

Howard County Soil & Water District 2021 Tree & Plant Sale

* * * Trees: Evergreens * * *



Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)

Mature Height: 50 – 80 feet

Mature Width: 20 - 40 feet

Light: Sun/partial shade

Soil: Medium moisture, well-drained with acidic pH. Avoid compacted clay.

Needles: Bundles of 5, 3-6" long; remain for 2-3 years before dropping in fall.

Cones: 6-8" long & slender, remaining on tree for 2 years.

Fast-growing and long-lived, this is the largest conifer native to eastern North America. It needs room but can be used as an ornamental specimen, a windbreak, or in reforestation. Avoid open, windy sites, but is very cold tolerant. Use pine needle mulch over the root zone to lower soil pH.



Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)

Mature Height: 40 – 60 feet

Mature Width: 25 – 30 feet

Light: Sun

Soil: Moist, well-drained, acidic. Does not tolerate poor drainage.

Needles: 4-sided, stiff, ½-1" long.

Cones: 4-6" long, cylindrical, green turning light brown as they ripen.

Native to Europe, this large, pyramidal-shaped, medium- to fast-growing tree is used as an ornamental, in windbreaks, or as a screen. It provides habitat for birds, moths, and small animals.



Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)

Mature Height: up to 49 feet

Mature Width: 10 – 15 feet

Light: Sun/light shade

Soil: Average, medium-moist, well-drained.

Leaves (not needles): yellowish-green, ¼" long with irregular, shorter points.

Cones: oblong, ½" long, singly or in large clusters at branch ends.

This native is conical- to pyramidal-shaped with dense, flat branches. It has a medium growth rate and is naturally found from swamps to upland limestone to lake and stream banks. It is used for windbreaks, hedges, wildlife habitat, and as an accent plant.

* * * Trees: Deciduous * * *



American Larch aka Tamarack (*Larix laricina*)

Mature Height: 40 – 80 feet

Mature Width: 15 – 30 feet

Light: Sun

Soil: Moist, acidic, well-drained. Intolerant of dry soil & city pollutants.

Needles: Slender & green, growing in brush-like clusters.

Cones: 1" and rounded, maturing to brown.

This is a deciduous conifer with green needles that turn showy yellow before dropping in the late fall. It has an open pyramidal shape with horizontal branches. It is native to boggy soils and wet, poorly-drained woodlands, making it useful in a rain garden environment.



Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Mature Height: 60 – 75 feet

Mature Width: 45 feet

Light: Sun

Soil: Moist, acidic, well-drained. Tolerates compacted soil, salt & pollution.

Leaves: Turn russet to bright red in fall.

Acorns: Round & ¾-1 inch long.

This native grows as much as 2 feet per year with a broad, rounded form at maturity. Its acorns are the food preference for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, whitetail deer, and a variety of other wildlife.



Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)

Mature Height: 60 – 75 feet

Mature Width: 40 – 50 feet

Light: Sun but tolerates some shade

Soil: Moderately moist, acidic, well-drained. Tolerates some drought. Should not be planted in a confined area or where salt is a problem. Needs room for its roots to spread.

Leaves: Dark green summer color changes to outstanding display in fall, ranging from brilliant yellow to burnt-orange.

Outstanding native shade or specimen tree.

* * * Flowering Trees & Shrubs Excellent for Wildlife * * *



Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

Mature Height: 50 – 60 feet

Mature Width: 20 – 30 feet

Light: Sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, acid, well-drained. Tolerates road salt and moderately tolerant of drought.

Flowers: White clusters in spring.

Fruit: Small red cherries in a long cluster ripen to purple-black.

Native to Howard County, it is self-pollinating, but also pollinated by honeybees. Food source for birds; larval host plant for the tiger swallowtail butterfly and the cecropia moth.

Leaves, bark, and roots should not be ingested by humans or livestock.



Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Mature Height: 6 – 12 feet

Mature Width: 12 – 18 feet

Light: Sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained, wet. Tolerates wet sites, occasional flooding, alkaline soil.

