

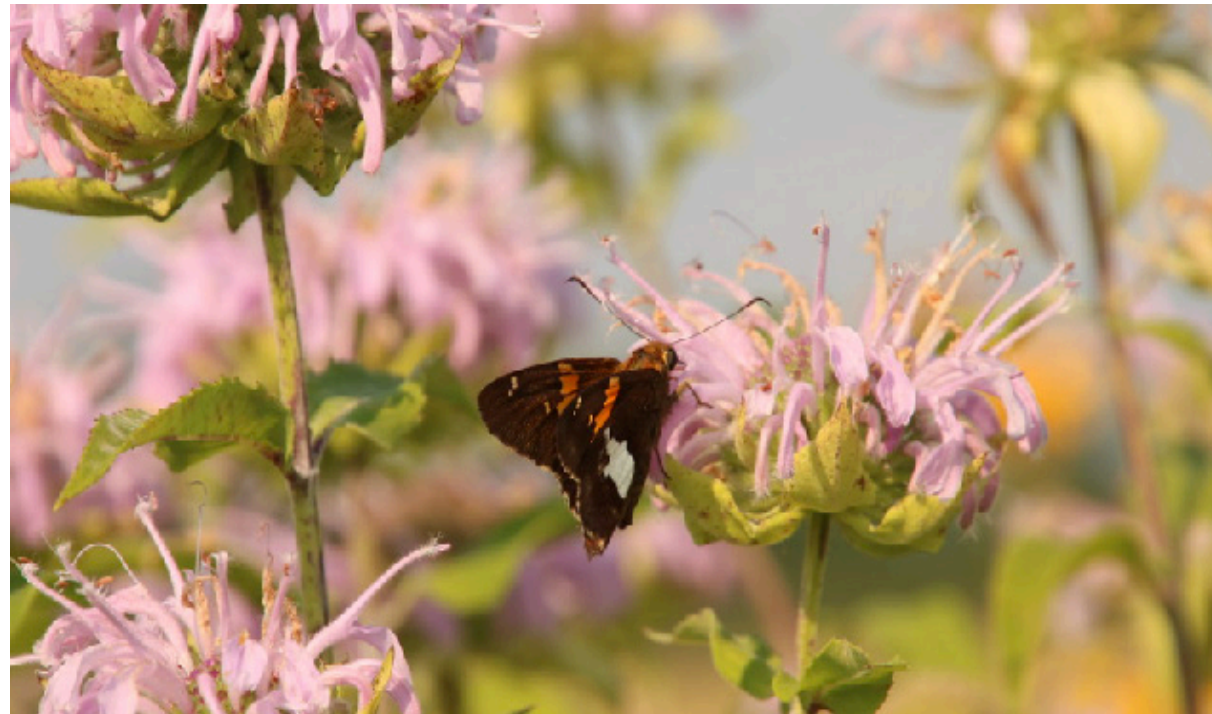


SHORE RIVERS

RIVER-FRIENDLY YARDS



RIVER-FRIENDLY YARDS



Wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*). Photo Credit: Dan Small

A River-Friendly Yard mimics the natural environment to benefit water quality, native species, and our local ecosystem. In a time when it is easy to feel despondent about our environmental future, there is real hope in your yard of any size. We are learning that stitching together small habitats into conservation corridors may make the essential difference we need for all species, including our own, to thrive. This booklet contains River-Friendly Yards practices and resources to empower you to make positive change in your own backyard.

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The Chesapeake Bay Trust
&
The Robert F. Schumann Foundation

And in partnership with:

Annapolis Native Landscape Design



WHY A RIVER-FRIENDLY YARD?

No matter where you are, you are part of a watershed! ShoreRivers' data shows that the majority of pollution in our rivers is nutrients and sediment coming from within our watersheds. This means every one of us has the potential to improve the health of our local waterways. When it rains, fertilizers and soil wash into our waterways. This pollution causes algal blooms, reduces water clarity, damages aquatic ecosystems, and threatens human health.

