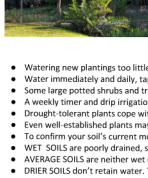


Begin a Partnership with Nature

Different plants evolved to thrive in each light and moisture niche in the natural landscape. Once they become established in the right light and moisture zone in a garden, they require less maintenance than conventional landscaping. Select plants for their future size at maturity to reduce pruning chores and allow the plants to flower and bear fruit. This right match of light, moisture, and size is the key to sustainable native landscaping. Traditional landscaping tends to exert mastery and geometry. Be encouraged to experiment with new landscape designs that yield a bit to the needs of wildlife. Find use and beauty in the natural characteristics of the species you like. Use this brochure to select a "starter set" of plants that are native to your region. Look at the Resources section to find hundreds of additional species. Create a native landscape that helps the planet and expresses a natural partnership between the earth and ourselves.

Right Plant, Right Place

- Match native plants to the light, moisture, and size of the particular planting site.
- On the reverse side of this brochure, 6 to 9 starter plants are recommended for each light and moisture zone.
- Most yards have SUN, PART SUN, and SHADE, with some large areas and some small.
- A water feature, swale, or container garden can add a WET zone where there is none.



Soil Moisture

- Watering new plantings too little and too late is the most common reason new plants die.
- Water immediately and daily, tapering gradually to weekly until roots take hold.
- Some large potted shrubs and trees need a year or more of regular weekly irrigation.
- A weekly timer and drip irrigation conserve water and free the gardener.
- Drought-tolerant plants cope with longer dry spells and establish roots to reach moisture.
- Even well-established plants may appreciate or require water during long dry spells.
- To confirm your soil's current moisture, dig a test hole about two feet deep.
- WET SOILS are poorly drained, seasonally ponding, near open water, or wet to the touch.
- AVERAGE SOILS are neither wet nor dry, but usually feel damp or moist at the bottom of the hole.
- DRIER SOILS don't retain water. They provide air to the roots between watering and rainstorms.

Light

- Map the zones of SUN, PART SUN and SHADE on your site.
- SUN is more than 6 hours of midday sun, perhaps with shadow only early or late.
- SHADE is little or no midday sun, but some softer morning and evening sunlight.
- PART SUN is the zone between wet fewer hours (perhaps 3 to 6) of direct sunshine.
- Observe the shadows around structures and trees to identify your areas of light.
- Your zones of light suggest areas for plant groupings based on their light preferences.



Maintenance Tips

- Plants may eventually self-compost; add leaf mulch to reduce weeds.
- Areas of exposed sand or bare ground enable wildflowers to seed.
- Often plants native to sandy, well-drained soil will not benefit from added nutrients.
- Use melaleuca, eucalyptus, pine needles, or leaf mulch.
- Observe the unsustainable cynosurea myth or peat moss.
- Avoid chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Use small native plants and groundcovers between and among shrubs to reduce the weeds.
- Plants that thrive in naturally fertile, humusy, moist soils may benefit from added compost.
- Create a nutrient-rich substrate with mild composted manures.
- Organic materials like leaf compost help hold moisture in the soil for moist-soil plants.

Size

- Select plants that fit the aesthetic and physical space at their mature size.
- Very old trees and shrubs may exceed the mature height shown for the species.
- Allow plants to grow naturally without pruning to manifest their natural form and flower.
- A light and aerial pruning respects the species' natural form and complements nature.
- Hurricanes and fires prune drastically and beneficially; consult Resources, G. Stibolt, for more pruning advice.



The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and natural plant communities of Florida.

Where to Purchase Native Plants

FNPS.org: The Florida Native Plant Society. Your local FNPS Chapter is a great place to start looking for native plants. Many chapters organize plant sales, conduct auctions at their monthly meetings, and take field trips to native plant nurseries. Your FNPS chapter members may be your best source to locate hard-to-find native species.

PlantRealFlorida.org: Find a retail native plant nursery or native plant landscape professional near you.

