



# Create Your Own State Park Native Plant Selections



## Native Maryland Overstory Tree Recommendations

### *Planting Trees for Birds, Butterflies & Wildlife*

The following list of Maryland native trees are commonly found throughout the state. Including native trees and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. Your yard will provide habitat and a food source for birds, pollinators, as well as for other native wildlife. These plants were selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created in your own yard!

Tree Species	Pollinator, Bird, Wildlife Value
<b>Oak species</b> , <i>Quercus</i> especially <i>Quercus alba</i> , White Oak, MD State Tree	Acorns provide food for wildlife and birds. Hosts up to <b>534</b> different caterpillar species! <i>(The most of any native tree species)</i>
<b>Willow species</b> , <i>Salix</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds. Hosts up to <b>456</b> caterpillar species!
<b>Birch species</b> , <i>Betula</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds. Hosts up to <b>413</b> caterpillar species!
<b>Maple species</b> , <i>Acer</i>	Early spring bloomer, good tree for wildlife and birds. Hosts up to <b>285</b> caterpillar species!
<b>American Beech</b> <i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Beech nuts provide food for wildlife and birds. Hosts up to <b>126</b> caterpillar species!
<b>American Holly</b> <i>Ilex opaca</i>	Berries are a good food source for birds and wildlife. Evergreen provides year round shelter for birds.
<b>Black Gum</b> <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds. Outstanding fall color.
<b>Sweet Gum</b> <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Provides bird and wildlife habitat. Host plant for Luna Moth.
<b>American Sycamore</b> <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Provides bird and wildlife habitat.
<b>Tulip Poplar</b> <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Bird and wildlife habitat. Hummingbirds feed on flowers. Host plant for Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly.

### Additional Resources:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping: Chesapeake Bay Watershed, 2012.  
<https://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/pdf/NativePlantsforWildlifeHabitatandConservationLandscaping.pdf>
- Doug Tallamy. Bringing Nature Home. Timber Press, 2018.



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# NATIVE TREE LIST

SUGGESTED TREES FOR BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES & WILDLIFE

**MAPLE  
SPECIES**  
*ACER*

**WILLOW  
SPECIES**  
*SALIX*

**BIRCH  
SPECIES**  
*BETULA*

**AMERICAN  
BEECH**  
*FAGUS  
GRANDIFOLIA*

**OAK  
SPECIES**  
ESPECIALLY  
**WHITE OAK,**  
MD STATE TREE

**AMERICAN  
HOLLY**  
*ILEX  
OPACA*

**BLACK  
GUM**  
*NYSSA  
SYLVATICA*

**SWEET  
GUM**  
*LIQUIDAMBAR  
STYRACIFLUA*

**TULIP  
POPLAR**  
*LIRIODENDRON  
TULIIFERA*

This list of common Maryland native trees was selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. Including native trees and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created!



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# Create Your Own State Park Native Plant Selections



## Native Maryland Understory Tree & Shrub Recommendations

### *Planting Trees & Shrubs for Birds, Butterflies & Wildlife*

The following list of Maryland native understory trees and shrubs are commonly found throughout the state. Including native trees and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. Your yard can provide habitat and a food source for birds, pollinators, as well as for other native wildlife. These plants were selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created in your own yard!

<b>Understory Tree or Shrub Species</b>	<b>Pollinator, Bird, Wildlife Value</b>
<b>Paw Paw</b> <i>Asimina triloba</i>	Host plant for the Zebra Swallowtail Butterfly and Pawpaw Sphinx Moth. High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds.
<b>Sassafras</b> <i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Spicebush Swallowtail Butterfly host plant. High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds. Spring and Fall color.
<b>Flowering Dogwood</b> <i>Cornus florida</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife, birds and butterflies. Migratory birds feed on berries in the fall. Large white blooms in the spring!
<b>Sweet Bay Magnolia</b> <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly host plant. High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds.
<b>Spicebush</b> <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spice Bush Swallowtail Butterfly host plant. High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds.
<b>Serviceberry or Shadbush</b> <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds.
<b>Northern Bayberry</b> <i>Myrica pennsylvanica</i>	High wildlife value- berries are food for many birds.
<b>Arrowwood Viburnum</b> <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife, butterflies and birds.
<b>Elderberry</b> <i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for wildlife and birds.
<b>Winterberry holly</b> <i>Ilex verticillata</i>	High wildlife value- berries are food for many birds. Red berries persist into the winter.