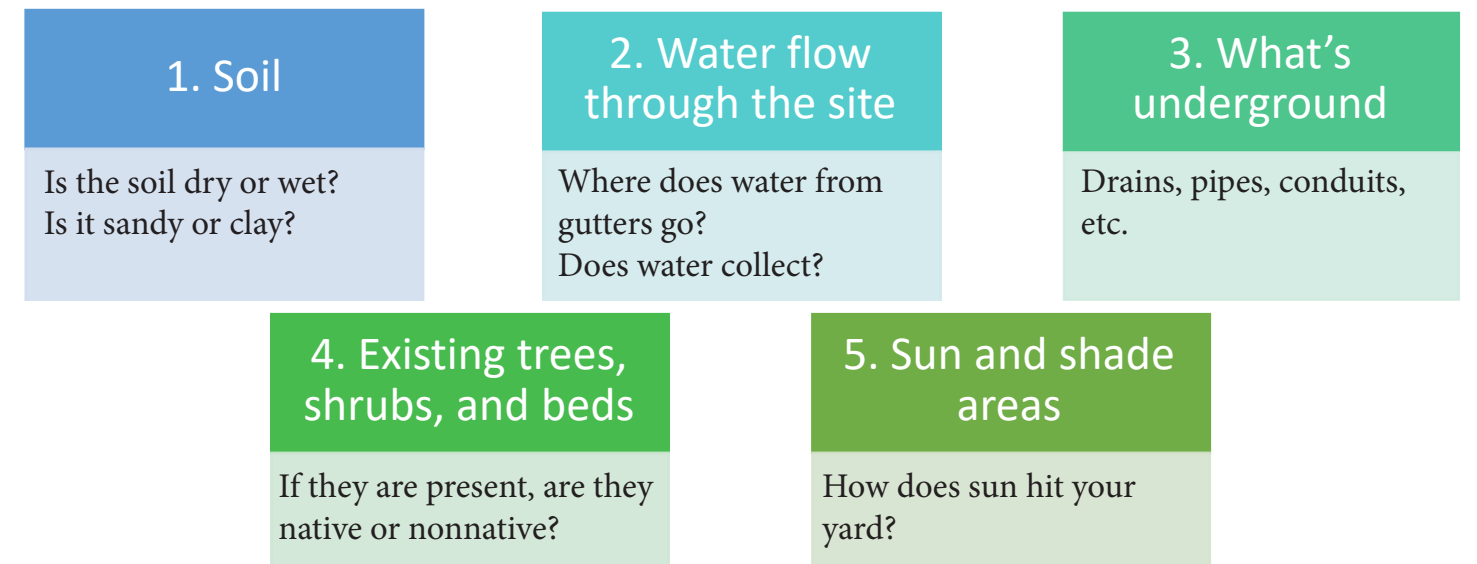


A harmful algal bloom on Rosin Creek

PLANNING A RIVER-FRIENDLY YARD

Before breaking ground on your project, it is important to understand your property.

Some important factors to consider:



These factors are crucial when considering the placement of plants. Although native plants are beautiful, a well-formulated plan will make all the difference when it comes to order and aesthetics. ShoreRivers has a multitude of resources available to help you create an environmentally conscious space that will be enjoyed by humans and critters alike.

RIVER-FRIENDLY STRATEGIES

Your yard of any size can make a difference. By using the following strategies, you can improve soggy lawns and wet basements, enjoy beautiful, low-maintenance plantings, and help achieve healthy waterways across Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Native plants: Possibly the single most important step you can take for our waterways and ecosystems is planting natives. Native plants are suited to our environment and have much deeper roots than non-natives. They filter water, absorb nutrients, and provide valuable habitat.

Turf reduction: Turf grass requires intensive maintenance to look its best, including frequent mowing and fertilizers containing nitrogen and phosphorus. Finding parts of your lawn that can be converted to a shade garden or mini-meadow decreases mowing, attracts birds and pollinators, and reduces runoff.

Soil testing: Determining the type of soil you have will help you choose native plants that thrive.

