Native Plants- species that grew naturally in this region prior to the colonial era- are uniquely adapted to local conditions and have co-evolved over time with other organisms of the region. They are suited to both the physical and biological conditions of an area. Wildlife (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects) along with fungi and soil biota make up the community within which native plants are an integral part. Native species that have been altered by horticultural means (called Cultivars) have lost genetic diversity, rendering them incapable of being a productive part of native habitats or of supporting wildlife.

**BENEFITS OF NATIVES**

- Promote biodiversity
- Lower landscape & garden maintenance once established
- Foster appreciation of our natural heritage and the beauty of our native landscape

**BASICS FOR USING NATIVES**

- Landscaping with native plants is art imitating nature. Visit natural areas near to where you live and observe which plants are growing together. Create similar plant communities in your garden.
- Match plants with the right soil, moisture and light conditions

**NATIVE PLANTS FOR WILDLIFE**

- Native flora supports wildlife species that co-evolved with them. They provide food and shelter tailored to wildlife health and reproductive requirements.
- Lower landscape & garden maintenance once established
- Promote biodiversity
- Match plants with the right soil, moisture and light conditions

**DO NOT PLANT EXOTIC-INVASIVE SPECIES**

**REPLACE THEM FROM YOUR PROPERTY**

Invasive Plants of High Concern for Coastal Habitats

Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus altissima)
Mimosa (Albizia julibrissin)
Alligatorweed (Alternanthera philoxeroides)
Coral Ardisia (Ardisia crenata)
Golden Bamboo (Arundo donax)
Coral Ardisia (Eichhornia crassipes)
Elaeagnus (Elaeagnus sp.)
English Ivy (Hedera helix)
Cocog Grass (Imperata cylindrica)
Japanese Honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica)
Japanese Climbing Fern (Lygodium japonicum)
Chinaberry Tree (Melia azedarach)
Nandina (Nandina domestica)
Common Reed (Phragmites australis)
Golden Bamboo (Phyllostachys aurea)
Kudzu (Pueraria montana)
Rattlebox (Sesbania nummularia)
Tamarisk (Tamarix gallica)
Chinese Tallow (Triadica sebifera)
Tung-oil Tree (Vernicia fordii)
Beach Vetch (Vitex rotundifolia)
Chinese Wisteria (Wisteria sinensis)

**WHAT ARE NATURE PLANTS?**

- Protect native plant communities
- Learn about native plants and their natural communities
- Buy only nursery-propagated plant material
- Do not remove plants from the wild unless participating in a legitimate and authorized "plant rescue" program.
- Protect natural area habitats

**Native Coastal Wildlife Species, Including Pollinating Insects, Evolved with Our Native Flora**

**Coastal Georgia**

- The Georgia Department of Natural Resources has defined this eco-region as: "The Sea Island/Coastal Marsh (75j) region contains the lowest elevations in Georgia and is a highly dynamic environment affected by ocean wave, wind, and river action. Mostly sandy soils occur on the barrier islands, while organic and clayey soils occur in the freshwater, brackish, and salt marshes. Maritime forest of live oak, red cedar, slash (and longleaf pine), and cabbage palmetto grow on parts of the sea islands and various species of cordgrass, saltgrass, and rushes are dominant in the marshes. The coastal marshes, tidal creeks, and estuaries are important nursery areas for fish, crabs, shrimp, and other marine species."

If you understand which habitat or habitats are encompassed by your property, you can restore and enhance the biodiversity around you. Human activities have altered those habitats but a remnant wand of lilies and a lone longleaf pine might inspire you to add more plants associated with Pine Flatwoods. A canopy of live oaks hints at planting a midstory of sparkleberries and sweetleaf to enhance a Maritime Forest location.

Even if you are not clear about habitats and plant communities, using native plants from this region will begin to link pieces of intact ecosystems. Birds and butterflies will fly from one to the other looking for berries, seeds, nuts, nectar and host plants. Frogs and anoles will find shelter and a good meal. Water features (rain gardens, ornamental ponds, or even a small mister) planted with native species will provide a multitude of benefits to wildlife from life saving moisture to butterfly host plants. The connecting points will weave together as more and more gardeners utilize native plants.

