

Gardening with native plants is a great way to create an attractive home landscape in Wake County that benefits wildlife, supports pollinators, and is good for the environment. Because native plants are well adapted to our Piedmont climate and soils, once they are established in the garden, they generally require less water and less maintenance. Fewer chemicals may be needed, as native species are more resilient to pests, diseases, and challenging weather. Their root systems also help improve soil structure and reduce erosion and water runoff.

Native plants have co-evolved with wildlife, birds, pollinators, and other insects, providing the necessary food and protective habitat they need to survive and raise their young. Many of these animals depend on specific native plants for their food source.

Some native plants are classified as *keystone species* because they play a vital role in supporting local wildlife. One example, the white oak tree group, is notable as host to an exceptionally diverse range of caterpillars and insects that serve as a critical food source for birds and other animals. Baby birds must consume large numbers of insects in the first few weeks of life to survive making white oaks and other native keystone plants essential to their development and survival.

Selecting and using native plants:

1. Plant a wide variety of plants that bloom in different seasons to provide continuous bloom and food supply for birds, pollinators and wildlife
2. Incorporate keystone plants into your landscape to attract a wider variety of wildlife and, when possible, close to bird nest boxes
3. Planting a cluster, 3-5, of the same plant will look attractive and make it easier for pollinators and birds to feed
4. Use a mixture of various flower colors, nectar and host plants for pollinators, and berry and seed producing plants for birds and wildlife
5. Choose plants from the lists below tailored specifically for the growing conditions in your landscape

Native plants are important to a healthy ecosystem and plant breeders are now working on developing varieties, called nativars, that have improved traits. When selecting plants be aware that cultivars or hybrids of native plants may vary from the wild species and these differences may affect their ability to produce pollen, nectar, seeds, or protective shelter.

The following list highlights recommended native plants that are both beautiful and beneficial, and are locally grown and commercially available, making them ideal for home landscapes. For additional native plant suggestions visit the North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox: https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/find_a_plant/?plant_type_id=11

Key:

De- Deciduous **DR-** Deer resistant, **dt-** Drought tolerant, **E-** Evergreen, **P-** Pollinator friendly
XY- Needs two plants for pollination, **W-** Wildlife friendly, **wt-** Tolerates wet sites, **cv** after common name indicates multiple cultivars with varying characteristics available, **Growth Rate for Trees and Shrubs** - Fast >25"/yr, Moderate 13-24"/yr
FL- Showy Flowers, **Fr-** Fragrant;
BOLD =Keystone species

Light:

1. Full Sun
- 1A. Sun with afternoon shade
2. Partial Shade (Direct sunlight only part of the day, 2-6 hours)
3. Dappled Sunlight (Shade through upper canopy all day)
4. Deep Shade (Less than 2 hours to no direct sunlight)

Groundcovers					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Asarum canadense	Deciduous Wild Ginger	6" x 6"	DR, wt	2,3,4	Heart shaped foliage, bell shaped flowers spring
Chrysogonum virginianum	Green and Gold	1-2' x 1-2'	DR, dt, P, W	2,3,4	Evergreen, yellow flowers all summer
Coreopsis auriculata 'Nana'	Dwarf Tickseed	6-9" x 6-9"	DR, dt, P	1,2	Late spring, early summer yellow flowers
Erythronium americanum	Trout Lily	6" x 6"	DR, P, W	2,3,4	Ephemeral, small yellow flowers
Mitchella repens	Partridgeberry	3" x spreads	DR, dt, P, W	1,2,3,4	Evergreen, white flowers, red berries
Pachysandra procumbens	Allegheny Spurge	1' x 2'	DR	2,3,4	Evergreen, fragrant blooms
Phlox subulata	Moss Phlox cv	6" x 2-3'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Spring carpet of flowers
Phlox stolonifera	Creeping Phlox cv	6-12" x 9-18"	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Fragrant spring and summer blooms
Salvia lyrata	Lyre-leaf Sage	1-2' x 6-12"	DR, dt, P, W	1,2,3,4	Long bloom season, can be mowed and used as an alternative groundcover

