

### WHAT ARE NATIVE PLANTS?

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.

### PROTECT NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES

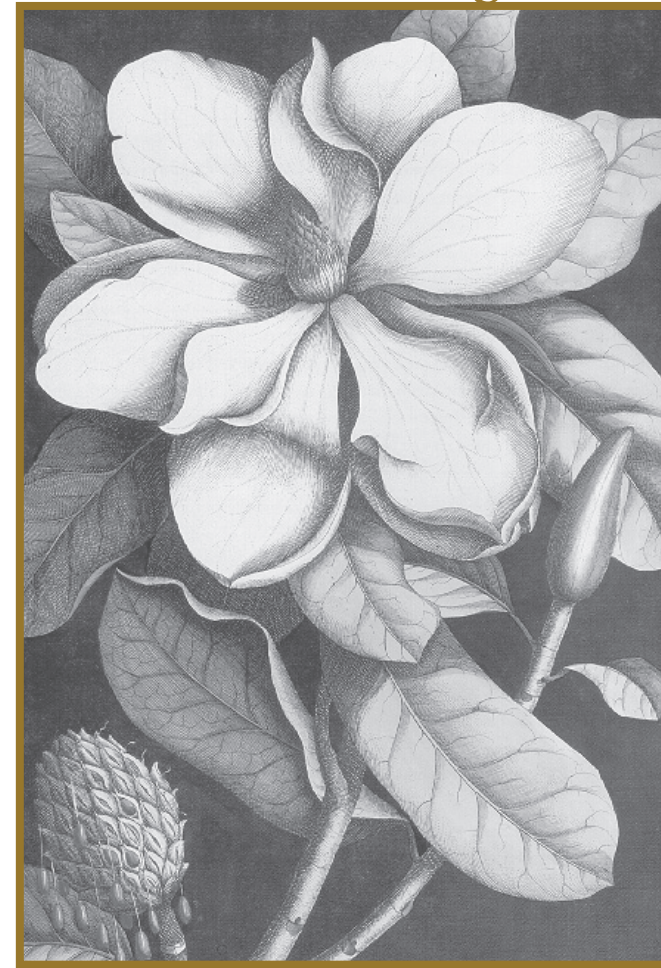
- Learn about native plants and their natural communities
- Buy only nursery-propagated plant material
- Do not remove plants from the wild unless participating in a legitimate and authorized "plant rescue" program.
- Protect natural area habitats

### DO NOT PLANT EXOTIC-INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVE 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*)  
Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*)  
Camphor Tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*)  
Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)  
Elaeagnus (*Elaeagnus sp.*)  
English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)  
Cogon 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 punicea*)  
Tamarisk (*Tamarix gallica*)  
Chinese Tallow (*Triadica sebifera*)  
Tung-oil Tree (*Vernicia fordii*)  
Beach Vitex (*Vitex rotundifolia*)  
Chinese Wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*)

## Landscaping & Gardening with Native Plants in Coastal Georgia



"Magnolia grandiflora" from Catesby's Natural History 1731

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### NATIVE COASTAL WILDLIFE SPECIES, INCLUDING POLLINATING INSECTS, EVOLVED WITH OUR NATIVE FLORA.

The coast of Georgia is a mosaic of interdependent habitats and natural communities. Activities in upland areas, where you live and garden, impact marine, estuarine and freshwater systems. How we plant and tend our gardens and landscapes also affects plant and animal diversity and health. Maintain the natural habitats you have and mend those that are fragmented. You can make a difference whether working at the landscapes level or planting in containers.



Coastal Georgia - Climate Zone: 8B - Eco-region 75j

### COASTAL GEORGIA

in this brochure is the equivalent of the Sea Islands/ Coastal Marsh eco-region (75j) of the Southern Coastal Plain of the Natural Communities of Georgia. It includes the eastern portions of Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn and Camden counties that are ecologically defined by tidal influences. More information about Georgia's eco-regions and natural communities can be found in the State Wildlife Action Plan: [www.georgiawildlife.com/node/1703](http://www.georgiawildlife.com/node/1703) Specific information for the area covered in this brochure is under: Conservation Landscape Assessments and Conservation Strategies section, Southern Coastal Plain.

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### HABITATS OF 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 may have altered those habitats but a remnant wand of liatris 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, 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; Bayheads and Titi Swamps; Beech-Magnolia Slope Forest; Brackish Marsh and Salt Marsh; Coastal Dunes and Bluffs; Coastal Scrub-Shrub Wetlands; Evergreen Hammocks and Mesic Hardwood 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.

