

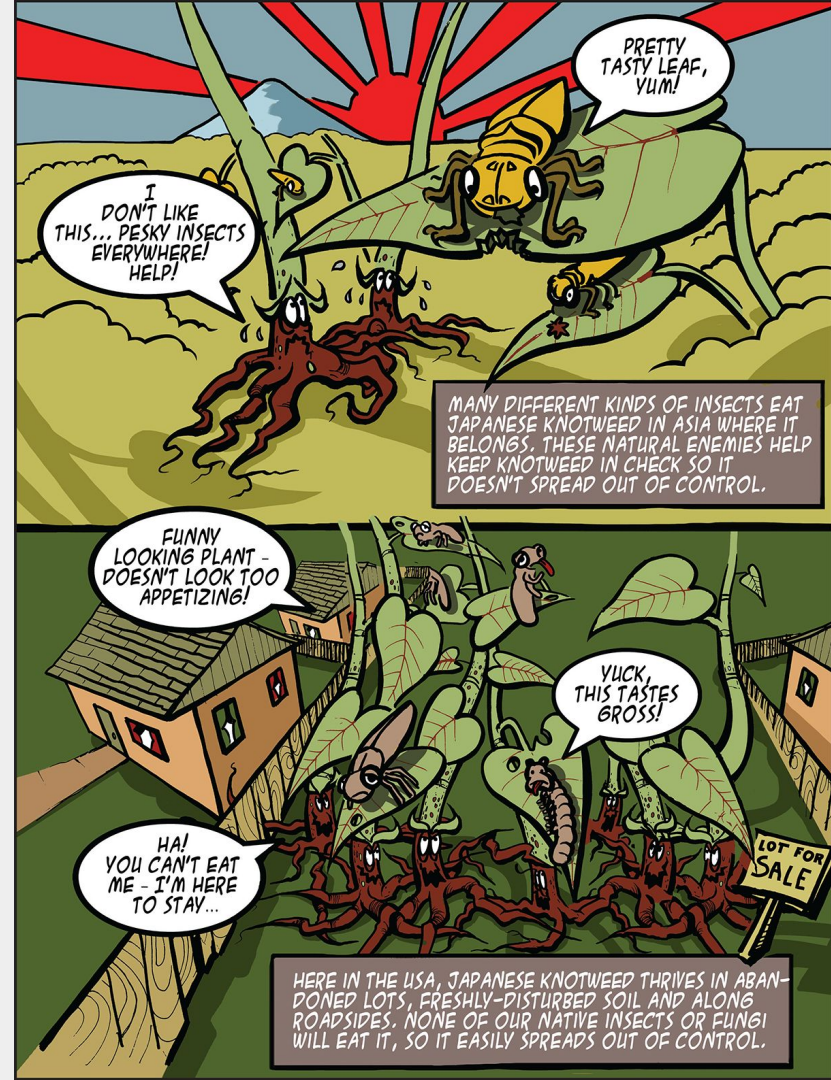
**BIG BOX GARDEN CENTERS
HAVE SOLD US
AN ENTIRELY NEW ECOSYSTEM
NATIVE TO OTHER CONTINENTS
THAT OUR POLLINATORS
CAN'T RECOGNIZE**

pollinator friendly yards on facebook



Native pollinators and other herbivores prefer native plants

Imagine plunking yourself down in an alien part of the globe and figuring out which foods you'll like and be most nourished by and where you'll sleep and raise your young!



