



NATIVE PLANTS for DELAWARE LANDSCAPES

What is a native plant? A native plant is one that originated and occurs naturally in a region. Non-native plants also may occur naturally but were introduced from another region. They survive without intervention and compete successfully with native plants. Native and non-native plants often occur side by side in natural stands. Only historical records can trace true origin.

Why landscape with native plants? Since native plants are indigenous in an area, they are ideally suited to grow in a similar habitat within the region. Having competed with other plants, native plants have proven themselves well adapted. Plants used in a landscape environment that is similar to their native habitat will grow with a minimum of maintenance. When appropriately placed in the landscape, native plants require less water and fewer pesticide applications. If native plants require pampering, the most likely reason is an unsuitable location.

Planting native species protects them from extinction. As land is developed, some native plants are pushed out of their natural habitats. The sensitive use of these plants in the landscape preserves them for all to appreciate.

TREES

20 - 40' Tall: Persimmon, Hophornbeam, Ironwood, Sassafras

40 - 60' Tall: Red Maple, Sweet Birch, River Birch, Scarlet Oak, Pin Oak, Willow Oak, Red Oak, Sweetgum, Bitternut, Pignut, Yellowwood, Honeylocust, Kentucky Coffeetree, Black Locust, White Ash, Green Ash, Bald Cypress

Greater than 60': Tuliptree, Sycamore, Basswood, Bur Oak, White Oak, Sugar Maple, American Beech

EVERGREEN TREES

20-40' Tall: Virginia Pine, Eastern Redcedar, Eastern Arborvitae, American Holly

40-60' Tall: Canadian Hemlock, Atlantic White Cedar, Southern Magnolia

Greater than 60': White Pine

SHRUBS

Less than 10': Bottlebrush, Buckeye, Chokecherry, Beautyberry, Pinxterbloom, Azalea, Coast Azalea, Sweetshrub, Cinnamon Clethra, Summersweet, Clethra Redtwig, Dogwood, Oakleaf Hydrangea, Virginia Sweetspire, Bayberry, Mapleleaf Viburnum, Arrowwood Viburnum, Smooth Witherod

10 - 20': Red Buckeye, Shadblow, Redbud, Fringetree, Silky Dogwood, Strawberry-bush, Witchhazel, Winterberry, Spicebush, Silky Stewartia, Piedmont Azalea, Nannyberry Viburnum, Blackhaw Viburnum

20 - 30': Downy Serviceberry, Pagoda Dogwood, Flowering Dogwood, Franklin Tree, Silverbells, Bigleaf Magnolia, Umbrella Magnolia, Sweetbay, American Snowbell

EVERGREEN SHRUBS

Less than 10': Inkberry, Creeping Juniper, Mountain Laurel, Drooping Leucothoe, Piedmont Rhododendron, Mountain Pieris

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

UD BOTANIC GARDENS: COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES The University of Delaware Botanic Gardens (UDBG) is located on the University of Delaware campus in Newark, DE, 1.5 miles north of Interstate 95. The UDBG occupies approximately 10 acres that surround the agriculture buildings and is situated on the division of USDA hardiness zones 6b and 7a. The gardens are open year-round, and visitors are welcome. For more information, call (302) 831-2531.

The UDBG contains a broad array of plant material. Emphasis is placed on plants that have merit for landscape use. This includes plants currently available, new cultivars and plants that potentially could be used in the landscape. The garden emphasizes the following groups of plants: plants in the Hamamelidaceae, Acer, magnolia, Styrax, Viburnum and Ilex. The UDBG is an official arboretum of the American Holly Society of America.

Mission Statement The mission of the UDBG is to promote general interest in plants and demonstrate environmentally sound ways of using them aesthetically in the landscape.