Groundcovers					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot	6" x 6"	DR, P, W	2,3,4	Bright white flowers, palmatisect leaves
Sedum ternatum	Mountain Stonecrop	3-6" x 6-12"	DR, dt, P, W	1,2,3,4	Spring white flowers
Silene caroliniana	Wild pink, Catchfly	6-12" x 6-12"	Dt, P, W	1,2	Pink flowers in spring
Tiarella cordifolia	Foamflower	6"-1' x 1-2'	DR, P, W, wt	2,3,4	Small spikes of creamy white flowers

Perennials					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow cv	1-3' x 1-3'	DR, dt, P	1	Many flower colors, tolerates poor soil
Agave virginica	American Agave	3-6' x 2-4'	dt, P, W	1,2	Fragrant flower spikes, speckled leaves
Amsonia tabernaemontana	Eastern Bluestar	2-3' x 2-3'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Blue flowers, 2006 NC Wildflower of the Year
Aquilegia canadensis	Columbine	2-3' x 1'	DR, P	2,3	Yellow and red flowers, hummingbird magnet
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	1-2' x 1-2'	DR, P, W, wt	2,3,4	Woodland wildflower, red berries, toxic
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	5' x 2-3'	DR, P, wt	1,2	Rose-purple flowers, Monarch caterpillar host, 2005 NC Flower of the Year
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed	1-2' x 18"	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Showy yellow-orange flowers
Baptisia spp.	Wild Indigo cv	2-4' x 2-4'	Dt, P	1,2	Many species and flower colors, taproot
Coreopsis spp.	Tickseed	2-4' x 2-3'	DR, dt, P	1,2	Yellow flowers June-September
Coreopsis verticillata	Threadleaf Coreopsis	2-3' x 2-3'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Airy yellow flowers May to July
Dicentra eximia	Bleeding heart cv	6-18" x 18-24"	DR, P, W	2,3	Heart shaped flowers April-July
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	3-4' x 1-2'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Long blooming, many cultivars
Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master	4-5' x 2-3'	DR, P, W	1	Spiny leaves, purple flowers in balls
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Boneset	4-6' x 1-2'	DR, P, wt	1,2	Fall bloomer, fragrant white flower clusters
Eutrochium purpureum	Joe-pye weed	5-7' x 2-4'	DR, P, wt	1,2	Fall bloomer, fragrant purplish flowers
Gaillardia pulchella	Blanketflower	1-2' x 1'	Dt, P, W	1	Orange-red disc shaped flowers all summer
Helianthus spp.	Sunflower	8-10' x 1'	Dt, P, W, wt	1,2	Showy yellow flowers on spike in fall
Heuchera americana	Coral Bells, Alum Root	1-3' x 1-1.5'	DR, dt, P	2,3	Greenish purple bell-shaped flowers April-August
Heuchera villosa	Hairy alumroot	8-30" x 18-24"	DR, P	2,3	Fuzzy green leaves, white flowers June-October
Hibiscus moscheutos	Rose Mallow, Hibiscus cv	2-6' x 2-5'	P, W, wt	1,2	Large 6-8" flowers June-September
Kosteletzkya pentacarpos	Seashore Mallow	3-6' x 2-4'	P, W, wt	1	Stunning pink flowers July to Sept
Liatris spp.	Blazing Star cv	1-5' x 1'	P, W	1,2	Many species, flower spikes in pink, purple, white
Liatris microcephala	Appalachian Blazing Star	30" x 9-12"	DR, dt, P, W	1	Pink-lavender blooms summer-fall
Liatris spicata	Blazing Star, Gayfeather	3-6' x 3-18"	DR, P, W	1,2	Blooms summer, showy, larval host for Liatris Flower Moth and Liatris Borer Moth, Goldfinches eat seeds
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	3-5' x 1'	P, W, wt	2,3	Brilliant red flowers, hummingbird magnet
Monarda didyma	Bee Balm spp., Bergamot	2-4' x 2-3'	DR, P, W	1	Scarlet blooms from July to Sept
Muhlenbergia capillari	Pink Muhly Grass	2-3' x 2-3'	DR, dt, P, W	1	Ornamental grass with late season color
Penstemon canescens	Appalachian Beardtongue	1-3' x 12-18"	P, W	1,2	Many cultivars with dark leaves, spring flowers
Penstemon digitalis	Foxglove Beardtongue	2-5" x 1-2'	dt, P, W	1,2	White tubular flowers May-July
Phlox paniculata	Garden Phlox cv	2-4' x 2-3'	P, W	1,2	Long bloom season of fragrant colorful flowers
Polygonatum biflorum	Small Solomon's Seal	1-2' x 1-1.5'	W, wt	2,3,4	Arching stems, perfectly oriented leaves
Pycnanthemum spp.	Mountain Mint cv	1-3' x 1-3'	DR, P, W	1,2	July-Sept fragrant flowers, naturalizes readily
Rudbeckia spp.	Black-eyed Susan cv	2-7' x 1-4'	DR, P, W	1,2	Bright yellow flowers, good cut flower
Sarracenia	Pitcherplant	6-3' x 6-2'	P, W, wt	1	Carnivorous bog plant, many cultivars
Solidago spp.	Goldenrod	1-3' x 1-2'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Small bright yellow late summer flowers
Spigelia marilandica	Indian Pink	2-3' x 1'	Dt, P, W	2,3	Stunning red and yellow tubular flowers
Stokesia laevis	Stoke's Aster cv	1-2' x 1'	DR, dt, P, W, wt	1,2,3	Evergreen, fragrant lavender/blue flowers May-June
Symphyotrichum spp.	Aster	1-4' x 1-3'	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Purple, white, or yellow flowers in fall
Tradescantia virginiana	Spiderwort	1.5-3' x 1-1.5'	P, wt	1,2,3,4	Blue-violet flowers March-July
Vernonia aculis	Ironweed	1-4' x 1-3'	Dt, P, W	1,2	Purple blooms in summer
Zizia aurea	Golden Alexander	1-2' x 1'	P, W, wt	1,2	Airy little plant, clusters of tiny yellow flowers

