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.

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 501528, Indianapolis, IN 46250-6528.

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.
NATURAL PLANT COMMUNITIES

Woods Edge (part shade)

FLOWER
Blue star willow
American bellflower
Sweet Joe-pye weed
Dwarf crested iris
Blue lobelia
Solomon’s plume
Virginia bluebell
Wild bergamot
Sundrops
Stiff goldenrod
Penstemon
Wild sweet william
Garden phlox
Zigzag goldenrod
Gray goldenrod
Aromatic aster
Spiderwort
Bird’s foot violet

GRASS
Northern sea oats

SHRUB
Roughleaf dogwood
Witchhazel
Smooth hydrangea
Winterberry holly
Black chokeberry
Ninebark
Fragrant sumac
Elderberry
Arrowwood viburnum
Nannyberry
American cranberrybush

TREE
Serviceberry
Redbud
Pagoda dogwood

VINE
Woolly Dutchman’s pipe
Crossvine

Woodland (shade)

FLOWER
Columbine
Wild ginger
Turtlehead
Woodland larkspur
Wild geranium
Swamp rose mallow
Blue flag
Solomon’s plume
Virginia bluebell
Mayapple
Jacob’s ladder
Solomon’s seal
Bloodroot
Wild stonecrop
Blue-eyed grass
Indian pink
Celandine poppy

SHRUB
Spicebush

VINE
Vasevine, leatherflower

GRASS
Northern sea oats

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**Prairie Grassland (sun)**

**FLOWER**
- Nodding onion: Allium cernuum
- Blue star willow: Amsonia tabernaemontana
- Butterfly weed: Asclepias tuberosa
- False blue indigo: Baptisia australis
- Tall coreopsis: Coreopsis tripteris
- Shooting star: Dodecatheon meadia
- Pale-purple coneflower: Echinacea pallida
- Rattlesnake master: Eryngium yuccifolium
- Hollow joe-pye weed: Helianthus occidentalis
- Butterfly weed: Asclepias tuberosa
- False blue indigo: Baptisia australis
- Tall coreopsis: Coreopsis tripteris
- Shooting star: Dodecatheon meadia
- Pale-purple coneflower: Echinacea pallida
- Rattlesnake master: Eryngium yuccifolium
- Hollow joe-pye weed: Helianthus occidentalis
- Butterfly weed: Asclepias tuberosa
- False blue indigo: Baptisia australis
- Tall coreopsis: Coreopsis tripteris
- Shooting star: Dodecatheon meadia
- Pale-purple coneflower: Echinacea pallida
- Rattlesnake master: Eryngium yuccifolium

**GRASS**
- Big bluestem: Andropogon gerardii
- Sideoats gramma: Bouteloua curtipendula
- Switch grass: Panicum virgatum
- Little bluestem: Schizachyrium scoparium
- Indian grass: Sorghastrum nutans
- Prairie dropseed: Sporobolus heterolepis

**SHRUB**
- New Jersey tea: Ceanothus americanus
- Winged sumac: Rhus copallinum

**Water’s Edge (sun)**

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

**GRASS**
- Tussock sedge: Carex stricta
- Soft rush: Juncus effusus
- Switch grass: Panicum virgatum
- Indian grass: Sorghastrum nutans

**SHRUB**
- Buttonbush: Cephalanthus occidentalis
- Winterberry holly: Ilex verticillata
# NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE

## Perennials

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FLOWER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nodding onion</td>
<td><em>Allium cernuum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue star willow</td>
<td><em>Amsonia tabernaemontana</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbine</td>
<td><em>Aquilegia canadensis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marsh milkweed</td>
<td><em>Asclepias incarnata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly weed</td>
<td><em>Asclepias tuberosa</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue false indigo</td>
<td><em>Baptisia australis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shooting star</td>
<td><em>Dodecatheon meadia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purple coneflower</td>
<td><em>Echinacea purpurea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe-pye weed</td>
<td><em>Eupatorium perfoliatum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen-of-the-prairie</td>
<td><em>Filipendula rubra</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild geranium</td>
<td><em>Geranium maculatum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp rose mallow</td>
<td><em>Hibiscus moscheutos</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie blazin star</td>
<td><em>Liatris pycnostachya</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dense blazin star</td>
<td><em>Liatris spicata</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundrops</td>
<td><em>Oenothera tetragona</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Penstemon</td>
<td><em>Penstemon digitalis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden phlox</td>
<td><em>Phlox paniculata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-eyed grass</td>
<td><em>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aromatic aster</td>
<td><em>Symphyotrichum oblongifolium</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zigzag goldenrod</td>
<td><em>Solidago flexiculmis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiderwort</td>
<td><em>Tradescantia ohiensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culver’s root</td>
<td><em>Veronicastrum virginicum</em></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRASS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side oats gramma</td>
<td><em>Bouteloua curtipendula</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverbank tussock sedge</td>
<td><em>Carex emoryi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie dropseed</td>
<td><em>Sporobolus heterolepis</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Trees & Shrubs

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FLOWER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serviceberry</td>
<td><em>Amelanchier laevis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redbud</td>
<td><em>Cercis canadensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td><em>Crataegus viridis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smooth hydrangea</td>
<td><em>Hydrangea arborescens</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winterberry holly</td>
<td><em>Ilex verticillata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grape honeysuckle</td>
<td><em>Lonicera reticulata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninebark</td>
<td><em>Physocarpus opulifolius</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragrant sumac</td>
<td><em>Rhus aromatica</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td><em>Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHRUB</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buttonbush</td>
<td><em>Cephalanthus occidentalis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annabelle hydrangea</td>
<td><em>Hydrangea arborescens</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicebush</td>
<td><em>Lindera benzoin</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrowwood viburnum</td>
<td><em>Viburnum dentatum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nannyberry</td>
<td><em>Viburnum lentago</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American cranberrybush</td>
<td><em>Viburnum opulus var. americanum</em> (caution: often mislabeled)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## GRASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FLOWER</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bottlebrush grass</td>
<td><em>Hystrich patula</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VINE
Wooly dutchman’s pipe  *Aristolochia tomentosa*
Crossvine  *Bignonia capreolata*

**Bird Habitat**

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

- Serviceberry  *Amelanchier laevis*
- Roughleaf dogwood  *Cornus drummondii*
- Gray dogwood  *Cornus racemosa*
- Black chokeberry  *Photinia melanocarpa*
- Elderberry  *Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis*
- Eastern arborvitae  *Thuja occidentalis*
- Arrowwood viburnum  *Viburnum dentatum*
- Nannyberry  *Viburnum lentago*
- American cranberrybush  *Viburnum opulus var. americanum* (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  *Amelanchier laevis*
- Roughleaf dogwood  *Cornus drummondii*
- Smooth hydrangea  *Hydrangea arborescens*
- Spicebush  *Lindera benzoin*
- Virginia creeper  *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*
- Black chokeberry  *Photinia melanocarpa*
- Fragrant sumac  *Rhus aromatica*
- Winged sumac  *Rhus copallinum*
- Arrowwood viburnum  *Viburnum dentatum*
- Nannyberry  *Viburnum lentago*
- American cranberrybush  *Viburnum opulus var. americanum* (caution: often mislabeled)

**Ground Covers**

**SUN**

- Clustered poppy mallow  *Callirhoe triangulata*

**SHADE**

- Wild ginger  *Asarum canadense*
- Virginia creeper  *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*
- Jacob’s ladder  *Polenonimum reptans*
- Wild stonecrop  *Sedum ternatum*
- White blue-eyed grass  *Sisyrinchium albidum*
- Blue-eyed grass  *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*

**Erosion Control**

- Fragrant sumac  *Rhus aromatica*
- Bottlebrush grass  *Hystrix patula*
- Winterberry holly  *Ilex verticillata*
- Soft rush  *Juncus effusus*
- Switch grass  *Panicum virgatum*
- Black-eyed susan  *Rudbeckia hirta*
- Little bluestem  *Schizachyrium scoparium*
- Indian grass  *Sorghastrum nutans*
- Prairie dropseed  *Sporobolus heterolepis*
- Little bluestem  *Schizachyrium scoparium*
- Indian grass  *Sorghastrum nutans*
- Prairie dropseed  *Sporobolus heterolepis*