## 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	H= Hydric (very wet)
◐= Partial Shade	X= Xeric (very dry)
●= Shade	ST= Salt Tolerant
	Ca= Shell Soil

### DEER RESISTANCE

Deer will try any new plant, even species they do not like. We recommend you fence in new plantings until they are established and protect the trunks of newly planted trees.

### WET TO MOIST SOILS

#### TREES: EVERGREEN

Buckwheat Tree (*Cliftonia monophylla*) 3 ◐◐  
 Loblolly Bay (*Gordonia lasianthus*) 2 ◐◐  
 Sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*) 1 ◐◐  
 Spruce Pine (*Pinus glabra*) 2 ◐◐  
 Pond Pine (*Pinus serotina*) 3 ◐◐

#### TREES: DECIDUOUS

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) 1 ◐◐ H  
 River Birch (*Betula nigra*) 1 ◐◐ H  
 Swamp Titi (*Cyrilla racemiflora*) 3 ◐◐ H  
 Two-wing Silverbell (*Halesia diptera*) 2 ◐◐  
 Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) 1 ◐◐  
 Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) 1 ◐◐●  
 Swamp Tupelo (*Nyssa biflora*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Ogeechee Lime (*Nyssa ogeche*) 2 ◐● H  
 Swamp Chestnut Oak (*Quercus michauxii*) 2 ◐◐  
 Carolina Willow (*Salix caroliniana*) 3 ◐ H  
 American Snowbell (*Styrax americanus*) 2 ◐◐●  
 Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) 2 ◐◐● H

#### SHRUBS: EVERGREEN

Switchcane (*Arundinaria tecta*) 3 ◐●  
 Dahoon Holly (*Ilex cassine*) 1 ◐◐  
 Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) 2 ◐◐ ST  
 Rusty Staggerbush (*Lyonia ferruginea*) 3 ◐◐ H  
 Small-leaf Arrowwood (*Viburnum obovatum*) 2 ◐◐

#### SHRUBS: DECIDUOUS

Devil's Walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*) 2 ◐  
 Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) 1 ◐◐  
 Southern Swamp Dogwood (*Cornus foemina*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Mayhaw (*Crataegus aestivalis*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Swamp Loosestrife (*Decodon verticillatus*) 3 ◐◐ H  
 Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) 1 ◐◐ H  
 Fevertree (*Pinckneya bracteata*) 3 ◐◐ H  
 Piedmont Azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*) 2 ◐◐  
 Swamp Azalea (*Rhododendron viscosum*) 2 ◐◐  
 Swamp Rose (*Rosa palustris*) 3 ◐ H  
 Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) 3 ◐ H  
 Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) 2 ◐◐

### PERENNIALS

Fly Poison (*Amianthium muscitoxicum*) 3 ◐◐  
 Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*) 3 ◐◐ Ca  
 Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) 3 ◐ H  
 Fewflower Milkweed (*Asclepias lanceolata*) 3 ◐H  
 Golden Canna (*Canna flaccida*) 2 ◐ H  
 Swamp Lily (*Crinum americanum*) 2 ◐ H  
 Button Eryngo (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) 2 ◐  
 Coastal Joe Pye (*Eupatoriadelphus dubius*) 2 ◐◐  
 Swamp Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*) 2 ◐ Ca H  
 Marsh Heliotrope (*Heliotropium curassavicum*) 3 ◐◐ ST  
 Scarlet Rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*) 2 ◐ H  
 Swamp Rosemallow (*Hibiscus grandiflorus*) 3 ◐ H  
 Crimoneyed Rosemallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) 2 ◐ H  
 Southern Blue Flag (*Iris virginica*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Seashore Mallow (*Kosteletzkya virginica*) 3 ◐ ST H  
 Catesby's Lily (*Lilium catesbaei*) 3 ◐ H  
 Sea Lavender (*Limonium carolinianum*) 2 ◐ ST  
 Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) 2 ◐◐Ca  
 Purple Lobelia (*Lobelia elongata*) 3 ◐◐  
 American Lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) 3 ◐ H  
 American White Waterlily (*Nymphaea odorata*) 2 ◐ H  
 Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*) 2 ◐ H  
 Sweetscent (*Pluchea odorata*) 3 ◐ ST  
 Camphor pluchea (*Pluchea camphorata*) 3 ◐ H  
 Handsome Harry (*Rhexia virginica*) 3 ◐ H  
 Marsh Rose Gentian (*Sabatia dodecandra*) 3 ◐ ST  
 Broadleaf Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*) 3 ◐ Ca H  
 Hooded Pitcherplant (*Sarracenia minor*) 2 ◐ H  
 Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) 2 ◐  
 Pine Barren Goldenrod (*Solidago fistulosa*) 3 ◐◐  
 Sweet Goldenrod (*Solidago odora*) 3 ◐  
 Yellow Hatpins (*Syngonanthus flavidulus*) 3 ◐ H  
 Tall Ironweed (*Vernonia angustifolia*) 2 ◐  
 Atamasco Lily (*Zephyranthes atamasca*) 2 ◐ H

