

Why Plant Northern Virginia Native Plants?

Native plants provide food and habitat for native wildlife

- Many insects have specialized to feed and reproduce only on native plants
- Insect life supports the food web for birds, frogs, and other animals
- Native plants attract pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds
- Planting natives creates a sanctuary for a diverse network of life

Native plants are at home here

- Natives are adapted to live in our climate
- Natives flourish without extensive watering, fertilizing, or pesticides
- Natives help conserve water and soil quality
- Natives provide curb appeal and can raise property values

Natives have many advantages over non-native plants

- Conventional landscaping does not effectively support native wildlife
 - Turfgrass and ornamentals need more watering, fertilizers, and pesticides
- Water and soil health suffer as a result

A native plant in every yard!

Native plants:

- No fertilizer
- No pesticides
- No watering (once established, if properly sited)
- No mowing
- Naturally beautiful!



Plant NOVA Natives campaign

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Enhance your property while saving the birds and butterflies



www.plantnovanatives.org

What can you do?

Make room for the living world

Learn how at www.plantnovanatives.org

- Buy or download the *Native Plants for Northern Virginia* guide
- Find demonstration gardens to visit
- Get advice on creating various types of landscapes
- Find a list of native plant sales and vendors
- Look up deer resistance
- See photos of native plants in a landscape setting

Create your own wildlife sanctuary

- Plant Northern Virginia native plants
- Convert lawn to usable habitat.
- Remove invasive plants. Lists of introduced plants that are invasive in Virginia can be found online.
- Protect your wildlife - don't spray insecticides!
- Manage water - use plants that are adapted to this climate, and hold stormwater on your own property

Certify your property as wildlife sanctuary

Arrange a free consultation with an Audubon-at-Home volunteer

Get professional help

Find local natives-only landscapers

Spread the word

- Join the landscaping committee where you live, work, or worship
- Share short articles from Plant NOVA Natives on NextDoor.com, Facebook, church bulletins, community websites, *etc.*
- Volunteer for the Plant NOVA Natives campaign
- Join us on Facebook - share posts to your other groups
- Host a screening of *Hometown Habitat*
 - Details are under "Spread the Word" at www.plantnovanatives.org
 - Buy the Hometown Habitat DVD

***Together we can
change the
landscaping culture
of Northern Virginia***