Ferns					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Adiantum capillus-veneris	Southern Maidenhair	10-24" x 10-24"	DR	2,3,4	Prefers moist soil
Adiantum pedatum	Northern Maidenhair	1-3' x 18-36"	DR, dt, W	2,3,4	Fine frilly textured fronds, can form colonies
Asplenium platyneuron	Ebony Spleenwort	8-20" x 8-20"	DR	2,3,4	Evergreen with light and dark green fronds
Asplenium rhizophyllum	Walking Fern	2-12" x 2-12"	DR	2,3	Evergreen, tips of fronds root when they touch the ground
Athyrium asplenoides	Southern Lady Fern	2-3' x 2-3'	DR	2,3,4	Lacy fronds, spreads to become ground cover
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Boulder Fern	1-2' x 3-4'	DR, dt	1,2	Patches of fronds instead of individual clumps
Deparia acrostichoides	Silvery Glade Fern	1-3' x 18-40"	DR, W	1,2,3,4	Fronds turn straw colored in the fall
Dryopteris spp.	Wood Fern	18-36" x 18-36"	DR, dt, wt	2,3,4	Evergreen, some spread, most are clumping
Hemionitis lanosa	Woolly Fern	6-12" x 15-18"	DR, dt, W	1,2	Dark green fronds
Homaliosorus pycnocarpus	Glade Fern	2-3' x 2-3'	DR, dt	3,4	Shiny arching fronds
Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive Fern	1-2' x 2-3'	DR, W	1,2,3,4	Yellow/Gold fall color, protect from cold wind
Osmunda spectabilis	Royal Fern	2-5' x 2-3'	DR, W	1,2,3,4	Clump forming, golden-brown fall color
Osmundastrum cinnamomeum	Cinnamon Fern	2-6' x 2-4'	DR, W, wt	1,2,3,4	Long lived, slow to establish, may go dormant during drought, spreads quickly
Phegopteris hexagonoptera	Southern Beech Fern	18-24" x 18-24"	DR, W, wt	2,3,4	Colonizes rapidly, weedy

