

Native Plant Gardening for Wildlife: Resources

Books:

- Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants (by Doug Tallamy)
- Native Plants of the Southeast: A Comprehensive Guide to the Best 460 Species for the Garden (by Larry Mellichamp)

Native Plant Gardening for Birds:

- Audubon Native Plants Database: <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

Native Plant Gardening for Pollinators:

- Xerces Society Fact Sheet: Pollinator Plants, Southeast Region
https://www.xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/17-053_03_XercesSoc_PollinatorPlants_Southeast-Region_web-3page.pdf
- The National Wildlife Federation Native Plant Finder: <https://www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder/>

Native Plant Gardening to Create Valuable Habitat While Addressing Stormwater Runoff:

- Clemson Extension: A Guide to Rain Gardens in South Carolina:
https://www.clemson.edu/extension/raingarden/clemson_rain_garden_manual_2016.pdf
- Clemson Extension Carolina Rain Garden Initiative: <https://www.clemson.edu/extension/raingarden/>
- Clemson Extension: Shorescaping Freshwater Shorelines:
<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/shorescaping-freshwater-shorelines/>
- Clemson Extension: Maintaining Your Freshwater Shoreline:
<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/maintaining-your-freshwater-shoreline/>
- Clemson Extension: Protecting Tidal Creeks with Vegetative Buffers:
<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/life-along-the-salt-marsh-protecting-tidal-creeks-with-vegetative-buffers/>

Supplemental Resources:

- Search for native plants by state, type (grass, herb, shrub, vine, tree), and sunlight and soil moisture requirements (Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center): <https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
- Is a specific plant native where you live? BONAP's North American Plant Atlas by Genus:
<http://bonap.net/Napa/Genus/Traditional/County>
- Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder (information about the growing conditions that a plant needs to thrive, plant size/spacing, bloom season, photos, etc.):
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>
- Exotic Invasive Plant Species of South Carolina (booklet with photos and information): <https://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/Publications/InvasivePlantsBooklet.pdf>
- Native plant gardening resources from the Sun City Hilton Head Bird Club:
<https://www.suncitybirdclub.org/native-plants>
- iNaturalist (a free app and website to help you identify plants, pollinators, and other organisms):
<https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- South Carolina Native Plant Society: <https://scnps.org/>
- Pages on Facebook:
 - SC Native Plant Society: <https://www.facebook.com/SCNPS/>
 - GA Native Plant Society: <https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaNativePlant/>

Native Plants Mentioned in the First Segment of the SCDNR Webinar

To view the webinar (Native Gardening: Beauty and Benefits):

<https://www.gotostage.com/channel/94906cac074c4dc59db7a5efdd37e6dd/recording/4675104db4704fb18de43320ad220330/watch>

First, a note about plant names: A single plant species often has multiple common names, which means that different people will refer to the same plant by different names. Also, in some cases, different species share the same common name. That can make things confusing, especially when you're trying to find information about a plant online. One way to solve this problem is to refer to plants by their scientific name (*Genus species*). Below, I've included both common names and scientific names for each of the plants that I mentioned in the webinar. Happy habitat gardening! -Sharleen

Vines:

- Coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
- Purple passionflower, aka Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*); host plant for Gulf fritillary butterfly
- Yellow passionflower (*Passiflora lutea*); host plant for Gulf fritillary butterfly

Plants for poorly drained soil (an aggressive mix – will densely fill a space – no need for weeding!):

- Blunt mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*); will spread; the best pollinator plant I've seen!
- Blue mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*); will spread
- Southern swamp lily (*Crinum americanum*); will spread
- Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*, *Eutrochium maculatum*); tall and well-behaved

Another mix of plants for poorly drained soil:

- Swamp sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*); will spread; fills more of the space in wetter years
- Goldenrods (*Solidago odora*; *Solidago sempervirens*); self-seeds; fills more of the space in drier years
- Scarlet rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*); thrives near my HVAC "drip" outlet pipe

Dry and sunny mix:

- Blanketflower, aka Firewheel (*Gaillardia pulchella*); self-seeds
- Horsemint, aka Spotted beebalm (*Monarda punctata*)
- Georgia savory, aka Georgia calamint (*Clinopodium georgianum*); evergreen perennial
- Turkey tangle fogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*); can be used as a lawn substitute in sandy soil near the coast
- Beach sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*); covers a large garden area by the end of the growing season
- Beach evening-primrose (*Oenothera drummondii*)

A fantastic shrub, attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds, with a long blooming season:

- Turk's cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus*)

Partial sun mix in an area that has medium-to-occasionally wet soil:

- Black-eyed Susan, aka Orange coneflower (*Rudbeckia fulgida fulgida*); self-seeds
- Obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*); will spread
- Scarlet sage (*Salvia coccinea*); a sage that can tolerate occasionally wet soil; self-seeds

A few of our native milkweeds (host plants for monarch butterfly caterpillars):

- Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Aquatic milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*)
- Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)