### Additional Resources:

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# NATIVE SHRUB LIST

SUGGESTED SHRUBS FOR BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES & WILDLIFE

**FLOWERING  
DOGWOOD**

*CORNUS FLORIDA*

\*UNDERSTORY TREE SPECIES

**SASSAFRAS**

*SASSAFRAS  
ALBIDUM*

\*UNDERSTORY TREE SPECIES

**SWEET BAY  
MAGNOLIA**

*MAGNOLIA  
VIRGINIAIA*

\*UNDERSTORY TREE SPECIES

**SPICE  
BUSH**

*LINDERA  
BENZOIN*

**SERVICE  
BERRY OR  
SHADBUSH**

*AMELANCHIER  
CANADENSIS*

**NORTHERN  
BAYBERRY**

*MYRICA  
PENNSYLVANICA*

**ARROWWOOD  
VIBURNUM**

*VIBURNUM  
DENTATUM*

**ELDERBERRY**

*SAMBUCUS  
CANADENSIS*

**WINTERBERRY  
HOLLY**

*ILEX  
VERTICILLATA*

This list of common Maryland native shrubs was selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. Including native shrubs and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created!



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# Create Your Own State Park Native Plant Selections



## Maryland Maryland Native Herbaceous Plants- Sun Perennials

### *Planting Perennials for Birds, Butterflies & Wildlife*

The following list of Maryland native perennials are commonly found throughout the state. Including native trees and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. Your yard can provide habitat and a food source for birds, pollinators, as well as for other native wildlife. These plants were selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created in your own yard!



Perennial Species for Sun	Pollinator, Bird, Wildlife Value
<b>Butterfly Weed</b> <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Monarch Butterfly host plant. Supports insects and pollinators.
<b>Common Milkweed</b> <i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Monarch Butterfly host plant. Supports insects and pollinators.
<b>Swamp Milkweed</b> <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Monarch Butterfly host plant. Supports insects and pollinators. Prefers wet areas.
<b>Wild Bergamot</b> <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for insects, butterflies and hummingbirds.
<b>Bee Balm</b> <i>Monarda didyma</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for insects, butterflies and hummingbirds.
<b>Wrinkle-leaf Goldenrod</b> <i>Solidago rugosa</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for insects, butterflies and wildlife.
<b>Wild Blue Indigo</b> <i>Baptisia australis</i>	High wildlife value- supports insects, butterflies and pollinators.
<b>White Turtlehead</b> <i>Chelone glabra</i>	Host plant for the Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly (Maryland State Insect). Provides food for pollinators and hummingbirds.
<b>Black-eyed susan</b> <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Maryland State Flower. High wildlife value- provides bird, insect and pollinator habitat.
<b>Joe-Pye Weed</b> <i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	High wildlife value- supports birds, butterflies and pollinators.
<b>Blazing star</b> <i>Liatris spicata</i>	High wildlife value- supports insects, butterflies and pollinators.



#### Additional Resources:

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# NATIVE PLANT LIST

SUGGESTED SUN-LOVING PERENNIALS FOR BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES & WILDLIFE

**BUTTERFLY  
WEED**

*ASCLEPIAS  
TUBEROSA*

\*MONARCH HOST PLANT

**WILD  
BERGAMOT**

*MONARDA  
FISTULOSA*

**SWAMP  
MILKWEED**

*ASCLEPIAS  
INCARNATA*

\*MONARCH HOST PLANT

**BEE BALM**

*MONARDA  
DIDYMA*

**WHITE  
TURTLEHEAD**

*CHELONE GLABRA*

\*BALTIMORE CHECKERSPOT  
HOST PLANT

**WILD BLUE  
INDIGO**

*BAPTISA AUSTRALIS*

**BLACK-EYED  
SUSAN**

*RUDBECKIA HIRTA*

\*MARYLAND STATE  
FLOWER

**BLAZING STAR**

*LIATRIS SPICATA*

**JOE-PYE  
WEED**

*EUPATORIUM  
FISTULOSUM*

This list of common Maryland native sun-loving perennials was selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. Including native plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created!



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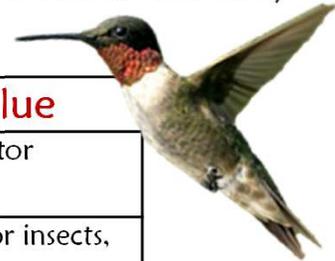
# Create Your Own State Park Native Plant Selections



## Maryland Native Herbaceous Plants- Shade Perennials

### *Planting Perennials for Birds, Butterflies & Wildlife*

The following list of Maryland native perennials are commonly found throughout the state. Including native trees and plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. Your yard can provide habitat and a food source for birds, pollinators, as well as for other native wildlife. These plants were selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created in your own yard!