Ferns					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Pleopeltis michauxiana	Resurrection Fern	1' x 6"-6'	DT, dt	2,3,4	Evergreen, can grow on trees, spreads
Polypodium appalachianum	Appalachian Rockcap Fern	6-12" x 6-12"	DR	4	Evergreen, slowly forms a mat
Polypodium virginianum	Common Rockcap Fern	6-12" x 6-12"	DR, dt, W	3,4	Evergreen, grows well in heavy shade
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	1-3' x 1-3'	DR, W	2,3,4	Evergreen, clumping, good for slopes
Thelypteris noveboracensis	New York Fern	1-2' x 1-2'	DR, W, wt	2,3,4	Can be used as a groundcover
Thelypteris palustris var. pubescens	Eastern Marsh Fern	1-3' x 2-3'	DR, W	1,2	Only known host for the Marsh Fern Moth, <i>Fagiana litteera</i> , likes moist sandy soil

Vines					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Ampelaster carolinianus	Climbing Aster	10'	DR, dt, Fr, P, W, wt	1,2	Late summer and fall purple flowers with yellow centers, larval host for pearl crescent caterpillars
Bignonia capreolata	Crossvine, Trumpet Vine cv	30-50' x 6-9'	DR, dt, Fr, P, W	1,2,3,4	Evergreen, climbing, blooms late winter to early spring, aggressive spreader
Campsis radicans	Trumpet Creeper cv	30-40' x 4-10'	dt, P, W	1,2	Climbing, very vigorous, large vines are very heavy, prune early spring
Centrosema virginianum	Butterfly Pea, Wild Pea	12'	dt, P, W	1,2,3	Twining, delicate showy vine, fixes nitrogen, ground cover
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine	10-20' x 20-30'	DR, Fr, P, W	1,2	Twining, evergreen, prune after flowering, toxic
Lonicera sempervirens	Coral Honeysuckle, Trumpet Honeysuckle cv	10-20' x 3-6'	DR, P, W	1,2	Twining, evergreen with long season of colorful trumpet shaped flowers, hummingbirds

Bulbs					
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width in NC	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Allium cernuum	Nodding Onion	6-24" x 4-12"	dt, Fr, P, W	1,2	Bell-shaped pink or white flowers June-August
Anemone virginiana	Tall Thimbleweed	2-4' x 1-2'	DR, dt, P, W	2,3,4	Blooms spring, summer
Arisaema dracontium	Green Dragon	1-6' x 12-18"	DR, P, W, wt	2,3,4	Birds eat red fruit, goes dormant late summer, toxic
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	1-2' x 1-2'	DR, P, W, wt	2,3,4	Birds eat red fruit, dormant in summer, toxic
Iris cristata	Dwarf Crested Iris	6-9" x 6-12"	DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Blooms in early spring, spreads
Iris versicolor	Larger Blue Flag Iris	2-3' x 2-3'	DR, wt	1,2	Blue-purple flowers late spring to early summer
Iris virginica	Southern Blue Flag Iris	1-2.5' x 1-3'	DR, wt	1,2	Blue-purple flowers in late spring
Lilium michauxii	Carolina Lily	2-4' x 6"	Fr, P, W	2	Blooms summer, official Wildflower of North Carolina, protect from deer, rabbits and voles
Lilium superbum	Turk's Cap Lily	4-8' x 6-1'	P, W	1,2	Blooms summer, showy, protect from deer, rabbits, voles, easy to grow
Sisyrinchium atlanticum	Eastern Blue Eyed Grass	6-18" x 6-8"	P, W	1	Blooms spring, summer, showy
Sisyrinchium mucronatum	Slender Blue Eyed Grass	6-18" x 6-8"	P, W	1,2,3	Blooms spring, summer, showy, cut flower
Zephyranthes atamasco	Atamasca Lily, Rain Lily	1-2' x 6-12"	Fr, P, W, wt	1,2	Blooms spring, showy, offsets, toxic

