indigo dye.*

A larval host for the rare Frosted Elfin (*Callophrys irus*) and Wild Indigo Duskywing (*Erynnis baptisiae*) butterflies.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Chelone glabra* • White Turtlehead



Trista Imrich/Wild Works of Whimsy



- 3–6 ft.
- White, pink (often lavender-tinged) tubular flowers in July–September
- Sun to shade
- Rich, wet to moist soils
- Naturally found in brushy marshes, stream banks, wet ditches, low meadows, woodlands

*The 2-lipped flowers of White Turtlehead resemble turtle heads, which gives it its distinctive common name. Its genus name is derived from the Greek chelone (tortoise). The related Chelone obliqua (often sold as C. lyonii) has pink inflorescences.*

Nectar source for butterflies. Larval host of the Baltimore Butterfly (*Euphydryas phaeton*).

## *Claytonia virginica* • Spring Beauty, Virginia Spring Beauty



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 4–8 in.
- Pink or whitish flowers, striped with dark pink, in loose clusters in March–May
- Part sun/shade to shade
- Rich, moist soils; prefers high humus
- Naturally found in rich woods, thickets, old fields, well-drained floodplains

*Spring Beauty is a perennial and ephemeral. It disappears from above ground in the summer shortly after the seed capsules have ripened. It grows from an underground tuber like a small potato, which has a sweet, chestnut-like flavor. Native Americans and colonists used them for food.*

Attractive spring perennial that is spectacular in large patches.

## *Chrysopsis mariana* • Maryland Golden Aster



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 1–1.5 ft.
- Yellow flowers in August–October
- Sun
- Wet to moist soils
- Naturally found in pine woods, sandy areas, open forests, old fields, roadsides

*Maryland Golden Aster provides a low, sturdy rosette effect until late summer when its flowering branches lift clusters of yellow, aster-like flowers 1 ft. off the ground. The foliage is woolly when young, becoming smoother with age.*

Fruiting heads of this perennial are attractive.

## *Clitoria Mariana* • Maryland Butterfly Pea



Ken Lawless



- 3–4 ft. twining vine
- Pink and blue, large, pea-like, usually solitary flowers in June–August
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Dry, sandy soil; tolerant of a range of soil types and chemistries
- Naturally found in dry, open forests, rocky and sandy woodlands, shale barrens, clearings, and roadsides

*Maryland Butterfly Pea is often confused with Spurred Butterfly Pea (*Centrosema virginianum*), which has upside-down flowers, the banner pointing downward, while that of *Clitoria* stands erect.*

Attracts birds.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## Conoclinium coelestinum • Mistflower



Denise Greene/Sassafras Farm

Attracts butterflies.



- 1–3.5 ft.
- Bright blue, violet flowers in July–November
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist, usually sandy acidic soil or clay
- Naturally found in clearings, and other disturbed, open or shaded sites

*The fluffy-edged flowers of Mistflower are a magnet for late-season butterflies. Disk flowers are almost ¼ inch long, they form almost a flat top. This wildflower spreads easily. It is a colonizing groundcover.*

## Coreopsis verticillata • Whorled or Threadleaf Coreopsis



Sue Dingwell/VNPS

Attracts birds and butterflies. Drought tolerant.



- 6 in.–3.5 ft.
- Yellow in May–August
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Dry, well-drained primarily acidic soils
- Naturally found in dry, open woods

*This very popular garden plant since the 19th century has delicate, dark-green leaves divided into thread-like segments and showy, long-blooming flower heads with yellow centers. Provide a sunny, well-drained site and you'll be rewarded with hardy, long-lived, long-blooming plants. This plant spreads by rhizomes.*

## Coreopsis lanceolata • Long-stock Coreopsis



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program

Attractive ground cover for harsh sunny conditions. Its seeds are a favorite food for goldfinches.



- Perennial
- 1–2.5 ft.
- Yellow flower in May–June
- Open woodlands; meadows; pastures
- Full sun, part shade, shade; prefers sun
- Dry, sandy, gravelly, well-drained, acid-based soils

*Grows in small clumps but forms extensive colonies. It is the most common native coreopsis, easy to grow and drought tolerant. It prefers sun and should have frequent deadheading to keep it in bloom well into the summer.*

## Eurybia divaricata • White Wood Aster



Sue Dingwell/VNPS

Attracts butterflies. Lovely in masses.

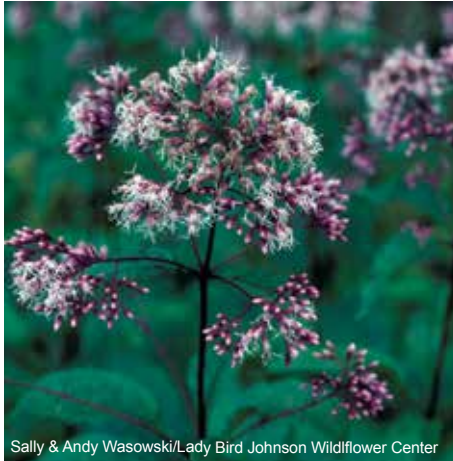


- 6 inches–3.5 feet
- August–October
- Full or dappled part shade
- Moist, loam, sandy, acidic soils; good drainage essential
- Naturally found in moist to dry woods

*The delicate, airy clouds of White Wood Aster are a must-have for every fall garden. This lovely aster is among the first to bloom in late summer. Small, white, daisy-like flowers with yellow centers that fade to red are borne atop dark green to black stems. A vigorous grower it is a favorite for attracting wildlife.*

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Eutrochium fistulosum* • Hollow Joe-Pye Weed



Sally & Andy Wasowski/Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



- 2–8 ft.
- Huge domed flower head, 6–14 in. across, with tiny pale, pinkish-lavender flowers in July–September
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist to wet, well-drained, humus-rich, sandy and clay soils
- Naturally found in floodplain forests, swamps, riverbanks, flood-scoured stream shores and bars, wet meadows, low pastures, and ditches

*Joe Pye weed has outstanding ornamental attributes. It is a substantial plant that needs space, but when planted in groups or massed can provide spectacular flowering and architectural height.*

An important source of nectar for pollinators. Attracts birds and numerous pollinators. Special value to native bees.

## *Geranium maculatum* • Wild Geranium, Spotted Geranium



Judy Gallagher



- 8 in.–2 ft. 4 in.
- Lavender flowers are in loose clusters of 2–5 in April–June
- Full sun to part shade
- Moderate, highly acidic to calcium-rich soils; needs moisture if sited in full sun
- Naturally found in upland and floodplain forests

*Wild Geranium's lovely lavender blooms are a spring favorite! Unlike most other spring bloomers, this plant retains its attractive foliage all season long. Genus name comes from the Greek word geranos meaning crane in reference to the fruit that purportedly resembles the head and beak of a crane.*

Attracts birds. Special value to bumble bees and other native bees.

## *Gaultheria procumbens* • Wintergreen, Teaberry



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 6–12 in., semi-woody ground cover
- Pink to white nodding, bell-shaped flowers in June–August followed by aromatic red; dark green leaves turn reddish with the advent of cold weather
- Part shade to full shade;
- Dry to evenly moist, acidic, well-drained, organically rich soils
- Naturally found in acidic woodlands, pine woodlands, bogs

*Wintergreen has creeping underground stems, thus forming small colonies of plants, making it a nice ground cover.*

*Leaves and fruit have the aroma and taste of wintergreen. Quite tolerant of shade but grows and flowers best in sunny openings with light shade during midday.*

Bright-red, showy berries may persist through winter, making this plant an excellent food source for wildlife and providing four-season interest.

## *Helenium autumnale* • Common or Autumn Sneezeweed



Lucile Kossodo/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 1.5–5 ft.
- Yellow daisy-like flowers with fan-shaped rays in July–November
- Sun
- Moist, clay soils
- Naturally found in open meadows, bogs, along streams and ponds; wet meadows

*Sneezeweed does not cause sneezing. The common name is based upon the former use of its dried leaves in making snuff, inhaled to cause sneezing that would supposedly rid the body of evil spirits. The leaves, flowers, seeds are poisonous to humans and toxic if eaten in large quantities.*

A beautiful attraction in your landscape with many elongated leaves and numerous flower heads, which attract butterflies and bees.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Helianthus angustifolius* • Narrow-leaved Sunflower



- 3–8 feet
- Bright yellow flowers in August–October
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist to wet soils; clay, loam, sandy acid-based
- Naturally found in bogs, ditches, wet clearings

*Narrow-leaved Sunflower has the narrowest leaves. This perennial can be used for ornamental bogs and ponds.*

Conspicuous flowers on Narrow-leaved Sunflower attract birds and native bees.

## *Heuchera americana* • American Alumroot



- Leaves up to 6 inches; flowering stems 1–2 feet
- Leafless, hairy, sticky flower stalk rises 18–36 inches and surrounds its upper third with loosely grouped, minute, greenish, cup-shaped flowers in April–June
- Part shade to full shade
- Dry to moist soils
- Naturally found in rocky woodlands and outcrops of various geologic formations; tolerant of a range of rock types and chemistries

*This species has interesting foliage. It is a good rock garden plant and a good groundcover in shady gardens. It also grows well in pots. Deer resistant.*

Attracts small bees.

## *Hepatica americana* • Round-lobed Hepatica, Liverleaf



- 4–6 in.
- Usually Lavender flowers in March–April; color can range from white to pink to pale blue to lavender
- Part shade to full shade
- Dry to moist, well-drained, humus rich soils; high drought tolerance
- Naturally found in upland forests, rocky woodlands, and well-drained floodplain forests

*The common name of liverleaf refers to the supposed liver-like leaf shape and perhaps also to the liver-like color of the overwintering brown leaves. The genus, hepatica, also called liverleaf, was once believed to have therapeutic value in the treatment of liver diseases.*

A striking plant with beautiful, dainty flowers, *Hepatica* is one of the earliest spring wildflowers. Attracts bees.

## *Hibiscus moscheutos* • Swamp or Eastern Rose-mallow



- 3–8 ft.
- Creamy-white flowers with a red center in July–October
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Wet or moist soils
- Naturally found in edges of salt marshes but is more common in upper-valley wetlands

*Clumps of Swamp Rose-mallow start to grow late in the season and flower over a long period in late summer. Rose mallow is easily grown from seed. Seeds are ready to collect when they are dark-brown.*

Strikingly showy species with large, heart-shaped leaves. It is a nectar source for hummingbirds.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Iris virginica* • Virginia Blue Flag



- 3–6 ft.
- White and blue flowers with 3 petal-like sepals in May
- Sun
- Moist, rich acid soils
- Naturally found in marshes, wet pinelands, swamps, and wet meadows

*This conspicuous, showy iris is highly deer resistant. It is an ideal plant for edges of ponds, lily pools, drainage ditches.*

Valued for its ornamental blooms and color. Attracts birds. Depends on hummingbirds, which feed on the nectar, for pollination.

## *Liatris pilosa* • Grass-leaf or Gayfeather Blazing Star



- 1.5 ft.
- Lavender flowers in July–November
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Poor-average loam with sand gravel, clay, acid moderate soils
- Naturally found in dry woodlands, shale barrens, clearings, and roadsides

*Blazing Star belies the notion that straight native plants can't compete with cultivars or non-natives for show. Great for use in bouquets and it makes a stunning accent in the garden.*

Important nectar plant for native bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies. It hosts four species of native caterpillars. Good for use in rain gardens.

## *Kosteletzyka pentacarpos* • Seashore or Salt Marsh Mallow



- 3–6 ft.
- Light pink, occasionally white flowers in June–October
- Sun
- Moist soils, prefers sand, but will tolerate clay, somewhat salt tolerant; does better with high acidity
- Naturally found in brackish marshes, coastal plains, swamps

*The flowers of the Seashore Mallow close at night. This perennial takes 5 years to fully mature and lives for 5 years. It is easily propagated from seed.*

Great color in late summer through fall, this pretty two-inch flower attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.

## *Liatris squarrosa* • Scaly Blazing Star



- 1-2 feet
- Tufted red-violet flower heads are openly spaced on a spike along the top of the stem in July–August
- Full sun
- Sandy to loamy soils
- Naturally found in dry woodlands, clearings, fields, meadows and roadsides

*The species name squarrosa means "curved tips" and refers to the ends of the spiked flower heads. This species is one of the many studied by the German botanist Carl Ludwig Willdenow, who laid the foundations for the scientific study of plant distribution.*

An excellent nectar source for hummingbirds, butterflies, native bees, and other pollinators. Flowers are a stunning garden accent.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Lilium superbum* • Turk's-cap Lily



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 4–8 ft.
- Red, orange, yellow in July–September
- Full sun
- Moist, loam, sand, acidic soils; good drainage essential
- Naturally found in meadows, swamps, wood's edge

*The recurved sepals and petals of Turk's-cap Lily, which presumably resemble a type of cap worn by early Turks, and the showy extruded stamens are distinctive features. Indians used the bulbs for soup.*

Largest and most spectacular of the native lilies of our region; up to 40 flowers have been recorded on a single plant.

## *Mertensia virginica* • Virginia Bluebell, Virginia Cowslip



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 8–28 inches
- Lavender-blue, bell-shaped in March–May
- Well-drained moist soils
- Part shade to full shade
- Naturally found in floodplains, slope forests

*This species is ephemeral, which means that its foliage dies back in summer. Interplant with other perennials. Reseeds freely. When it grows in masses, this species makes a spectacular show.*

Pollinated by long-tongued bees, but supports many other early pollinators.

## *Lobelia cardinalis* • Cardinal Flower



Alli Baird, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–6 ft.
- Red flowers in July–October
- Sun to full shade
- Moist to wet, humus-rich, sandy & clay soils
- Naturally found in low areas, woodlands edge, stream banks, roadsides, meadows

*Cardinal Flower is a short-lived perennial that self sows. The common name of this flower alludes to the bright red robes worn by Roman Catholic cardinals. All parts of this plant are toxic. This species is not drought tolerant.*

Valued for its ornamental blooms and color. Attracts birds. For pollination, it depends on hummingbirds, which feed on its nectar.

