



 **YORK WOODS**  
**TREE & PRODUCTS**

PRESENTS

**PLANT  
GIVEAWAYS AT  
BOTH  
SESSIONS!**

# **NATIVE**

# **PLANT TALKS**

**YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD**



# **Your Northeast Partner in Growth Since 1975.**

For over 50 years, Pierson Nurseries has supplied our region's independent garden centers, landscapers, and contractors with a premium selection of native and ornamental perennials, shrubs and trees.



[www.piersonnurseries.com](http://www.piersonnurseries.com)

313 Waterhouse Road, Dayton, Maine, 04005

# What are Native Plants?

Native plants are species that have evolved, adapted, and grown in a specific region or ecosystem for thousands of years without human intervention.

In North America, they generally refer to plants present prior to European settlement. They are uniquely adapted to local soils, climates, and wildlife, forming essential ecological relationships

Native plants do not know state lines so Pierson Nurseries considers plants native to the majority of New England to be native to Maine



# What are Native Plants?

**Locally Adapted:** They are well-suited to the local climate, rainfall, and soil conditions.

**Co-evolution:** They have developed symbiotic relationships with local wildlife, fungi, and bacteria, supporting local pollinators and ecosystems.

**Sustainability:** Because they are adapted to the local environment, they typically require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides than non-native plants.

**Pre-Settlement Timing:** In the United States, they are defined as those that existed before European contact.



# Benefits of Native Plants?

**Habitat and Food Source:** They provide food, shelter, and breeding sites for local birds, insects, and other animals.

**Biodiversity:** They help maintain natural biodiversity and ecosystem stability.

**Water Conservation:** Once established, their deep roots generally require less irrigation.



# Why does Pierson love Natives?

Biodiversity is key to a well maintained and successful garden/landscape. Native plants are the foundation of that biodiversity and a healthy ecosystem here in Maine & northern New England.

If planted in the correct place, native plants require less maintenance to thrive.

How many natives does Pierson grow?

Over 200!

Field grown vs. greenhouse grown?

Outside grown plants are better adjusted to be planted into the landscape than something that comes out of heated greenhouse.



# How do native plants get into the supply chain?

How are they sourced, grown, and end up in your home garden?

Seed is harvested then sowed in seed beds.

Allowed to grow to a size that can be harvested (bareroot

or plugs) and shipped to Pierson

We then plant into a container and

when it is rooted and shipped to your local garden

center.



# Natives to New England

Let's check out some of the awesome natives that are available to buy here at York Woods today...

But first let's make sure we're all on the same page on vocabulary!

## Latin Name vs. Common Name

## USDA Hardiness Zones

## Plant Categories



# Latin Name vs. Common Name

## Latin Name

A plant's Latin name (aka its **botanical** or **scientific** name) provides a universal, precise, and unchanging two-part name which includes its unique **genus and species**.

Latin names are **standardized globally**, meaning a plant has one specific Latin name regardless of where it is grown. Often describes features like color (*rubra* for red), origin (*japonica* for Japan), or habit (*pendula* for weeping).