Fertilizer elimination: Your soil can support native plants without amendments.

Rain gardens: Capture and filter runoff with beautiful native species.

Rain barrels: Collect and store runoff from your roof for later use.



Rain gardens treat runoff, prevent flooding, and provide beautiful habitat.

Annapolis Native Landscape Design created these five different River-Friendly designs that can be adapted to any yard based on the conditions of the property. These beautiful native designs benefit water quality while simultaneously creating attractive habitats for pollinators, birds, and people.



Shrub Necklace

This approach is best suited for areas that are on the “upper end” of waterflow. Some examples of these areas could be around decks, encompassing an existing bed, or as foundation plantings.



View-Framing and View-Buffering

This approach is well-suited for properties with waterfront views. Through this strategy, a homeowner's waterfront view gets “framed” by native plants. Not only does this improve the waterfront, it also greatly reduces stormwater runoff from reaching waterways!



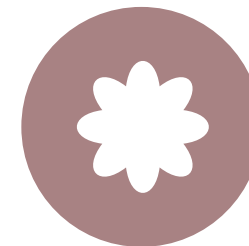
Layered Conservation Planting

The layered conservation strategy is the systematic planting of natives to populate a designated area over time.



Flash-Vernal Pond

This strategy deals with areas in your yard that have poor drainage. Instead of trying to grow a lawn, create a temporary pond!



Meadow and Habitat

This easy, low-cost strategy brings color, fragrance, pollinators, and songbirds into your yard, and contributes to vital habitat corridors.



SHRUB NECKLACES

What makes a Shrub Necklace?

- One type of shrub, massed for visual appeal
- Shrub chosen for wet and drought tolerance
- Shrub chosen for appropriate height to minimize pruning and maintenance
- Slows, retains, filters water into the ground (shallow lateral roots)
- Can be underplanted with groundcover

Some potential shrubs include:

- Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)
- Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)
- Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
- Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)



Inkberry (Ilex glabra)



Winterberry (Ilex verticillata)



An example of a simple shrub necklace creating a buffer between the yard and the deck



A simple shrub necklace with ground cover providing a barrier between house runoff areas and the lawn



VIEW-FRAMING AND VIEW-BUFFERING

How to Frame and Buffer

This process can be broken down into three steps:

1) Sightline the Property

Selections of important views to highlight or block

2) Create a Diagram

Draw up a potential design complete with the locations of tall plants and short plants

3) Choose your Plants

Do your research on what kinds of plants you want and what plants would work for your space

Some potential plants for this method include:

- Northern Bayberry (*Myrica pensylvanica*)
- Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)
- Bottlebrush Buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*)



Northern Bayberry (Myrica pensylvanica)



Buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis)



A traditional riverfront property without any buffering or framing



This schematic shows how the "View-Framing" technique enhances a riverfront view, adding depth and interest.



LAYERED CONSERVATION PLANTING

What is Layered Conservation Planting?

This strategy works best in phases. During Phase I, the canopy and shrubs must be established. During Phase II, groundcover and smaller shrubs can be added.

Sequence planting:

- 1) Canopy
- 2) Understory
- 3) Shrubs
- 4) Groundcover



Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)



Silky Dogwood Flowers (*Cornus amomum*)



Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)



Cherokee Sedge (*Carex cherokeensis*)



From top to bottom: canopy, understory, shrubs, and groundcover

Good Plants for this Strategy

Canopy: **Black Gum** (*Nyssa sylvatica*), **Swamp White Oak** (*Quercus bicolor*)

Understory: **Spicebush** (*Lindera benzoin*), **Sassafras** (*Sassafras albidum*)

Shrub: **Grey Dogwood** (*Cornus racemosa*) (dry soil), **Silky Dogwood** (*Cornus amomum*) (wet soil), **Summersweet** (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Groundcover: **Blue Mistflower** (*Conoclinium coelestinum*), **Smooth Blue Aster** (*Symphotrichum laeve*), **White Wood Aster** (*Eurybia divaricata*), **Golden Groundsel** (*Packera aurea*), **Cherokee Sedge** (*Carex cherokeensis*), **FERNS!**



FLASH-VERNAL PONDS

By creating a Flash-Vernal Pond, you can eliminate a previously struggling section of lawn and replace it with a natural wet-adapted habitat.



