

Whether you're providing wildlife habitat or creating gardens to beautify your home, native plants provide many landscaping solutions.

The Indiana Native Plant Society recommends the listed items as the most garden-worthy plants native to Indiana. They are available through many garden centers – look for the Grow Indiana Natives logo – and will grow without pampering as long as you site them where their basic light and moisture requirements are met. You'll find INPS-certified native plant sources and garden designers at buyindiananatives.org.



These lists are not exhaustive but aim to introduce you to reliable, well-behaved natives that you can use decoratively, to attract wildlife, or simply to restore the balance of nature to a landscape. Photos and details of size, flower color, and other attributes are available for many of these plants at indiananativeplants.org under Landscaping.

The mission of INPS is to help Indiana appreciate, preserve, use, and study its native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, and to teach people about their beauty, diversity, and importance to our environment.

We invite you to join this effort by becoming a member. Sign up at indiananativeplants.org, where you'll find information about our spring native plant sale, fall conference, Letha's Youth Outdoors Fund, native plant rescues, garden tours, and regional chapter programs.

You might also enjoy our lively community of native plant enthusiasts on Facebook. Find our discussion group at Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS).

Indigenous plants are a significant part of a region's geographic context – in fact, they help define it. They have proven themselves capable of surviving in a landscape for millennia.

– Michael Homoya, State Botanist
Indiana Department of Natural Resources



NATURAL PLANT COMMUNITIES

Woods Edge (part shade)

FLOWER

Blue star willow
American bellflower

Sweet joe-pye weed
Dwarf crested iris
Blue lobelia
Solomon's plume
Virginia bluebell
Wild bergamot
Sundrops
Stiff goldenrod
Penstemon
Wild sweet william
Garden phlox
Zigzag goldenrod
Gray goldenrod
Aromatic aster

Spiderwort
Bird's foot violet

GRASS

Northern sea oats

SHRUB

Roughleaf dogwood
Witchhazel
Smooth hydrangea
Winterberry holly
Black chokeberry
Ninebark
Fragrant sumac
Elderberry
Arrowwood viburnum
Nannyberry

TREE

Serviceberry
Redbud
Pagoda dogwood

VINE

Woolly dutchman's pipe
Crossvine
Coral honeysuckle

Amsonia tabernaemontana
Campanulastrum americanum
Eupatorium purpureum
Iris cristata
Lobelia siphilitica
Maianthemum racemosum
Mertensia virginica
Monarda fistulosa
Oenothera tetragona
Oligoneuron rigidum
Penstemon digitalis
Phlox divaricata
Phlox paniculata
Solidago flexicaulis
Solidago nemoralis
Symphytotrichum oblongifolium
Tradescantia ohioensis
Viola pedata

Chasmanthium latifolium

Cornus drummondii
Hamamelis virginiana
Hydrangea arborescens
Ilex verticillata
Photinia melanocarpa
Physocarpus opulifolius
Rhus aromatica
Sambucus canadensis
Viburnum dentatum
Viburnum lentago

Amelanchier laevis
Cercis canadensis
Cornus alternifolia

Aristolochia tomentosa
Bignonia capreolata
Lonicera sempervirens

Woodland (shade)

FERN

Maidenhair fern
Ostrich fern
Cinnamon fern
Royal fern
Christmas fern

FLOWER

Columbine
Wild ginger
Turtlehead
Woodland larkspur
Wild geranium
Swamp rose mallow
Blue flag
Solomon's plume
Virginia bluebell
Mayapple
Jacob's ladder
Solomon's seal
Bloodroot
Wild stonecrop
Blue-eyed grass
Indian pink
Celandine poppy

SHRUB

Spicebush

VINE

Vasevine, leatherflower
Coral honeysuckle

GRASS

Northern sea oats
Beak grass
Bottlebrush grass

Adiantum pedatum
Matteuccia struthiopteris
Osmunda cinnamomea
Osmunda regalis
Polystichum acrostichoides

Aquilegia canadensis
Asarum canadense
Chelone glabra
Delphinium tricornis
Geranium maculatum
Hibiscus moscheutos
Iris virginica
Maianthemum racemosum
Mertensia virginica
Podophyllum peltatum
Polemonium reptans
Polygonatum biflorum
Sanguinaria canadensis
Sedum ternatum
Sisyrinchium angustifolium
Spigelia marilandica
Stylophorum diphyllosum

Lindera benzoin

Clematis viorna
Lonicera sempervirens

Chasmanthium latifolium
Diarrhena americana
Hystrix patula

Prairie Grassland (sun)

FLOWER

Nodding onion
Blue star willow
Butterfly weed
False blue indigo
Tall coreopsis
Shooting star
Pale-purple coneflower
Rattlesnake master
Hollow joe-pye weed
Sneezeweed
Western sunflower
False sunflower
Prairie blazing star
Dense blazing star
Wild bergamot
Stiff goldenrod