### FERNS

Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*) 2 ◐●  
 Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) 2 ◐●  
 Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*) 2 ◐● H  
 Southern Shieldfern (*Thelypteris kunthii*) 2 ◐●  
 Nettle Chainfern (*Woodwardia areolata*) 3 ◐●  
 Virginia Chainfern (*Woodwardia virginica*) 3 ◐◐● H

### GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES

Bushy Bluestem (*Andropogon glomeratus*) 2 ◐  
 Toothache Grass (*Ctenium aromaticum*) 3 ◐  
 Common Rush (*Juncus effusus*) 3 ◐◐ H  
 Sugercane Plumegrass (*Saccharum giganteum*) 3 ◐ H  
 Giant Foxtail (*Setaria magna*) 3 ◐ H  
 Saltmeadow Cordgrass (*Spartina patens*) 2 ◐ ST  
 Sand Cordgrass (*Spartina bakeri*) 2 ◐ ST

### VINES: EVERGREEN

Swamp Jessamine (*Gelsemium rankinii*) 2 ◐◐ H  
 Laurel Greenbrier (*Smilax laurifolia*) 3 ◐◐ H  
**VINES: DECIDUOUS**  
 Climbing Aster (*Ampelaster carolinianus*) 1 ◐◐  
 Swamp Leather Flower (*Clematis crispa*) 3 ◐◐  
 Climbing Hydrangea (*Decumaria barbara*) 3 ◐●  
 Saltmarsh morning-glory (*Ipomoea sagittata*) 3 ◐ ST  
 American Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*) 1 ◐

### NORMAL TO DRY SOILS

#### TREES: EVERGREEN

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) 1 ◐◐●  
 Southern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana* var. *silicicola*) 2 ◐ Ca ST  
 Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) 1 ◐●  
 Wild Olive (*Osmanthus americanus*) 2 ◐● Ca  
 Slash Pine (*Pinus elliotii*) 2 ◐  
 Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) 2 ◐ X  
 Carolina Cherry (*Prunus caroliniana*) 2 ◐◐Ca  
 Sand Live Oak (*Quercus geminata*) 1 ◐◐ X ST  
 Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*) 1 ◐◐●  
 Cabbage Palm (*Sabal palmetto*) 1 ◐◐● Ca ST  
 Tough Bully (*Sideroxylon tenax*) 3 ◐ X ST  
 Sweetleaf (*Symplocos tinctoria*) 3 ◐●

#### TREES: DECIDUOUS

Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) 2 ◐ Ca  
 Pignut Hickory (*Carya glabra*) 2 ◐◐●  
 Chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*) 2 ◐◐  
 Sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*) 2 ◐ Ca  
 Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) 1◐ Ca  
 Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) 2 ◐  
 Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) 1 ◐  
 Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) 2 ◐◐ X  
 Southern Crab Apple (*Malus angustifolia*) 2 ◐◐  
 Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*) 2 ◐◐ Ca  
 Blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) 2 ◐◐●  
 Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) 2 ◐◐●  
 White Oak (*Quercus alba*) 2 ◐◐●  
 Bluff Oak (*Quercus austrina*) 3 ◐◐●  
 Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*) 2 ◐◐●  
 Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) 2 ◐◐  
 Basswood (*Tilia americana*) 2 ◐◐ Ca  
 Southern Pricklyash (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*) 2 ◐ ST X

#### SHRUBS: EVERGREEN

Eastern Baccharis (*Baccharis halimifolia*) 3 ◐ ST X  
 Coral Bean (*Erythrina herbacea*) 2 ◐◐ Ca  
 Florida Wild Privet (*Forestiera segregata*) 2 ◐◐ ST Ca  
 Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) 1 ◐◐ ST Ca X  
 Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*) 1 ◐◐ ST  
 Chapman's Oak (*Quercus chapmanii*) 2 ◐◐ ST X  
 Dwarf Palmetto (*Sabal minor*) 1 ◐● Ca  
 Saw Palmetto (*Serenoa repens*) 1 ◐◐● ST X  
 Sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*) 2 ◐●  
 Bear Grass (*Yucca filamentosa*) 2 ◐◐ ST X