Evergreen Shrubs						
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Growth Rate	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Aqarista populifolia	Florida Leucothoe	8-12' x 5-6'	Moderate	DR, Fr, P, W, wt	2,3,4	FL, Showy-Spring, toxic leaves
Ilex glabra	Inkberry	5-10' x 5-8'	Slow	Fr, P, W, XY	1,2	Black berries
Ilex vomitoria	Yaupon Holly cv	10-20' x 8-12'	Fast	Fr, DR, dt, P, W, XY	1,2,3,4	Red berries
Ilex vomitoria dwarf	Dwarf Yaupon holly cv	3-6' x 3-6'	Fast	DR, dt, Fr, P, W, XY	1,2	cv 'Schillings', 'Stokes'
Ilex x attenuata 'Savannah'	Savannah Holly	10-20' x 8-15'	Moderate	DR, N, P, W, XY	1A,2	Red berries, needs wind protection
Ilex Christmas Jewel® 'HL10-90'	Christmas Jewel® Holly	6-10' x 6-8'	Moderate	DR, dt, Fr, P, W	1,2	FL-Spring, red berries, pyramidal
Illicium floridanum	Anise Tree cv	6-10' x 6-8'	Fast	Fr, DR, P, wt	2,3,4	FL-Showy-Spring, fragrant leaves
Illicium parviflorum 'Florida Sunshine'	Florida Sunshine Anise	8' x 8'	Slow	Fr, DR, wt	1A,2,3	FL-Summer, yellow foliage, fragrant foliage
Juniperus horizontalis	Creeping Juniper cv	6-18" x 4-10'	Moderate	DR, dt	1	Blue-green scale like foliage with blue berry-like cones
Kalmia latifolia	Mountain Laurel cv	4-15' x 4-8'	Slow	DR, P, W	1A,2,3	FL-Showy-Spring/summer
Prunus caroliniana	Carolina Cherry Laurel	15-35' x 15-20'	Fast	Dr, dt, Fr, P, W	1,2	FL-Late winter to early spring
Rhododendron	Rhododendron cv (some native)	6-10' x 5-8'	Slow	P	2,3,4	FL-Showy, plant toxic
Rhododendron catawbiense	Catawba Rhododendron	6-10' x 8-10'	Moderate	P, W	1A,2,3,4	Wide variety of flower colors
Viburnum obovatum	Walter's Viburnum cv	3-25' x 3-10'	Moderate	DR, P, W	1,2	'Raulston Hardy', 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight'

Deciduous Shrubs Less than 15' tall						
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Growth Rate	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Aronia arbutifolia	Red Chokeberry	6-12' x 3-5'	Slow	P, W, wt	1,1A	Spring flowers, tart red berries in fall, naturalizes.
Callicarpa americana	American Beautyberry	3-8' x 3-6'	Moderate	DR, dt, P, W, wt	1,2	Bright purple berries in the fall
Calycanthus floridus	Sweet shrub cv	6-12' x 6-12'	Moderate	Fr, DR, P	1A,2,3,4	Burgundy-colored flowers
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea	2-3' x 3-5'	Moderate	Fr, P, dt, W	1,2	Summer clusters of white flowers, prone to disease problems in wet soils, host plant
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Buttonbush	5-12' x 3-8'	Moderate	Fr, DR, P, W, wt	1,2	Flowers June-September maturing to reddish brown fruits lasting throughout winter
Clethra alnifolia	Sweet Pepperbush	5-10' x 4-6'	Moderate	Fr, DR, P, W, wt	1A,2	Blooms in late summer with end spikes of white flowers and seed pods lasting throughout winter
