



TOWN OF DEDHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION



Highbush blueberry
(*Vaccinium corymbosom*)

Native Plant Guidelines

Native plant species are species that are naturally occurring in a given region's ecosystem without human introduction or intervention. The Town of Dedham Conservation Commission recognizes that native plants enhance wildlife & pollinator habitats, promote biodiversity, improve climate resiliency, and protect against invasive species. **The Commission's Rules & Regulations state that any new plantings proposed in resource areas or buffer zones shall be native, non-cultivar species.** The Commission has developed this list of trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and flowering plants native to our region as a resource for our residents, but this is by no means an exhaustive list of all native plants and applicants are free to select species not on these lists.

Each species in the guide below has beneficial uses as indicated with the following symbology:

Urban or Street Species 🚗

Wetland Planting Options 🦆

Provides for Wildlife (habitat or food) 🦋

Stormwater or Rain Garden Planting Options 💧

Pollinator-friendly species 🐝

Exceptional Fall Foliage 🍁

Flowering Species 🌸



Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

Sources: Native Plant Trust, Town of Shrewsbury Planting Guide, Dedham Conservation Commissioners.

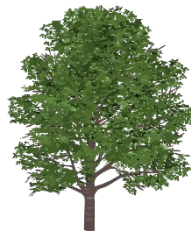
Images courtesy of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Integration and Application Network.

Deciduous Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Red Maple 🌳 🚗 🏠 🍁	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	35-50 ft.	Average -Wet	Soil stabilizer
Sugar Maple 🌳 🏠	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	60-80 ft.	Dry-Average	Drought tolerant
Silver Maple 🌳	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	50-65 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Red Oak 🚗 🏠 🌳	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	60-80 ft.	Average-Wet	Drought tolerant
White Oak 🚗 🌳	<i>Quercus alba</i>	60-80 ft.	Dry-Average	Drought & salt tolerant
Pin Oak 🏠	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	50 -70 ft.	Average-Wet	Fast growing
Tupelo (or Black Gum) 🚗 🌳 💧	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	30-60 ft.	Average-Wet	Drought tolerant
American Sycamore 🚗 🌳	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	70-100 ft.	Average-Wet	Deer resistant
Sweet Birch (or Black Birch) 🌳	<i>Betula lenta</i>	40-60 ft.	Average-Wet	Deer resistant
River Birch (non-cultivar) 🌳 💧 🌳	<i>Betula nigra</i>	25-45 ft.	Average-Wet	Drought resistant
Yellow Birch 🏠 🌳 🍁	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	40-60 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Tulip Tree 🌸 🚗	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	70-120 ft.	Average	Deer resistant
Shagbark Hickory 🌳	<i>Carya ovata</i>	50-100 ft.	Dry-Average	Drought tolerant
American Sweetgum 🚗 🌳 🍁	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	60-90 ft.	Average-Wet	Low maintenance
Bitternut Hickory 🌳 🌳	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	100-150 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Black Willow 🌳 🌳 🏠	<i>Salix nigra</i>	10-60 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
American Linden 🚗 🌳 🏠	<i>Tilia americana</i>	50-70 ft.	Average	Low maintenance
American Hornbeam 🚗	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	20-30 ft.	Average-Wet	Low maintenance



White oak (*Quercus alba*)



Sweet birch
(*Betula lenta*)



Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Evergreen Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Eastern Red Cedar 🚗🌳🐼	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	15-30 ft	Dry-Average	Drought & salt tolerant
Balsam Fir 🌳🐼	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	35-60 ft.	Average-Wet	Deer resistant
Black Spruce 🌳🐼	<i>Picea mariana</i>	20-50 ft.	Average-Wet	Deer resistant
Hemlock 🌳🐼	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	60-80 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators

Small Ornamental Trees

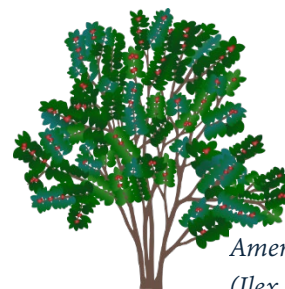
Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
American Holly 🌳🐼🌳	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	12-30 ft.	Average	Host plant for pollinators
Flowering Dogwood 🌸🐼	<i>Benthamida florida</i>	12-20 ft.	Average	Deer resistant, host plant
Gray Dogwood 🌳🚗🌸	<i>Swida racemosa</i>	3-8 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Red Twig Dogwood 🌳💧🐼	<i>Swida sericea</i>	3-8 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Silky Dogwood 🚗🐼🌳💧	<i>Swida amomum</i>	3-8 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil Stabilizer
Spicebush 🌳🌳🌳🌸	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	6-12 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Speckled Alder 🌳💧🐼	<i>Alnus incana</i>	6-15 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Sassafras 🌳🐼🌸🚗	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	20-40 ft.	Dry-Wet	Low maintenance