This planting strategy deals with temporarily saturated areas, so plants must be tolerant of waterlogged conditions. Some plants that fit that description are:

- **Northern Blueflag** (*Iris versicolor*)
- **Creek Sedge** (*Carex amphibola*)
- **Blue Mistflower** (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)



Creek sedge (*Carex amphibola*)



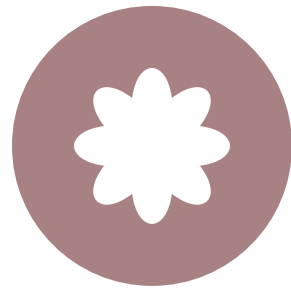
Northern Blueflag (*Iris versicolor*)



A poorly drained site being prepared for a native plant installation.



The same site after being planted with multiple species of plants that can tolerate wet conditions. The plantings have had time to establish themselves, and attract insects, amphibians, and a wide variety of pollinators.



MEADOW AND HABITAT

One of the most impactful and gratifying changes you can make in your yard is to designate a section for meadow and habitat.

Whichever of these methods you choose, creating a border around your meadow by mowing, mulching, or placing rocks helps to make clear that this is a special, intentional space.

Re-wilding

Pick an area and just stop mowing; watch it “re-wild.” Our native seed banks are usually strong and resilient, so see what comes up, and what new gifts the birds bring.

Large Meadows

Programs like the Natural Lands Project help landowners create large spaces for habitat. Some offer incentive payments; check with ShoreRivers for active programs in your area.



Each season brings new colors as your meadow matures.

Mini-Meadow

Designate an area for your mini-meadow. Kill grass by laying down thick paper, cardboard, or plastic for 6-8 weeks. In spring or summer, plant plugs of small meadow plants (you can right through the paper), then mulch around plugs. Or remove paper and any plant debris to broadcast a native seed mix for fall planting. Remove unwanted species and tree seedlings annually.



Mark mini-meadow area with paint or flags.



Lay paper or other material; frolicking encouraged.



Plant plugs through mulch.

SHRUB NECKLACE

In the following tables, rows highlighted in gray represent the “true native” species of native plants that are found in the wild. The white rows represent “cultivars”, or native species that are bred for specific aesthetics or functions such as a different flower color or shorter height. True natives usually offer more ecological benefits than cultivars, but both types are great for making a River-Friendly space.