Cornus amomum	Silky Dogwood	6-12' x 6-12'	Moderate	DR, P, W, wt	1,2,3,4	FL-Spring, blue berries August-September; red twigs, prefers moist soils, host plant for Azure butterflies
Euonymus americanus	Hearts-a-bustin	4-6' x 4-6'	Moderate	W, wt	2,3,4	Woodland garden, red leaf color in the fall with red-orange seeds
Fothergilla 'Mount Airy'	Dwarf Fothergilla	3-6' x 3-5'	Slow	Fr, DR, P	1,2	Bottle brush flowers in spring with colorful foliage in the fall
Hydrangea arborescens	Smooth Hydrangea cv	3-5' x 3-5'	Fast	DR, P, W	1A,2,3	Cultivars available with flowers of various colors
Hydrangea quercifolia	Oakleaf Hydrangea cv	4-8' x 4-10'	Slow	dt, P, W	1,2,3	Large oak shaped leaves with panicles of white flowers turning pink, then brown in spring into summer
Hypericum frondosum	St. John's Wort	3-4' x 3-4'	Moderate	dt, P	1,2	Blueish green foliage with yellow flowers in summer
Ilex decidua	Possumhaw cv	7-15' x 5-12'	Moderate	P, W, wt, XY	1,2	Winter berries, host for Elfin butterflies
Ilex verticillata	Winterberry cv	3-15' x 3-12'	Slow	DR, P, W, XY	1,2,3,4	Red berries in the fall, host for Elfin butterflies
Itea virginica	Virginia Sweetpire cv	4-8' x 3-6'	Moderate	DR, dt, Fr, P, W, wt	2,3	Arching branches w bottlebrush flower clusters in spring cv 'Henry's Garnet' - fall color
Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	8-15' x 6-15'	Slow	Fr, P, W, wt, XY	2,3	Leaves and red berries emit spicy fragrance. Supports various swallowtail butterflies
Physocarpus opulifolius	Ninebark cv	5-8' x 6-10'	Fast	dt, P	1A,2	Exfoliating bark in winter, white/pink flowers spring/summer
Rhododendron arborescens	Smooth Azalea	8-20' x 8-20'	Fast	Fr, P, W, wt	1,2,3	FL-Spring and crimson leaf color
Rhododendron canescens	Piedmont Azalea	6-15' x 6-10'	Moderate	Fr, P, W	1A,2,3	Clusters of funnel-shaped pink flowers in early spring, burgundy leaves in fall
Rubus spp.	Blackberry, Dewberry, Raspberry	3-12'	Fast	dt, P, W	1	Some natives with edible fruits, can be weedy and difficult to control, native bees nest in dead hollow stems
Sambucus canadensis	Elderberry	5-12' x 6-12'	Moderate	Fr, P, W, wt	1,2	White flowers clusters and berries in summer, naturalizes readily
Styrax americanus	American Snowbell	6-10' x 6-10'	Slow	Fr, P, wt	1,2	Spring bell shaped white flowers
Vaccinium corymbosum	Blueberry cv	6-12' x 6-10'	Moderate	P, W, wt	1,2	Edible berries require more acidic soil
Viburnum dentatum	Arrowwood Viburnum cv	5-10' x 6-10'	Moderate	DR, P, W	1,2	Spring and fall color white flowers and blue/black berries
Viburnum nudum	Possumhaw Viburnum	5-12' x 5-12'	Moderate	Fr, P, W	1,2	Plant in acidic moist areas, flowers, berries and fall color
Viburnum prunifolium	Blackhaw Viburnum	12-15' x 6-15'	Slow	DR, dt, Fr, P, W	1,2	Three seasons of interest; flowers, berries and fall color, host plant for Azure butterflies