Flowers: White, 1-inch long ball-like clusters on long stems appear in summer.

Fruit: Hard, 1-inch ball persists through winter.

Native to Indiana and usually found in wetland habitats, Buttonbush is late to leaf out in the spring. Nectar source for hummingbirds and butterflies like the tiger swallowtail. Attracts a wide variety of birds. Larval host plant for several species of butterflies & moths.



Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)

Mature Height: 5 – 9 feet

Mature Width: 4 – 6 feet

Light: Sun, part shade

Soil: Average, slightly acidic, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil.

Flowers: Small pink or white flowers in spirea-like clusters appear in late spring.

Fruit: Reddish, drooping clusters.

Bark: On mature branches, bark peels to reveal several layers of varying color (hence the name Ninebark).

Native to Indiana with green leaves and graceful, arching branches, Ninebark is a good source of nectar for native bees and butterflies like the monarch.

* * * Native Wildflowers * * *



New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

Height: 1 – 6 feet

Light: Full Sun

Bloom Color: Pink-purple

Bloom Time: August-October

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

Family: Aster

This is one of the most colorful fall-flowering natives. Larval host to the Pearly Crescent butterfly and mining bees. Nectar source for a wide variety of pollinators. Seeds are food for small native songbirds.

Complimentary plants: Riddell's Goldenrod & Bottle Gentian. Height may be controlled by cutting back stems in late spring/early summer.



Smooth Aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*)

Height: 2 – 4 feet

Light: Sun

Bloom Color: Lavender, light blue

Bloom Time: September-October

Habitat: Pollinator; Bird food

Family: Aster

Smooth Aster nectar & pollen are attractive to a wide variety of native bees, butterflies & skippers. Its seeds are eaten by tree sparrows, ruffed grouse & wild turkeys. It is adaptable with flowering stems that usually remain upright.



Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Height: 2 – 3 feet

Light: Sun

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: March-July

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden

Family: Snapdragon

Smooth or Foxglove Beardtongue provides interest and color in the spring garden with upright stems topped by clusters of tubular flowers. Stems remain erect throughout the growing season and carry brown seed pods in the fall. Early nectar source for many native bees, including mason, digger, small carpenter, sweat, leafcutter and bumble bees. Seedlings are shallow-rooted and easily transplanted.



Bergamot (Bee Balm) (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Height: 2 – 4 feet

Bloom Color: Pale pink-purple

Habitat: Pollinator

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Mint

This is one of the best plants for foraging bumble bees. It also attracts other long-tongued bees (miner, cuckoo, and leaf-cutting), bee flies, butterflies, skippers, hummingbird moths and hummingbirds. Flowers open continuously during the day, providing ongoing nectar. Foliage is susceptible to powdery mildew, so sufficient air circulation and sun should be provided. Larval host plant for the Hermit Sphinx Moth.



Dense Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)

Height: 2 – 4 feet

Bloom Color: Hot pink

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-Aug

Family: Aster

Also known as Marsh Blazing Star, this is upright and clump-forming. It does better in moist soils than other blazing stars. The flowerheads are cross-pollinated by several species of native bees, butterflies, and skippers.



Rough Blazing Star (*Liatris aspera*)

Height: 1 – 3 feet

Bloom Color: Hot pink

Habitat: Pollinator

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: August-September

Family: Aster

Blooming later than other blazing stars, this one has individual large buttons of flowers that are extremely attractive to honeybees, bumblebees, little carpenter bees, miner bees, and leaf-cutting bees. Butterfly visitors include monarchs, painted ladies, black swallowtails, and sulfurs.



Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*)

Height: 1 – 2 feet

Bloom Color: Blue-violet

Habitat: Rain garden

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: August-September

Family: Gentian

Pollinated by bumble bees, which are the only observed insect capable of forcing open the pleated corolla lobes. One of the last plants to finish flowering in the fall. Performs best where not in competition with tall grasses or sedges.



Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Height: 3 – 4 feet

Bloom Color: Light purple

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird Food

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July

Family: Aster

Attracts many types of butterflies, including monarchs, red admirals, sulphurs, fritillaries, and swallowtails. Both short- and long-tongued bees including small carpenter, sweat, long-horned, digger and mining bees visit for nectar and pollen. Goldfinch feed on its seeds in the late summer and fall.



Tall Coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*)

Height: 3 – 8 feet

Bloom Color: Yellow

Habitat: Pollinator; Bird food

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-September

Family: Aster

Also known as tall tickseed, it attracts a variety of native bees, wasps, butterflies, and skippers. It is most impressive when planted in loose groupings rather than as a single specimen because the various stems sway together in the breeze.



Culver's Root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)

Height: 3 - 6 feet

Bloom Color: White

Habitat: Rain garden

Light: Sun/part shade

Bloom Time: July

Family: Snapdragon

The most common visitors are native bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, and flies. The tall flower spikes open from the bottom upward and give a nice vertical element. It has dark green whorled leaves that contrast with the flower spikes. Goes well with Common Ironweed, Swamp Milkweed, Blue Vervain and Spotted Joe-Pye Weed.



Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*)

Height: 2 – 3 feet

Bloom Color: Yellow

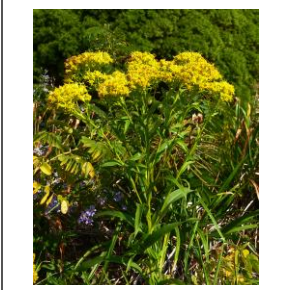
Habitat: Pollinator

Light: Sun/part shade

Bloom Time: May-June

Family: Carrot

Larval host plant of the Black Swallowtail butterfly. Important early source of nectar and pollen for spring-emerging insects. Small bees, like mining bees, are primarily responsible for pollination. Larger bees, flies, wasps, and butterflies visit for nectar.



Riddell's Goldenrod (*Oligoneuron riddellii*)

Height: 2 – 3 feet

Bloom Color: Yellow

Habitat: Rain garden

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: September-October

Family: Aster

Many insects visit for nectar and pollen, including honey & bumble bees, wasps, flies, beetles, and butterflies. Eastern Goldfinch, Indigo Bunting, Slate-colored Junco, and Tree Sparrow feed on the seeds. Goldenrod pollen has been falsely accused of causing human allergies. The pollen is too heavy to be air-borne, but since it frequently grows near other plant species (like ragweed) with air-borne pollen, it has been blamed also.



Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica shrevei*)

Height: 2 – 3 feet

Bloom Color: Blue

Habitat: Rain garden

Light: Sun/part shade

Bloom Time: May-June

Family: Iris

Blue Flag Iris is cross-pollinated by bumble bees and visited by butterflies and skippers for nectar.



Smooth Ironweed (*Vernonia fasciculata*)

Height: 3 – 6 feet

Bloom Color: Deep pink-purple

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Aster

Ironweed is the larval host plant of the Parthenice Tiger Moth. It offers both pollen and nectar. Bumble, sweat, leafcutter, and long-tongued bees come for both pollen and nectar. Eastern tiger swallowtail, monarch, great spangled fritillary, sulphur, and gray hairstreak butterflies visit for the nectar. It has unique, rich dark purple flowers that combine well with any other flower color, especially yellow or orange.



Sweet Joe-Pye Weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*)

Height: 4 – 6 feet

Bloom Color: Pale pink-purple

Habitat: Pollinator; Bird food

Light: Sun/part shade

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Aster

Bees, butterflies, and skippers are attracted to the nectar, although some bees also collect pollen while visiting. It is one of the taller wildflowers in wooded areas. It is often found in habitats that are shadier and drier than other Joe-Pye Weed species.



Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Height: 1 – 4 feet

Bloom Color: Blue

Habitat: Rain garden

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: August

Family: Bellflower

Primarily pollinated by bumble bees, smaller digger, green sweat, and carpenter bees also visit for the nectar. The ruby-throated hummingbird and large butterflies are also occasional visitors. Its blue-purple flowers offer a striking contrast to the predominately yellow native flowers of late summer and fall.