Common Name	Latin Name	pH	Sun	Size	Bloom	Notes
Summersweet	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	6.1-8.5	Part Sun, Shade	6-12'H	Jul-Aug	Pleasing summer fragrance. Attracts butterflies.
Summersweet	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> 'Sixteen Candles'	6.1-8.5	Part Sun, Shade	4-5'H x 2-3'W	May-June, Fruit in Fall	Pleasing summer fragrance. All three of these Clethras attract butterflies. 'Sixteen Candles' an excellent short, white cultivar. 'Hummingbird' also an excellent short, white cultivar. 'Pink Hummingbird' short, pink-flowered.
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	4.5-6	Sun, Part Sun	6-10'H	May-June, Fruit in Fall	Makes a great informal hedge when grown in multiples. Jet-black berries persist through winter. Also called gallberry, which can be made into a very prized honey.
Dwarf Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i> 'Densa'	4.5-6	Sun, Part Sun	3-5'H	May-June, Fruit in Fall	Compact cultivar. Leaves grow more densely than 'Shamrock'. This female cultivar has small black berries for birds in the Fall.
Dwarf Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i> 'Shamrock'	4.5-6	Sun, Part Sun	3-5'H	May-June, Fruit in Fall	Compact cultivar that doesn't form colonies or spread as quickly as the straight species. This female cultivar has small black berries for birds in the Fall.
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-12'H	June-Jul, Fruit Aug-Nov	Many cultivars. Need male pollinator less than 50' away. 1 male pollinator can pollinate up to 6 female plants. Berries persist through winter.
Male Pollinator Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Apollo' or 'Southern Gentleman'	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	8-12'H	June-Jul	Early season male pollinators. 'Southern Gentleman' is a late pollinator and pairs well with 'Sparkleberry', 'Winter Red', and 'Winter Gold'.
Early Male Pollinator Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Jim Dandy'	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	3-6'H	June-Jul	Small, compact cultivar. Male for pollination earlier in season, pairs well with 'Red Sprite' or 'Maryland Beauty' cultivar.
Female Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Maryland Beauty'	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	5-7'H	Jun-Jul, Fruit Jul-Nov	Pairs well with Jim Dandy. Berries persist through winter.
Dwarf Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Red Sprite'	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part sun, Shade	2.5-3'H	Jun-Jul, Fruit Aug-Nov	Small, compact cultivar. Pairs well with 'Jim Dandy'. Berries persist through winter.
Female Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Sparkleberry'	4.5-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	8-10'H	Jun-Jul, Fruit Aug-Nov	Yellow-bronze leaves in fall. Berries persist through winter. Pairs well with 'Apollo' and was developed at the same time at the National Arboretum.
Virginia Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	5.1-7.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-10'H	Jun-Jul	Red-burgundy fall color. Attracts hummingbirds.
Henry Garnet Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i> 'Henry Garnet'	5.1-7.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	4-5'H	Jun-Jul	Larger flowers and better fall color than the straight species. Attracts hummingbirds.
Dwarf Virginia Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i> 'Little Henry'	5.1-7.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	2-3'H	Jun-Jul	Compact cultivar with larger flowers than the straight species. Attracts hummingbirds.
Red Chokeberry	<i>Photinia pyrifolia</i> / <i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	5.1-7.5	Sun, Part Sun	6-15'H	Jun-Jul, Fruit Sept-Nov	Great fall color, pleasant, vase-shaped form like a small tree.