About 2,800 plant species are native to Florida. Not all are suitable for landscaping. No plant should be taken from the wild or from any private or public property without the land owner's permission. Many preserves and parks have policies specifically banning collection of plants and sometimes seeds and flowers. Many native plants are in peril. Only devoted enthusiasts grow some species that await discovery by you and other adopters of native landscaping. Growing properly obtained species is wonderful.



Resources

- FNPS.org:** The Florida Native Plant Society. Find your local FNPS Chapter. Search a native plant database by location, name, light, water, soil, etc. ([FNPS.org](#) tab "Native Plants").
- FloridaNativePlants.USF.edu:** Plant status (native or nonnative), conservation status, photos, plant range by county. Search this database for any or all native species in Florida.
- FWWildflowers.org:** A colorful website with many tips and downloadable literature on how to grow native wildflowers. Find information on growing from seed. ([FWWildflowers.org](#) tab "Grow").
- PlantRealFlorida.org:** The Florida Association of Native Nurseries retail website. Find your local native nurseries and native landscapers. Professional and wholesale resources available at [FloridaNativeNurseries.org](#).
- RegionalConservation.org:** The Institute for Regional Conservation is expanding statewide. Natives for Your Neighborhood provides reliable species information and soil types. "Moist" is equivalent to AVERAGE SOILS.

Books

- Huegel, C. N. (2012). *Native Wildflowers and Other Groundcovers for Florida Landscapes*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.
- Ocasio, R. (2001). *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.
- Stibolt, G. W. (2013). *The Art of Maintaining a Florida Native Landscape*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.
- Tallamy, D. W. (2009). *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. Portland, OR: Timber Press Inc.

Invasive plants that should be removed from landscapes include:

- Mexican Petunia, *Ruellia simplex*
- Carrotwood Tree, *Cupressus nana*
- Oyster Plant, *Trochodendron araliifolium*
- Australian Pine, *Casuarina equisetifolia*

- Shrub Verbena, *Lantana camara*
- Posho, *Epiglossum pinetum* cv. *Aureum*
- Unweeds Tree, *Scaphium acutifolium*
- Snake Plant, *Sansevieria zeylanica*
- Brazilian Peppertree, *Schinus terebinthifolius*
- Tuberous Sward Fern, *Nephrolepis cordifolia*

More at: [http://landscapecare.com/links/](#)

Native Landscaping

Plants native to Florida are not the same as plants introduced from other places. Native plants provide conservation benefits that others rarely measure up to. When you select plants adapted to your growing conditions, they require very little attention once they are fully established. They will not need additional water and fertilizer to thrive, nor will they need pesticides to cope with typical insect pests. They also are the plants that will literally bring life to your landscape. Native plants form the only real foundation for Florida's butterflies, bees, and other pollinators, hummingbirds, songbirds, and other interesting wildlife. Living landscapes connect us to the real world and create a sense of wonder in what would otherwise be sterile and uninteresting. You will not be limited in your choices or aesthetics. There are hundreds of wonderful plants to choose from.

The Florida Native Plant Society chapters host monthly meetings and field trips. They are an excellent resource to share information and answer questions.

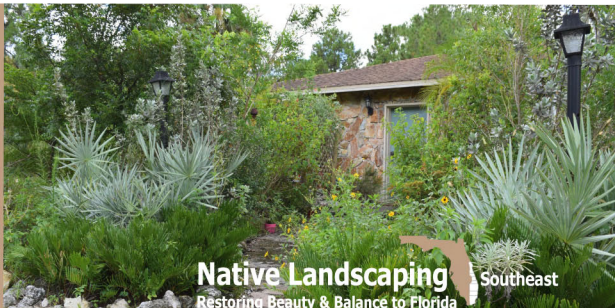
Craig N. Huegel

Author of Native Wildflowers and Other Groundcovers for Florida Landscapes and other titles




















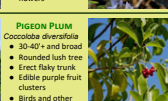




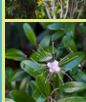














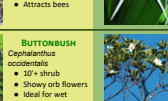








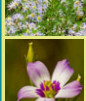

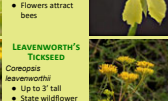





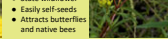

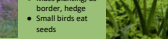
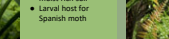