## *Opuntia humifusa* • Eastern Prickly-pear



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–2.5 ft., evergreen with 1–3 levels of flattened pads, each up to 10 in. long, 7 in. across, and 1.5 in. thick
- Yellow buds, one or more, can form on top of pad and each produces a single satiny-yellow flower about 3–4 in. across followed by a pear-like fruit in late spring to mid-summer
- Sun
- Dry, sandy soil
- Naturally found in rock outcrops

*The blooming period of Eastern Prickly-pear occurs from late spring to mid-summer and lasts about a month for a colony of plants, although each flower lasts only a single day. It is faster and easier to start new plants using pads rather than seeds.*

Attracts pollinating bees. A striking plant with beautiful, showy flowers.

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Phlox divaricata* ● Wild Blue Phlox, Woodland Phlox



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 5–18 inches
- Fragrant, lavender or pink flowers in April–May
- Filtered sunlight to light shade
- Rich, sandy or rocky, well-drained soils
- Naturally found in floodplain forests to open woods

*Often fragrant. Not rabbit or deer resistant. Divaricata refers to its sprawling habit.*

Attracts hummingbirds, long tongued bees, and butterflies.

## *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* ● Narrow-leaf Mountain-mint



Rochelle Bartolomei/VNPS



- 1–4 feet
- Whitish to lavender, with purple spots in June–September
- Sun to light shade
- Wet to dry soils
- Naturally found in meadows, fields, roadsides, riverside outcrops

*Silvery foliage and long blooming period. Rub leaves on skin to repel mosquitoes. Supports Conservation Biological Control, meaning it is a plant that attracts predatory or parasitoid insects that prey upon pest insects.*

Attracts bees, birds, butterflies. Special value to bumble bees, honey bees, and other native bees.

## *Phlox paniculata* ● Summer Phlox



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 3–6 ft.
- White to pink or lavender flowers in a 4–8 in. wide, pyramidal cluster in June–August
- Sun to part shade/sun
- Loam, tolerates clay soils
- Naturally found in rich, open woods; thickets; meadows; moist roadsides

*Fall Phlox needs at least 6 hours of sun in order to prevent powdery mildew.*

A showy clump-former.

## *Rudbeckia fulgida* ● Early Coneflower



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 2–3 feet
- Daisy-like yellow-orange flowers (to 2.5" across) with yellow rays and brownish-purple center disks in July–October
- Full sun to part shade
- Dry to moist, well drained soils
- Naturally found in dry to moist woodlands, barrens, clearings, old fields, meadows, and roadsides

*A member of the daisy family, orange coneflower makes a good cut flower while deadheading can prolong bloom.*

This showy native attracts butterflies and birds.



## *Rudbeckia hirta* • Black-eyed Susan



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–3.5 ft.
- Bright-yellow flower with dark-brown center in June–October
- Sun, part shade, shade; may bloom longer with some afternoon shade
- Moist to dry, well-drained acidic soils; drought tolerant
- Naturally found in meadows, pastures, woodland edges

*Black-eyed Susan forms mature seed cones about three to four weeks after flowering. (Check by breaking a cone open and if the seeds are dark, they are mature.) This plant is easy to grow and tolerant of most soils. It reseeds and establishes clumps.*

Cheerful blossoms liven up bouquets. Birds, especially goldfinches and chickadees, enjoy the ripe seeds. Nectar attracts bees, butterflies.

## *Saururus cernuus* • Lizard’s Tail, Water-dragon



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1.5–4 ft.
- White; May–Sep
- Part shade, shade
- Wet, moist, muddy soils (aquatic - up to 4 in. inundation)
- Naturally found in still water; wet lowlands; stream edges

*The common name and the genus name, from the Greek “sauros” (lizard) and “oura” (tail), depict the shape of the drooping flower cluster. Crushed foliage has a pleasant, sassafras aroma.*

Great spreading groundcover for moist soils, shallow water, and containers. Good for wetland gardens and habitat. Colonizes large areas. Attracts birds.

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## *Solidago* • Goldenrods



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

*Solidago* is a genus of 90 to 110 species. The species listed below are native to the Central Rappahannock and will add eye-catching, splashes of yellow and gold to home gardens and other cultivated landscapes in the late summer–early fall.

Goldenrods average one to four feet, but the taller species can reach eight feet. They grow in a broad range of soils, light, and moisture. They attract native bees, pollinators, butterflies. Goldenrods support the greatest number of caterpillars of any of the wildflowers -112 caterpillars, an important staple in a bird’s diet!

Goldenrod is often mistakenly believed to cause hayfever; the real offender is ragweed, which blooms at the same time. The heavy pollen of goldenrods can only be transported by insects while the tiny molecules of ragweed pollen is transported by wind and aggravates allergies.

### Species that grow in a range of part shade/part sun:

<i>Solidago caesia</i>	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod, Wreath Goldenrod
<i>Solidago odora</i>	Sweet Goldenrod
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Roughstemmed or Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod

### Species that prefer full sun:

<i>Solidago pinetorum</i>	Pineywoods Goldenrod, Small’s Goldenrod
<i>Solidago puberula</i>	Downy Goldenrod
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Rough-stemmed Goldenrod, Wrinkle-leaf Goldenrod
<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Seaside Goldenrod

# PERENNIALS (FORBS)

## *Symphotrichum novi-belgii* • New York Aster



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–4.5 ft.
- Purple, blue-violet; July–October
- Full sun
- Moist, loam soil
- Naturally found in meadows and fields

*This aster is sometimes called Michaelmas daisy because it blooms around September 29 which is St. Michael's Day. Novi-belgii means New Belgium and is a throwback to the days when the state of New York was known as New Belgium.*

Showy ornamental flower that attracts butterflies. A larval host to the Pearl Crescent butterfly (*Phyciodes tharos*).

## *Tradescantia virginiana* • Virginia Spiderwort



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–3 feet
- Blue to purple, sometimes rose or white, three-petaled flowers accented by contrasting yellow stamens in April–July
- Part shade to full shade
- Medium moisture, well-drained soil
- Naturally found in well-drained floodplain forests, upland forests, and rocky woodlands around outcrops

*Individual flowers of the Spiderwort open up a few at a time, each for only one day, from terminal clusters containing numerous flower buds. When the stems of spiderworts are cut, a viscous stem secretion is released which becomes threadlike and silky upon hardening (like a spider's web).*

Vibrant flowers attract bumblebees and other pollinators. Flowers bloom in succession through the season.

## *Tiarella cordifolia* • Foamflower



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 6–12 in.
- Tiny, white flowers with very long stamens appear in airy racemes in April–June; leaves turn a nice reddish bronze in fall
- Part shade to full shade
- Organically rich, moisture-retentive soils
- Naturally found in cool, moist, deciduous woods; stream banks

*Foamflower can be used as a groundcover as it spreads by underground rhizomes. Genus name comes from the Greek "tiara" meaning a small crown in reference to the form of the fruit.*

A showy, clump-forming perennial.

## *Vernonia noveboracensis* • New York Ironweed



Denise Greene/Sassafras Farm

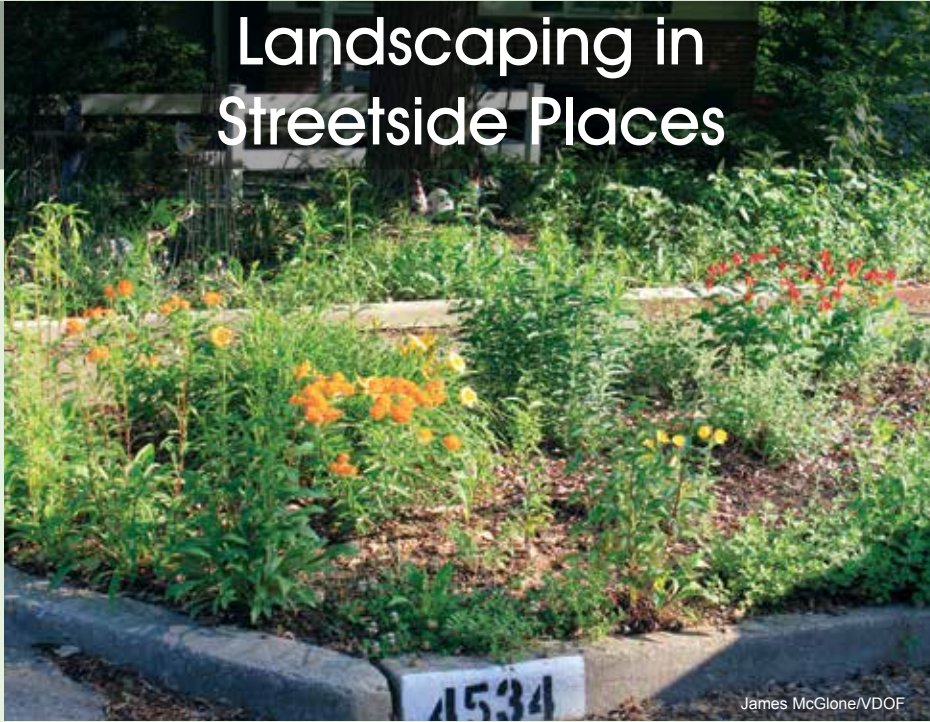


- 3–6 ft.
- Red-purple flowers in July–September
- Full sun to part shade
- Found in moist soils in the wild, but will flourish in regular or dry soil; tolerates clay and neutral to acidic conditions
- Naturally found in floodplain forests, riverbanks, meadows, roadsides

*As a tall, narrow plant, New York Ironweed is suited for the back of the border or tight spaces.*

Flowers attract butterflies and seed heads attract birds. Special value to native bees.

## Landscaping in Streetside Places



James McGlone/VDOF

Streetside environments experience dry, harsh conditions and are exposed to pollutants, dust, spray, salt, and compacted soil. Soil pH can also be affected through leaching from concrete curbs and sidewalks. The best street trees also happen to be marsh species adapted to an environment with saturated soil and low oxygen. Plant perennials such as *Achillea millefolium* - Common Yarrow, grasses such as *Panicum virgatum* - Switchgrass, and trees such as *Amelanchier arborea* - Downy Serviceberry.

A complete list of Central Rappahannock natives suitable for use in streetside spaces can be viewed on the *Plant Central Rapp Natives* campaign website at [www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org](http://www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org).

## Landscaping with Raingardens



Laurie Fox/VA Tech AREC

A rain garden is a landscape feature for managing stormwater or runoff. Think of a rain garden as a puddle with plants. It is a shallow depression (only 6-8" deep) that collects stormwater for a short period of time (less than 4 days so no mosquito breeding). Pollutants are filtered out of the water by the plants, soil, and soil microorganisms. The clean water then infiltrates downward to recharge the groundwater aquifer, evaporates or evapo-transpires through the plants back up into the atmosphere, or is absorbed and used by the plants. A rain garden can be placed at any point along the runoff pathway in the landscape and in sun or shade. When considering plants for a rain garden, remember that there are three planting zones—low (wettest), middle, and high (driest upper-edge area). Select plants based on the zone and on the size of the garden. Trees and larger shrubs may not be appropriate for smaller gardens.

Plant perennials such as *Symphotrichum novi-belgi* - New York Aster, *Eutrochium fistulosum* - Joe-pye Weed, grasses such as *Panicum virgatum* - Switchgrass, and shrubs such as *Ilex verticillata* - Winterberry Holly.

A complete list of Central Rappahannock natives suitable for use in raingardens can be viewed on the *Plant Central Rapp Natives* campaign website at [www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org](http://www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org).



Lucile Kossodo/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

There are thousands of species of ferns in the world. Ferns have many parts somewhat similar to flowering plants. The frond, which can vary greatly in size, is the part of the fern that we notice as the leaf. These fronds arise from rhizomes which are comparable to “stems” in flowering plants. Then below are the roots. Modern ferns have no flowers or seeds; this is what distinguishes them from other plants. They reproduce by means of miniature sacks or capsules containing dust-like spores. A fern may drop millions of spores but few find the appropriate conditions to grow into a fern. A fern can die back to the ground in fall and regrow in spring or be evergreen throughout the year. Ferns can grow in a variety of landscapes, climates, and growing conditions. For gardens with some or much shade, they can offer varied texture, shapes, and many shades of green and plant forms. They have also been used to remediate contaminated soils and have been the subject of research for their ability to filter some chemical pollutants from the air. They continue to play a role in mythology, medicine, and art.

## FERNS

### *Adiantum pedatum* ● Northern Maidenhair Fern



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program

Provides shelter for toads and lizards. Brings grace and beauty to the shady garden. Can be used in flower arrangements.

- 1 to 2.5 ft.
- Reproduces by spores in June–August
- Stems are greenish-yellow to red
- Full shade to part sun
- Moist, humus-rich, well-drained soils; does not tolerate clay; not drought tolerant
- Naturally found in woodlands

*Best used as a ground cover in the woodland or rock garden or as an edge or border in the shaded garden. A very popular native North American fern that spreads by shallow rhizomes. Propagate by dividing rhizomes in the spring. Bright light will reduce the size of the fronds. Doesn't do very well in full sun.*

### *Athyrium asplenoides* ● Southern Lady Fern



Helen Hamilton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Hosts three species of native caterpillars.

