

Our native plants are those that have co-evolved here over centuries with local insects, birds, and animals. Together, they make the Virginia Piedmont unique.

In developed areas, human intervention has often served to make native plants rare, leaving birds, butterflies, and other wildlife without the habitats and food sources they need.

Planting communities of native plants on our properties can bring back the insects and pollinators that form the basis of the food web and make our gardens productive and beautiful. And, because they are fully adapted to our local climate and soils, native plants can thrive in situations where exotic ornamentals often fail.

If your garden challenge is a shady spot where the tree canopy claims most of the moisture, native plants may be the way to create a beautiful understory. These plants have lived happily in the shade for generations.

Spreading knowledge of native plants and encouraging their use in home gardens and landscapes is the mission of the Plant Northern Piedmont Natives campaign. We are partnering with area garden centers and other plant sources to make a wider range of native species available. To support the PNPN campaign, the Piedmont Master Gardeners' website offers a wealth of native plant resources:

piedmontmastergardeners.org/nativeplants



Plant Northern Piedmont Natives Retail Partners

Blue Ridge Farmers Co-op
(formerly Southern States)
at Harris Street and Leake Square
Eltzroth & Thompson
Farfields Farm
Fifth Season
Hummingbird Hill
Ivy Corner
Ivy Nursery
La La's Garden
ProTech Farm and Nursery
Saunders Brothers Farm Market
Snow's Garden Center
Wintergreen Nature Foundation

Organizations providing funds or services to the Plant Northern Piedmont Natives campaign:

Albemarle County Environmental
Services Division
Blue Ridge PRISM
Piedmont Environmental Council
Piedmont Master Gardeners
The Quarry Gardens at Schuyler
Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water
Conservation District
Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program
Virginia Native Plant Society,
Jefferson Chapter



Photos not credited courtesy of The Quarry Gardens at Schuyler—Bernice Thiebaut

Cool Plants for Dry Shade



Foamflower, *Tiarella cordifolia*

For
a living landscape,
plant
local natives.



Green and Gold

Chrysogonum virginianum



Cynthia Wood

White Wood Aster

Eurybia divaricata



Cynthia Wood

Virginia Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana



Cynthia Wood

Wild Geranium /Cranesbill

Geranium maculatum



- Perennial
- Height: 1-2 feet
- Pink to lavender flowers April to May
- Site: Part shade, dry to medium soil
- Attracts butterflies, pollinators; tolerates rabbits, deer, drought

Alumroot/Coral Bells

Heuchera americana



- Perennial
- Height 1-2 feet
- Greenish white blooms June-August; good cut; colorful leaves
- Site: Part shade
- Host plant for lepidoptera; deer resistant; tolerates drought

Dwarf Crested Iris

Iris cristata



- Rhizome
- 6-12 inches, spreading
- Showy, fragrant violet/blue blossoms in April-May.
- Site: Groundcover in woodland shade
- Deer resistant

More Shady Characters

Trees

Allegheny Serviceberry, *Amelanchier laevis*
Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*
Persimmon, *Diospyros virginiana*

Shrubs

New Jersey Tea, *Ceanothus americanus*
American Filbert, *Corylus americana*
Mountain Laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*
Spicebush, *Lindera benzoin*
Black chokeberry, *Photinia melanocarpa*
Fragrant Sumac, *Rhus aromatica*
Southern Arrow-wood, *Viburnum dentatum*

Grasses/Sedges

Autumn Bentgrass, *Agrostis perennans*
Blue Wood Sedge, *Carex flaccosperma*
Pennsylvania Sedge, *Carex pennsylvanica*
Poverty Oatgrass, *Danthonia spicata*

Ferns

Southern Lady Fern, *Athyrium asplenoides*
Christmas Fern, *Polystichum acrostichoides*
Bracken Fern, *Pteridium aquilinum*

Flowers

Mistflower, *Conoclinium coelestinum*
Woodland Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*
Bluestem Goldenrod, *Solidago caesia*
Foamflower, *Tiarella cordifolia*

Low groundcovers

Wild Ginger, *Asarum canadense*
Woodland Stonecrop, *Sedum ternatum*