Trees and tall shrubs						
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Growth Rate	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	40-70' x 30-70'	Fast	De, P	1,2	Tolerant of a range of soils and moisture conditions
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	50-100' x 30-60'	Slow	De, DR, P, W	1	Edible syrup
Aesculus flava	Yellow Buckeye	40-60' x 30-40'	Slow	De, DR, FL, P, W	1,2	Difficult to transplant once established, poisonous
Aesculus pavia	Red Buckeye	15-25' x 10-20'	Moderate	De, DR, FL, P, W, wt	2	Tubular red flowers in spring, poisonous
Amelanchier arborea	Serviceberry	15-25' x 10-15'	Slow	De, DR, dt, FL, Fr, P, wt	1,2	Edible fruit, can become weedy
Asimina triloba	Pawpaw cv	15-30' x 15-30'	Moderate	De, DR, P, W, wt, XY	1,2,4	Edible, sweet, custard-like fruit
Betula nigra	River Birch	30-70' x 40-60'	Fast	De, DR, W, wt	1,2	Can be messy
Carpinus caroliniana	American Hornbeam	20-30' x 20-35'	Slow	De, P, W	2,3,4	Understory tree, attractive trunk

Trees and tall shrubs						
Botanical Name	Common Name	Height x Width	Growth Rate	Features	Light	Notable Characteristics
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory	70-90' x 50-70'	Slow	De, DR, P, W	1,2	Bark has shaggy appearance, edible nuts
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud CV	20-30' x 25-35'	Moderate	De, FL, P, W	1,2	Flowers bloom before leaves emerge
Chionanthus virginicus	Fringe Tree	12-30' x 12-20'	Slow	De, dt, FL, Fr, P, W	1,2	Showy blue-black fruit on female trees
Cladrastis kentukea	Yellowwood	30-45' x 40-45'	Slow	De, dt, FL, Fr, P, W	1,2	Shade tree, fall color
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood cv	15-25' x 15-30'	Moderate	De, FL, P, W	1A,2	Showy flowers and fruit
Crataegus phaenopyrum	Washington Hawthorn cv	25-30' x 20-25'	Moderate	De, DR, dt, FL, W	1	Showy fruit, fall color, has thorns
Diospyros virginiana	American Persimmon	30-80' x 20-35'	Slow	De, Fr, P, W, XY	1,2	Prefers sandy soil, fall color, edible fruit
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	60-80' x 40-80'	Slow	De, DR, W	1,2,3	Shade tree, edible nuts
Halesia carolina	Carolina Silverbells cv	10-40' x 25-35'	Moderate	De, DR, FL, P, W	1,2,3	Sensitive to drought and heat
Hamamelis virginiana	Witch Hazel cv	15-30' x 15-20'	Moderate	De, DR, Fr, P, W	1,2	Fall color, FL- late fall -winter with yellow flowers
Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'	Foster's Holly cv	20-30' x 10-15'	Slow	DR, dt, E, P, W	1A,2	Red berries, needs wind protection
Ilex opaca	American Holly	40-60' x 10-20'	Slow	DR, dt, E, P, W, XY	1A,2,3	Fr, Red berries, needs wind protection
Ilex vomitoria	Yaupon Holly	10-20' x 8-12'	Fast	DR, dt, E, P, W, XY	1,2,3,4	Fr, Red berries
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern/ Southern Red Cedar cv	15-40' x 10-25'	Moderate	DR, dt, E, P, W, XY	1,2	Best dt native conifer, easy to transplant, dependable and tough, many cvs with varying characteristics
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	80-120' x 30-60'	Fast	De, FL, P, W	1	Can be kept shrub size by cutting to the ground every 2-3 years
Magnolia grandiflora	Southern Magnolia cv	60-80' x 30-50'	Moderate	DR, E, FL, Fr, P, W, wt	1,2	Spring, summer and fall interest
Magnolia virginiana	Sweetbay Magnolia	10-35' x 10-35'	Fast	E, FL, Fr, P, W	1,2	Flowers are smaller than <i>M. grandiflora</i>
Malus angustifolia	Southern Crabapple	10-30' x 15-25'	Moderate	De, FL, P, W	1,2	Edible fruit
Myrica cerifera	Wax Myrtle	20-25' x 8-10'	Fast	DR, dt, E, Fr, P, W, wt, XY	1,2,3	FL-Spring, Fruits August-October
Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum Tupelo cv	20-70' x 20-35'	Moderate	De, dt, DR, P, W, wt, XY	1	Beautiful scarlet red fall color, long taproot, good for providing shade
Ostrya virginiana	Eastern Hop-hornbeam	20-35' x 10-15'	Slow	De, DR, dt, W	2,4	Tolerates variety of soils, easy to grow
Oxydendrum arboreum	Sourwood	20-30' x 10-15'	Slow	De, DR, P, W	1,2,3,4	Fall color
Prunus caroliniana	Carolina Cherry Laurel	15-35' x 15-20'	Fast	DR, dt, E, FL, Fr, P, W	1,2	FL-Late winter to early spring
Quercus alba	White Oak	50-135' x 50-80'	Moderate	De, DR, dt, P, W	1,2	Keystone plant for supporting wildlife
Quercus spp.	Willow, Chestnut, Red, White, Black, Post, etc.	50-135' x 50-80'	Fast-Moderate	De, DR, P, W	1,2	Choice depends on growing conditions, dry, wet
Sassafras albidum	Common Sassafras	30-60' x 25-40'	Fast	De, DR, dt, FL, P, W	1,2	Fruits June-September
Taxodium distichum	Bald Cypress cv	50-70' x 20-30'	Moderate	De, DR, W, wt	1,2	Dwarf and compact cultivars available
Thuja occidentalis	Arborvitae cv	10-60' x 10-15'	Slow	DR, E, wt	1,2	Size range varies widely depending on cv
Tsuga canadensis	Canadian Hemlock cv	40-70' x 25-35'	Fast	DR, E, W	1A,2,3,4	Conical evergreen shrub, dwarf varieties available

The plants listed in this publication are grown in the Piedmont and available at local nurseries.



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