- 2–3 ft.; slow-growing clumps; small colonies of plants are often produced from rhizomes
- Stems are greenish-yellow to red
- Part sun/shade to full shade
- Loam, rich, loose, well-drained, acid–moderate soils
- Naturally found in upland forests, well-drained floodplain forests, swamp forest hummocks

*Southern Lady fern has beautiful upright feathery fronds which give the illusion of a dainty fern. It can be used as a groundcover plant on the northeast side of buildings. Protect it from wind.*

## *Onoclea sensibilis* ● Sensitive Fern



Helen Hamilton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

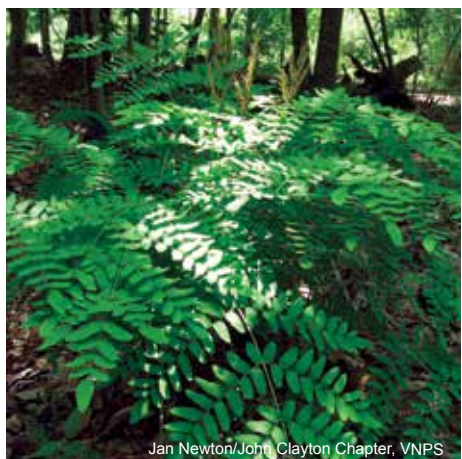
Deer and rabbit resistant. Attracts birds. Shelters salamanders and frogs.



- 1 to 2 ft.
- Produces spores in pod-like structures
- Stems are greenish-yellow to red
- Full shade to part sun
- Moist, well-drained, loose soils; needs consistent moisture but will spread freely by rhizomes in moist, loose soils
- Naturally found in woodlands

*Best used as a groundcover in the shaded or woodland garden. Named the sensitive fern because the fronds turn yellow and die down with the first frost. But don't worry, the rhizomes will produce new leaves in the spring.*

## *Osmunda spectabilis* ● Royal Fern



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Foliage can provide cover for wildlife when grown en masse. Hosts six species of native caterpillars, including the Osmunda Borer moth (*Papaipema speciosissima*).

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*



- 2–5 ft.; forms a symmetric clump 18 in. wide
- Grows slowly from rhizome stem
- Part sun/shade, shade
- Wet, sandy, clay or loam, acidic soils, tolerates year-round, standing but not moving, shallow water
- Naturally found in freshwater wetlands, bogs, fens, floodplain forests, and along streambanks

*The form and texture of Royal Fern are unique. The fronds are cut twice into large rounded leaflets, resulting in foliage that resembles that of the pea family. It can spread to be a groundcover. One of the most widespread of all living species; it is found on every continent except Australia.*

## *Osmundastrum cinnamomeum* ● Cinnamon Fern



Ken Lawless

Fuzz covering young fiddleheads is a favorite bird nesting material. Hosts three species of native caterpillars, including the Osmunda Borer moth (*Papaipema speciosissima*).



- 2–6 ft.; frequently forms large clumps and spreads by rhizomes
- Thick, spore-bearing spikes, or fronds, that turn from green to chocolate brown appear April–May
- Full sun to full shade
- Muddy, sandy, clay or loam, acidic soils
- Naturally found in upland forests, swamps, wet flatwoods, bogs, fens, pocosins, floodplain forests, alluvial and tidal swamps

*The fronds of Cinnamon Fern occur in groups, rising from a shallow, black rootstock. Fertile fronds appear first as silvery, furry fiddleheads and become stiff and erect creating a dramatic feature in the landscape with the infertile fronds bending outwards, encircling fertile fronds.*

## *Polystichum acrostichoides* ● Christmas Fern



Irvine Wilson/DCR Natural Heritage Program

Deer and rabbit resistant. Attracts butterflies and birds. Evergreen, even in severe winters. Good border or adaptable accent plant.



- Fronds 1–1.5 ft., taller when fertile; reproduces by spores
- Part shade to full shade
- Rich or poor soil; tolerates drought but prefers moist, not wet, soils; does not tolerate standing water
- Naturally found in woodlands, stream banks, and ravines

*Called Christmas Fern because it is still green around Christmas time. Consider planting rhizome at an angle since crown rot is a problem in poorly drained soils. Consider massing on slopes, including dry rocky ones, to combat erosion.*



Jan Newton./John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Vines are often rapidly growing climbing or twining plants that can offer many benefits to the homeowner. The plants can be trained over walls, pergolas, arches, fences, brick and stones. They can be used for screening and for energy conservation through passive solar heating and cooling in the landscape. Vines can grow by various means to attach themselves to supporting structures. Some like Clematis use petioles or twisted stems. Some like Virginia Creeper use both petioles and adhesive pads that attach themselves to the support. Still others like Maypop use tendrils to attach themselves. Vines give shelter to many birds and provide birds with protected areas in which to build their nests.

## VINES

### *Clematis virginiana* ● Virgin's Bower



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.

*Caution this plant is poisonous and can cause skin irritation if touched. If burned the smoke is toxic.*

- 12–15 ft.
- Clusters of creamy white flowers turning into showy sprays of silky seeds that glisten with backlighting in July–September
- Sun to full shade
- Moist to dry, rich soils
- Naturally found in woods, thickets, stream banks

*Lacking tendrils, Virgin's Bower, a deciduous vine, supports itself by means of twisted stems, or petioles, that wrap around other plants. These fast-growing stems can grow 20 feet in one year. They may be pruned at any time during the growing season.*

### *Lonicera sempervirens* ● Trumpet or Coral Honeysuckle



Jan Newton./John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies; and fruit attracts Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Hermit Thrush, and American Robin. Host to 33 caterpillars including Spring Azure Butterfly and Hummingbird Clearwing moth.

- 3–20 ft.
- Red outer, sometimes yellow inner, tubular flowers with heaviest bloom in March–July followed by bright-red berries
- Full sun (best for blooming) to part sun/shade
- Adaptable to many soil conditions; tolerates poor drainage for short periods
- Naturally found in a wide range of natural habitats

*Great for arbors, and valued for its evergreen habit. Deer resistant. The yellow blooming Lonicera sempervirens, John Clayton, was discovered in Gloucester County by Sylvia Sterling, a member of the John Clayton Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society.*

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

# VINES

## ***Parthenocissus quinquefolia*** ● Virginia Creeper



- 3–40 ft.; structure it climbs is the limiting factor to its height
- Yellowish-green flowers in May–June, followed by berries that turn from red to mauve to black
- Sun to part shade
- Adaptable to different soils
- Naturally found in forested to open habitats, streams, riverbanks

*Virginia Creeper has brilliant fall color. It tolerates pollution and can be pruned to control its growth. A vigorous grower, it adheres to walls, arbors etc. via adhesive discs and may even be used as a ground cover for erosion control.*

Berries eaten by songbirds, but are toxic to humans. Foliage provides cover for birds. Hosts 32 species of native caterpillars, including Virginia Creeper Moth.

## ***Passiflora incarnata*** ● Maypop, Purple Passionvine



- 6–30 ft.
- Lavender, 3-inch, flowers in May–September
- Sun (best) to part shade
- Moist, rich clay and sandy non-saline soils
- Naturally found in roadsides, fields, forest borders

*The fruit of Maypop is a large greenish-yellow berry with edible pulp. This vine is excellent for use on arbors, fences, walls and columns. The name Maypop comes from the hollow, yellow fruits that pop loudly when crushed. Maypop spreads easily by root suckers that can be contained by removing suckers or mowing.*

Flowers attract native bees. Hosts 5 species of caterpillars including Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*) and Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*).

**Native Plants for Central Rappahannock**

## Landscaping in Wet Shade



If you have soils that are periodically or frequently flooded or just slow to drain, there are natives that prefer to grow in those conditions. The native plant species listed here are easy to grow in moist, shady habitats. It is easier to work with the conditions on your site than trying to adjust the site to fit the plant needs.

Plant perennials such as *Lobelia cardinalis* - Cardinal Lobelia, shrubs such as *Aronia arbutifolia* - Red Chokeberry and trees such as *Magnolia virginiana* - Sweetbay Magnolia.

A complete list of Central Rappahannock natives suitable for use in wet shade can be viewed on the *Plant Central Rapp Natives* campaign website at [www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org](http://www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org).



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program

Grasses, sedges, and rushes are herbaceous plants; that is, they are non-woody plants. Their leaves and stems are generally narrow, but there is a wide variety in their height and spread. Grasses, sedges and rushes are valuable for horticultural, conservation, and ecological purposes. In this varied plant group are found species that thrive in many different soils, moisture, and growing conditions. Humans, grazing animals, small mammals, birds, butterflies, and pollinators all find benefits in these plants, from aesthetic to life-sustaining. Useful for wildlife and horticultural purposes. *Elymus hystrix* – bottlebrush grass (pictured) tolerates dry to medium wet soils, part shade to full sun, and grows to an average height of 2–4 feet.

## GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES

### *Andropogon virginicus* • Broomsedge



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program

- 1–3 ft.
- Yellow, reddish-brown; August–November
- Part shade
- Moist or dry, sandy soils
- Naturally found in dry fields; thin woods; upper shores of ponds

*Broomsedge's seeds are striking in fall and winter when the fine hairs of the expanded racemes catch the sunlight. The attractive clump-forming, perennial grass turns a tawny brown in fall.*

Helps control erosion on disturbed lands and provides cover, nesting material, and seeds food for birds.

### *Carex pensylvanica* • Pennsylvania Sedge



DCR Natural Heritage Program

- 6–12 inches
- April–June
- Full sun to full shade
- Dry to moist soils
- Naturally found in rocky woods

*Plant enriches soil and makes a nice groundcover. Spreads by rhizomes. Many other sedges also make handsome, easy-care groundcovers.*

Attracts birds.



# GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES

## *Panicum virgatum* ● Switchgrass



- 3–6 ft.
- Red-purple seed head in August–October
- Sun
- Dry to moist, sandy, clay or loam soils; poor drainage is OK
- Naturally found in open areas and along streambanks

*Switchgrass is a clump-forming, warm-season grass with bright green leaves up and down the stem, turning bright yellow in fall. Grows in large clumps, with many persistent, curly leaves. It is pollinated by wind. It has become of major interest as a source of biofuels and to revegetate surfaces such as mined land.*

Attracts birds and butterflies. Host plant for the Delaware Skipper (*Anatrytone logan*) and the Dotted Skipper (*Hespera attalus*). Can also provide garden accent.

## *Schizachyrium scoparium* ● Little Bluestem



- Very dense mounds at 1.5–4 ft.
- White seedhead in August–October
- Full sun, part shade
- Dry, well-drained, sandy, clay or loam soils
- Naturally found in woodland edges, hillsides, slopes, and open areas

*Wonderful planted en masse, Little Bluestem provides a changing visual dynamic that ranges from blue-green stems in late summer to radiant mahogany-red, white-tufted seed heads in fall. A reddish-tan color persists during winter. It is an excellent plant in inhospitable conditions.*

In winter, fuzzy white seeds of particular value to small birds. Provides nesting material. Of value to native bees. Host to six species of native caterpillars.

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## Landscaping in Dry Shade



Plants suited to grow in dry shade gardening conditions are listed here. Choose your plants for season of bloom, flowers or fruit, fall color, attracting pollinators, etc. so you have interest throughout the year. A dry, shady habitat such as a pine, or broadleaf oak and maple woods will generally have shallow soils and dense tree roots which can make establishing new plants challenging. Compost with chopped up leaves, pine needles, or other material will help dry shade gardens get through dry spells.

Plant perennials such as *Chrysogonum virginianum* - Green and Gold, shrubs such as *Viburnum dentatum* - Arrowwood and trees such as *Cercis canadensis* - Eastern Redbud.

A complete list of Central Rappahannock natives suitable for use in dry shade can be viewed on the *Plant Central Rapp Natives* campaign website at [www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org](http://www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org).

# S H R U B S



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Shrubs often form the backbone of our landscapes. They are the transitional zone between lower growing perennials and ground cover and the taller tree canopy. They provide significant habitat for resident and migratory bird populations, especially along the edges of fragmented forests, and also in places that may not be appropriate for larger trees. As woody plants, shrubs can provide overwintering locations for insects, and shelter for birds. Evergreen shrubs in particular can function as living screens in a hedgerow or provide birds respite from harsh winter winds and low temperatures. Many shrubs also offer flowers for pollinators and berries for birds, mammals, and people. It is important to introduce biodiversity into your shrub selections to provide multi-season habitat, as well as multi-season visual interest. For example, some shrubs, like Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), may begin flowering very early in spring, providing early color in the landscape and a source of pollen for pollinators when they emerge on warmer days. Summer brings a plethora of blooms, but birds and mammals need the shade offered by shrubs to escape from the heat on warm, sunny days. Fall starts to bring berries and seeds, many of which persist into winter, like the beautiful native Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), which provides food for resident mammals and birds and fuel for migrating species.

## SHRUBS

### *Alnus serrulata* • Smooth or Hazel Alder



Irvine Wilson/DCR-NH

- 10–20 ft., multiple-trunked, deciduous shrub or small tree; foliage becomes yellow, tinged with red, in fall
- Flowers are purple catkins; males in drooping clusters, females in upright clusters (March–April); fruit resembles a small, woody cone and persists from August–February
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Wet or moist, fine sandy loams; clay and flood tolerant
- Naturally found in boggy ground near water; best for streambanks, pond margins

Use to improve wildlife habitat (space 5–10 ft. apart to allow for crown development and to optimize seed production). Birds feed on the seed.

*Smooth Alder is the only alder native to the southeastern United States. Its flexible stems and fibrous root system make it very suitable for streambank stabilization.*

### *Aronia arbutifolia* • Red Chokeberry



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

- 6–10 ft., deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub grows in vase-shaped form
- Many clusters of small, white to light pink flowers in April followed by bright red berries that persist into December
- Average, medium moisture, well-drained soil; tolerant of clay soil
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Naturally found in wet and dry thickets; good for naturalized areas where it can sucker

Nectar source for pollinators. Berries persist through much of the winter, and are occasionally eaten by songbirds.