VIEW-FRAMING & VIEW-BUFFERING

Common Name	Latin Name	pH	Sun	Size	Bloom	Notes
Trees & Shrubs						
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	4.0-7.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	15-50'H	May-Jun, Fruit Aug-Nov	Winter food and shelter for birds, evergreen with red berries.
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i> 'Satyr Hill' or 'Miss Helen'	4.0-7.5	Sun, Part Sun	15-25'H x 10-18'W	May-Jun, Fruit Aug-Nov	Winter food and shelter for birds, evergreen with red berries. This female cultivar is more compact and grows faster.
Dwarf American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i> 'Maryland Dwarf'	4.0-7.5	Sun, Part Sun	2-3'H x 3-10'W	May-Jun, Fruit Aug-Nov	Winter food and shelter for birds, evergreen with red berries, much shorter form. This cultivar makes a good groundcover.
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	5.0-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	12-30'H	May-Jun, Seeds Sept-Oct	Birds like the seed pods, which ripen to red. Semi-evergreen. Southern cultivars have pleasant fragrance, more leaves near lower trunk.
Sweetbay Magnolia 'Moonglow'	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> 'Moonglow' or 'Henry Hicks'	5.0-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	12-30'H	May-Jun, Seeds Sept-Oct	Birds like the seed pods, which ripen to red. Semi-evergreen. This cultivar is faster growing, more cold-hardy, and has a larger bloom than straight species. Also has a pleasant fragrance, with more leaves near lower trunk.
Bottlebrush Buckeye	<i>Asculus parviflora</i>	6.0-8.0	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	8-12'H x 8-12'W	Jun-July	Drought tolerant. Helps control erosion, but needs moisture first several years. Big, full, suckering shrub, great for summer screening in shade areas. Butterflies!
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	6.1-8.5	Sun, Part Sun	6-12'H	Jul-Aug	Butterfly magnet. White spherical blooms
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	6.1-8.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-12'H	Jun-Jul	Drought tolerant. Birds love all dogwood family. Host for spring azure butterfly. Tolerates nearly full shade.
Gray Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	6.1-8.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-12'H	Jun-Jul	Great cover and food for birds. Host for spring azure butterfly.
Redtwig / Redosier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>		Sun, Part Sun	6-9'H x 9-10'W	Jun-Jul	Striking red stems develop in fall and winter, giving this species its name. Birds love all dogwood family. Host for spring azure butterfly.
'Arctic Fire' Redtwig /Redosier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i> 'Arctic Fire'		Sun, Part Sun	3-4'H	Jun-Jul	Birds love all dogwood family. Host for spring azure butterfly. This cultivar is rounded with bright red stems and does not spread like the straight species.. Sometimes taller than advertised and can also be labeled as 'Farrow'.
Southern Waxmrytle	<i>Morella (Myrica) cerifera</i>	4.0-6.0	Sun, Part Sun	6-15'H x 6-8'W	Apr-May, Fruit Aug-Oct	Bloom inconspicuous. Bluish-white fruit gives it the name 'Candleberry'. Can be pruned for compact form.
Northern Bayberry	<i>Morella (Myrica) penslyvanica</i>	5.1-6.5	Sun, Part Sun	5-10'H	Apr-May, Fruit Aug-Oct	Can be pruned for more compact form. Fast growing. Berries an important winter food for birds. Need male berries if none local. Excellent screen.
Grasses						
Pink Muhly Grass	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>		Sun, Part Sun	2-3'H	Sept-Nov	Pink cloudlike appearance. Grows taller with consistent moisture.
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	4.5-8.0	Sun, Part Sun	3-6'H	Jul-Nov	Tough, adaptable. Shorter forms available.
Switchgrass 'Heavy Metal'	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Heavy Metal'	4.5-8.0	Sun, Part Sun	4-6'H	Jul-Nov	Metallic-blue leaves. Drought tolerant. Tough, adaptable.
Switchgrass 'Northwind'	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Northwind'		Sun, Part Sun	2-3'H	Jul-Nov	Great straight vertical form. Drought tolerant. Many cultivars. Grows loose and open in shade.
Switchgrass 'Shenandoah'	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Shenandoah'	4.5-8.0	Sun, Part Sun		Jul-Nov	Tough, adapatable. This shorter form has beautiful red-tinged blades, that start off as blue-green and rapidly change to red-burgundy. If allowed to self-seed, the new plants will resemble the straight species instead of the cultivar, so it is best to remove these new plants to maintain the appearance.

