



# *Landscaping with Plants Native to Indiana*

**Whether you're providing wildlife habitat or creating gardens to beautify your home, native plants provide many landscaping solutions.**

*Indigenous plants are a significant part of a region's geographic context – in fact, they help define it. They have proven themselves capable of surviving in a landscape for millennia.*

– Michael Homoya, State Botanist,  
Indiana Department of Natural  
Resources

The Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society recommends the listed items as the most garden-worthy plants native to Indiana. They are available through many garden centers or mail-order catalogs and will grow without pampering as long as you site them where their basic light and moisture requirements are met.

The lists are not exhaustive but aim to introduce you to reliable, well-behaved natives that you can use decoratively, to attract wildlife, or simply to restore the balance of nature to a landscape.

Details of size, flower color, and other attributes are available for many of these plants through the INPAWS Web site. Specific questions may be addressed to Box 30317, Indianapolis, IN 46230-0317.

The mission of INPAWS is to help Indiana appreciate, preserve, conserve, utilize, and study its native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. We invite you to join this effort by becoming a member.

For information about our spring native plant sale, fall conference, Letha's Youth Outdoors Fund, and other programs, visit [www.inpaws.org](http://www.inpaws.org).



INDIANA NATIVE PLANT  
*and Wildflower Society*

INPAWS.ORG

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# NATURAL PLANT COMMUNITIES

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## *Woods Edge (part shade)*

### FLOWER

Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
American bellflower	<i>Campanulastrum americanum</i>
Sweet joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
Dwarf crested iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>
Blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
Solomon's plume	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>
Virginia bluebell	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>
Wild bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Sundrops	<i>Oenothera tetragona</i>
Stiff goldenrod	<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>
Penstemon	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>
Wild sweet william	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>
Garden phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
Zigzag goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>
Gray goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>
Aromatic aster	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>
Bird's foot violet	<i>Viola pedata</i>

### GRASS

Northern sea oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>
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### SHRUB

Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Photinia melanocarpa</i>
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
American cranberrybush	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i> (caution: often mislabeled)

### TREE

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>

### VINE

Woolly dutchman's pipe	<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>
Crossvine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>

## *Woodland (shade)*

### FERN

Maidenhair fern	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>
Ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
Royal fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
Christmas fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>

### FLOWER

Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
Woodland larkspur	<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Swamp rose mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>
Blue flag	<i>Iris virginica</i>
Solomon's plume	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>
Virginia bluebell	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>
Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>
Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>
Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
Wild stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>
Indian pink	<i>Spigelia marilandica</i>
Celandine poppy	<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i>

### SHRUB

Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
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### VINE

Vasevine, leatherflower	<i>Clematis viorna</i>
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### GRASS

Northern sea oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>
Beak grass	<i>Diarrhena americana</i>
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>

## Prairie Grassland (sun)

### FLOWER

Nodding onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
False blue indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
Tall coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>
Shooting star	<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>
Pale-purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>
Hollow joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus</i>
Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>
Western sunflower	<i>Helianthis occidentalis</i>
False sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>
Prairie blazing star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>
Dense blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
Wild bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Stiff goldenrod	<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>
Hairy foxglove	<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>
Obedient plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>
Mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>
Yellow coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>
Showy black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> var. <i>speciosa</i>
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Sweet black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>
Brown-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>
Autumn goldenrod	<i>Solidago sphacelata</i>
Rosinweed	<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>
Compass plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>
Prairie dock	<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>
New England aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> ssp. <i>gigantea</i>
Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>

### GRASS

Big bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>
Sideoats gramma	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>

### SHRUB

New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Winged sumac	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>

## Water's Edge (sun)

### FLOWER

Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Marsh marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
Sweet joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
Queen-of-the-prairie	<i>Filipendula rubra</i>
Swamp rose mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>
Dwarf crested iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>
Blue flag	<i>Iris virginica</i>
Cardinal flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
Blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
Wild stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>
Royal catchfly	<i>Silene regia</i>
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> ssp. <i>gigantea</i>

### GRASS

Tussock sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>

### SHRUB

Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>

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# NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE

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## Perennials

**Tidy, showy natives to mingle with other  
ornamentals in the perennial bed**

### FLOWER

Nodding onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Blue false indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
Shooting star	<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus maculatus</i>
Queen-of-the-prairie	<i>Filipendula rubra</i>
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Swamp rose mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>
Prairie blazing star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>
Dense blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
Sundrops	<i>Oenothera tetragona</i>
Penstemon	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>
Garden phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>
Aromatic aster	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>
Zigzag goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>
Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>

### GRASS

Side oats gramma	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Riverbank tussock sedge	<i>Carex emoryi</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>

## Trees & Shrubs

**Garden-worthy woody natives for solo  
display or to cluster in a hedge or foundation  
planting**

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crateagus viridis</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Grape honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera reticulata</i>
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i>

## Butterfly Food

**Host plants for butterfly larvae and nectar  
plants to feed the adults**

### FLOWER

Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Tall coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>
Hollow joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus</i>
Sweet joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus maculatus</i>
New England aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae- angliae</i>
Aromatic aster	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> ssp. <i>gigantea</i>

### SHRUB

Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
Annabelle hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
American cranberrybush	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i> (caution: often mislabelled)

### GRASS

Bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
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## VINE

Woolly dutchman's pipe	<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>
Crossvine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>

## Bird Habitat

### Dense cover and berries offering shelter and sustenance to our feathered friends

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Gray dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Photinia melanocarpa</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i>
Eastern arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
American cranberrybush	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i> (caution: often mislabeled)

## Rain Garden

### Deep-rooted natives that enable stormwater to percolate naturally into the soil

See *Water's Edge* plant list

## Autumn Color

### Natives whose leaves blaze with color in the fall

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Photinia melanocarpa</i>
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Winged sumac	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
American cranberrybush	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i> (caution: often mislabeled)

## Winter Interest

### Shapes, textures and seed pods to enliven the winter landscape

Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
Sideoats gramma	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Tussock sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>
Northern sea oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Gray dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>

## Ground Covers

### SUN

Clustered poppy mallow	<i>Callirhoe triangulata</i>
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### SHADE

Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>
Wild stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>
White blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>

## Erosion Control

Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
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