#### SHRUBS: DECIDUOUS

False Indigo Bush (*Amorpha fruticosa*) 3 ◐ X  
 Smallflower Pawpaw (*Asimina parviflora*) 2 ◐◐  
 Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) 2 ◐◐  
 Toughleaf Dogwood (*Cornus asperifolia*) 3 ◐◐ Ca  
 Parsley Hawthorn (*Crataegus marshallii*) 2 ◐◐  
 Georgia Plume (*Elliottia racemosa*) 2 ◐●  
 Hearts-a-burstin (*Euonymus americanus*) 1 ◐◐  
 Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) 2 ◐◐  
 Chickasaw Plum (*Prunus angustifolia*) 2 ◐◐ Ca X  
 Coastal Azalea (*Rhododendron atlanticum*) 2 ◐◐  
 Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallinum*) 2 ◐◐ X  
 Carolina Rose (*Rosa carolina*) 3 ◐  
 Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) 2 ◐◐● X

### PERENNIALS

Hammock Snakeroot (*Ageratina jucunda*) 3 ◐◐  
 Fringed Blue Star (*Amsonia ciliata*) 2 ◐  
 Sandhill Milkweed (*Asclepias humistrata*) 3 ◐ X  
 Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) 2 ◐◐ Ca  
 Wild White Indigo (*Baptisia alba*) 2 ◐◐  
 Vanillaleaf (*Carphephorus odoratissimus*) 2 ◐  
 Green and Gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*) 2 ◐◐  
 Nuttall's Thistle (*Cirsium nuttallii*) 3 ◐◐  
 Lance-leaved Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) 2 ◐  
 Slender Goldentop (*Euthamia caroliniana*) 3 ◐◐ X  
 Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*) 1 ◐ Ca X  
 Southern Beeblossom (*Gaura angustifolia*) 2 ◐  
 Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*) 2 ◐ ST X  
 Muck Sunflower (*Helianthus simulans*) 3 ◐  
 Shaggy Blazing Star (*Liatris pilosa*) 2 ◐ X  
 Sundial Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*) 3 ◐◐X  
 Lady Lupine (*Lupinus villosus*) 3 ◐ X  
 Spotted Beebalm (*Monarda punctata*) 3 ◐◐  
 Showy Primrose (*Oenothera speciosa*) 3 ◐  
 Savannah Meadowbeauty (*Rhexia alifanus*) 3 ◐  
 Blackeyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) 1 ◐  
 Shortleaf Rose Gentian (*Sabatia brevifolia*) 3 ◐  
 Azure Sage (*Salvia azurea*) 3 ◐◐ Ca  
 Scarlet Sage (*Salvia coccinea*) 1 ◐ Ca  
 Bearsfoot (*Smallanthus uvedalius*) 3 ◐◐ Ca  
 Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) 2 ◐ ST X  
 Bluejacket (*Tradescantia ohiensis*) 2 ◐  
 Wingstem (*Verbesina occidentalis*) 3 ◐◐ Ca

### FERNS

Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) 3 ◐●  
 Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) 2 ◐●

### GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES

Longleaf Woodoats (*Chasmanthium sessiliflorum*) 2 ◐● Ca  
 Field Lovegrass (*Eragrostis elliotii*) 2 ◐  
 Sweetgrass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*) 1 ◐ ST X  
 Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) 1 ◐  
 Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) 1 ◐  
 Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) 2 ◐ X  
 Purpletop Tidens (*Tridens flavus*) 2 ◐  
 Eastern Gamma Grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) 2 ◐ Ca  
 Sea Oats (*Uniola paniculata*) 2 ◐ ST X

### VINES: EVERGREEN

Cross Vine (*Bignonia capreolata*) 1 ◐◐  
 Yellow Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) 1 ◐◐  
 Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) 1 ◐◐ Ca  
 Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) 1 ◐◐●

### VINES: DECIDUOUS

Peppervine (*Ampelopsis arborea*) 2 ◐ ST X  
 Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans*) 1 ◐  
 Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*) 3 ◐◐  
 Carolina Coralbead (*Cocculus carolinus*) 3 ◐◐  
 Angle Pod (*Gonolobus suberosus*) 3 ◐ Ca  
 Pink Tievine (*Ipomoea cordatotriloba*) 3 ◐  
 Scarletcreeper (*Ipomoea hederifolia*) 3 ◐  
 Purple Passionflower (*Passiflora incarnata*) 2 ◐◐ ST  
 Yellow Passionflower (*Passiflora lutea*) 2 ◐ Ca  
 Summer Grape (*Vitis aestivalis*) 3 ◐◐  
 Muscadine (*Vitis rotundifolia*) 1 ◐◐