*Red Chokeberry is one of the best shrubs for brilliant fall color—intense, shiny, raspberry to crimson, with purplish highlights. Can also have some orange mixed in, especially in shady sites.*

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## Aronia melanocarpa • Black Chokeberry



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 3–6 ft., spreading, multibranched shrub or sometimes small tree
- White 5-petaled flowers in 5–6 clusters in May; glossy dark green leaves (to 2–3" long) with finely toothed margins; black autumn berries (blueberry size) and purple/red fall color
- Full sun to part shade
- Wide range of soils - grows in both rocky habitats and wetlands; flood tolerant
- Naturally found in rocky open woodlands, barrens, bogs, and fens

Attracts birds. Good four-season plant.

*The common name of chokeberry refers to the tart and bitter taste of the fruits, which are technically edible but extremely astringent.*

## Clethra alnifolia • Coastal White-alder, Pepperbush



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- Narrow, 3–8 ft., deciduous shrub, which often spreads into mounded clumps
- Spike-like, upright clusters of fragrant white flowers in July–August. The shrub's leaves turn yellow to golden brown in fall
- Sun, part sun/shade
- Average, medium to wet soils; tolerates clay and salt-spray tolerant
- Naturally found in swampy woodlands, wet marshes, stream banks, and seashores; often in sandy soils

*Coastal White-alder forms sizable patches. Promptly remove root suckers unless naturalized look is desired. Propagate by cuttings and prune if needed in late winter. Its dry fruiting capsules remain long after flowering and help identify this plant in winter.*

Versatile, carefree shrub that is remarkably free of any disease, insect, or physiological problems. Flowers attract butterflies and bees.

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## Cephalanthus occidentalis • Buttonbush, Button Willow



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 5–12 ft., spreading, multibranched shrub or sometimes small tree
- Balls of long-lasting white or pale-pink flowers resembling pincushions in June–September, button-like balls of fruit; rounded masses of nutlets that persist through the winter
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Prefers wet soil, including flooding and standing fresh water
- Naturally found in wet open areas, low woods, swamps, river bottomland, and stream/pond margins

Ducks and other water-birds and shorebirds consume the seeds, and its nectar attracts bees and butterflies.

*Pruning Buttonbush is usually not necessary, but may be done in early spring to shape. If plants become unmanageable, they may be cut back near to the ground in early spring to revitalize.*

## Cornus amomum • Silky Dogwood



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 6–12 ft., deciduous shrub
- Yellowish white flowers in May–June; blue, berry-like drupes in August
- Sun, part sun/shade; tolerates close to full shade
- Average, medium to wet, well-drained soils
- Naturally found in moist lowland areas, swamp borders, floodplains, shrub wetlands, and along streams and ponds

Birds are attracted to the fruit.

*Shrub bark of Silky Dogwood was used by Native Americans for tobacco.*

# SHRUBS

## *Eubotrys racemosus* • Fetterbush, Swamp Dog-hobble



Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 3–6 ft., evergreen, colonizing shrub with gracefully arching, green and red stems from the base; leaves are pointed and very serrated
- Small, fragrant, white urn-shaped white flowers grow in 2–3 inch long racemes in March–May; followed by fruit capsule
- Part sun/shade
- Moist, acidic soils
- Naturally found in alluvial and tidal swamps; wet flatwoods, bogs, seepage swamps, depression ponds, and other acidic wetlands

Attracts butterflies.

*In full sun, Fetterbush has purplish foliage in the fall. Protect it from winter wind. It is used for naturalizing, as a border with taller plants and for shady bank stabilization.*

## *Hamamelis virginiana* • Witch Hazel



Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 10–15 ft. (sometimes up to 30 ft.), multi-trunked shrub with large, crooked, spreading branches forming an irregular, open crown
- Yellow, fragrant flowers with straplike, crumpled petals appear in the fall, persisting for some time after leaf drop in September–December; lettuce-green, deciduous leaves maintain a rich consistency into fall when they turn brilliant gold
- Sun to full shade
- Moist, sandy, clay, acidic and calcareous soils
- Naturally found in moist woods, thickets, bottomlands

Birds eat the fruits (small brown capsules). Has brilliant fall color and flowering.

## *Euonymus americanus* • Strawberry-bush, Heart's-a-bustin'



Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 6–10 ft., narrow, deciduous, green-stemmed shrub, which often spreads into mounded clumps
- Small, white flowers in July–August develop into colorful, decorative seed pods
- Sun to full shade
- Moist to dry acidic soils
- Naturally found in forests and thickets

*The leaves of Strawberry-bush turn dull yellow to orange in autumn. Dry fruiting capsules remain long after flowering and help identify this plant in winter. Deer love it.*

Versatile, carefree shrub that is remarkably free of any disease, insect, or physiological problems.

## *Hydrangea arborescens* • Wild Hydrangea



Yolima Carr



- 3–8 ft., mound-shaped, slender-branched, deciduous shrub
- Small, white flowers bloom in May–June in 4-inch spires that droop with the arching branches; flowers open from base to tip so that the plant appears to bloom for a long time; leaves turn red to purple in fall and persist well into the winter
- Full sun, part shade; blooms best, and has better fall color, if it receives full sun at least part of the day
- Moist, sandy, loam, clay, acid soils
- Naturally found in stream banks, bogs

Larval host of the Hydrangea sphinx moth (*Darapsa versicolor*). Can grow in areas of poor drainage, and is very effective in massed plantings.

*Wild hydrangea suckers freely, creeping over large areas. Fast-growing and short-lived, it can be cut to the ground every winter.*

## *Hypericum prolificum* • Shrubby St. Johnswort



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 1–5 ft., compact, deciduous, rounded shrub; dark green, lance-shaped leaves are 2–3" long; cone-shaped seed capsules split in autumn to release black seeds
- 5-petaled, bright yellow flowers (to 1" diameter) with numerous, yellow stamens in June–August
- Full sun to part shade
- Tolerates wide variety of soils (clay, dry rocky, or sandy); prefers medium water but flood tolerant
- Naturally found in dry, open forests, rocky woodlands, barrens, clearings, riverside prairies, outcrops, rich floodplain forests, fens

Bark of older stems exfoliates to reveal attractive, pale orange inner bark in the winter.

*Plants of the genus Hypericum were apparently gathered and burned to ward off evil spirits on the eve of St. John's Day.*

## *Ilex verticillata* • Winterberry



Helen Hamilton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 3–12 ft., slow-growing, deciduous shrub with upright, rounded habit
- Greenish-white flowers in May–June; red berries (female) late summer to winter
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Average, acidic, dry, medium to wet soils; tolerates clay
- Naturally found in swamps, damp thickets, low woods and along ponds and streams

Attracts birds as well as butterflies and other nectar-consuming insects. Showy in early winter when covered by bright red fruit.

*The leaves of Winterberry are not shaped with sharp teeth like other hollies and are not evergreen. Like Ilex glabra, Ilex verticillata are either male or female--a trait typical of the holly family.*

## *Ilex glabra* • Inkberry, Gallberry



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 5–8 ft., mound-shaped, colony-forming shrub; lance-shaped, glossy, leathery leaves vary in color from dark- to light-green both in summer and fall
- Greenish-white flowers May–June; if pollinated, female flowers give way to pea-sized, black, berry-like drupes which mature in early fall and persist throughout winter
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Wet to moist, sandy, acid soils; flood tolerant
- Naturally found in sandy woods and edges of swamps and bogs

Birds eat berries. Inkberry is also of special value to honey bees. Gallberry honey is a highly-rated honey. Pest free.

*You must have both a male and female plant to have berries. The male must bloom at the same time.*

## *Itea virginica* • Virginia Sweetspire



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 3–4 ft., mound-shaped, slender-branched, deciduous shrub; leaves turn red to purple in fall and persist well into the winter
- White flowers in May–June
- Sun to part sun/shade; blooms best and has better fall color if grown in an area that receives full sun at least part of the day
- Average, medium to wet, soils
- Naturally found in pine barrens, swamps, streambanks, and other moist habitats

Attracts birds, butterflies and other nectar-consuming insects. Provides a long period of fall color, often into early winter.

*Virginia Sweetspire is a versatile shrub for sunny to shady areas and tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. Can grow in swamps and other areas of poor drainage.*

# SHRUBS

## *Kalmia latifolia* • Mountain Laurel



Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 12–20 ft., thicket-forming evergreen shrub, sometimes a small tree with crooked trunk and spreading branches
- Bell-shaped, white to pink flowers with deep rose spots in large flat-topped clusters in May–July; glossy leaves change from light green to dark green to purple throughout year
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Cool, moist, rich acidic, humusy, well-drained soil; does not do well in clay
- Naturally found in rocky or sandy woods

*Mountain Laurel, one of the most beautiful native flowering shrubs, needs afternoon shade to thrive. Prune lightly after bloom to promote a bushier habit. All parts of the plant are toxic if ingested.*

Stamens of its flowers have a springlike mechanism, which spreads pollen when tripped by a bee. Birds and small mammals eat fruit.

## *Morella cerifera* • Wax Myrtle, Southern Bayberry



Irvine Wilson/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 6–15 ft., multi-trunked, evergreen shrub; can reach 20 ft. in height
- Green flowers in March–April; pale blue berries occur on female plants in winter
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist to wet, sandy, slightly acidic soils (fast-growing; drought- and flood-tolerant once established)
- Naturally found in forest, marshes, fresh to slightly brackish stream banks, and swamps

*Wax Myrtle leaves are aromatic, with an appealing, piquant fragrance when crushed. If you want berries you must have male plants close enough to the berry-producing female plants for pollination to occur.*

Attracts birds and butterflies. Fallen leaves are larval host of the Red-Banded Hairstreak butterfly (*Calycoptis cecrops*). Popular ornamental used for screens and hedges.

## *Lindera benzoin* • Northern Spicebush, Spicebush



Jan Newton, John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 6–12 ft., single- or few-stemmed, fast-growing, deciduous shrub
- Dense clusters of tiny, pale yellow flowers bloom in March–April; glossy red fruit in September–October
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist, sandy, well-drained soils (better form, more berries with sun)
- Naturally found in open woods, glades, fields and roadsides

*Northern Spicebush is a fast-growing shrub for moist, shady places. Fruit and foliage are aromatic. Leaves turn a golden-yellow in fall. This species has separate male and female plants. Deer avoid it.*

Larval host for the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*) and Spicebush Swallowtail (*Papilio troilus*). Fruits are a special favorite of wood thrushes.

## *Physocarpus opulifolius* • Ninebark



Irvine Wilson/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 5–10 ft., deciduous shrub with recurved branches. Bark is brown to orangish, peeling into thin strips or broader sheets on larger trunks
- Clusters of small white flowers May–June
- Full sun to full shade
- Moist to wet, mineral-rich (including calcium) soils
- Naturally found in rocky open woodlands, cliffs, outcrops, rocky river shores, stream banks

*The ability to grow quickly in harsh conditions makes this shrub especially suitable for erosion control on banks. Disease-resistant and drought-tolerant.*

Value to songbirds, waterfowl, small mammals, and beneficial insects. Special value to native bees and honey bees.

## *Rhododendron periclymenoides* • Wild Azalea, Pinxter Azalea



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

- 3–6 ft., shrub with picturesque, horizontal branching
- Funnel-shaped, pink or white flowers with protruding stamens occur in large fragrant clusters, appearing before or with the leaves in April–May
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Acidic, humusy, organically rich, medium moisture, well drained; tolerant of dry sites
- Naturally found in moist to dry woods, swamp margins, open areas

*The flowers of Wild Azalea often appear before its leaves are fully expanded.*

Especially showy flowers. Nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds. Seeds attract birds.



## *Rhododendron viscosum* • Swamp Azalea or Honeysuckle



Irvine Wilson/DCR-NH

- 3–5 ft., loose, open, deciduous shrub growing to 12 ft. in width
- White flowers with a pleasantly sweet, spicy fragrance and a long, slender lavender-colored corolla tube appear after the leaves in May–July; fall foliage is orange to maroon
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Wet, acidic, humusy, well-drained loam; flood tolerant
- Naturally found in swampy lowland areas

*The fragrant flowers of Swamp Azalea with their sticky corolla have given this shrub the name Swamp honeysuckle, although it is unrelated to honeysuckles. Viscosum means sticky in Latin.*

Beautifully flowered ornamental.



## *Rhus aromatica* • Fragrant Sumac



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program

- 2–4 ft.
- March–May; fruit,; leaves turn attractive shades of orange, red and purple in autumn
- Full sun to part shade
- Tolerates a wide range of soils except those that are poorly drained
- Naturally found in dry, rocky forests, woodlands, barrens, and clearings

*Although smaller, the leaves of Fragrant Sumac resemble those of Poison Ivy (Rhus radicans), but this Sumac is totally non-poisonous plant. The bark of all sumacs has been used as an astringent, and leaves and bark can be used for tanning leather because of the high tannin content.*

Fruit is an important winter food for birds and small mammals. Thickets of fragrant sumac provide cover for many species of birds and small mammals.

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*



## *Rosa carolina* • Carolina Rose, Pasture Rose



Gaylan Meyer/VNPS

- 3–6 ft., freely suckering shrub
- Pink flowers from thorny stems—fragrant, 2 inch wide, 5-petaled—occur singly or in small clusters in May–June; fruit, a hip, turns from dark green to bright red as it ripens
- Sun
- Average, medium to wet, well-drained, acidic soils; drought-tolerant
- Naturally found in glades, open woods, prairies, along roads and railroads, along streams, swamps, and low areas

*Although one of the most shade-tolerant roses, Carolina Rose grows best in open sunny locations. Naturally disease-resistant compared to other rose species.*

Attracts birds. Special value to bumblebees and other native bees, who nest beneath or within this rose, or harvest its parts to construct their nests.



## *Sambucus canadensis* ● Common Elderberry



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 6–12 ft., loose and graceful, deciduous shrub with both woody and herbaceous branches
- White flowers in May–July in broad, flat, clusters up to 10 inches or more in diameter; berrylike fruit is dark purple when ripe in July–September
- Part sun/shade
- Tolerates a wide variety of wet to dry soils but prefers rich, moist, slightly acid soil
- Naturally found in bogs, ditches, fields

*Prune heavily in winter to maintain thick form. Individual plants are very short-lived however, root masses produce new shoots. The genus name comes from Greek sambuce, an ancient musical instrument.*

Birds attracted to the purple-black fruit and spread the seeds. Provides a nesting structure for bees. Provides effective erosion control on moist sites.