## Common Name

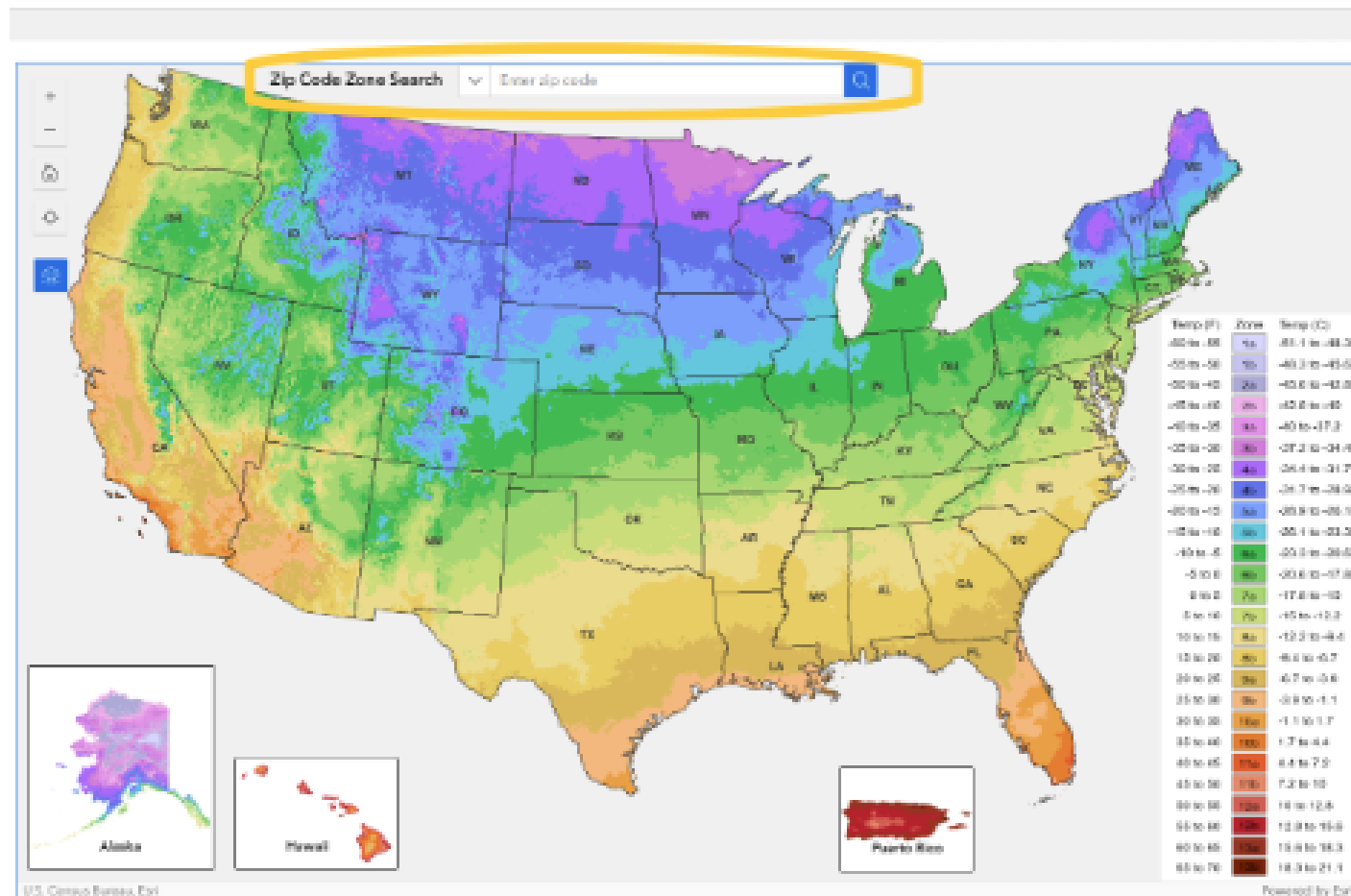
These are the informal, easy-to-remember names used by gardeners and the general public, like "Red Maple".

A single plant may have multiple common names, or different plants may share the same common name, causing confusion across our plant community.

Common names often reflect local culture or regional description, rather than a plant's scientific classification.



# USDA Hardiness Zones



## Find Your Plant Hardiness Zone with Your Zip Code!

Just enter your zip code in the search box at the top of the map, then click the box's magnifying glass button or press enter to see your plant hardiness zone.