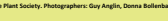


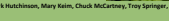
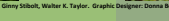
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FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
PO Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902
[fnps.org](#)



Native Landscaping Southeast
Restoring Beauty & Balance to Florida

SUN		PART SUN		SHADE	
 <p>SLASH PINE Pinus elliotii var. densa • 30-50' x open tree • Majestic canopy • Sandy soils ideal • Wind-resistant • Birds and squirrels eat seeds</p>	 <p>LIVE OAK Quercus virginiana • 60-100' x broad • Magnificent tree • Artistic branches • Epiphyte habitat • Cover, nesting, food for wildlife</p>	 <p>BAY CEDAR Santalum maritima • 6-10' x accent shrub • Yellow flowers • Aromatic branches • Salt-tolerant • Wind-resistant • Nectar, host plant for hairstreaks</p>	 <p>PARADISE TREE Simarouba glauca • 60' x 60' tree-like • Frost-sensitive • Twisted trunks • Handmade leaf • Food source for scrub jays</p>	 <p>MYRTLE OAK Quercus myrtifolia • 15-30' x broad tree • Forms thickets • Twisted trunks • Wind-resistant • Butterfly host • Food source for scrub jays</p>	 <p>VIRGINIA CREEPER Parthenocissus quinquefolia • High-climbing • Orange seeds • Beautiful foliage • Can be aggressive, keep ground clear • Birds eat fruits</p>
 <p>CHAPMAN'S GAYFEATHER Liatris chapmanii • 3' flower stalk • Showy pink to purple flower spikes • Prefers sandy soils • Attracts butterflies</p>	 <p>PRICKLY PEAR Opuntia humifusa • 2-4' H and broad • Artificial cactus • Showy cream or yellow flowers • Red edible fruit • Sharp spines • Attracts insects</p>	 <p>GOPHER APPLE Lycium michauxii • 2' clumping • Round • Clustered flower • Groundcover, spreads by rhizome • Fruit for wildlife</p>	 <p>SPANISH STOPPER Eugenia foetida • 8-15' x accent shrub • Buffer plantings • Starburst flowers • Wildlife food • Very beneficial to wildlife as food and cover</p>	 <p>SCRUB PALMETTO Savanna serotena • 4-6' shrubby palm • Fan accent shrub • Green or bluish foliage • Wind-borne seed • Useful to wildlife as food and cover</p>	 <p>CARDINAL AIRPLANT Tillandsia fasciculata var. descazeauxii • 2' spike epiphyte • Red flower bracts • Wind-borne seed • Small wildlife use as shelter</p>
 <p>NARROWLEAF SILKGRASS Phragmites gramineifolia • 1-3' silky leaves • Yellow wildflower • Reeds, sedges • Deciduous north • Makes nice cut flowers</p>	 <p>WILD PENNYROYAL Phlomis pilosa • 1-2' dense mound • Fragrant lavender flowers • Pleasant foliage • Attracts butterflies, bees</p>	 <p>RAILROAD VINE Ipomoea pes-caprae subsp. brasiliensis • Up to 60' vine • Showy flowers • Use as low groundcover • Excels on sand • Butterfly nectar</p>	 <p>BEAUTYBERRY Callicarpa americana • 5-7' shrub, arching stems • Showy, bright blue flowers • Delicate flowers • Birds eat fruit • Jelly can be made from fruit</p>	 <p>PARTRIDGE PEA Chamaecrista fasciculata • 1-3' shrub • Showy flowers • Used for erosion control • Attracts many pollinators</p>	 <p>WILD PLUMAGO Plumbago zeylanica • 1' trailing shrub • Dainty white flowers • Understory or groundcover • Larval host for Cactus blue</p>