## *Viburnum dentatum* ● Arrow-wood



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 6–10 ft., deciduous shrub, sometimes taller, with multiple, erect-arching stems in a loose, round habit
- White, flat-topped flower clusters in May–July are followed by dark blue berries; lustrous, dark-green foliage turns yellow to wine-red in fall
- Sun to shade
- Dry to wet, acid soils and sands; most soil-adaptable of the viburnums
- Naturally found in swamps, wet woods, bogs, floodplain forests, streambanks, low, wet acid-sand habitats

*Native Americans used the straight stems of Arrow-wood for arrow shafts.*

Flood, insect, and disease tolerant. Attracts Eastern bluebird, Northern flicker, Gray catbird, and American robin. Larval host for Spring Azure butterfly (*Celastrina ladon*).

## *Vaccinium corymbosum* ● Highbush Blueberry



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 6–12 ft., deciduous shrub with numerous upright stems and twiggy branches forming a rounded, compact outline; reddish-green spring leaves turn blue-green in summer and red, yellow, orange, and purple in fall
- White or pink, bell-shaped flowers in drooping clusters in April–June are followed by edible, blue fruit
- Full sun, part shade, shade
- Wet to dry, acid, rocky soils to organic peats

Berries are relished by many birds and songbirds, including the Scarlet Tanager.

Highbush Blueberry benefits from mulch. Prune this shrub after it fruits.

## *Viburnum nudum* ● Possumhaw Viburnum



Lucile Kossoda/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 5–15 ft., up to 24 ft, sturdy, shapely deciduous shrub, rounded in outline
- Many white flower clusters in April–May followed by yellow berries turning blue-black; attractive, dark-green foliage becomes reddish-purple in fall
- Sun to part sun/shade; for best flowers and fruit, be sure this shrub gets 4–5 hrs of sun/day
- Average, medium to wet, well-drained soil
- Naturally found in low woods, swamps and bogs

Fruit is eaten by songbirds.

*Possumhaw is flood, cold, insect and disease tolerant, and it transplants well.*



# SHRUBS

## *Viburnum prunifolium* ● Black Haw



Jan Newton./John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 12–15 ft., upright, multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub, or small, single trunk tree
- Many white flower clusters in April–May followed by yellow berries turning blue-black. Attractive, dark-green foliage becomes reddish-purple in fall
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Average, dry to medium, well-drained soil; drought and clay tolerant
- Naturally found in moist woods, thickets, and on streambanks

*The Latin prunifolium refers to the leaves' plum-color in fall. For best flowers and fruit, give black haw at least one-half day of sunlight.*

Fruit is eaten by songbirds. This shrub is of special value to native bees and is durable and pest free.

### When Planting Shrubs...

Large shrubs can be planted under canopy trees and understory trees, but should be planted at least five to seven feet away from trees or other large shrubs.

Small shrubs can be planted under canopy trees and understory trees, but should be planted at least three to five feet away from trees, large shrubs, or other small shrubs.

## Landscaping in Small Places



Sue Dingwell/VNPS

Native plant gardens can also be grown in small spaces. As with any other situation, it requires that you match the amount and type of space with your needs and the plant's needs, such as sun, shade, moisture, roots, wind, pets, views, and access for maintenance. On apartment balconies a diverse mix of potted forbs, vines, grasses, and ferns can provide pollinator habitat. Mixing spring, summer, and fall-blooming plants in a planter or group of planters can provide beauty and color throughout the growing season.

**Natives for full sun—patios, decks, planters, containers, baskets and vertical gardens** include, perennials such as *Coreopsis verticillata* - Threadleaf Coreopsis and *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* – Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint; vines such as *Lonicera sempervirens* – Coral Honeysuckle and *Passiflora lutea* – Yellow Passionflower; shrubs such as *Itea Virginica* – Sweetspire and *Clethra alnifolia* – Pepperbush.

**Natives for full shade—alleys, patios, containers, and balconies** include, perennials such as *Aquilegia canadensis* – Canadian Wild Columbine, *Claytonia virginica* – Virginia Spring Beauty and *Dicentra eximia* - Wild Bleeding Heart; ferns such as *Adiantum pedatum* – Northern Maidenhair and *Athyrium asplenoides* – Southern Lady Fern; shrubs such as *Hydrangea arboescens* – Wild Hydrangea.

A complete list of Central Rappahannock natives suitable for use in small spaces can be viewed on the *Plant Central Rapp Natives* campaign website at [www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org](http://www.PlantCentralRappNatives.org).



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Trees provide shade and shelter for animals and humans, timber for construction, fuel for cooking and heating, and fruit and seeds for food. Because of their longevity and usefulness, trees have always been revered in various cultures. Trees are an important part of the ecosystem, providing essential habitats for pollinators, mammals, birds and butterflies; including larval host plant habitat. Leaves, flowers and fruits, nuts or acorns are a seasonally available food source for wildlife. Trees provide critical shade, and in the undergrowth, leaf litter, fallen branches and/or decaying wood provide other habitats while enriching the soil with nutrients. Trees stabilize the soil, preventing rapid run-off of rain water. In ecosystems such as swamps, trees play a role in developing their habitat, since the roots of the trees reduce the speed of flow of tidal currents and trap water-borne sediment, creating suitable conditions for other ecosystem conditions to develop. The shade of trees has a role in climate control because the shade that they provide to homes in summer reduces the cost of air conditioning. In winter trees help screen the wind and cold.

# TREES

## *Acer rubrum* • Red Maple



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program

Host plant for the Rosy Maple moth (*Dryocampa rubicunda*), of value to native bees and inchworms, and a variety of birds enjoy its seeds.

- 40–100 ft., narrow or rounded, compact crown with 30–75 ft. spread; red, orange, yellow leaves in autumn
- Small red flowers in March–April, red-brown or yellow winged fruit (seeds) in April–June
- Moist to wet clay, loamy or sandy soils, prefers acid soil; can tolerate dry soils
- Naturally found in rocky hillsides, wetlands, floodplains and upland forests

*Red Maple has become a dominant understory tree. Leaves and bark are poisonous to cattle. Pilgrims made cinnamon and brown dyes as well as ink from the bark.*

## *Asimina triloba* • Pawpaw, Common Pawpaw



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

Relished by small mammals and birds. A larval host for Zebra Swallowtail Butterfly (*Eurytides marcellus*) and Pawpaw Sphinx Moth (*Dolba hylaeus*).

- 10–40 ft. tree or multistemmed shrub
- Purple, six-petaled flowers singly in leaf axils in April–May before leaf emergence; large, cylindric, dark-green or yellow fruit follows; yellow fall foliage
- Sun to shade
- Rich, moist, slightly acid soils
- Naturally found in ditches, ravines, depressions, flood plains, bottomland

*Pawpaw is an aromatic tree with no serious disease or insect problems. First recorded by the DeSoto expedition in the lower Mississippi Valley in 1541. The name Pawpaw is from the Arawakan name of Papaya, an unrelated tropical American fruit. It takes two or more Pawpaws to cross-pollinate and form fruit.*

*Native Plants for Central Rappahannock*

## *Betula nigra* ● River Birch



Helen Hamilton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 40–70 ft., gracefully branched tree, can reach 90 feet with irregular, 40–60 ft. spreading crown; satiny silver bark peels to reveal a cinnamon brown trunk
- Red male catkins and light green female catkins in March–June, and nutlet in May–June; fall foliage is yellow
- Sun to part shade
- Sandy or clay, moist, acidic soils
- Naturally found in flood plains, bottomland, ditches, ravines, depressions, swamps, stream and river banks to mid-slope

Nutlets attract songbirds, game birds, and it is a host plant for 400 species of butterflies, including the Morning Cloak Butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*).

*River Birch may grow with multiple trunks, adding interest in the garden. It is fast growing and long-lived, and is useful for erosion control.*

## *Cercis canadensis* ● Eastern Redbud



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 15–35 ft., deciduous tree with one to several picturesque, maroon-purple trunks and a wide, 15–35 foot, umbrella-like crown; smooth, heart-shaped, deciduous foliage is golden yellow in autumn
- Deep pink flowers in March–May in tight clusters along the stems and branches before new leaves appear, create a showy spring display
- Loose, moist, sandy fertile and well-drained soils; tolerates clay soil
- Naturally found in shaded woods, streams, river banks, woodlands edge, open woodlands

Attracts native bees, and tolerates deer browsing.

*A fast growing, attractive understory tree.*

## *Amelanchier canadensis* ● Canada Serviceberry, Juneberry and *Amelanchier arborea* ● Downy Serviceberry



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



*Serviceberry is good for multi-season interest and smaller gardens. At least 40 bird species eat the fruit of Amelanchier species, including Cardinals, Cedar Waxwing, and Towhees. It is beneficial to native bees.*

- 25–30 ft., its spread is 15–20 ft., with multiple, upright stems forming a dense shrub with a narrow crown and many small-diameter branches or, if properly pruned, a small tree
- White flowers in March–May followed by red to purple fruit in June–August; brilliant fall color display ranging from yellow and orange to red
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist, well-drained acidic soils
- Naturally found in wood borders, upland woods; occasionally in alluvial forests, wetlands, and swamps

## *Chionanthus virginicus* • White Fringetree, Fringe Tree



Helen Hamilton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 15–30 ft., with short trunk, narrow, oblong crown; dark-green, glossy foliage; pale-gray trunk with bands of white
- Drooping clusters of delicate, fragrant, white blossoms from 6 inch stalks in May–June; dark-blue, grape-like clusters of fruits; male tree has showier flowers and female trees need males to form the fruit
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Loose, moist, sandy soils
- Naturally found in forest, wetlands

*Fringetree is one of the last trees to bear new leaves in spring. It is a slow grower. The genus name Chionanthus, meaning snow and flower, describes the blossoms.*

Hosts 8 species of native caterpillars and attracts bees, native bees, bumblebees and butterflies. Tolerates pollution.

## *Cornus florida* • Flowering Dogwood



Phillip Mount/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 15–20 ft., single or multiple trunk with a 15–30 ft. spreading crown
- Long lasting, aromatic, white or pink flowers in March–May before leaves come out; followed by brilliant red fruit
- Sun to shade
- Rich, well-drained, acid soil
- Naturally found in moist to dry upland forests, borders, clearings, old fields, and well-drained floodplains

*More resistant to dogwood anthracnose fungus (Discula destructiva) if planted in open areas. If planted in full-sun, it will need to be watered during extended dry spells. Native Americans used the roots and the bark to make a red dye.*

Attracts pollinators and songbirds. Larval host to 115 native caterpillar species, such as Spring Azure (*Celastrina ladon*) and Summer Azure (*Celastrina neglecta*).

## *Cornus amomum* • Silky Dogwood



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 6–10 ft., small tree or multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright, rounded form; roots form where stems are in contact with the ground allowing thickets to form
- Yellowish-white flowers in May–June followed by blue to bluish–white fruit in August–September
- Part shade to full shade
- Moist, clay, loam and sandy soils
- Naturally found in floodplain forests, alluvial and tidal swamps, rocky/sandy river shores, stream banks, and wet meadows

Attracts birds and is a beautiful ornamental that can help stabilize soil and provide a wildlife border.

*Silky Dogwood is commonly called Swamp Dogwood due to its preferred habitat and kinnikinnik in reference to a prior use of shrub bark by Native Americans as tobacco.*

## *Diospyros virginiana* • Common Persimmon



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 15–100 feet, with a spreading, 25–35 foot, crown and pendulous branches; large, oval, mature leaves usually become yellow-green in fall
- Bell-shaped yellow flowers in April–June; large, sweet, orange fruit in autumn
- Part sun/shade
- Adaptable to varying pH; moist, rich, soils
- Naturally found in swamp and upland forests, depression ponds, dune woodlands and scrub, rocky woodlands

Larval host to the Luna Moth (*Actias luna*). Use for erosion control. Usually free of disease or insect problems.

*The word Persimmon is of Algonquian origin. Diospyros means “fruit of the god Zeus.” Two trees are necessary for the production of fruit. Fruit is not edible until exposed to frost or consistent low temperatures.*

## Fagus grandifolia • American Beech



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 50–80 ft. (less frequently to 120 ft.) large, deciduous tree with a dense, upright-oval to rounded-spreading crown
- Yellowish-green flowers bloom in April–May followed by edible beech nuts in September–October
- Full sun to part shade
- Deep, rich, moist but well-drained soils
- Naturally found in upland forests, floodplain terraces and bluffs

*Beech nuts are produced in great abundance every two or three years. Due to its thin bark and shallow root system, American beech is very susceptible to damage from forest fires, but due to fire exclusion, it is abundant in the understory of dry-mesic and dry oak forests.*

Pollinated flowers form an edible nut (“beech nut”, “beech mast”) which is eaten by many mammals and birds.

## Juniperus virginiana • Eastern Redcedar



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 30–40 ft. (can reach 90 ft) evergreen, aromatic tree with trunk often angled and buttressed at base; pyramidal when young, mature form is quite variable; fragrant, scale-like foliage can be coarse or fine-cut, and varies in color from gray-, blue-, to dark-green; all colors tend to brown in winter
- Pale blue fruits occur on female plants
- Sun to shade
- Moist, well-drained to dry soils
- Naturally found in tidal shorelines, forests, old fields, rocky woodlands

*Resistant to extremes of drought, heat, and cold. The heartwood was once almost exclusively the source of wood for pencils.*

Juicy berries consumed by wildlife, including the Cedar waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), named for this tree.

