

## Native Plant Lists

Native plants provide a variety of benefits to Cary's environment and community in general. They provide home and food for birds, bees, and butterflies. They help clean the air and water, combat climate change and support biodiversity. Even planting a few native plants in your yard can make a big difference, providing critical food for migrating songbirds, supporting rare butterflies, or just making the bright red Carolina Cardinals happy!

Below are lists of native plants that you can use to help you decide which plants to add to your yard. You can also print this list and bring it to your local nursery to help guide your selection of native plants to adopt and bring home. And remember to buy extra soil! Native plants love being planted in rich, brown topsoil.

## Upperstory (or shade) Trees

These trees typically grow between 30-90 feet tall, depending on the individual tree. Large trees provide big benefits. Planting them on the east, south or west of your house can reduce your energy costs during the summer. Planting them in your yard can reduce flooding and improve drainage. One large native tree can host over 200 species of butterflies and moths, bringing lots of color to your yard. Not to mention, large trees are essential homes for birds, which fill your yard with song!

Species Name	Common Name	Evergreen or Deciduous	Light Needs
<i>Acer floridanum (barbatum)</i>	Sugar Maple	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Sugarberry	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	Deciduous	Part shade or shade
<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	American Yellowwood	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade

<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech	Deciduous	Part shade or shade
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo, Maiden Tree	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Gum, Tupelo	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Oxydendrum arboretum</i>	Sourwood	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	American Sycamore	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern Cottonwood	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Southern Red Oak	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Overcup Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Swamp Chestnut Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus nuttallii</i>	Nuttal Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Shumard Oak	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade

<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak	Deciduous	Part shade or shade
<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	Pond Cypress	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Tillia americana</i>	American Linden	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ulmus alata</i>	Winged elm	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American elm (Dutch Elm Disease resistant variety)	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red Cedar	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia	Evergreen	Sun or shade
<i>Pinus eliotti</i>	Slash Pine	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Pinus palustris</i>	Longleaf Pine	Evergreen	Full sun
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Loblolly Pine	Evergreen	Full sun
<i>Quercus hemisphaerica</i>	Laurel Oak	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Sothern Live Oak	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade

## Understory tree

Understory trees live beneath the canopy and provide interest for us at ground level. They often have beautiful flowers or provide interesting bark. These trees typically reach maximum heights of about 30 feet, although some stay much smaller. They are an important component of the forest, and a good addition to any yard or garden.

Species Name	Common Name	Evergreen or Deciduous	Light Needs
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Downy Serviceberry	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>	Apple Serviceberry	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Carpinus carolinana</i>	American Hornbeam	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	American Fringe Tree	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Cornus florida</i>	American Dogwood	Deciduous	Part shade or shade
<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	American Smoketree	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	Washington Hawthorn	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Crataegus virdis</i>	Green Hawthorn	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	American Persimmon	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	American Witchhazel	Deciduous	Sun or shade

<i>Ilex decidua</i>	Possumhaw Holly	Deciduous	Sun or shade
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Ironwood, Hop-hornbeam	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	American Sassafras	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Styrax americana</i>	American Snowbell	Deciduous	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex cassine</i>	Dahoon Holly	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon Holy	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay Magnolia	Evergreen	Full sun or part shade

### **Understory Plants**

Understory plants are plants which grown on the bottom layer of the forest and include everything which is not a tree! These plants provide essential habitat for birds that live and eat near the ground, as well as being beautiful. The plants in this list below include shrubs, ornamental vines, grasses, and groundcovers.