Marsh Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Height: 3 – 5 feet

Bloom Color: Pink

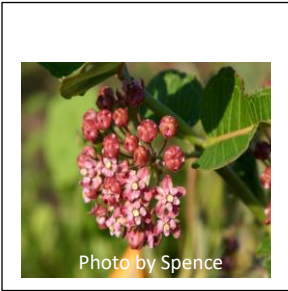
Habitat: Rain garden; Bird food

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July

Family: Milkweed

Also known as Swamp Milkweed because of its preference for a wet habitat, it is the larval host of the monarch butterfly. It is an extremely popular nectar source with many species of bees, wasps, ants, beetles, flies, moths, monarch, swallowtail, and other species of butterflies. Hummingbirds also visit on occasion. Flowers have a strong vanilla-like odor. It has a tall, branching habit, erect flower umbels, and narrow leaves.



Sullivant's Milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*)

Height: 3 feet

Bloom Color: Pinkish-purple

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Milkweed

Also called Prairie Milkweed, this is a larval host for the monarch butterfly. It attracts a wide variety of insects, including bees, wasps, flies, ants, butterflies, skippers, and moths. It is somewhat like Common Milkweed but is shorter and produces fewer flower umbels.



Whorled Milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*)

Height: 1 – 2½ feet

Bloom Color: White

Habitat: Pollinator

Light: Sun/Part shade

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Milkweed

Like all milkweeds, this is a larval host of the monarch butterfly. It is usually a single, unbranched stem up to 2½ ft high with narrow leaves arranged in a whorl around the stem and topped by small clusters of fragrant flowers. Flowers give way to smooth narrow pods like those produced by both marsh and butterfly milkweeds. Many insects visit, including bees, wasps, flies, painted lady and other butterflies, skippers, and moths.



Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)

Height: 1 – 3 feet

Bloom Color: White

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Mint

Its flowers attract a diverse pollinator population, including medium to large bees, wasps, flies, small butterflies, and beetles. The foliage has a strong, clean, mint odor when crushed, which leaf-chewing insects apparently find repellant so that they leave it alone.



Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*)

Height: 1 – 2 feet

Bloom Color: Pale pink

Habitat: Pollinator

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: July

Family: Lily

Its pollen and nectar primarily attract bees, mainly honey- and bumble bees, because other insects don't like to hang upside down when trying to feed. Its nodding flowers are unique, and it is very adaptable to both dry and medium soils.

***** Native Grasses *****



Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Height: 2 – 3 feet

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

This warm-season, clump-forming prairie grass has blue-tinted leaves that turn purplish-bronze in the fall. It remains upright through the winter, providing visual interest. The caterpillars of various skippers feed on the foliage. Skippers look like a cross between a small moth and a small butterfly. The native field sparrow, tree sparrow, slate-colored junco and other small songbirds eat the seeds, especially in the winter.

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: August-September

Family: Grass



Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)

Height: 1 – 3 feet

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

This warm-season, clump-forming grass is a true prairie grass. It forms an arching mound of fine-textured green leaves then sends up slender stems topped by open flower panicles in late summer. These graceful stems move and dance with the passing breeze. Fall color is golden with orange hues fading to light bronze in winter. The seeds are eaten by sparrows and other songbirds from late summer into winter, including the Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, and Slate-Colored Junco.

Light: Sun

Bloom Time: August - October

Family: Grass



Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)

Height: 3 – 6 feet

Habitat: Pollinator; Rain garden; Bird food

This is a warm-season, clump-forming tallgrass prairie grass noted for its stiff, columnar form that retains its upright shape throughout the growing season. It is typically 3' tall, but when in flower, flower panicles may bring the total height to 6'. Foliage is topped in mid-summer by finely-textured branched flower panicles that form an airy cloud. Foliage and flower panicles turn beige in late fall. Seeds feed a variety of wetland, upland, and song birds. It remains upright in winter and forms large clumps, providing cover for small birds and mammals.

Light: Sun/Part shade

Bloom Time: July-August

Family: Grass