## Ilex opaca • American Holly, Christmas Holly



Dot Field/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 25 ft. to as tall as 60 ft. evergreen with stout, stiff branches that form a pyramidal shape and bear dark-green, non-glossy, spine-tipped leaves
- Bright red berries occur on female plants
- Part shade
- Moist, well-drained, sandy, acidic soils

*New growth on American Holly pushes off the old leaves in spring. A shorter, multi-trunked form may grow in lower-light situations. A popular Christmas decoration, the wood also is especially suited for inlays in cabinetwork, handles, carvings, and rulers, and can be dyed various shades, even black.*

Many kinds of songbirds eat the bitter berries of this slow-growing but long-lived tree.

## Liriodendron tulipifera • Tuliptree, Tulip Poplar



Jan Newton/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 70–150 ft., straight trunk with narrow crown that broadens as it ages, 30–50 ft.; distinctive, waxy, star-shaped foliage that turns bright gold in fall; cone-shaped seedheads remain after leaves have fallen
- Large showy, yellow-orange, flowers resembling tulips or lilies in April–June; flowers are up 50 ft. or higher. Sun, part
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist, well-drained loam or sandy soils
- Naturally found in low, rich woods; stream banks, bottomland and upland forests

Insect and disease free. Flowers attract hummingbirds and larval host to the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*). One of the most beautiful hardwood forest trees.

*Pioneers hollowed out a single log of the Tuliptree to make a long, lightweight canoe. Member of the magnolia family.*

# TREES

## America's National Tree: The Majestic Oak

Prized for their shade and beauty, oaks have been a landscaping favorite for centuries. The oak was selected in a nation-wide Arbor Day Foundation vote as America's National Tree, and a bill passed by Congress in 2004, and signed by President George Bush made it official. Most oaks fall into two taxonomic groups: the white oak group and the red oak group. Although all oaks will do well in rich, well-drained soil, swamp white oaks will tolerate moist soils, while scarlet oaks and white oaks will tolerate thin, dry soils. Oaks grow to be large trees with spreading limbs when grown in full sun. A mature White Oak can spread wider than it is tall. The value of oaks for supporting wildlife cannot be overstated. In addition to all they supply for mammals and birds, no other plant genus supports more species of moths and butterflies, than the mighty White Oak - 517 species! - which means it provides more types of bird food. Restoring oaks to suburbia would go a long way to improving wildlife habitat and biodiversity.

## *Quercus palustris* • Pin oak



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program

Pin oak acorns are an important food for wildlife including white-tailed deer, squirrels, wild turkeys, woodpeckers, blue jays, and waterfowl. Acorns are an especially important food source for wood ducks and mallards during fall migration.



- 50–70 ft. large, deciduous tree with a broad, pyramidal crown
- Insignificant yellowish-green flowers in separate male and female catkins appear in March–April with acorns following in October–November (of the 2nd year)
- Full sun
- Moist to wet, acidic loamy soils. Tolerates poorly drained soils and some flooding
- Naturally found in floodplain forests, alluvial swamps, upland depression swamps, wet flatwoods, depression swamps and ponds, mesic upland forests

*Pin oak is one of the most popular commercial oaks of eastern North America, having been widely planted as both a street and a landscape tree. Leaves turn a deep red in the fall.*

## *Quercus alba* • White Oak



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 72–100 ft. with 50–80 ft., rounded crown; trunk irregularly divided into spreading, often horizontal, stout branches; round-lobed leaves turn burgundy in fall, and dried leaves remain into winter
- Brown catkins appear just before or with the appearance of new leaves from March–April; acorns mature in autumn
- Sun
- Moist to dry soils
- Naturally found in upland forests and woodlands, well-drained bottomlands, wet flatwoods, natural ponds and swamps

*White Oak is slow-growing and lives up to 600 years. Colonists used it to build ships.*

## *Quercus falcata* • Southern Red Oak, Spanish Oak



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 60–80 ft., straight-trunked and, in time, develops long, spreading branches, giving the top an even, well-formed appearance; spreads 40–50 ft.; smooth gray bark becomes dark and furrowed, eventually black
- Yellow flowers appear in April–May; papery leaves turn reddish-brown in fall; acorns appear biennially
- Part shade
- Variable, dry, sandy, loamy or clay acid-based soils

Southern Red Oak grows relatively quickly, for an oak, and it is long-lived.

*Southern Red Oak is often called Spanish Oak, possibly because it commonly occurs in areas of the early Spanish colonies, yet it is unlike any oaks native to Spain.*

## Magnolia virginiana • Sweetbay Magnolia



Phillip Merritt/John Clayton Chapter, VNPS



- 12–30 ft. (occasionally grows to 50 ft.) evergreen tree, spreading 10–35 ft., with multiple, slender, upright trunks bearing horizontal branches; aromatic, spicy foliage
- Solitary, velvety-white, fragrant flowers in May–July that close at night; followed by dark red fruits exposing bright-red seeds in September–October
- Part shade
- Moist, rich, well-drained, acidic soils
- Naturally found in swamps, bogs, pocosins, wet flatwoods

Attractive, aromatic, showy ornamental. Seeds are a good source of food for birds in fall. It is the larval host of the Sweetbay Silkmoth (*Callosamia securifera*).

*Sweetbay Magnolia* was introduced into European gardens as early as 1688. Called “Beavertree” by colonists who caught beavers in traps baited with the fleshy roots.

## Oxydendrum arboreum • Sourwood, Sorrel Tree



Dale Fletcher/Virginia Living Museum



- 30–70 ft. with conical or rounded 10–25 ft. crown of spreading branches; leaves turn brilliant, deep red in autumn
- White, Lily-of-the-Valley-like flower clusters in July; pale yellow seeds persist in the fall
- Sun to Part sun/shade
- Well drained, acid soil
- Naturally found in well-drained to dry acidic woodlands, cliffs, clearings and ravines

*Open-grown Sourwood* is pyramidal and branched to the ground. The name of *sourwood* refers to the taste of the leaves, but the honey made from its flowers is prized. It is sensitive to root disturbance so it is not a good tree for urban sites.

Beneficial to honey bees. Generally disease-free.

## Nyssa sylvatica • Blackgum, Black Tupelo



Gary Fleming/DCR Natural Heritage Program



- 40–60 ft. variable-shaped, deciduous tree with horizontally spreading branches; dense, conical or sometimes flat-topped, 20–30 ft., crown; smooth, waxy, dark-green summer foliage changes to yellow, orange, scarlet and purple in fall
- Greenish-white flowers in April followed by small, purplish-blue, berry-like fruit in September–October
- Sun to full shade
- Adaptable to various, well drained, acid, even gravelly, soils
- Naturally found in forests, woodlands, swamps, floodplain forests, ponds

Nectar used by bees to make tupelo honey. Handsome ornamental and shade tree. Juicy fruit is consumed by many birds and mammals. Host to 25 species of native caterpillars.

*Blackgum* is one of the first plants to color in fall.

## Pinus taeda • Loblolly Pine



Karen Duhring/VIMS



- 60–110 ft.; loses its lower branches with age, leaving an open, rounded crown; dark green needles are 6–10 in. long; bark is gray and scaly
- Part sun/shade
- Adaptable, but prefers moist, sandy soils
- Naturally found in sandy or gravelly savannas and hilly woodlands

*Loblolly Pine* is native in 15 southeastern states. Among the fastest-growing southern pines, *Loblolly* will respond well to extra moisture and richer soils. A pioneer species along river bottoms.

Provides cover and nesting sites and seeds for small mammals and birds. Attracts butterflies; larval host to Elfin Butterfly (*Microtia elva*).

## *Platanus occidentalis* • American Sycamore



Gary Fleming, DCR Natural Heritage Program

- 75–100 ft. tree
- Yellow-green flower in April–June
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, sandy loams or silty clay soils
- Naturally found along river bottoms and lake shores

*This massive tree has large attractive leaves and interesting fruit clusters that remain on the tree into winter. The long, stout trunk has beautiful exfoliating bark. The remarkable white, green and cream bark flakes off in patches and exposes the inner bark, making this a beautiful tree throughout the year.*

Attracts birds and is resistant to deer.

## *Sassafras albidum* • Sassafras



Ruth Myers

- 20–40 ft. tree with horizontal branching in cloud-like tiers; mahogany-brown bark deeply ridged and furrowed; leaves are bright-green, and mitten-shaped, oval, or three-lobed
- Bunches of yellow-green flower balls in March–May scattered profusely over female tree, more sparsely on male, followed by dark-blue fruits on scarlet stalks on female in late summer
- Sun to part sun/shade
- Moist, well-drained, rich, sandy, acidic soils
- Naturally found in dry to moist forests, woodlands

Flowers attract native bees, pollinators. Fruit attracts songbirds. Hosts 36 species of native caterpillars, including Spicebush Swallowtail (*Papilio Troilus*) and Promethea Silkmoth (*Callosamia promethean*).

*Although Sassafras grows most quickly in fertile soil, it is an appropriate tree to introduce into disturbed sites.*

### Native tree Genera (families) found in the Central Rappahannock support hundreds of species of moth and butterfly in the Mid-Atlantic!

Common Name	Plant Genus	# of species supported	
Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	534	<i>The trees species in these families that are native to the Central Rappahannock region in Virginia are highlighted in this guide and listed in the guide's index. Plant these species and provide needed habitat!</i>
Black cherry	<i>Prunus</i>	456	
Willow	<i>Salix</i>	455	
Birch	<i>Betula</i>	413	
Crabapple	<i>Malus</i>	311	
Maple	<i>Acer</i>	285	
Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>	213	
Pine	<i>Pinus</i>	203	
Hickory	<i>Carya</i>	200	
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i>	159	
Alder	<i>Alnus</i>	156	
Basswood	<i>Tilia</i>	150	
Ash	<i>Fraxinus</i>	150	
Walnut	<i>Juglans</i>	130	
Beech	<i>Fagus</i>	126	
Chestnut	<i>Castanea</i>	125	

Learn more about this study by Doug Tallamy, renowned Entomologist and author at [www.bringingnaturehome.net/what-to-plant.html](http://www.bringingnaturehome.net/what-to-plant.html)

### Planning to hire a landscaper?

The Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional (CBLP) Certification is a new, voluntary credential system for professionals who design, install, and maintain sustainable landscapes.

Find out more about this new certification program, and view a business directory of certified professionals at <https://cblpro.org/>.





## About Native Plants

### Online:

**Plant Central Rapp Natives campaign** - [www.plantcentralrappnatives.org](http://www.plantcentralrappnatives.org)

**Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora** – <http://vaplantatlas.org/>

**Native Plants for Conservation, Restoration and Landscaping, VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Natural Heritage** – [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/nativeplants.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml)

**Field Guide to Virginia Salt and Brackish Marsh Plants, William & Mary Virginia Institute of Marine Science** – [www.ccrm.vims.edu/wetlands/wetland\\_plants/8x11brochureannotated2rh.pdf](http://www.ccrm.vims.edu/wetlands/wetland_plants/8x11brochureannotated2rh.pdf)

**Flora of Virginia Project** – [www.floraofvirginia.org](http://www.floraofvirginia.org)

**Virginia Native Plant Society** – [www.vnps.org/](http://www.vnps.org/)

**Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center of the University of Texas at Austin** – [www.wildflower.org/](http://www.wildflower.org/)

**Native Plant Center: Chesapeake Bay Watershed Native Plants for Wildlife and Habitat Conservation** (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) – <http://nativeplantcenter.net/>

**USDA Plants Database** – <http://plants.usda.gov/>

**Common Native Trees of Virginia and Common Native Shrubs and Woody Vines of Virginia**, Virginia Department of Forestry – [www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov)

### Print:

**The American Woodland Garden**, Rick Darke, 2002

**Ferns and Mosses of Virginia's Coastal Plain**, Helen Hamilton, 2016

**Flora of Virginia**, Alan S. Weakley, J. Christopher Ludwig & John E. Townsend, 2012

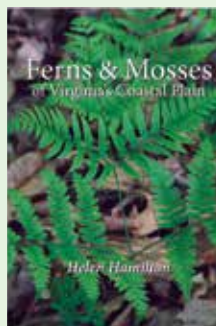
**Wildflowers and Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain**, Helen Hamilton and Gustavus Hall, 2013

## About Landscaping with Natives

### Online:

**Better Backyard—A Citizen's Resource Guide to Beneficial Landscaping and Habitat Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed**, Chesapeake Bay Program, (61-page downloadable booklet) – [www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp\\_12259.pdf](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp_12259.pdf)

**Native Plants for Central Rappahannock**



**Conservation Landscaping Guidelines-The Eight Essential Elements**, Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (33-pg downloadable booklet) – [www.chesapeakelandscape.org](http://www.chesapeakelandscape.org)

**Habitat at Home** (basic overview), Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries – [www.dgif.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-at-home.pdf](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-at-home.pdf)

**Habitat Gardening for Wildlife** (34 pg guide), Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries – [www.dgif.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-gardening.pdf](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-gardening.pdf)

**Native Gardening with Wildflowers, U. S. Forest Service** – [www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/Native\\_Plant\\_Materials/Native\\_Gardening/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/Native_Plant_Materials/Native_Gardening/index.shtml)

**Pollinators**, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – [www.fws.gov/pollinators/Index.html](http://www.fws.gov/pollinators/Index.html)

### Print:

**Bee Basics: An introduction to Our Native Bees**, Beatriz Moissett and Stephen Buchmann, A USDA Forest Service and Pollinator Partnership Publication, 2011

**Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants**, Douglas W. Tallamy, 2009 – <http://bringingnaturehome.net/nativegardening/gardening-for-life>

**Chesapeake Gardening & Landscaping: The Essential Green Guide**, Barbara W. Ellis, University of North Carolina Press, 2015

**National Wildlife Federation: Attracting Birds, Butterflies & Other Backyard Wildlife**, 2004, David Mizejewski

**Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines: A Guide to Using, Growing, and Propagating North American Woody Plants**, William Cullina, New England Wild Flower Society, Houghton Mifflin, 2002

**Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes**, Thomas Rainer & Claudia West

**Pollinators of Native Plants**, Heather Holm, Pollination Press LLC, 2014

**The Xerces Society Guide to Attracting Native Pollinators**, Eric Mader, et al., 2011

**The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden**, Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy, 2014



# INDEX OF CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK NATIVE PLANTS

## Forbs

*Achillea millefolium*  
*Actaea racemosa*  
*Ageratina altissima*  
*Amsonia tabernaemontana*  
*Anemone quinquefolia*  
*Antennaria neglecta*  
***Aquilegia canadensis***  
***Arisaema triphyllum***  
*Aruncus dioicus*  
*Asarum canadense*  
***Asclepias incarnata***  
***Asclepias syriaca***  
***Asclepias tuberosa***  
*Baptisia australis*  
***Baptisia tinctoria***  
*Bidens cernua*  
*Boltonia asteroides*  
*Caltha palustris*  
*Chamaecrista fasciculata*  
***Chelone glabra***  
*Chrysogonum virginianum*  
*Chrysopsis mariana*  
***Claytonia virginica***  
***Clitoria mariana***  
***Conoclinium coelestinum***  
***Coreopsis lanceolata***  
*Coreopsis tripteris*  
***Coreopsis verticillata***  
*Desmodium paniculatum*  
*Dicentra cucullaria*  
*Dicentra eximia*  
*Doellingeria umbellata*  
*Equisetum hyemale*  
*Eupatorium perfoliatum*  
***Eurybia divaricata***  
***Eutrochium fistulosum***  
***Gaultheria procumbens***  
***Geranium maculatum***  
*Gillenia trifoliata*  
  
*Common Yarrow*  
*Black Cohosh*  
*White Snakeroot*  
*Blue Star*  
*Wood Anemone*  
*Field Pussytoes*  
**Wild Columbine**  
**Jack-in-the-pulpit**  
*Goatsbeard*  
*Wild Ginger*  
**Swamp Milkweed**  
**Common Milkweed**  
**Butterfly Weed**  
*Blue Wild Indigo*  
**Yellow Wild-indigo**  
*Nodding Beggar-ticks*  
*Aster-like Boltonia*  
*Marsh Marigold*  
*Partridge Pea*  
**White Turtlehead**  
*Green and Gold*  
*Maryland Golden Aster*  
**Virginia Spring Beauty**  
**Maryland Butterfly Pea**  
**Blue Mistflower**  
**Longstalk Coreopsis**  
*Tall Coreopsis*  
**Threadleaf Coreopsis**  
*Narrow-leaf Tick Trefoil*  
*Dutchman's Breeches*  
*Wild Bleeding Heart*  
*Flat-top White Aster*  
*Horsetail*  
*Common Boneset*  
**White Wood Aster**  
**Joe-pye Weed**  
**Wintergreen, Teaberry**  
**Wild Geranium**  
*Bowman's Root*

## Forbs (continued)

***Helenium autumnale***  
***Helianthus angustifolius***  
*Helianthus decapetalus*  
*Helianthus divaricatus*  
*Heliopsis helianthoides*  
***Hepatica americana***  
***Heuchera americana***  
***Hibiscus moscheutos***  
*Iris cristata*  
*Iris prismatica*  
***Iris virginica***  
***Kosteletzkya pentacarpos***  
*Lespedeza capitata*  
***Liatris pilosa***  
***Liatris squarrosa***  
*Lilium canadense*  
***Lilium superbum***  
***Lobelia cardinalis***  
*Lobelia siphilitica*  
*Lupinus perennis*  
*Maianthemum racemosum*  
***Mertensia virginica***  
*Micranthes virginiensis*  
*Mimulus ringens*  
*Monarda didyma*  
*Monarda fistulosa*  
*Monarda punctata*  
*Nymphaea odorata*  
*Oenothera fruticosa*  
***Opuntia humifusa***  
*Packeria aurea*  
*Peltandra virginica*  
*Penstemon canescens*  
*Penstemon digitalis*  
*Penstemon laevigatus*  
*Phlox carolina*  
***Phlox divaricata***  
***Phlox paniculata***  
*Phlox stolonifera*  
  
**Sneezeweed**  
**Narrow-leaf Sunflower**  
*Ten-petaled Sunflower*  
*Woodland Sunflower*  
*Oxeye Sunflower*  
**Round-lobed Hepatica**  
**American Alumroot**  
**Eastern rosemallow**  
*Dwarf Crested Iris*  
*Slender Blueflag*  
**Virginia Blue Flag**  
**Seashore Mallow**  
*Round-head Bush Clover*  
**Grass-leaf Blazing Star**  
**Plains Blazing Star**  
*Canada Lily*  
**Turk's Cap Lily**  
**Cardinal Flower**  
*Great Blue Lobelia*  
*Lupine*  
*False Solomon's Seal*  
**Virginia Bluebells**  
*Early Saxifrage*  
*Monkeyflower*  
*Beebalm*  
*Wild Bergamot*  
*Horse-mint*  
*American Water Lily*  
*Sundrops*  
**Eastern Prickly-pear**  
*Golden Ragwort*  
*Arrow Arum*  
*Gray Beardtongue*  
*Foxglove Beardtongue*  
*Smooth Beardtongue*  
*Thick-leaved Phlox*  
**Woodland Phlox**  
**Summer Phlox**  
*Creeping Phlox*

# INDEX OF CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK NATIVE PLANTS

## Forbs (continued)

<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Moss Phlox
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Obedient Plant
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	Mayapple
<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	Jacob's Ladder
<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>	Solomon's Seal
<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Pickereel Weed
<i>Pycnanthemum incanum</i>	Hoary Mountain Mint
<b><i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i></b>	<b>Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint</b>
<i>Rhexia virginica</i>	Virginia Meadow-beauty
<b><i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i></b>	<b>Early Coneflower</b>
<b><i>Rudbeckia hirta</i></b>	<b>Black-eyed Susan</b>
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cut-leaved Coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	Three-lobed Coneflower
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	Broadleaf Arrowhead
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyre-leaf Sage
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Bloodroot
<b><i>Saururus cernuus</i></b>	<b>Lizard's Tail</b>
<i>Sedum ternatum</i>	Wild Stonecrop
<i>Senna marilandica</i>	Maryland Wild Senna
<i>Silene virginica</i>	Fire Pink
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Cup Plant
<b><i>Solidago caesia</i></b>	<b>Bluestem Goldenrod</b>
<b><i>Solidago odora</i></b>	<b>Sweet Goldenrod</b>
<b><i>Solidago pinetorum</i></b>	<b>Pineywoods Goldenrod</b>
<b><i>Solidago puberula</i></b>	<b>Downy Goldenrod</b>
<b><i>Solidago rugosa</i></b>	<b>Rough-stemmed Goldenrod</b>
<b><i>Solidago sempervirens</i></b>	<b>Seaside Goldenrod</b>
<i>Symphyotrichum concolor</i>	Eastern Silvery Aster
<i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>	Heart-leaved Aster
<b><i>Symphyotrichum novi-belgii</i></b>	<b>New York Aster</b>
<i>Symphyotrichum pilosum</i>	Frost Aster
<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>	Early Meadowrue
<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i>	Rue Anemone
<b><i>Tiarella cordifolia</i></b>	<b>Foamflower</b>
<b><i>Tradescantia virginiana</i></b>	<b>Virginia Spiderwort</b>
<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	White Trillium
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain
<b><i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i></b>	<b>New York Ironweed</b>
<i>Viola cucullata</i>	Marsh Blue Violet

*Viola pedata*

*Viola pubescens*

***Yucca filamentosa***

Bird's Foot Violet

Yellow Violet

**Common Yucca**

## Ferns

***Adiantum pedatum***

*Asplenium platyneuron*

***Athyrium asplenioides***

*Botrypus virginianus*

*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*

*Dryopteris intermedia*

*Dryopteris marginalis*

***Onoclea sensibilis***

***Osmunda spectabilis***

***Osmundastrum cinnamomeum***

***Polystichum acrostichoides***

*Thelypteris palustris*

*Woodwardia virginica*

**Maidenhair Fern**

Ebony Spleenwort

**Southern Ladyfern**

Rattlesnake Fern

Hay-scented Fern

Evergreen wood-fern

Marginal Shield-fern

**Sensitive Fern**

**Royal Fern**

**Cinnamon Fern**

**Christmas Fern**

Marsh Fern

Virginia Chain Fern

## Vines

*Bignonia capreolata*

*Campsis radicans*

*Celastrus scandens*

***Clematis virginiana***

*Decumaria barbara*

*Gelsemium sempervirens*

***Lonicera sempervirens***

***Parthenocissus quinquefolia***

***Passiflora incarnata***

*Wisteria frutescens*

Crossvine

Trumpet Creeper

Climbing Bittersweet

**Virgin's Bower**

Climbing Hydrangea

Carolina Jasmine

**Trumpet Honeysuckle**

**Virginia Creeper**

**Purple Passionflower**

Atlantic Wisteria

## Grasses/Sedges/Rushes

*Agrostis perennans*

*Andropogon gerardii*

*Andropogon glomeratus*

***Andropogon virginicus***

*Arundinaria tecta*

*Carex crinita*

*Carex lurida*

***Carex pensylvanica***

Autumn Bentgrass

Big Bluestem

Bushy Bluestem

**Broomsedge**

Switch Cane

Long Hair Sedge

Sallow Sedge

**Pennsylvania Sedge**

# INDEX OF CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK NATIVE PLANTS

## Grasses/Sedges/Rushes

<i>Carex plantaginea</i>	Plantain-leaved Sedge
<i>Carex stricta</i>	Tussock Sedge
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	River Oats, Spanglegrass
<i>Danthonia sericea</i>	Silky Oatgrass
<i>Danthonia spicata</i>	Poverty Oatgrass
<i>Dichantherium clandestinum</i>	Deer-tongue
<i>Dichantherium commutatum</i>	Variable Panicgrass
<i>Dulichium arundinaceum</i>	Dwarf bamboo
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Bottlebrush Grass
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wild Rye
<i>Erianthus giganteus</i>	Giant Plumegrass
<i>Juncus canadensis</i>	Canada Rush
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice Cutgrass
<i>Panicum amarum</i>	Coastal Panic Grass
<b><i>Panicum virgatum</i></b>	<b>Switch Grass</b>
<b><i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i></b>	<b>Little Bluestem</b>
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	Woolgrass Bulrush
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass
<i>Sparganium americanum</i>	American Bur-reed
<i>Tridens flavus</i>	Redtop
<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	Gama Grass
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Broad-leaved Cattail
<i>Zizania aquatica</i>	Wild Rice

## Shrubs

<b><i>Alnus serrulata</i></b>	<b>Smooth or Hazel Alder</b>
<b><i>Aronia arbutifolia</i></b>	<b>Red Chokeberry</b>
<b><i>Aronia melanocarpa</i></b>	<b>Black Chokeberry</b>
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	High Tide Bush
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American Beautyberry
<i>Castanea pumila</i>	Allegheny Chinkapin
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey Tea
<b><i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i></b>	<b>Buttonbush</b>
<b><i>Clethra alnifolia</i></b>	<b>Sweet Pepper-bush</b>
<b><i>Cornus amomum</i></b>	<b>Silky Dogwood</b>
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Cockspur Hawthorn
<b><i>Eubotrys racemosa</i></b>	<b>Fetterbush</b>
<b><i>Euonymus americanus</i></b>	<b>American Strawberry-bush</b>

## Shrubs (continued)

<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	Wintergreen
<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>	Black Huckleberry
<i>Gaylussacia frondosa</i>	Dangleberry
<b><i>Hamamelis virginiana</i></b>	<b>Witch Hazel</b>
<b><i>Hydrangea arborescens</i></b>	<b>Wild Hydrangea</b>
<b><i>Hypericum prolificum</i></b>	<b>Shrubby St. Johnswort</b>
<i>Ilex decidua</i>	Deciduous Holly
<b><i>Ilex glabra</i></b>	<b>Inkberry</b>
<b><i>Ilex verticillata</i></b>	<b>Winterberry</b>
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon Holly
<b><i>Itea virginica</i></b>	<b>Virginia Willow</b>
<i>Iva frutescens</i>	Marsh Elder
<b><i>Kalmia latifolia</i></b>	<b>Mountain Laurel</b>
<i>Leucothoe axillaris</i>	Coastal Dog-hobble
<b><i>Lindera benzoin</i></b>	<b>Spicebush</b>
<i>Lyonia lucida</i>	Shining Fetterbush
<i>Morella caroliniensis</i>	Southern Bayberry
<b><i>Morella cerifera</i></b>	<b>Southern Wax Myrtle</b>
<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	Northern Bayberry
<b><i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i></b>	<b>Ninebark</b>
<i>Rhododendron atlanticum</i>	Dwarf Azalea
<i>Rhododendron catawbiense</i>	Catawba Rhododendron
<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	Great Rhododendron
<b><i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i></b>	<b>Pinxter Flower</b>
<b><i>Rhododendron viscosum</i></b>	<b>Swamp Azalea</b>
<b><i>Rhus aromatica</i></b>	<b>Fragrant Sumac</b>
<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	Winged Sumac
<b><i>Rosa carolina</i></b>	<b>Pasture Rose</b>
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	Alleghany Blackberry
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Prairie Willow
<i>Salix sericea</i>	Silky Willow
<b><i>Sambucus canadensis</i></b>	<b>Common Elderberry</b>
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	Bladdernut
<i>Stewartia malacodendron</i>	Silky Camelia
<b><i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i></b>	<b>Highbush Blueberry</b>
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	Deerberry
<b><i>Viburnum dentatum</i></b>	<b>Southern Arrow-wood Viburnum</b>
<b><i>Viburnum nudum</i></b>	<b>Possum-haw Viburnum</b>
<b><i>Viburnum prunifolium</i></b>	<b>Black-haw Viburnum</b>