Perennial Species for Shade	Pollinator, Bird, Wildlife Value
<b>Virginia Bluebells</b> <i>Mertensia virginica</i>	Early spring blooming! Provides pollinator habitat.
<b>Wild Columbine</b> <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Early spring blooming. Provides food for insects, pollinators and hummingbirds.
<b>Golden Ragwort</b> <i>Packera aurea</i>	Good for pollinators! May aggressively spread.
<b>Jack-in-the-pulpit</b> <i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	High wildlife value for birds and pollinators.
<b>Wild Blue Woodland Phlox</b> <i>Phlox divaricata</i>	High wildlife value for pollinators and butterflies.
<b>Bluestem Goldenrod</b> <i>Solidago caesia</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for insects, butterflies and wildlife.
<b>Mist Flower</b> <i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	High wildlife value- provides food for insects, butterflies and birds.
<b>White Wood Aster</b> <i>Euribia divaricatus</i>	High wildlife value for pollinators and butterflies.
<b>Woodland Sunflower</b> <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	High wildlife value for birds and butterflies.
<b>Hoary Mountain Mint</b> <i>Pycnanthemum incanum</i>	High wildlife value for insects, pollinators and butterflies.

### Additional Resources:

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# NATIVE PLANT LIST

SUGGESTED SHADE-LOVING PERENNIALS FOR BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES & WILDLIFE

**WILD  
COLUMBINE**

*AQUILEGIA  
CANADENSIS*

**GOLDEN  
RAGWORT**

*PACKERA  
AUREA*

**VIRGINIA  
BLUEBELLS**

*MERTENSIA  
VIRGINICA*

**WOODLAND  
PHLOX**

*PHLOX  
DIVARICATA*

**BLUESTEM  
GOLDENROD**

*SOLIDAGO  
CAESIA*

**MIST  
FLOWER**

*CONOCLINUM  
COELESTINUM*

**WHITE WOOD  
ASTER**

*EURIBIA  
DIVARICATUS*

**WOODLAND  
SUNFLOWER**

*HELIANTHUS  
DIVARICATUS*

**MOUNTAIN  
MINT**

*PYCNANTHEMUM  
INCANUM*

This list of common Maryland native shade-loving perennials was selected for their important value to pollinators, birds, and wildlife. Including native plant species in your yard contributes to the native wildlife food web. You may attract some new visitors from your neighborhood natural community into the habitat you have created!



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WANT TO HAVE FUN  
AND HELP OUR POLLINATORS?

# EXPLODING MILKWEED SEED BALLS!

*Make your own exploding balls of seeds- fun to throw  
and an easy way to grow native wildflowers!*

**Here's what you need:**

- **milkweed seeds (or any native plant seeds)**
- **dry potting soil**
- **air dry clay**
- **water**

**Your exploding milkweed seed balls will provide food  
for the Monarch Butterfly caterpillars in our community!**



# Exploding Milkweed Seed Balls!

## HERE'S HOW TO MAKE THEM- GET READY TO GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY!

1. Make a pancake in your hand with some air-dry clay.
2. Mix the seeds and potting soil together. Add them to the air-dry clay and mash together. Slowly add water while still mixing the seeds, potting soil, and water into a well-blended paste. Add additional soil if needed.
3. When you are able to form a large ball of the blended material without it falling apart, you are ready to stop mixing.
4. Roll the mixture into a tube or "snake" (~1 inch diameter), then cut into smaller pieces that can be rolled into marble sized balls.
5. Allow the balls to dry in the sun for at least one day.

### ***Now that you have made your seed balls, what do you do with them?***

All you have to do is throw them at a patch of dirt and watch it explode! Once it rains (or you water them), they have everything they need to grow. They also make great gifts! Just put them in a bag and give to all your friends.

### **Why Milkweed?**

*Monarch butterflies need milkweeds! They have developed a unique adaptation that allows their caterpillars to feed on a plant that many other insects cannot. The sticky sap produced by milkweed plants contain toxic compounds called cardenolides. Most other insects can't digest these toxins-- it kills them or they avoid it altogether due to its bad taste. But monarch caterpillars actually absorb these toxins as they feed on milkweed leaves, rendering the caterpillars themselves toxic to potential predators!*