

## Gardening for Wildlife

**Butterflies** need nectar sources and larval host sources, so choose both:

### Nectar for adults:

- ◆ Butterfly weed/milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.)
- ◆ Purple coneflower (*Echinacea* spp.)
- ◆ Blazing star (*Liatris* spp.)
- ◆ Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.)
- ◆ Asters (*Symphyotrichum* spp.)
- ◆ Ironweed (*Vernonia* spp.)
- ◆ Thoroughworts/Joe pye (*Eupatorium* spp.)

### Larval host plants for caterpillars:

- ◆ Milkweed (*Asclepias* - Monarch butterfly)
- ◆ Passionvine (*Passiflora* - Gulf fritillary)
- ◆ Sassafras (*Sassafras* - Eastern swallowtail)
- ◆ Paw paw (*Asimina* - Zebra swallowtail)
- ◆ Cherry and plum (*Prunus* - Viceroy)

**Birds** feast on seeds, fruit and insects that grow/host on native plants:

- ◆ Viburnums (*Viburnum* spp.)
- ◆ Wax myrtle (*Morella cerifera*)
- ◆ Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- ◆ Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)
- ◆ Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp.)
- ◆ Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.)
- ◆ Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis* - nectar for hummingbirds)
- ◆ Chokeberry (*Aronia* spp.)
- ◆ Deciduous hollies (*Ilex* spp.)
- ◆ Hearts a bustin' (*Euonymus americanus*)

Hungry for more information? Visit our website and also find us on Facebook.

# Learning More about Native Plants



*Our mission: To promote the stewardship and conservation of Georgia's native plants and their habitats through education and with the involvement of individuals and organizations.*

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## What is a native plant?

Though many definitions exist, this brochure includes information on plants that evolved in this area or were growing here prior to the arrival of European settlers.

## Advantages of gardening with native plants

- ◆ To add natural beauty to your landscape.
- ◆ Native plants are adapted to the local soil and climate.
- ◆ They support the local ecosystem as a building block for native insects, birds and small mammals.
- ◆ They are often low maintenance when sited correctly and properly established.

- ◆ They provide a refuge for native plants losing their habitats.

## What threats are facing native plants?

- ◆ Primarily they are threatened by habitat loss due to development.
- ◆ They are also under threat from non-native plants invading natural areas and displacing them. These are sometimes even sold as landscape plants.

## What can you do?

- ◆ Use native plants wherever possible in your landscape.
- ◆ Don't use non-natives identified as invasive.
- ◆ Encourage your favorite nursery to sell native plants.
- ◆ Buy native plants from reputable sources (look for "nursery propagated").
- ◆ Join or support your local native plant society
- ◆ Support or encourage habitat conservation.

## Please join us!

Membership details and forms are available on our website. You can join online or print off a PDF form to mail in: [www.gnps.org](http://www.gnps.org)

## Native Plants in the Georgia Piedmont region

**Trees** (L for large, S for small, W for wet tolerant, D for dry)

Dogwood ( <i>Cornus florida</i> ) S	Oak ( <i>Quercus</i> spp.) L
Serviceberry ( <i>Aamelanchier</i> spp.) S	Hickory ( <i>Carya</i> spp.) L
Silverbell ( <i>Halesia</i> spp.) S	Maple ( <i>Acer</i> spp.) L, W
Red Buckeye ( <i>Aesculus pavia</i> ) S	Bald Cypress ( <i>Taxodium</i> spp.), L, W
Redbud ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> )	Sycamore ( <i>Platanus occidentalis</i> ) L,
Musclewood ( <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> )	River Birch ( <i>Betula nigra</i> ) L, W
Wax myrtle ( <i>Morrelia cerifera</i> )	Blackgum ( <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> )
Hophornbeam ( <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> ) D	Pine ( <i>Pinus</i> spp.)

## Shrubs

Summersweet ( <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> ) W	Piedmont azalea ( <i>Rhododendron canescens</i> )
Fothergilla ( <i>Fothergilla</i> spp.) W	Sweetshrub ( <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> ) D
Ninebark ( <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> )	Sweetspire ( <i>Itea virginicus</i> ) W
Winterberry ( <i>Ilex verticillata</i> ) W	Oakleaf hydrangea ( <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> )
Spicebush ( <i>Lindera benzoin</i> ) W	Beautyberry ( <i>Calliycarpa americana</i> )
New Jersey tea ( <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> ) D	

## Sun Perennials

Milkweed ( <i>Asclepias</i> spp.)	Black-eyed Susan ( <i>Rudbeckia</i> spp.) D
Joe pye weed ( <i>Eutrochium</i> spp.)	Tickseed ( <i>Coreopsis</i> spp.) D
Sunflower ( <i>Helianthus</i> spp.)	Coneflower ( <i>Echinacea</i> spp.)
Spiderwort ( <i>Tradescantia</i> spp.)	Bluestar ( <i>Amsonia</i> spp.)
Bee balm ( <i>Monarda</i> spp.)	False Indigo ( <i>Baptisia</i> spp.)
Blazing star ( <i>Liatris</i> spp.) D	Phlox ( <i>Phlox</i> spp.)
Goldenrod ( <i>Solidago</i> spp.) D	Asters ( <i>Symphoricarum</i> spp.) D

## Shade Perennials

Foamflower ( <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> ) W	virginianum )
Coral bells ( <i>Heuchera americana</i> ) D	Green 'n' Gold ( <i>Chrysogonum</i>
Bloodroot ( <i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> )	
Christmas fern ( <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> ) D	
Galax ( <i>Galax urceolata</i> )	