 <p>PIGEON PLUM Coccoloba diversifolia • 30-60' x broad • Rounded lush tree • Erect fleshy fruit • Edible purple fruit clusters • Birds and other wildlife eat fruit</p>	 <p>BILOLI Guapira discolor • 10-25' x tree • Nice arching trunk • Long growing • Showy red fruit • Long fruiting season for wildlife</p>	 <p>COMMON TORCHWOOD Amyris elemifera • 10-15' x tree • Thin trunk, twigs used as incense • Fragrant flowers • Lush glossy leaves • Many benefits for wildlife</p>	 <p>INKWOOD Excoecaria parvifolia • 25-35' x accent tree • Evergreen shrub • Fragrant flowers • Lush glossy leaves • Good as buffer or wildlife food</p>	 <p>MARLBERRY Androsace canadensis • 8-12' x hardy shrub • Wind-resistant • Fragrant flower clusters • Thick glossy leaves • Good as buffer or wildlife food</p>	 <p>FLORIDA PEPEROMIA Peperomia rotundifolia • 1' leafy plant • Large succulent leaves • Interesting foliage • Not frost-tolerant • Groundcover or shade container</p>
 <p>JAMAICA CAPER Quadrifida cymophylla • 10' shrubby shrub • Salt-tolerant • Fragrant white to purple flowers • Attracts many pollinators</p>	 <p>WHITE INDIGO BERRY Rondeletia aculeata • 6-8' x accent shrub • Small white flowers • White berry, indigo inside • Nectar plant</p>	 <p>SEA LAVENDER Thunbergia graphalodes • 3-6' x accent shrub • Tolerates salt wind • Water until established • Ideal in coastal landscape</p>	 <p>WILD BAMBOO Lasacis divaricata • 3-4' woody grass • Clumping, may need support • Showy black seeds • Miniature "bamboo" look • Attracts insects</p>	 <p>WAND GOLDENROD Solidago arisa • 4' showy flower spikes • Suckers, reseeds • Good goldfinch for landscaping • Attracts insects</p>	 <p>ROUGE BERRY Rivina humilis • 2-4' shrub • Good among larger shrubs • Bright red berries • Blooms and fruit nearly all year • Wildlife food</p>
 <p>DUNE SUNFLOWER Helianthus debilis • 10' shrubby shrub • 1-2' shrub • Sandy soil ideal • Hardy, reseeds • Showy flowers • Provides birdseed, cover for wildlife</p>	 <p>BEACH VERBENA Glandularia maritima • 1.5-2' spreading wildflower • Showy, profuse pink blooms • Butterfly plant</p>	 <p>LOW RATTLEBOX Crotalaria pilosa • 3-6' creeping herb • Showy flower clusters • Use in wildflower and rock gardens • Attracts bees</p>	 <p>COASTAL SPIDERLY Hymenocallis latifolia • 3-6' flowering stalk • Spectacular flowers • Lush strap leaves • Attracts pollinators</p>	 <p>FOURPALT ST. JOHN'S WORT Hypericum tetrapetalum • 2-3' shrub-like • Long bloom season • Blue-green foliage • Showy flowers</p>	 <p>WOODGRASS Optamus interpres • 6-8' creeping grass • Spreads widely • Use in shady area groundcover • Larval host of Carolina stary</p>
 <p>RED MAPLE Acer rubrum • Tree • Up to 50' tall • Seasonally red leaves, flowers • "Whirling" seed pods • Birds eat seeds</p>	 <p>POND APPLE Annona glabra • 20-40' x accent tree • Buttress roots • Good for planting along lakeshores • Significant fruit litter • Hosts epiphytes</p>	 <p>BUTTONBUSH Cephaelis occidentalis • 10' x shrub • Showy orb flowers • Ideal for wet landscapes • Attracts bees and butterflies</p>	 <p>SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA Magnolia virginiana • 10-30' x tall tree • 3" showy fragrant flowers • Larval host for swallowtails • Food for wildlife</p>	 <p>DAHOON HOLLY Ilex cuneata • 10-30' x accent tree • Showy red berries • Clusters on female tree • Good wildlife food • Can be used as holiday decor</p>	 <p>VIRGINIA WILLOW Weir virginica • 2-8' slender shrub • Prefers rich organic soil • Not native in Dade County • Attracts butterflies</p>
