

NATIVE PLANTS



With the hot and dry South Carolina climate, there are many native plants that do well in the Midlands.

Not only do native plants produce beautiful flowers, they also produce fruits, seeds, and nectar that are friendly to wildlife. Wild birds and Pollinators, native to the United States, evolved to rely on these plants, that are also native to the U.S., for food & shelter. The plant life required to sustain our native wildlife has been destroyed in the course of urbanization. Clear cutting trees for home building and office parks upsets the balance of nature and threatens some of our native species. For example, certain species of woodpeckers are endangered because homeowners are less inclined to plant oak trees, which make "messy" acorns for birds to eat. Monarch butterflies are endangered because the "host" plant on which they lay their eggs (milkweed) is seen less in nature. The Monarch's eggs hatch into caterpillars, which eat the milkweed, before spinning a cocoon and later becoming a butterfly. By planting natives in our yards & landscapes we do our part to restore natural processes from the comfort of our homes.



What is a "native" plant?

There are varied definitions, however most people accept the idea that we are talking about plants that were here before the European colonization of North America. This brings into question, what about "cultivars" of native plants.... are they truly native?

American Beauties Native Plants, a reputable grower, explains it this way, "We define natives as straight species and their cultivars, with cultivars being selections of straight species that have not been hybridized with other species. A cultivar is a plant that has been selected and cultivated because of some unique quality it has such as: disease resistance, cold hardiness, height, flower form or color. Sometimes interesting varieties are found in nature and brought into cultivation making them cultivated varieties or cultivars."



For example, **Red Maple (Acer Rubrum)** is native here. Its cultivars, Autumn Flame, October Glory, Red Sunset, and Summer Red, are also considered native. They were cultivated from red maple trees which were found in the wild and noted for their particular color or hardiness.

Why choose native plants?

- Native plants are naturally adapted to your area.
- They create habitat for your local wildlife.
- They attract birds and pollinators.
- They are low maintenance with few diseases problems.
- Native plants are environmentally friendly.



You can help to restore the availability of native plants, by adding a few to your landscape. In this way, we can all make a difference and help restore our local environment one yard at a time.

Most native plants require less care than traditional landscape plants because the growing conditions here are perfect for them to thrive. Choosing the right plants for your yard will mean you may be able to use fewer pesticides and less water. That being said **you still need to water them.**

SEE BACK FOR LIST OF NATIVE PLANT VARIETIES FOR THE MIDLANDS

NATIVE PLANT VARIETIES



TREES:

Blackgum
 River Birch
 Southern Catalpa
 Eastern Red Cedar
 Flowering Crabapple
 Bald Cypress
 Flowering Dogwood
 American Fringetree
 Southern Magnolia - Cultivars
 Red Maple - Cultivars
 Red Mulberry
 Palmetto, Dwarf (sabal minor)
 Tulip Poplar
 Willow Oak
 Live Oak
 Pawpaw
 American Persimmon
 Eastern Redbud - Cultivars
 Sassafras
 Serviceberry

SHRUBS:

American Beautyberry
 Blueberry - Cultivars
 Red Buckeye
 Buttonbush
 Chokeberry
 Clethra
 Diervilla
 Elderberry
 Strawberry Bush
 Fothergilla
 Holly, Inkberry
 Holly, Winterberry
 Hydrangea, Annabelle
 Hydrangea, Oak Leaf
 Virginia Sweetspire (Itea)
 Leucothoe
 Spicebush
 Meadowsweet Spirea
 Steeplebush Spirea
 St. Johns Wort
 Sweetshrub
 Arrowwood Viburnum
 Wax Myrtle



Native trees and shrubs provide great cover for garden critters and nesting places for birds.



Red Maple Cultivars:
 Autumn Flame
 Brandywine
 October Glory
 Red Sunset
 Red Summer
 ...and others



Eastern Redbud Cultivars:
 Purebred
 Forest Pansy
 Carolina Sweetheart
 Flame Thrower
 Rising Sun



Blueberry Cultivars:
 Brightwell
 Climax
 Tiff Blue
 ...and others



Southern Magnolia Cultivars:
 Bracken's Brown Beauty
 Little Gem
 Teddy Bear
 ...and others

FERNS:

American Royal
 Christmas
 Cinnamon
 Southern Shield

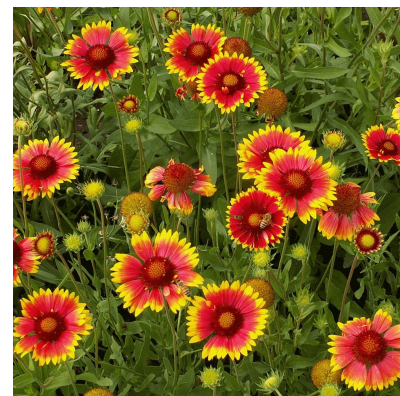
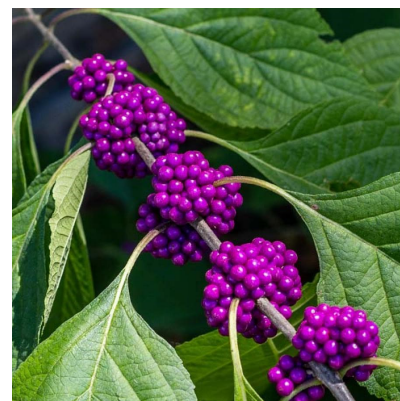


PERENNIALS:

Agastache
 Amsonia
 Aster
 Bee Balm
 Black Eyed Susan
 Cardinal Flower
 Coneflower
 Coreopsis
 Cranesbill Geranium
 Baptisia
 Gaillardia
 Goldenrod
 Ironweed
 Joe-Pye
 Milkweed
 Penstemon
 Phlox
 Stokesia
 Spiderwort
 Turtlehead
 Verbena
 Woods Poppy

VINES:

Cross Vine
 Carolina Jessamine
 Coral Honeysuckle
 American Wisteria
 Climbing Aster
 Passion Flower (Maypop)



WATER PLANTS:

Blue-eyed Grass
 Iris, Blue Flag
 Lizard's Tail
 Great Blue Lobelia
 Pickerelweed
 Pitcher Plant
 Soft Rush



American Beauty Native Plants
www.abnativeplants.com



Consider adding a few native plants to your yard and help save our natural heritage for future generations.