

Recommended Plant List

Native plants bring beauty and life to landscapes. Sporting a wide variety of colors, shapes, and textures, native plants can meet most landscaping needs. Over 400 species of native plants are available commercially in Michigan. Native plants create habitat for birds and butterflies, adding a living dimension of beauty to the landscape. Living landscapes allow children the opportunity for natural exploration at home, which encourages lifelong learners. Native plants are also part of our natural heritage. Communities that preserve, enhance, and showcase their natural and cultural heritages have economies that consistently outperform those of other communities.¹ Planting native is planting nature; re-connecting our home landscapes with the natural world carries enduring benefits for the entire region.

For some suggestions regarding plants for use in ornamental landscapes, refer to the “Your Landscape and Our Natural Areas” series of brochures developed by Ann Arbor's Natural Area Preservation for Northern Michigan. Those plants are listed below, with a few additions. Remember, this list is far from exhaustive.

Native Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name	Class
fir, balsam **	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	large>40'
maple, black *	<i>Acer nigrum</i>	large>40'
maple, striped	<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i>	small<30'
maple, red **	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	large>40'
maple, sugar	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	large>40'
maple, mountain	<i>Acer spicatum</i>	small<30'
serviceberry, shadblow * / **	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	small<30'
serviceberry, allegheny * / **	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	small<30'
birch, yellow * / **	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	large>40'
birch, river * / **	<i>Betula nigra</i>	large>40'
birch, paper * / **	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	large>40'
musclewood **	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	small<30'

¹ Howe, Jim, Ed McMahon, and Luther Propst. *Balancing Nature and Commerce in Gateway Communities*. Washington D.C.: Island Press, 1997.



NORTHWEST MICHIGAN
INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK

Major Partners:



hawthorn, dotted	<i>Crataegus punctata</i>	small<30'
beech, american	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	large>40'
ash, white *	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	large>40'
ash, black **	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	large>40'
ash, red or green * / **	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	large>40'
tamarack; eastern larch * / **	<i>Larix laricina</i>	large>40'
ironwood; hop-hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	medium 30-40'
spruce, black **	<i>Picea mariana</i>	medium 30-40'
pine, jack *	<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	large>40'
pine, red	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	large>40'
pine, white	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	large>40'
aspen, bigtooth * / **	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	large>40'
aspen, trembling * / **	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	large>40'
cherry, black *	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	large>40'
oak, white *	<i>Quercus alba</i>	large>40'
oak, northern pin	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	large>40'
oak, northern red *	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	large>40'
cedar, northern white * / **	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	medium 30-40'
basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	large>40'
hemlock, eastern	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	large>40'

*Above average salt tolerance

**Suitable for runoff areas

Native Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name
alder, speckled * / **	<i>Alnus rugosa</i>
serviceberry, round-leaved	<i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i>
leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>
bearberry *	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
chokecherry, black *	<i>Aronia prunifolia</i>
new jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
buttonbush * / **	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
sweet-fern *	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>
dogwood, alternate-leaf	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>
dogwood, silky **	<i>Cornus amomum</i>
dogwood, roundleaf	<i>Cornus rugosa</i>
dogwood, red-osier * / **	<i>Cornus sericea</i>
hazelnut, beaked	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>

honeysuckle, bush *	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>
Leatherwood	<i>Dirca palustris</i>
trailing arbutus	<i>Epigaea repens</i>
Wintergreen	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>
witch-hazel *	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
holly, Michigan *	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
juniper, ground *	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
juniper, creeping *	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>
sheep-laurel	<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>
honeysuckle, American fly	<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>
partridge berry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>
sweet gale *	<i>Myrica gale</i>
holly, mountain	<i>Ilex mucronata</i>
ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
cinquefoil, shrubby *	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>
chokecherry * / **	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
sumac, staghorn *	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
currant, wild black	<i>Ribes americanum</i>
gooseberry, prickly	<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>
currant, swamp red	<i>Ribes triste</i>
rose, wild	<i>Rosa blanda</i>
rose, swamp **	<i>Rosa palustris</i>
blackberry, highbush	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>
dewberry, northern	<i>Rubus flagellaris</i>
raspberry, wild red	<i>Rubus strigosus</i>
willow, pussy * / **	<i>Salix discolor</i>
willow, sandbar **	<i>Salix exigua</i>
elderberry, American *	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
elder, red-berried	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>
meadowsweet * / **	<i>Spiraea alba</i>
snowberry *	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
yew	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>
blueberry *	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>
blueberry, velvetleaf *	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>
viburnum, mapleleaf	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>
withe-rod, wild raisin	<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>
nannyberry * / **	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>

