

## NATIVE SHRUBS & TREES FOR LANDSCAPING

Information compiled by Laura Dufford, 2021

Most photos provided by Dan Barron

There are many compelling reasons to move landscaping projects toward incorporating native plants. They include:

- Biodiversity (helpful to native insects and birds),
- Inputs (using less fertilizers, herbicides, and water), and
- Resiliency (natives are acclimated to our Midwest climate extremes).

The following is a list of some native shrub and tree species that are suggested for landscaping. These species are known for their wildlife values, both for insects (pollinators and butterfly/moth larvae) and for bird nesting and food sources.

\*You can find more information regarding growing habits and bloom times online at other native plant websites.

### **New Jersey Tea – *Ceanothus americanus***

2' – 3' height

Medium to dry soil

Full sun to part shade



Photos by Dan Barron

### **Shrubby St. John's Wort – *Hypericum prolificum***

3' height

Moist to medium soil

Full sun to part shade



Photo by Dan Barron

**Ninebark – *Physocarpus opulifolius***

3' – 8' height

Moist to dry/medium soils

Full sun to part shade



Photos by Dan Barron

**Chokeberry – *Photinia melanocarpa***

3' – 12' height

Moist to medium/dry

Light shade to full sun



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**Buttonbush – *Cephalanthus occidentalis***

6 – 12' height

Wet (best) to medium soils

Full sun



Photos by Dan Barron

**Spicebush – *Lindera benzoin***

6' – 12' height

Moist to medium

Dappled sun to medium shade



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**Dogwoods:**

**Rough-leaved – *Cornus drummondii***

**Red Osier – *Cornus sericea* (not red twigged!)**

**Gray – *Cornus racemose***

6' – 15' height (each has different growing requirements)



Gray Dogwood



Pagoda Dogwood

Photos by Dan Barron

**Elderberry – Common (*Sambucus canadensis*), Black (*S. nigra*), Red (*S. racemosa*)**

10' – 15' height

Moist to medium

Full sun to part shade (makes thickets)



Red Elderberry



Common Elderberry

Photos by Dan Barron

**Hazelnut/Filbert – *Corylus americana***

10' – 20' height; spread 15'

Medium to dry soil

Full sun to part shade



Photo by Dan Barron

**American Plum – *Prunus americana***

10 – 24 ft; forms thickets

Medium to dry soil

Full sun



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**Blackhaw Viburnum – *Viburnum prunifolium***

12' – 15' height; 8' – 10' spread

Medium to dry

Full sun best to part shade



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**Nannyberry – *Viburnum lentago***

15' – 20' height

Moist to medium

Full sun to part shade



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**Common Witch Hazel –  
*Hamamelis virginiana***

15' – 20' height  
Dry to medium soils  
Part shade to shade



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**Serviceberry/Juneberry/Shadbush – *Amelanchier arborea* and *A. laevis***

15' – 25' height; 15 – 25' spread  
Medium to dry soil  
Sun to part shade



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**Chokecherry – *Prunus virginiana***

20' – 30' height  
Wide range soils  
Sun to light shade



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**NOTE: Try to stay away from cultivars of native species. Some cultivars do not offer the same pollinator/food benefits of natives.**

**A few species to NOT plant include the following:**

- Bush/Japanese honeysuckle
- Burning bush
- Barberry

You may consider replacing these species on your property as they have escaped and are now considered invasive in natural areas.

Check out this website for other invasive species: <https://www.invasive.org/illinois/>