Eastern red cedar
(*Juniperus virginiana*)



Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)



American holly
(*Ilex opaca*)



Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Sweet Pepperbush 🌸💧🐛🐌	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	4-8 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Staghorn Sumac 🌸💧🐛	<i>Rhus hirta</i>	8-15 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Canada Serviceberry 🐛🌸💧	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	10-18 ft.	Dry-Wet	Low maintenance
Black Huckleberry 🐛🌸💧	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>	1-3 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Lowbush Blueberry 🐛🌸💧	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	1-2 ft.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
Highbush Blueberry 🐛🌸💧🐌	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	3-8 ft.	Dry-Wet	Low maintenance
Sheep Laurel 🐛🌸💧🐌	<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>	1-3 ft.	Dry-Wet	Low maintenance
American Witch hazel 🌸🐛🐌	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	6-15 ft.	Average-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Common Juniper 🐛🐌	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	5-25 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Smooth Arrowwood 🌸🐛🐌	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	6-10 ft.	Average	Low maintenance
Black Elderberry 🚗💧🐌🌸	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	5-8 ft.	Wet	Low maintenance
Winterberry 🐛🐌💧🐌	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	4-10 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Sweetfern 💧🐛🐌	<i>Comptonia pergrina</i>	1-3 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Red Chokeberry 🌸💧🚗🌸	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	5-12 ft.	Dry-Wet	Soil stabilizer
Bayberry 🐌🚗🐛	<i>Morella caroliniensis</i>	2-6 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer

Grasses

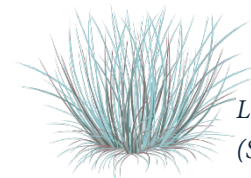
Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Switchgrass 🐛🐌💧🚗	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3-6 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Little Bluestem 🐛🐌💧	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	1-4 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Big Bluestem 🐛🐌💧	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	2-4 ft.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer
Pennsylvania Sedge 🐛🐌💧🚗	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	6-10 in.	Dry-Average	Soil stabilizer



Smooth arrowwood
(*Viburnum dentatum*)



Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)



Little bluestem
(*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Groundcovers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Red Bearberry 💧 🌸 🐻 🦊	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	3-6 in.	Dry	Soil stabilizer
Field Pussytoes 🐻 🚗 🦊	<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	1-3 in.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
Canada Mayflower 🐻 🚗 🦊	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	2-4 in.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
Wintergreen 🦊 🐻	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	6-12 in.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
Bunchberry Dogwood 🌸 🐻	<i>Chamaepericlymenum canadense</i>	2-5 in.	Wet-Average	Low maintenance
Star Flower 🌸 🐻	<i>Lysimachia borealis</i>	2-5 in.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
Creeping Dewberry 🐻 🚗 🌸	<i>Rubus hispidus</i>	1-3 in.	Dry-Moist	Low maintenance
Skunk Cabbage 🦉	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	3-6 in.	Wet	Low maintenance

Ferns

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Sensitive Fern 💧 🦉 🐻	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	10-24 in.	Average-Wet	Low maintenance
Cinnamon Fern 🦉 🐻	<i>Osmunda cinnamomeum</i>	2-4 ft.	Wet	Low maintenance
Royal Fern 🦉 🐻	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	2-4 ft.	Wet	Low maintenance
Interrupted Fern 💧 🦉 🐻	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	2-3 ft.	Wet	Low maintenance
Christmas Fern 💧 🐻	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	8-16 in.	Dry-Average	Low maintenance
New York Fern 🦊 🐻	<i>Parathelypteris noveboracensis</i>	8-25 in.	Average-Wet	Low maintenance



The berries of bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) provide food for small mammals, songbirds, and chickadees including the Black-Capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*), the State Bird of Massachusetts



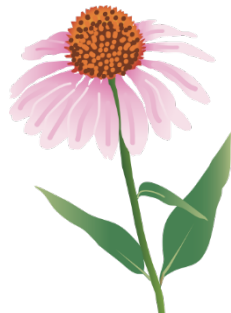
Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*)