* Above average salt tolerance

**Suitable for runoff areas

Native Wildflowers

Common Name	Scientific Name
anemone, Canada **	<i>Anemone canadensis</i>
anemone, wood	<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>
aster, big-leaved #	<i>Aster macrophyllus</i>
aster, smooth #	<i>Aster laevis</i>
baneberry, red #	<i>Actaea rubra</i>
baneberry, white #	<i>Actaea pachypodia</i>
bee balm #	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
bellwort	<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>
black-eyed susan #	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
blazing star, dwarf #	<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>
bloodroot #	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
blue cohosh **	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>
bluebead-lily	<i>Clintonia borealis</i>
blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>
boneset # / **	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>
canada mayflower	<i>Mainthemum canadense</i>
cardinal flower # / **	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
columbine, wild #	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
coneflower, cut-leaved **	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>
coneflower, purple	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
coreopsis, sand # / *	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>
culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>
dutchman's breeches	<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>
evening primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>
foam flower #	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>
foxglove beard-tongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>
gay-wings	<i>Polygala paucifolia</i>
gentian, closed **	<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>
golden ragwort **	<i>Senecio aureus</i>
goldenrod, early	<i>Solidago juncea</i>
goldenrod, grass-leaved #	<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>
goldenrod, gray	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>
goldthread	<i>Coptis trifolia</i>
hairy beardstongue *	<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>
harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>

hepatica, round-lobed #	<i>Hepatica americana</i>
hepatica, sharp-lobed #	<i>Hepatica acutiloba</i>
herb robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
iris, wild blue flag # / * / **	<i>Iris versicolor</i>
jack-in-the-pulpit # / **	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
jewelweed **	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>
joe-pye weed # / **	<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>
leek, wild **	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>
lobelia, great blue # / **	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
loosestrife, fringed # / **	<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>
lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>
marsh marigold **	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
meadow-rue	<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>
meadow-rue, purple **	<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>
michigan lily	<i>Lilium michiganense</i>
milkweed, butterfly #	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
milkweed, common	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>
milkweed, poke	<i>Asclepias exaltata</i>
milkweed, swamp # / **	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
miterwort; bishop's cap **	<i>Mitella diphylla</i>
miterwort, naked **	<i>Mitella nuda</i>
monkey-flower **	<i>Mimulus ringens</i>
rattlesnake weed	<i>Hieracium venosum</i>
sarsaparilla, wild **	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>
skullcap, mad-dog **	<i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i>
sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>
solomon's seal, downy #	<i>Polygonatum pubescens</i>
solomon's seal, false #	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>
solomon's seal, starry false #	<i>Smilacina stellata</i>
spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>
spikenard	<i>Aralia racemosa</i>
spring beauty, carolina #	<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>
squirrel corn	<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>
starflower	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>
strawberry, wild #	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>
sunflower, maximillian	<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>
sunflower, woodland	<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>
sweet-cicely, hairy	<i>Osmorhiza claytonii</i>
thimbleweed #	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>
trillium, large-flowered	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>

trout lily, yellow **	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
turtlehead **	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
twinner	<i>Linnaea borealis</i>
twisted-stalk, rose	<i>Streptopus roseus</i>
vervain, blue # / **	<i>Verbena hastata</i>
violet, downy yellow	<i>Viola pubescens</i>
violet, long spurred	<i>Viola rostrata</i>

* Above average salt tolerance. Salt tolerance data not available for the majority of native herbaceous plants.

**Suitable for runoff areas

Recommended for beginning gardeners because of their ease of propagation and season-long attractiveness

Native Vines, Grasses, Rushes, Sedges, and Ferns

Vines

Common Name	Scientific Name
moonseed	<i>Menispermum canadensis</i>
grape, riverbank **	<i>Vitis riparia</i>
thicket creeper	<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i>
virgin's bower **	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>

Grasses, Rushes, and Sedges

Common Name	Scientific Name
bluestem, big	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>
bluestem, little *	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
bulrush, hardstem **	<i>Scirpus acutus</i>
bulrush, softstem **	<i>Scirpus validus</i>
June grass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>
rush, path	<i>Juncus tenuis</i>
rush, soft-stemmed **	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
sedge **	<i>Carex comosa</i>
sedge **	<i>Carex crinita</i>
sedge	<i>Carex intumescens</i>
sedge, Pennsylvania	<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>
sedge, tussock **	<i>Carex stricta</i>
wild-rye, Canada	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>
wild-rye, Virginia **	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>

wood grass, long-awned	<i>Brachyelytrum erectum</i>
wool-grass **	<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>
Ferns	
Common Name	Scientific Name
bracken fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
christmas fern	<i>Polystichum acrosichoides</i>
cinnamon fern **	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
interrupted fern	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>
lady fern, northern **	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
maidenhair fern	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>
oak fern	<i>gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>
ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>
rattlesnake fern	<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>
royal fern **	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
sensitive fern **	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>
woodfern; crested shield fern **	<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>
woodfern, clinton's **	<i>Dryopteris clintoniana</i>
woodfern, evergreen **	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>
woodfern, goldie's	<i>Dryopteris goldiana</i>
Fern Ally	
horsetail, water **	<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>

* Above average salt tolerance. Salt tolerance data not available for the majority of native vines, grasses, rushes, sedges, and ferns.

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