Species Name	Common Name	Evergreen or Deciduous	Type of Plant	Light Needs
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyreleaf Sage	Deciduous	Ground cover	Sun or shade
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Blue-Eyed Grass	Deciduous	Ground cover	Sun or shade

<i>Carex laxiculmis</i>	Creeping Sedge	Evergreen	Ground cover	Part shade or shade
<i>Carex plantaginea</i>	Broadleaf Sedge	Evergreen	Ground cover	Part shade or shade
<i>Hypericum stragulum</i>	Dense St. Johnswort	Evergreen	Ground cover	Full sun or part shade
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Creeping Juniper	Evergreen	Ground cover	Full sun or part shade
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Moss Phlox	Evergreen	Ground cover	Full sun or part shade
<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	Red Buckeye	Deciduous	Shrub	Sun or shade
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American Beauty Berry	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	Ti-ti	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	Dwarf Fothergilla	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	Witch-Alder	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Smooth Hydrangea	Deciduous	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Oakleaf Hydrangea	Deciduous	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Hypericum densiflorum</i>	Dense St. Johnswort	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Hypericum prolificum</i>	Shrubby St. Johnswort	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> , <i>Winterberry</i>	Winterberry	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade

<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virgina Sweetspire	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spice Bush	Deciduous	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Rhododendron (native deciduous)</i>	Rhododendron (Native)	Deciduous	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina Rose	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Mapleleaf Viburnum	Deciduous	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Viburnum nudum</i>	Possum Haw Viburnum	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw Viburnum	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Zenobia pulverulenta</i>	Dusty Zenobia	Deciduous	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Agarista populifolia</i>	Fetterbush	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'</i>	Dwarf Yaupon Holly	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade

<i>Ilex x attenuata</i> 'Fosteri' or 'Savannah'	Foster or Savannah Holly	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Illicium parviflorum</i>	Anise Tree	Evergreen	Shrub	Part shade or shade
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Wax Myrtle	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Osmanthus americanus</i>	American Tea Olive	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	Dwarf Viburnum, Walter's Viburnum	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	Needle Yucca	Evergreen	Shrub	Full sun or part shade
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Crossvine	Deciduous	Vine	Full sun or part shade
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	Trumpet Vine	Deciduous	Vine	Full sun or part shade
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper	Deciduous	Vine	Full sun or part shade
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Passion Flower, Maypop	Deciduous	Vine	Full sun or part shade
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Carolina Jessamine	Evergreen	Vine	Full sun or part shade
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Trumpet Honeysuckle	Evergreen	Vine	Full sun or part shade



## **Invasive Species**

An invasive species is a species which is not native to a particular ecosystem, and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. Many of the plants which were (and sometimes are) planted in Cary's landscape are invasive species. Ideally, remove and replace them with native species. The lists below will help you identify which species in your yard may be invasive and, therefore, good ones to remove.

### **Additional Invasive Species Lists:**

1. [North Carolina Invasive Plant Council](#)
2. [Invasive Plant Atlas](#)

<b>Prohibited Planting List</b>	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Amur Maple
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Carpet Bugle
<i>Berberis spp</i>	Barberry Species
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush
<i>Cupressus x leylandii</i>	Leyland Cypress
<i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i>	Asian Beautyberry
<i>Elaeagnus spp</i>	Elaeagnus Species
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Burning Bush
<i>Euonymus fortunei var. coloratus</i>	Winter creeper
<i>Fraxinus spp</i>	Ash trees- includes green ash, white ash, etc
<i>Hedera canariensis</i>	Algerian Ivy
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy
<i>Kolreuteria paniculata</i>	Golden Raintree
<i>Lespedeza thunbergii, bicolor, cuneta</i>	Lesbedesia, non-native
<i>Ligustrum species</i>	Privet
<i>Liriope muscari, spicatum</i>	Liriope Species
<i>Lonicera spp</i>	Non-native Honeysuckle
<i>Mahonia spp</i>	Mahonia
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Chinese silvergrass
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Heavenly Bamboo
<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	Mondo Grass

<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	Boston Ivy
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur Cork Tree
<i>Photinia x faseri</i>	Fraser photinia
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London Planetree
<i>Pyracantha coccinea, koidzumii</i>	Firethorn species
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Bradford or Callery Pear
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Sawtooth Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak
<i>Raphiolepis umbellata (R. indica), India Hawthorn</i>	Indian Hawthorn
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm, Lacebark Elm
<i>Vinca major, minor</i>	Periwinkle Species
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Zelkova