Flowers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Soil Moisture	Misc. Benefits
Spotted Joe Pye Weed 🌿 🌸 🦋 💧 🐸	<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>	3-7 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Pearly Everlasting 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	1-3 ft.	Dry-Average	Host plant for pollinators
Goldenrods 🌿 🌸 🦋 💧	<i>Solidago sp.</i>	1-4 ft.	Dry-Average	Host plant for pollinators
Asters 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Symphyotrichum/ Eurybia sp.</i>	1-4 ft.	Dry-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Eastern Coneflower 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	2-3 ft.	Average	Host plant for pollinators
Cut-Leaf Coneflower 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	2-4 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Black-eyed Susan 🌿 🌸 🦋 💧	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	1-2 ft.	Dry-Average	Host plant for pollinators
Blue Vervain 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	2-4 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Common Milkweed 🌿 🌸 🦋 🚗	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	2-4 ft.	Dry-Average	Host plant for pollinators
Swamp Milkweed 🌿 🌸 🦋 💧 🐸	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	1-2 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Cardinal Flower 🌿 🌸 🦋 💧 🐸	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	2-3 ft.	Wet	Low maintenance
Wild Strawberry 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	2-5 in.	Dry-Average	Excellent lawn alternative
Golden Alexanders 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	1-2 ft.	Average-Wet	Host plant for pollinators
Foam Flower 🌿 🌸 🦋 🚗	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	3-12 in.	Average	Low maintenance
Pale-leaved Sunflower 🌿 🌸 🦋	<i>Helianthus decapetalus</i>	4-6 ft.	Dry-Wet	Low maintenance



Cardinal flower
(*Lobelia cardinalis*)



Eastern coneflower
(*Echinacea purpurea*)



Common milkweed is a host
plant for Monarch butterfly
(*Danaus plexippus*)

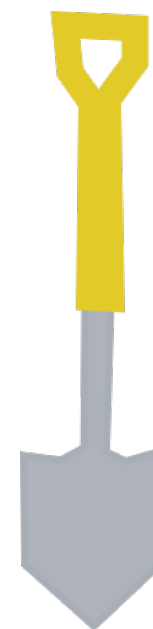
Native Plant Retailers

Retailer	Location	Description	Website
New England Wetland Plants	Online	Offers trees, shrubs, & variety of seed mixes, online /wholesale only	newp.com
Native Plant Trust Garden in the Woods	Framingham, MA	Nursery, garden shop, trails, and classes available	nativeplanttrust.org
Native Plant Trust Nasami Farm	Whately, MA	Nursery with extensive native plant options & expert staff	nativeplanttrust.org
City Natives	Mattapan, MA	The Trustee's native plant nursery, check website to see when plant sales are taking place	thetrustees.org/place/city-natives/
Blue Stem Natives	Norwell, MA	Nursery offers a variety of plants & seed mixes, online shopping	bluestemnatives.com
Weston Nurseries	Hopkinton, MA	Offers both native and non-native options, in-store resources for native plant shopping	westonnurseries.com
Fairbanks Garden Club Annual Plant Sale (local!)	Dedham, MA	Typically, in May, this is an annual plant sale offered by our local gardening club	fairbanksgarden.club



Additional Resources

Resource	Brief Description	Link to Resource
Town of Arlington: Sustainable Landscape Handbook	A comprehensive guide to maintaining an environmentally friendly landscape	Available for download on the Arlington, MA Planning Page
University of New Hampshire: Landscaping at the Water's Edge Handbook	A guide to landscape design for water quality and wetland protection	https://extension.unh.edu/resource/landscaping-waters-edge-book
North American Native Plant Society: Create a Pollinator Garden	A beginner's guide to creating a pollinator garden in your backyard!	https://nanps.org/wp-content/uploads/NANPS-How-to-Create-a-Pollinator-Garden.pdf
Cornell University: Woody Shrubs for Stormwater Retention Practices	An introduction to types of stormwater management BMPs and suggested plantings for these stormwater features	https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain/soak-rain-rain-gardens
Grow Native MA	Annual plant sale & guide to native landscaping	https://grownativemass.org/
MDAR Choosing Pollinator Friendly Plants	Database of pollinator plants, landscape toolkits, and calendar of events	https://www.mass.gov/info-details/choosing-pollinator-friendly-native-plants-in-home-gardening-or-landscaping



Interested in learning more about native plants? Contact the Dedham Conservation Division:

Town of Dedham Planning Zoning & Natural Resources

Conservation Division

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