LAYERED CONSERVATION PLANTING

Common Name	Latin Name	pH	Sun	Size	Bloom	Notes
Tall Trees						
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	4.0-6.0	Sun, Part Sun	50-75'H, 35-50'W	Apr-May, Fruit in Jun-Aug	Interesting bark texture. Birds eat catkins(cylindrical flower clusters) and many insects that hide in peely bark. 'Duraheet' and 'Heritage' are popular cultivars.
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	4.5-7.5	Part Sun, Shade	20-35' H	Apr-May	Golden Fall color. Favorite for rose-colored spring bloom.
Alternate-Leaf Dogwood (Pagoda)	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>		Sun, Part Sun	15'H x 15'W	May-Jun, Fruit in Sept, Oct	Great fall color & winter structure. Drought tolerant. Birds adore this tree. Host for Spring Azure.
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	5.0-7.0	Sun, Part Sun	50-75' H	Jun, Fruit Sept, Oct, Nov	Fruit edible when ripe.
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	4.0-7.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	15-50'H	May-Jun, Fruit Aug-Nov	Evergreen with red berries. Winter food and shelter for birds.
Black Gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	4.5-6.0	Sun, Part Sun	30-75'H	Apr-June, Fruit Aug-Nov	Females have drupes (fruit with single seed inside) for birds.
Lobolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	4.5-7.0	Sun	70-90'H	Non-flowering	Evergreen. Fast growing.
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> 'Columbia' or 'Liberty'		Sun	75'H x 60'W	Apr	Interesting "camouflage" bark texture and colors. Drought tolerant. Tolerates air pollution. Preferred for greater disease resistance, especially these two cultivars. Cultivators have smaller leaves than sycamore trees, so not as messy.
Swamp White Tree	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	4.3-6.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	60-80'H	May, Fruit Sept-Oct	Brown, orange to deep red fall color. Oaks host hundreds of species of moths, butterflies.
Black Willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>		Sun, Part Sun	30-60'H	Mar-Apr, Fruit Apr-May	Host for Mourning Cloak, Viceroy, Red-spotted Purple, Viceroy, Tiger Swallowtail butterflies. Very rapid growth; wind may damage. Short lived. Roots may clog sewers/drains. Good for erosion control but not drought tolerant. Prune in late winter.
Shorter Trees & Shrubs						
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	4.8-7.0	Sun, Part Sun	6'H	Jun-August, Fruit Sept-Nov	Striking purple berries persist through winter. Flowers on new growth. Ok to cut back to 6" tall -will grow back in 1 year. Berries eaten by birds and squirrels. Make sure not to get <i>Callicarpa japonica</i> , which is a non-native variety that is commonly sold.
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	6.1-8.5	Sun, Part Sun	6-12'H	May-Jun	Birds love all dogwood family.
Gray Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	6.1-8.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-12'H	May-Jun	Great cover and food for birds.
Redtwig Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>		Sun, Part Sun	6-9'H x 9-10'W	May-Jun	Birds love all dogwood family.
Strawberry Euonymus "Hearts-a-burstin"	<i>Euonymus americana</i>		Part Sun, Shade	4-6'H	May-Jun, Fruit Aug, Sept	Striking, brightly colored seedpods. Deer will browse bloom and ends of twigs if not protected.
Swamp Azalea	<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i>	4.0-6.0	Sun, Part Shade	6-10'H	May-Aug	Must have acidic soil.
Arrowwood virburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	5.1-6.5	Sun, Part Shade, Shade	10'H	May-Jun, Fruit Sept-Nov	Birds devour blue berries. 'Blue Muffin' cultivar is more compact, colorful (4-5'H x 4-5'W).

LAYERED CONSERVATION PLANTING

Common Name	Latin Name	pH	Sun	Size	Bloom	Notes
Ferns						
Hayscented Fern	<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>		Part Sun, Shade	1.5-2'H	Non-Flowering	Dramatic red-brown fall color. Drought tolerant. Plant in solid drifts -spreads aggressively by rhizomes to form colonies. Great where cover is needed.
Evergreen Woodfern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>		Part Sun, Shade	1-3'H	Non-Flowering	Evergreen. More drought tolerant. Good for dry shade gardens.
Ostrich Fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>		Part Sun, Shade	3-6'H	Non-Flowering	Spreads by underground rhizomes to form dense colonies.
Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>		Part Sun, Shade	1.0-3.5'H	Non-Flowering	Aggressive groundcover in damp areas.
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	4.5-7	Part Sun, Shade	3.0-5.0'H	Non-Flowering, Fronds appear May, June	Beautiful brown seed frond.
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>		Part Sun, Shade	2-3'H x 6'W	Non-Flowering	Drought tolerant. Usually 2-3'H but occasionally will reach 6'H. Prefers wet, acidic soil, but adaptable.
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>		Part Sun, Shade	0.5-2'H	Non-Flowering	Evergreen. Easy to grow.
New York Fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	4.5-7	Part Sun, Shade	1-2.5'H	Non-Flowering	Deer dislike. Aggressive groundcover. Easily transplanted.
Grasses						
Blue Wood Sedge	<i>Carex flaccosperma</i>		Part Sun, Shade	6-12"H		Evergreen. Great for dry shade.
Eastern Narrowleaf Sedge / Creek Sedge	<i>Carex amphibola</i>		Part Sun, Shade	12-18"H	Apr-Jun	Semi-Evergreen. Drought tolerant. Great erosion control. Reseeds. Very adaptable. Host for Skipper Butterflies. Seeds eaten by turtles.
Cherokee Sedge	<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>		Sun, Part Sun, Shade	12-18"H	Apr-May	Evergreen. Very adaptable.
Oak Sedge	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>		Part Sun, Shade	10"H x 20"W	May	Gray-tan winter color, greens up early in spring. Sod-forming. Great for dry shade.
Plaintain-Leaved Sedge / Seersucker Sedge	<i>Carex plantaginea</i>		Part Sun, Shade	10"H x 14"W	May	Semi-evergreen. Likes rich woods. Good with spring wildflowers. Accordion pleats.