 <p>CLIMBING ASTER Synthyris carolinianum • 10' fast growing, climbing vine • Needs support • Showy flowers • Attracts pollinators</p>	 <p>GALL BERRY Ilex glabra • 5' erect plant • 6' spreading shrub • Very hardy • Black drupe • Birds eat fruit • Flowers attract bees</p>	 <p>GOLDEN CANNA Canna flaccida • 6-12' x stems • Suede-like spores • Background plant near pond or lake • Wildlife cover</p>	 <p>FINE FEATHER Acoratium danaeifolium • 6-12' x stems • Suede-like spores • Background plant near pond or lake • Wildlife cover</p>	 <p>WAX MYRTLE Myrica carolinensis • 3-15' x dense shrub • Spreads by ball fruits • Wind-resistant • Great bird food • Many benefits to wildlife</p>	 <p>ROYAL FERN Cimicifuga racemosa • 3-4' clumping fern • Attractive wide-spaced leaf • Also thrives in part-sun • Many benefits of dry periods</p>
 <p>SEASIDE GENTIAN Eustoma exaltatum • 1-3' wildflower • Showy purple and white bloom • Moderately salt-tolerant • Attracts pollinators</p>	 <p>LEAVENWORTH'S TICKSEED Coreopsis leavenworthii • Up to 3' tall • State wildflower • Easily self-seeds • Attracts butterflies and native bees</p>	 <p>NARROWLEAF YELLOWTOPS Pavonia linearis • 2' wildflower • Readily reseeds • Use as tall groundcover • Attracts many pollinators</p>	 <p>MUHLY GRASS Muhlenbergia capillaris • 2-3' accent grass • 5' red-pink plumes • Re-seeds • Mass planting, as border, hedge • Small birds eat seeds</p>	 <p>SWAMP LILY Crinum americanum • 2-3' tall leaves • Showy flowers • Needs wet to moist rich soil • Larval host for Spanish moth</p>	 <p>SWAMP FERN Blechnum serrulatum • 2-4' fern • New fern • Useful as groundcover • Most shady sites</p>
 <p>ZAMIA INTEGRIFOLIA • 2' fern-like cycad • Slow-growing • Orange seeds • Makes nice border • Host plant for atala butterfly</p>	 <p>TILLANDSIA BAOBABINA • 1' leafy epiphyte • Showy red spike with purple flowers • Grow in tree or shrub</p>	 <p>NECANDRA CORIACEA • 20-30' x tree • Lance-like, aromatic leaves • Common fruit cup • Blue-black drupes • Birds eat fruit</p>	 <p>PSYCHOTRIA NERVOSEA • 4-6' tall shrub • Use in understory • Interesting foliage • Birds eat the fruit, attracts pollinators</p>	 <p>THELYPODIUM FERNII • 3-5' fern, grows robust • Easy to grow, spreads • Makes nice groundcover • Wildlife cover</p>	 <p>PASSIFLORA ADENOCALIS • 6-8' creeping grass • Spreads widely • Use in shady area groundcover • Larval host of Carolina stary</p>
 <p>CINNAMOMUM • 3-4' specimen fern • Showy orange spore • Bold and graceful • Needs periodic removal of dead fronds</p>	 <p>SAURURUS CERNUUS • 2-3' upright stems • New fern • Use dense patches in groundcover • Attracts hairstreak butterflies</p>	 <p>LIZARD'S TAIL • 2-3' upright stems • New fern • Use dense patches in groundcover • Attracts hairstreak butterflies</p>	 <p>CINNAMOMUM • 3-4' specimen fern • Showy orange spore • Bold and graceful • Needs periodic removal of dead fronds</p>	 <p>SAURURUS CERNUUS • 2-3' upright stems • New fern • Use dense patches in groundcover • Attracts hairstreak butterflies</p>	 <p>LIZARD'S TAIL • 2-3' upright stems • New fern • Use dense patches in groundcover • Attracts hairstreak butterflies</p>