# INDEX OF CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK NATIVE PLANTS

## Trees

*Acer negundo*  
***Acer rubrum***  
*Acer saccharum*  
*Aesculus flava*  
***Amelanchier arborea***  
***Amelanchier canadensis***  
*Aralia spinosa*  
***Asimina triloba***  
*Betula lenta*  
***Betula nigra***  
*Carpinus caroliniana*  
*Carya cordiformis*  
*Carya glabra*  
*Carya ovata*  
*Carya tomentosa*  
*Cercis canadensis*  
*Chamaecyparis thyoides*  
***Chionanthus virginicus***  
*Cornus alternifolia*  
***Cornus amomum***  
***Cornus florida***  
*Crataegus viridis*  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
*Fagus grandifolia*  
*Ilex opaca*  
*Juglans nigra*  
*Juniperus virginiana*  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*  
*Liriodendron tulipifera*  
***Magnolia virginiana***  
*Morus rubra*  
*Nyssa aquatica*  
***Nyssa sylvatica***  
*Ostrya virginiana*  
***Oxydendrum arboreum***  
*Persea palustris*  
*Pinus echinata*  
*Pinus rigida*  
*Pinus serotina*

Ash-leaf Maple  
**Red Maple**  
Sugar Maple  
Yellow Buckeye  
**Downy Serviceberry**  
**Canada Serviceberry**  
Devil's Walkingstick  
**Paw Paw**  
Sweet Birch  
**River Birch**  
American Hornbeam  
Bitternut Hickory  
Pignut Hickory  
Shagbark Hickory  
Mockernut Hickory  
Eastern Redbud  
Atlantic White Cedar  
**Fringetree**  
Alternate-leaf Dogwood  
**Silky Dogwood**  
**Flowering Dogwood**  
Green Hawthorn  
Persimmon  
American Beech  
American Holly  
Black Walnut  
Eastern Red Cedar  
Sweetgum  
Tulip Poplar  
**Sweetbay Magnolia**  
Red Mulberry  
Water Tupelo  
**Black Gum**  
Eastern Hop-hornbeam  
**Sourwood**  
Redbay  
Shortleaf Pine  
Pitch Pine  
Pond Pine

## Trees (continued)

*Pinus strobus*  
***Pinus taeda***  
*Pinus virginiana*  
***Platanus occidentalis***  
*Prunus americana*  
*Prunus pensylvanica*  
*Prunus serotina*  
***Quercus alba***  
*Quercus bicolor*  
*Quercus coccinea*  
***Quercus falcata***  
*Quercus ilicifolia*  
*Quercus laurifolia*  
*Quercus michauxii*  
*Quercus montana*  
*Quercus muehlenbergii*  
*Quercus nigra*  
***Quercus palustris***  
*Quercus phellos*  
*Quercus rubra*  
*Quercus stellata*  
*Quercus velutina*  
*Quercus virginiana*  
*Rhus glabra*  
*Rhus typhina*  
*Robinia pseudoacacia*  
*Salix nigra*  
***Sassafras albidum***  
*Taxodium distichum*  
*Tilia americana*  
*Tsuga canadensis*  
*Viburnum rufidulum*

*White Pine*  
**Loblolly Pine**  
Virginia Pine  
**Sycamore**  
American Wild Plum  
Pin Cherry, Fire Cherry  
Wild Black Cherry  
**White Oak**  
Swamp White Oak  
Scarlet Oak  
**Southern Red Oak**  
Bear Oak  
Swamp Laurel Oak  
Swamp Chestnut Oak  
Chestnut Oak  
Chinkapin Oak  
Water Oak  
**Pin Oak**  
Willow Oak  
Northern Red Oak  
Post Oak  
Black Oak  
Live Oak  
Smooth Sumac  
Staghorn Sumac  
Black Locust  
Black Willow  
**Sassafras**  
Bald Cypress  
American Basswood  
Eastern Hemlock  
Rusty Blackhaw

# PLACES TO SEE NATIVE PLANTS

## Want a closer look at the natives featured in this guide?

Visit demonstration gardens, parks, wildlife preserves, nurseries and garden centers for inspiration and to see how natives could look in your garden.

## Caroline

### Central Virginia Preserve & Meadowview Biological Research Station

[www.pitcherplant.org/The-Central-Virginia-Preserve/index.html](http://www.pitcherplant.org/The-Central-Virginia-Preserve/index.html)

[www.plantsmap.com/organizations/meadowview-biological-research-station](http://www.plantsmap.com/organizations/meadowview-biological-research-station)

## Fredericksburg

### Cossey Park Arboretum

1601 Kenmore Ave (at the corner of Little Page Street and Grove Ave)

A neighborhood park featuring a garden used for educational sessions by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Maintained by volunteer Master Gardeners.

*Central Rappahannock native plants you will see (highlighted in this guide):*

*Cercis canadensis*, Eastern Redbud  
*Chionanthus virginicus*, White Fringetree  
*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire  
*Quercus falcata*, Southern Red Oak  
*Viburnum nudum*, Possumhaw Viburnum  
*Viburnum prunifolium*, Black Haw

For more information about this site and the plants present visit -  
[www.plantsmap.com/organizations/cossey-botanical-park-arboretum](http://www.plantsmap.com/organizations/cossey-botanical-park-arboretum).

## King George

### Caledon State Park

11617 Caledon Road, King George, VA 22485

[www.virginia.org/Listings/OutdoorsAndSports/CaledonStatePark/](http://www.virginia.org/Listings/OutdoorsAndSports/CaledonStatePark/)

## Spotsylvania

### Salamander Loop Trail by Spotsylvania Greenways Initiative

8110 River Stone Drive, Fredericksburg VA 22407

(Off Jefferson Davis Hwy in the River Run Business Center. Look for the Ni River Trail sign on the right as you turn into the business center.)

Go on a free guided 1.5 hr tour of the Salamander Loop conducted by Master Naturalists on the second Sunday of each month at 9:00 am.

*Central Rappahannock native plants you will see (highlighted in this guide):*  
*Asimina triloba*, Pawpaw

*Betula nigra*, River Birch  
*Cornus florida*, Flowering Dogwood  
*Diospyros virginiana*, Common Persimmon  
*Ilex opaca*, American Holly  
*Liriodendron tulipifera*, Tulip Popular  
*Quercus alba*, White Oak  
*Quercus falcata*, Southern Red Oak  
*Sassafras albidum*, Sassafras

For more information about this site and the plants present visit  
[www.plantsmap.com/organizations/spotsylvania-greenways-initiative](http://www.plantsmap.com/organizations/spotsylvania-greenways-initiative).

## Lake Anna State Park

6800 Lawyers Rd., Spotsylvania, VA 22551

For general information about the park - [www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/lake-anna#general\\_information](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/lake-anna#general_information)

*Central Rappahannock native plants you will see (highlighted in this guide):*

*Cercis canadensis*, Eastern Redbud  
*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire  
*Mertensia virginica*, Virginia Bluebell, Virginia Cowslip  
*Rhododendron periclymenoides*, Wild Azalea, Pinxter Azalea  
*Vaccinium corymbosum*, Highbush Blueberry

Information about this site and the plants present -  
[www.plantsmap.com/organizations/lake-anna-state-park](http://www.plantsmap.com/organizations/lake-anna-state-park)

## Stafford

### Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve

Brooke Rd, Stafford, VA 22555

[www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves/crowsnest](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves/crowsnest)

[www.tourstaffordva.com/things-to-do/details/crows-nest-natural-area-preserve](http://www.tourstaffordva.com/things-to-do/details/crows-nest-natural-area-preserve)

The above list is not comprehensive. The plants may not be labeled, so bring your guide to help you with identification of the species highlighted in the guide.

If you have the opportunity, let the owners and managers know that you are are a Central Rappahannock "native plant finder," thank them for planting and maintaining natives, and encourage them to continue!

Virginia Natural Area Preserves - [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves/](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves/) (Description of Virginia's NAPs and accessibility.)

Virginia State Parks - [www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/)

# INVASIVE NON-NATIVES OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

Invasive plants are introduced species that cause health, economic or ecological damage in their new range. Fifty-seven percent of plant species listed as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are directly threatened by invasive species. More than 30,000 species of plants have been introduced to the United States since the time of Columbus. Of these, fewer than 3,000 have naturalized and become established in the U.S. landscape outside cultivation. About 1,000 naturalized plant species have become invasive pests that interfere with agriculture, forestry, transportation and utility infrastructure, lawn and garden maintenance, and natural ecosystem processes.

Of the 3,200 plant species in Virginia, more than 600, or 18 percent, have been introduced since the founding of Jamestown. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation currently lists 90 species as invasive, including the non-native plants identified here that are of particular concern in the Central Rappahannock region. **Please do not plant these species, and remove them if you are able. Identified (in green) are alternative plants native to the Central Rappahannock.**

## **Acer platanoides**, Norway Maple

*Acer rubrum*, Red Maple  
*Quercus* spp., Oaks  
*Tilia americana*, Basswood

## **Berberis thunbergii**, Japanese Barberry

*Ilex glabra*, Inkberry Holly  
*Ilex verticillata*, Winterberry Holly  
*Viburnum dentatum*, Arrowwood Viburnum  
*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire

## **Akebia quinata**, Chocolate Vine or Five-leaf Akebia \*\*

*Campsis radicans*, Trumpet Creeper  
*Lonicera sempervirens*, Trumpet or Coral Honeysuckle

## **Ailanthus altissima**, Tree of Heaven \*\*\*

*Cercis Canadensis*, Eastern Redbud  
*Diospyros virginiana*, Common Persimmon  
*Rhus copallinum*, Winged or Shining Sumac

## **Albizia julibrissin**, Mimosa, Silk Tree \*\*

*Amelanchier arborea* and *canadensis*, Serviceberry  
*Cercis canadensis*, Eastern Redbud  
*Chionanthus virginicus*, White Fringetree  
*Cornus amomum*, Silky Dogwood  
*Lindera benzoin*, Northern Spicebush  
*Betula nigra*, River Birch

## **Ampelopsis brevipedunculata**, Porcelain-Berry \*\*\*

*Clematis virginiana*, Virgin's bower  
*Lonicera sempervirens*, Trumpet or Coral Honeysuckle

## **Eleagnus umbellata**, Autumn Olive \*\*\*

*Baccharis halimifolia*, Groundsel  
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*, Buttonbush  
*Clethra alnifolia*, Sweet Pepperbush  
*Ilex glabra*, Inkberry Holly  
*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire  
*Sambucus Canadensis*, Elderberry  
*Viburnum nudum* and *Viburnum prunifolium*

## **Hedera helix**, English Ivy \*\*

*Asarum canadense*, Wild Ginger  
*Mitchella repens*, Partridge-Berry  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, Virginia-creeper

## **Ligustrum sinense**, Chinese Privet \*\*

*Aronia arbutifolia*, Red Chokeberry  
*Ilex glabra*, Gallberry, Inkberry  
*Lindera benzoin*, Northern Spicebush  
*Morella cerifera*, Southern Bayberry, Wax Myrtle  
*Viburnum prunifolium*, Black Haw

## **Lonicera japonica**, Japanese honeysuckle \*\*\*

*Campsis radicans*, Trumpet-creeper  
*Lonicera sempervirens*, Trumpet or Coral Honeysuckle  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, Virginia-creeper  
*Passiflora incarnata*, Purple Passionflower, Maypop

## **Miscanthus sinensis**, Miscanthus, Chinese Silvergrass \*\*

*Panicum virgatum*, Switchgrass

## **Microstegium vimineum**, Japanese Stiltgrass \*\*\*

*Leerzia oryzoides*, Rice cutgrass  
*Schizachyrium scoparium*, Little bluestem

## **Pyrus calleryana**, Bradford or Callery Pear \*\*

*Amelanchier* spp., serviceberries  
*Asimina triloba*, Pawpaw, Common Pawpaw  
*Cercis canadensis*, Redbud  
*Cornus florida*, Dogwood  
*Diospyros virginiana*, Common Persimmon

## **Reynoutria japonica**, Japanese knotweed

*Clethra alnifolia*, Sweet Pepperbush  
*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire  
*Ilex verticillata*, Winterberry Holly

## **Rosa multiflora**, Multiflora Rose \*\*\*

*Rosa Carolina*, Carolina Rose, Pasture Rose  
*Rosa palustris*, Swamp Rose

## **Phyllostachys aurea**, Golden, Fishpole or Walking Stick Bamboo

*Juniperus virginiana*, Eastern Redcedar

## **Euonymus alatus**, Burning Bush

*Itea virginica*, Virginia Sweetspire  
*Vaccinium* spp., Blueberries  
*Viburnum* spp.

## **Euonymus fortunei**, Wintercreeper

see English Ivy above.

\*\*\*, \*\*, \*: Ranked on the Virginia Invasive Plant Species List as exhibiting high (\*\*\*), medium (\*\*) or low (\*) levels of invasiveness based on their threat to natural communities and native species.

## Learn More About Invasive Plants and How You Can Help

Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage: [www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo)

USDA National Invasive Species Information Center: [www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/main.shtml](http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/main.shtml)

Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health: [www.invasive.org/species/weeds.cfm](http://www.invasive.org/species/weeds.cfm)

**Mistaken Identity—Invasive Plants and Their Native Look-Alikes (pub):** [ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/DE/publications/Mistaken\\_Identity\\_Final.pdf](ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/DE/publications/Mistaken_Identity_Final.pdf)

**Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas (publ):** [www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/](http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/)

# Plant Central Rapp Natives



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BEAUTIFUL  
BENEFICIAL  
SUSTAINABLE



[WWW.PLANTCENTRALRAPPNATIVES.ORG](http://WWW.PLANTCENTRALRAPPNATIVES.ORG)