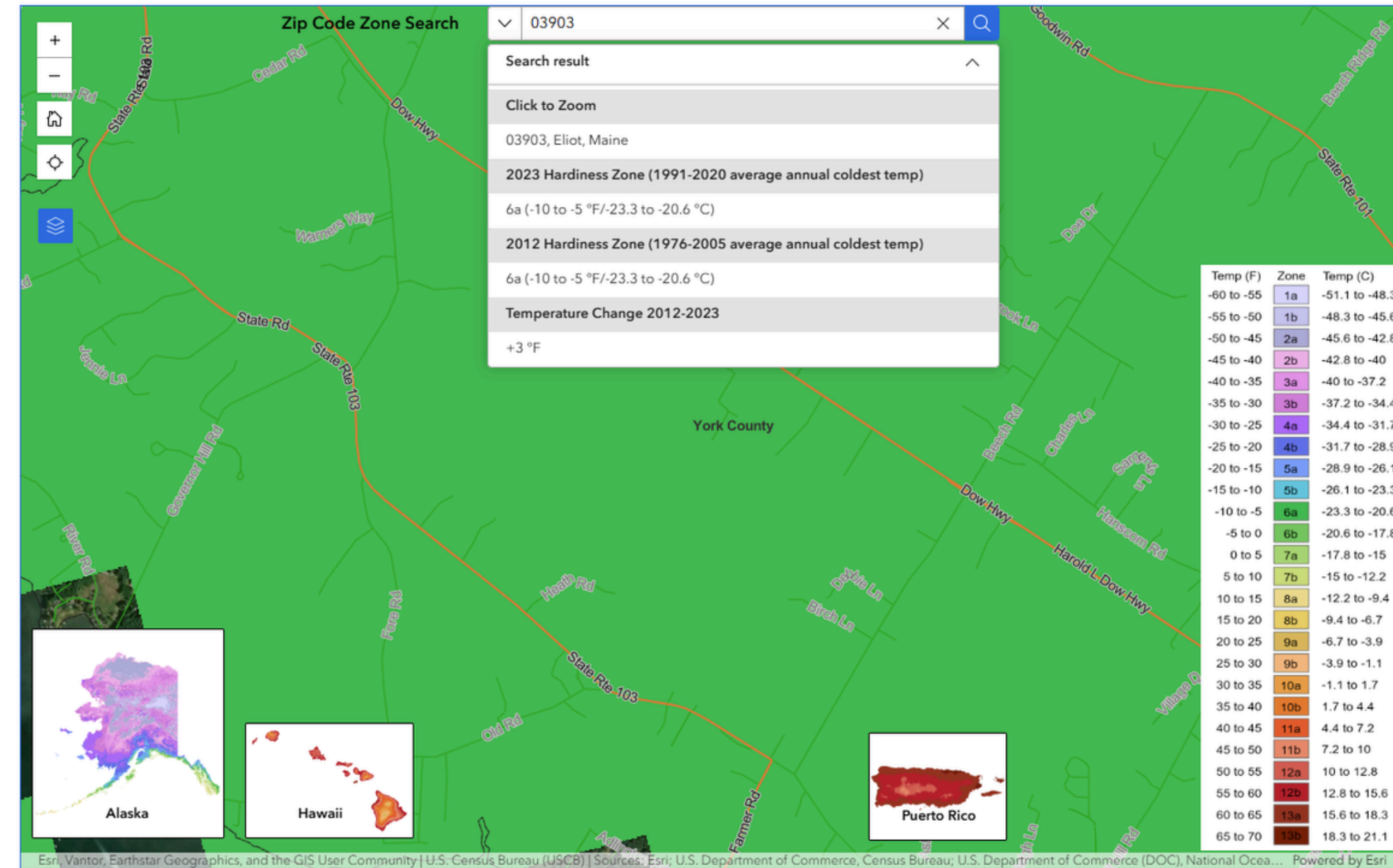
The USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which perennial plants are most likely to thrive at a location. The map is based on the average annual extreme minimum winter temperature, displayed as 10-degree F zones and 5-degree F half zones.

Many other environmental factors, in addition to hardiness zones, contribute to the success or failure of plants. Wind, soil type, soil moisture, humidity, pollution, snow, and winter sunshine can greatly affect the survival of plants.

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>

# USDA Hardiness Zones

## 2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map



Here on the Seacoast (southern coastal Maine & New Hampshire) we are **Zone 6A!**

# Plant Categories

Annuals

Shrubs: Deciduous

Ferns

Perennials

Shrubs: Evergreen

Groundcovers

Trees: Evergreen

Roses

Grasses



Edibles

Trees: Deciduous

**Latin Name:** Clethra alnifolia 'Hummingbird'

**Common Name:** Hummingbird Summersweet

**Native Cultivar**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 5-8

**Height:** 3-4 ft

**Spread:** 3-4 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



A dense, compact selection of alnifolia with lustrous, deep, dark green foliage and a profusion of long, extremely fragrant flower spikes that will really add spice to any early to mid-summer landscape. Like the species, 'Hummingbird' tolerates shade and moist soil conditions and lights up the fall landscape with a bright yellow show of fall foliage.

**Latin Name:** Clethra alnifolia 'Sixteen Candles'

**Common Name:** Sixteen Candles Summersweet

**Native Cultivar**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 4-9

**Height:** 4-5 ft

**Spread:** 2-3 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



Summersweets are unique among flowering shrubs because of their ability to bloom in shady gardens in late summer when few other shrubs are in bloom, and 'Sixteen Candles' compact size makes this an ideal flowering shrub for smaller gardens. White blooms, lasting 4-6 weeks, with a beautiful summer fragrance will have the bees and butterflies flock to its sweet nectar.

**Latin Name:** *Comptonia peregrina*

**Common Name:** Sweet Fern

**Native**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 2-8

**Height:** 2-5 ft

**Spread:** 4-8 ft

**Bloom Color:** Green Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



You can abuse this tough, tenacious native all you want, but you'll be hard pressed to break its spirit! Upright growing with deep green, lustrous, sweet scented, fern-like foliage, Sweetfern colonizes by spreading stolons and will hold ground in the sandiest, most infertile soils you can imagine, and thrive where other ornamentals fail.