**Barrier Island Habitats**

Barrier Island Freshwater Wetlands and Ponds; Brackish Marsh and Salt Marsh; Coastal Dunes and Bluffs; Coastal Scrub-Shrub Wetlands; Forested Depressional Wetlands; Interdunal Wetlands; Magnolia Slope Forests; Maritime Forest and Coastal Hammocks; Wet Pine Savannas, Herb and Shrub Bogs.

**Mainland Habitats**

Alluvial Rivers and Swamps; Bayheadts and Tidal Swamps; Beach Magnolia Slope Forest; Brackish Marsh and Salt Marsh; Coastal Dunes and Bluffs; Coastal Scrub-Shrub Wetlands; Evergreen Hammocks and Mesic Hardware Forests; Forested Depressional Wetlands; Longleaf Pine-Scrub Oak Woodlands; Maritime Forest and Coastal Hammocks; Nonalluvial Rivers and Swamps; Open-Water Ponds and Lakes; Pine Flatwoods; Tidal Rivers and Freshwater Tidal Marsh; Wet Pine Savannas, Herb and Shrub Bogs.

Bottom line, gardening is a creative, satisfying activity and this brochure hopes to inspire you to use native plants to maintain the integrity of coastal habitats, mend fragmented landscapes, experiment with natives as garden specimens, explore their role in supporting wildlife, and enjoy their beauty and the abundance they generate.

This brochure is brought to you by

**Coastal Wildscapes**

www.coastalwildscapes.org

**Georgia Native Plant Society**

www.gnps.org

**Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources Division**

www.georgiawildlife.com

Little St. Simons Island

http://lssimonsisland.com

Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve

www.sapeloinainslandnerrcor.p.org

Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex

www.segr.gov/southeast

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

www.sbg.uga.edu/botgarden

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www.coastalwildscapes.org/membership

www.gnps.org/geninfo/Membership.php
NATIVE PLANT LIST FOR COASTAL GARDENS

MARKET AVAILABILITY: 1-3 Most to Least
It takes dedication to find native plants for your garden but the rewards are great. Share this list with your local nursery and encourage them to carry more native species.

CONDITIONS
- Full Sun
- Horse (Very wet)
- Xeric (Very dry)
- Shade
- Salt Tolerant
- Ca = Soil

DEER RESISTANCE
Do not assume any new plant, even species they do not like. We encourage you to recommend in your plantings until you are able to protect the trunks of newly planted trees.

WET TO MOIST SOILS

TREES: EVERGREEN
Buckeye Tree (Carya floridana) 3
Loebelia Bay (Gordonia lasianthus) 2
Sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua) 2
Buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis) 2

TREES: DECIDUOUS
Carolina Willow (Salix caroliniana) 3
Two-wing Silverbell (Halesia diptera) 2
Southern Red Cedar (Juniperus virginiana) 2

PERENNIALS
Fly Poison (Fimbristylis miliacea) 3
Green Dragon (Aristolochia durior) 2
Swamp Milkweed (Asclepias incarnata) 3
Hempflower Milkweed (Asclepias incarnata) 3
Golden Canna (Canna litchi) 2
Swamp Lily (Cimicifuga americana) 2
Bottle Burst (Eryngium yuccafolium) 2
Coastal Joe Pye (Eupatorium adpressum) 2
Swamp Sunflower (Helianthus angustifolius) 2
Marsh Heliotrope (Heliotropium curassavicum) 3
Scarlet Rosemallow (Hibiscus coccineus) 2
Swamp Rosemallow (Hibiscus grandiflorus) 3
Crimson Cay Rosemallow (Hibiscus moscheutos) 2
Southern Blue Flag (Iris virginica) 2
Seashore Mallow (Kosteletzkya virginica) 3
Cately's Lily (Lilium catesbaei) 3
Sea Lavender (Limonium carolinianum) 2
Cardinal Flower (Lobelia cardinalis) 2
Purple Lobelia (Lobelia elongata) 3
American Lotus (Nelumbo lutea) 3
American White Waterlily (Nymphaea odorata) 2
Pickrelweed (Pontederia cordata) 2
Sweetpont (Pluchea odorata) 3
Camphor puchea (Pluchea camphorata) 3
Handsome Hardy (Rhexia virginica) 3
Marsh Rose Gentian (Sagatia dodecandra) 3
Broadleaf Arrowhead (Sagatia dodecandra) 3
Hooded Fringe (Sagatia dodecandra) 3
Blue-eyed Grass (Stylophorum diphyllum) 3
Pine Barren Goldenrod (Solidago virgaurea) 3
Goldenrod (Solidago) 3
Yellow Hats (Symphoricarpos flavidus) 3
Falt Ironweed (Vernonia fasciculata) 2
Attamaco Lily (Zephyranthes atamasca) 2

GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES
Switchcane (Arundinaria tecta) 3
Danhoon Holly (Ilex cassine) 1
Irishmo (Ilex glabra) 2
Rusty Staggerbush (Lyonia ferruginea) 3
Smallleaf Arrowood (Viburnum abudovatum) 2

PERENNIALS
Devil's Walkingstick (Aralia spinosa) 3
Roundhead (Cephalanthus occidentalis) 2
Sweet Pepperbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis) 2
Southern Swamp Dogwood (Cornus foemina) 2
Mayhaw (Crataegus angustifolia) 3
Swamp Loosetrie (Scirpoides verticosus) 3
Sweetspire (Itxia virginica) 1
Fevertree (Pinckneya brazecta) 3
Ridgmoon Azalea (Rhododendron canescens) 2
Swamp Azalea (Rhododendron viscosum) 2
Swamp Rose (Rosalia palustris) 3
Elderberry (Sambucus nigra) 2
Highbush Blueberry (Vaccinium corymbosum) 2

NORMAL TO DRY SOILS

TREES: EVERGREEN
American Holly (Ilex opaca) 3
Southern Red Cedar (Juniperus virginiana var. silicicola) 2

TREES: DECIDUOUS
American Snowbell (Halesia diptera) 2
Southern Magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora) 1
Wild Olive (Osmanthus americanus) 2
Salt Pine (Pinus pungens) 2
Longleaf Pine (Pinus palustris) 2
Carolina Cherry (Prunus caroliniana) 2
Sandal Tree (Quercus geminata) 1
Cabbage Palm (Salvea palmeto) 1
Tough Bully (Sideroxylon tenax) 3
Sweetop (Simpsonia flava) 2

PERENNIALS
Mock privet (Prunus serotina) 3
Butterfly Milkweed (Asclepias tuberosa) 2
White Wild Indigo (Baptisia alba) 2
Vanilla Rhubarb (Cephalophora obovata) 3
Green and Gold (Chrysogonum virginianum) 2
Nuttall's Thistle (Cirsium nuttallii) 3
Lance-leaved Coreopsis (Coreopsis lanceolata) 2
Sandy Gilet (Eupatorium virginianum) 2
Blanket Flower (Gaillardia pulchella) 1
Southern Beeblossom (Gaura angustifolia) 2
Dune Sunflower (Helianthus arenarius) 2
Muck Sunflower (Helianthus simultus) 3

GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES

PERENNIALS
Hammock Snakeroot (Ageratina juncoides) 3
Fringed Blue Star (Amsonia caerulea) 2
Sandhill Milkweed (Asclepias humistrata) 3
Butterfly Milkweed (Asclepias tuberosa) 2
Trailing Butterbur (Petasites hybridus) 2
Violet Slope (Viola tricolor) 2
Scarlet Gilet (Eupatorium virginianum) 2
Yellow Passionflower (Passiflora incarnata) 2
Yellow Flowering Milkweed (Lysimachia fendleri) 2
Summer Grape (Vitis aestivalis) 3
Muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia) 1