Allium cernuum
Amsonia tabernaemontana
Asclepias tuberosa
Baptisia australis
Coreopsis tripteris
Dodecatheon meadia
Echinacea pallida
Eryngium yuccifolium
Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus
Helenium autumnale
Helianthis occidentalis
Heliopsis helianthoides
Liatris pycnostachya
Liatris spicata
Monarda fistulosa
Oligoneuron rigidum

Hairy foxglove
Obedient plant
Mountain mint

Yellow coneflower
Showy black-eyed susan

Black-eyed susan
Sweet black-eyed susan
Brown-eyed susan
Autumn goldenrod
Rosinweed
Compass plant
Prairie dock
New England aster

Ironweed

Culver's root

GRASS

Big bluestem
Sideoats gramma
Switch grass
Little bluestem
Indian grass
Prairie dropseed

SHRUB

New Jersey tea
Winged sumac

Penstemon hirsutus
Physostegia virginiana
Pycnanthemum virginianum

Ratibida pinnata
Rudbeckia fulgida var. *speciosa*

Rudbeckia hirta
Rudbeckia subtomentosa
Rudbeckia triloba
Solidago sphaacelata
Silphium integrifolium
Silphium laciniatum
Silphium terebinthinaceum
Symphytotrichum novae-angliae

Vernonia gigantea spp. *gigantea*
Veronicastrum virginicum

Andropogon gerardii
Bouteloua curtipendula
Panicum virgatum
Schizachyrium scoparium
Sorghastrum nutans
Sporobolus heterolepis

Ceanothus americanus
Rhus copallinum

Water's Edge (sun)

FLOWER

Marsh milkweed
Marsh marigold
Turtlehead
Sweet joe-pye weed
Queen-of-the-prairie
Swamp rose mallow
Dwarf crested iris
Blue flag
Cardinal flower
Blue lobelia
Wild stonecrop
Royal catchfly
Ironweed

GRASS

Tussock sedge
Soft rush
Switch grass
Indian grass

SHRUB

Buttonbush
Winterberry holly

Asclepias incarnata
Caltha palustris
Chelone glabra
Eupatorium purpureum
Filipendula rubra
Hibiscus moscheutos
Iris cristata
Iris virginica
Lobelia cardinalis
Lobelia siphilitica
Sedum ternatum
Silene regia
Vernonia gigantea spp. *gigantea*

Carex stricta
Juncus effusus
Panicum virgatum
Sorghastrum nutans

Cephalanthus occidentalis
Ilex verticillata

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NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE

Perennials

Tidy, showy natives to mingle with other ornamentals in the perennial bed

FLOWER

Nodding onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Blue false indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
Shooting star	<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus maculatus</i>
Queen-of-the-prairie	<i>Filipendula rubra</i>
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Swamp rose mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>
Prairie blazing star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>
Dense blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
Sundrops	<i>Oenothera tetragona</i>
Penstemon	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>
Garden phlox	<i>Phlox paniculata</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>
Aromatic aster	<i>Symphiotrichum oblongifolium</i>

Zigzag goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>
Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>

GRASS

Side oats gramma	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Riverbank tussock sedge	<i>Carex emoryi</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>

Trees & Shrubs

Garden-worthy woody natives for solo display or to cluster in a hedge or foundation planting

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crateagus viridis</i>
Northern bush honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Grape honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera reticulata</i>
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>

Butterfly Food

Host plants for butterfly larvae and nectar plants to feed the adults

FLOWER

Marsh milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Tall coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>
Hollow joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus</i>
Sweet joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus maculatus</i>
New England aster	<i>Symphiotrichum novae-angliae</i>

Aromatic aster

Symphiotrichum oblongifolium

Ironweed

Vernonia gigantea spp. *gigantea*

SHRUB

Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>

GRASS

Bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
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VINE

Woolly dutchman's pipe	<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>
Crossvine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>



Bird Habitat

Dense cover and berries offering shelter and sustenance to our feathered friends

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Gray dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Photinia melanocarpa</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
Eastern arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
American cranberrybush	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>

Rain Garden

Deep-rooted natives that enable stormwater to percolate naturally into the soil

See *Water's Edge* plant list

Autumn Color

Natives whose leaves blaze with color in the fall

Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Photinia melanocarpa</i>
Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Winged sumac	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>

Winter Interest

Shapes, textures and seed pods to enliven the winter landscape

Blue star willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>
Sideoats gramma	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Tussock sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>
Northern sea oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>
Roughleaf dogwood	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
Gray dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>

Ground Covers

SUN

Clustered poppy mallow	<i>Callirhoe triangulata</i>
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SHADE

Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>
Wild stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>
White blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>

Erosion Control

Fragrant sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>

Landscaping with Plants Native to Indiana



Indiana Native Plant Society