**Latin Name:** Cornus sericea 'Baileyi'

**Common Name:** Bailey's Red Twig Dogwood

**Native Cultivar**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-8

**Height:** 6-10 ft

**Spread:** 6-10 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



A beacon in the winter landscape with its bright red stems, this selection is also easy to grow and tolerant of poor soils, wet areas and the coldest climates. Great for massing, this selection has good red-purple fall color, and should be trimmed yearly to remove old growth as new growth has the best winter color. Excellent hedge, screen or in mass plantings. Red stems add color to the winter landscape. Perfect for wet areas and reclamation landscapes.

**Latin Name:** Diervilla lonicera  
**Common Name:** Bush Honeysuckle

**Native**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-7

**Height:** 2-3 ft

**Spread:** 3-4 ft

**Bloom Color:** Yellow Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



A dense, spreading mound of deep green leaves serves as a backdrop for showy yellow flowers appearing in June and July. In the fall its capsule-like fruit is a songbird favorite! This is a pest-free selection that adapts to poor, sandy or rocky soils. It is easy to grow and fits well into small spaces.

**Latin Name:** Ilex verticillata Berry Poppins  
**Common Name:** Berry Poppins® Winterberry

**Native**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-9

**Height:** 3-4 ft

**Spread:** 3-4 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



Winterberry is an awesome plant for winter landscapes, but many homeowners don't have room for a traditional variety. An excellent, heavy fruiting dwarf variety, Berry Poppins is ideal for gardeners who want bright winter color and fruit for cutting but don't have room for a typical *I. verticillata*. It is heavier fruiting than 'Red Sprite'. Use Mr. Poppins as a pollinator.

**Latin Name:** Picea rubens

**Common Name:** Eastern Red Spruce Tree

**Native**

**Category:** Tree - Evergreen

**Hardiness Zone:** 2-5

**Height:** 60-80 ft

**Spread:** 10-18 ft

**Bloom Color:** Green Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



Eastern Red Spruce is a cool region tree that requires full sun, ample moisture, and acidic, well-drained soil. It forms a broader crown than other eastern spruces and its needles are a brighter yellow-green. Its trunk has a diameter of 1 to 2 ft. and it may grow to 150 feet tall in areas where humidity and rainfall are abundant.

**Latin Name:** Rhus aromatica 'Gro-Low'  
**Common Name:** Gro-Low Fragrant Sumac

**Native**

**Category:** Tree - Evergreen

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-9

**Height:** 1-2 ft

**Spread:** 5-6 ft

**Bloom Color:** Green & Yellow Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



Low-growing and fast spreading, this plant is a perfect low groundcover for banks, groupings, and poor soil areas. Fragrant yellow flowers bloom in April followed by red, pubescent fruit. Showy orange-red fall color. Beautiful fall color with fast compact growth makes an excellent groundcover, perfect for erosion control and steep banks. Deer tolerant, Frost tolerant.

**Latin Name:** Vaccinium angustifolium  
**Common Name:** Lowbush Blueberry

**Native**

**Category:** Edibles

**Hardiness Zone:** 2-8

**Height:** 1-2 ft

**Spread:** 2-3 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



This native blueberry produces sweet, dark blue berries from mid-to-late summer and has an open, airy form befitting a shrub border or native garden environment. Dainty white flowers cover the bush in May, and its dark green leaves put on a magnificent autumn show as they transform to a reddish-bronze color, making this a great selection for both taste and aesthetic purposes.

**Latin Name:** *Vaccinium corymbosum* 'Patriot'  
**Common Name:** Patriot Highbush Blueberry

**Native**

**Category:** Edibles

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-8

**Height:** 4-5 ft

**Spread:** 4-5 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



We think this selection may be the best early season producer out there! Which other variety will give you such massive yields in such dense, rounded, compact package? 'Patriot' isn't only an incredible fruiting plant, it's an incredible landscape plant with superb, lustrous, deep green foliage and a fiery orange-red fall color that will stop you in your tracks!

**Latin Name:** Viburnum dentatum Blue Muffin  
**Common Name:** Blue Muffin Arrowwood Viburnum

**Native**

**Category:** Shrub - Deciduous

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-8

**Height:** 5-6 ft

**Spread:** 5-6 ft

**Bloom Color:** White Shades

**Foliage Color:** Green Shades



Here's a new selection of *V. dentatum* that turns an old utilitarian plant into a landscape superstar! 'Blue Muffin<sup>®</sup>' has it all with a superb display of white flower heads in mid- to late May followed by a display of rich blue berries that you and your birds will love. Add to that a compact, spreading form and a blazing, burgundy-red fall color and you've got a tough, exciting plant that you just have to try!