

What Are Native Plants?

Native plant species evolved within specific regions and dispersed throughout their range without known human involvement. These plants form the primary structure of the living landscape and provide food and shelter for native animal species.

What Makes Them Easy?

All the plants in this brochure are “perennials” – meaning that they come back every year. They are adapted to our local soils and climate. If you provide the right growing conditions in your garden, they are easy to grow and maintain.

Why Are Natives Important?

Native plants attract a variety of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. Native plants feed insect plant eaters that are the base of the food chain and are the food for our young birds. Native plants feed the pollinators: hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar. These pollinators sustain wildlife by providing nutritious berries and seeds, and our many fruits, vegetables, and nut crops, like blueberries, squash, and almonds. Plant a diverse palette of native plants to invite plant eating insects, and pollinators; and also their predators, seed dispersers and recyclers that make a garden work. Because our native plants and animals have evolved together, they support each other and we can enjoy a beautiful, living landscape.

For More Information on Native Plants:
www.plantnovanatives.org

Plant NoVA Natives

This brochure was produced by the Plant NoVA Natives campaign. The goal of the campaign is to promote the use of native plants in the urban and suburban landscapes of Northern Virginia, and to increase native plant availability throughout the region. The campaign is a partnership of:

NVBA Wildlife Sanctuary Program • Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy • Mason Sustainability Institute • Nature By Design • Northern Virginia Regional Commission (*lead organization*) • Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District • Potowmack Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society • Prince William Wildflower Society Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society • Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program • Virginia Cooperative Extension • Virginia Department of Forestry • Virginia Master Gardeners • Virginia Master Naturalists

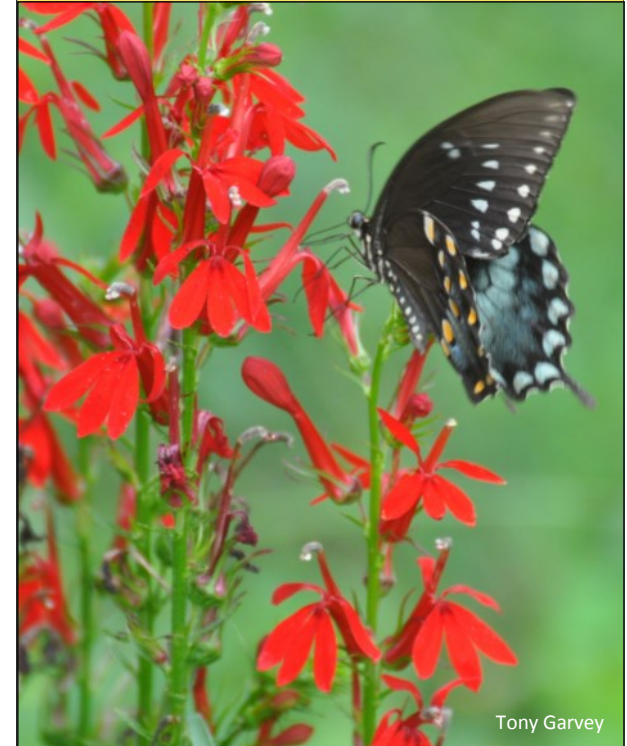


This project, Task # 54 was funded, in part, by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at the Department of Environmental Quality through Grant FY11 # NA11NOS4190122 of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended.



Five Easy Flowers

— For Sun —



Tony Garvey

*Native Perennials
For Your Garden*

Butterfly Weed - *Asclepias tuberosa*



- Mature height: 1 - 3 feet
- Blooms: Yellow-orange to bright orange in May-September
- Natural habitat: Dry/rocky open woods, glades, fields and roadsides
- Full sun, part shade
- Moist or dry, well-drained sandy soils (tolerates drought and poor soil)

Whorled Coreopsis - *Coreopsis verticillata*



- Mature height: 6 inches - 3.5 feet
- Blooms: Yellow in May - July
- Natural habitat: Dry, open woods; well-drained,
- Primarily acidic soil; drought tolerant
- Full sun to part shade

Blue Wild Indigo - *Baptisia australis*



- Mature height: Up to 5 feet
- Blooms: Blue-purple and pea-like in April - May
- Natural habitat: Dry to moist open woods, stream banks, floodplains
- Full sun
- Moist, usually sandy acidic soil

Cardinal Flower - *Lobelia cardinalis*



- Mature height: 1 - 6 feet
- Blooms: Red in July - October
- Natural habitat: Low areas, woodlands edge, stream banks, roadsides, meadows
- Full sun, part shade, shade
- Moist to wet, humus-rich, sandy and clay soil

Turk's-cap Lily- *Lilium superbum*



- Mature height: 4 - 8 feet
- Blooms: Red, orange, yellow in July - September
- Natural habitat: Wet meadows, swamps, woods
- Full sun
- Moist, loam, sand, acidic soils (good drainage essential)

More Sun Loving Flowers

Asclepias incarnata - Swamp Milkweed

Baptisia tinctoria - Yellow Wild Indigo

Chelone glabra - White Turtlehead

Eutrochium purpureum - Sweet Joe Pyeweed

Geranium maculatum - Wild Geranium

Hibiscus moscheutos - Swamp Rose-mallow

Monarda didyma - Scarlet Beebalm

Penstemon digitalis - Beardtongue,

Solidago altissima - Tall Goldenrod

Solidago juncea - Early Goldenrod

Symphotrichum nova-angliae - New England Aster

Symphotrichum novi-belgii - New York Aster

Vernonia noveboracensis - New York Ironweed

Zizia aurea - Golden-alexanders