

Recommended Native Plants for Landscaping

Suggestions made by Putnam County Remove Invasive Plants, PC RIP
Developed 2021

With this list of suggested plants, we hope to limit the installation of common invasive plants in landscapes. This list is not all inclusive. Most of these plants are readily available at local nurseries.

Plants are listed in alphabetical order via their scientific name. Scientific names are provided because some confusion can be developed when utilizing common names.

Native Flowers

There are numerous native flowers that would be great additions to a landscape. A couple of excellent resources include:

- Landscaping with Plants Native to Indiana, Indiana Native Plant Society, <https://indiananativeplants.org/wp-content/uploads/LandscapingPlants070312.pdf>
- Recommended Indiana-native Plants for Attracting Pollinators, Purdue Extension, POL-6-W, <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/POL-6/POL-6.pdf>

Ground Cover & Vines

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Flower	Comments
<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>	Woolly dutchman's pipevine	Vines up to 30'	White	Ideal for woods edge. Heart shaped leaves. Host to pipevine swallowtail butterfly
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Wild ginger	<1'	Maroon	Shade tolerant
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Crossvine/Trumpet flower	Vines up to 50'	Orange-red	Ideal for woods edge, can be aggressive
<i>Carex</i> spp.	Sedge	3'		Has an attractive seedhead.
<i>Clematis viorna</i>	Vasevine, leatherflower	Vines up to 6'	Purple	Ideal for woodlands – difficult to find in nursery trade.
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper	Vines up to 50'	White	Shade and salt tolerant. Can be difficult to remove. Red fall color
<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	Jacob's ladder	1 ½'	Blue-purple	Shade tolerant
<i>Sedum ternatum</i>	Wild stonecrop	<1'	White	Shade tolerant
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Blue-eyed grass	<1'	Blue	Shade tolerant

Shrubs

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Flower	Comments
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry	2'-4'	White	
<i>Caenothus americanus</i>	New Jersey Tea	1'-3'	White	Protect from rabbits
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush	6'-12'	White	Loved by butterflies
<i>Cornus americana</i>	American Hazelnut	10'-16'	Brown	Variable fall color
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Common Witchhazel	15'-20'	White & Pink	Yellow fall color
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Smooth Hydrangea		White & Pink	
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry	6'-15'	White	Need male & female plants to ensure fruit production
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush	6'-12'	Yellow	Need male & female plants to ensure fruit production
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark	5'-8'	White	
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	2'-4'	Yellow	
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac	2'-6'	Yellow	
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	American Elderberry	5'-12'	White	Yellow fall color
<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	Coralberry	3'-6'	White	
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Mapleleaf Viburnum	4'-6'	White	
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum	3'-9'	White	
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry Viburnum	14'-16'	White	Variable fall color
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw Viburnum	12'-15'	White	Variable fall color

Small Trees – 35' or under in height

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Width	Flower	Comments
<i>Amelanchier species</i>	Serviceberry	25	15	White	Birds love the berries
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam	35	35	Green	Temperamental/delicate
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud	30	35	Pink/white	
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood	30	30	White	Partial shade only
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood	15	12	White	Spreading/weeping
<i>Crataegus spp</i>	Hawthorn	35	35	Variety	

Tall Trees – Over 35' in height

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Width	Flower	Comments
<i>Acer X freemanii</i>	Freeman's Maple	70		Yellow	Red fall color – this is a hybrid between red and silver maple trees
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	75	70	Yellow	
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	80	70	Yellow	
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio Buckeye	70	50	Yellow	Large nuts – not edible
<i>Carya spp.</i>	Hickory	80	35	Green	Large nuts
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech	75	80	Yellow & Brown	Prefers at least partial shade, produces beech nuts
<i>Gleditsia triacanthose</i>	Thornless Honeylocust	80	70	Pale Green	Large fruit pods
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky Coffee tree	75	65	Whitish Green	Large fruit pods
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar	90	50	Yellow	
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Blackgum	60		Green	Fruit is blue
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Eastern Hophornbeam	40	30	Green	Temperamental/delicate
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak	60-80		Green	Will produce acorns
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak	75		Green	Will produce acorns
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak	70-80		Green	Will produce acorns
<i>Quercus muehlenbergi</i>	Chinkapin Oak	60-80		Green	Will produce acorns

Scientific Name	Common Name	Height	Width	Flower	Comments
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	80		Green	Prone to galls & is high maintenance, Will produce acorns
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak	80	65	Green	Will produce acorns
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras	60	40	Yellow	
<i>Tilia Americana</i>	American Linden	70	50	Yellow	Loved by bees

For additional information about native plants for your landscaping, please contact:

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