Oak Sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*)

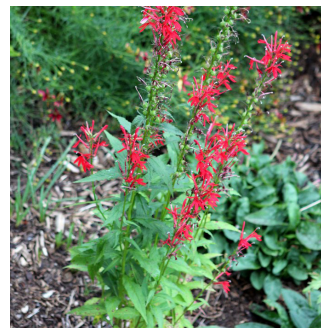
Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)

Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*)

Woodfern (*Dryopteris marginalis*)

FLASH VERNAL POND

Common Name	Latin Name	pH	Sun	Size	Bloom	Notes
Herbaceous Plants						
Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	4.9-6.8	Sun, Part Sun	1-2'H	Apr-May	Songbirds and mammals eat fruit. Must stay damp. Mucky clay preferred.
Blue Mistflower	<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>		Part Sun, Shade	1-3'H	Jul-Oct	Deer tend to avoid due to alkaloids. Adaptable, rhizomatous and reseeds itself to spread. Tolerates even heavy clay.
Crested Iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>	4.5-6	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	6-8"H	Apr-May	Tolerates more dryness in shade.
Blue Flag/Harlequin Blue Flag	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	6.0-7.0	Sun, Part Sun	3'H	May-Jun	Later bloom than <i>I. cristata</i> .
Virginia Blue Flag	<i>Iris virginica</i>	4.8-7.3	Sun, Part Sun	1-2'H	May-Jun	Attracts hummingbirds.
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	5.8-7.8	Sun, Part Sun	2-4'H	Jul-Oct	Long bloom opens slowly from bottom of stalk. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>		Sun, Part Sun, Shade	1-4'H	Aug-Oct	Long bloom. Butterflies and hummingbirds love this species
Golden Groundsel	<i>Packera auera</i>	4.5-8.5	Sun, Part Sun, Shade	0.5-2.5'H	Apr	Often semi-evergreen. Can be sheared after bloom to reduce seeding if desired. Spreads by seed and stolon. Great creeping groundcover for damp areas.
Obedient Plant	<i>Physotegia virginiana</i> 'Miss Manners'		Sun, Part Sun	1.5-5'H	Jun-Sept	Very tough once established. Cultivars are less aggressive than species.
Golden Alexander	<i>Zizia aurea</i>		Sun, Part Sun	1-3'H	Apr-Jun	Host for Woodland Swallowtail Butterfly. Prefers well drained soil.
Ferns						
Evergreen Woodfern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>		Part Sun, Shade	1-3"H		Evergreen. Drought tolerant.
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	4.5-7.0	Part Sun, Shade	3-5'H		Beautiful brown seed frond.
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>		Part Sun, Shade	0.5-2' H		Evergreen. Easy to grow.
Grasses						
Eastern Narrowleaf Sedge/Creek Sedge	<i>Carex amphibola</i>		Part Sun, Shade	12-18"H	Apr-Jun	Semi-evergreen. Drought tolerant. Great erosion control. Reseeds. Very adaptable. Host for Skipper Butterflies. Seeds eaten by turtles.
Cherokee Carex	<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>		Sun, Part Sun, Shade	12-18"H	Apr-May	Evergreen.



24 Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)

Crested Iris (*Iris cristata*)

Obedient Plant (*Physotegia virginiana*)

Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)

Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*)



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