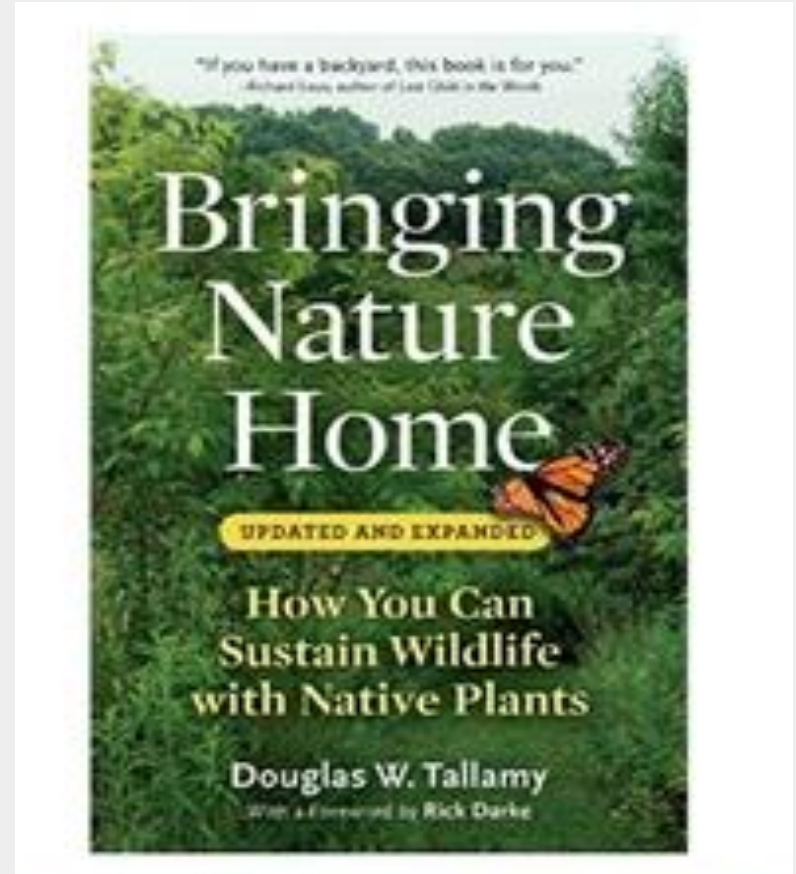
Supplant our pollinators' and
other animals' native food and
habitats...

And the result is fewer birds, bees, other
insects and pollinators....

A downward spiral in our environment.

The “Go Native” movement owes a lot to Doug Tallamy

His books detail how many
species are supported by native
plants in great detail.



Native Plants for Seasonal Interest

Mother Nature's Finest!

Disclaimers.....

This presentation includes plants native to the Atlanta, Georgia metro area.

Plants are presented in order of the time of year they initially bloom; many continue to bloom for months.

There are so many! This presentation isn't by any means comprehensive but resources are included at the end.

Perennials, shrubs and small trees are included in this presentation.

What are “Native Plants”?

Native plants are those that grow naturally in a particular region without direct or indirect human intervention.

Other references place a historical timeline on native plants, saying they are plants that were present in a particular area prior to European settlement of that area.

Native plants include trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, annuals, ferns, ground covers and grasses.

Why are Native Plants important?

A native plant community, left undisturbed and incorporated into a landscape, is **low-maintenance** and **self-sufficient**.

Native plants provide “watchable” **wildlife habitats**. Native butterflies, insects, birds, mammals, reptiles and other animals evolve with the native flora and are sustained by it year round, providing diverse food, shelter and support for native food webs.

Weather extremes, either temperature or drought, have shown us one of the best and most practical reasons for using native plants — their adaptations to local climate. When provided with growing conditions like those of their native habitat, native plants are **dependable** additions to cultivated landscapes.

Ecological preservation is another reason for using native plants. With the increasing destruction of natural environments for urban and agricultural use, many plant species and the animals they support have declined dramatically in numbers and in range.

A casual stroll through a native woodland setting teeming with ever-changing flora and fauna is a **relaxing and peaceful** diversion from our daily lives.

OK, so I might want to use Native Plants in my garden.....

- Which ones will grow in MY garden? (Atlanta metro area, growing zone 7A)
- Where can I find them?
- AND I want color and seasonal interest *all year long!*

Most Native Plants in zone 7A are “woodland” plants

North Georgia is formerly forested, so this makes sense.

Most of Dunwoody has mature native tree canopy, so this gives us a major headstart in creating a Native Plant-friendly garden.

Some Native Plants do thrive in full sun or deep shade.

Native Plants season by season in Woodland Gardens...

The Dead of Winter

January and February

Christmas fern

(*Polystichum acrostichoides*) ev drought tolerant

Crossvine

(*Bignonia capriolata*) drought tolerant

Carolina Jessamine

(*Gelsemium sempervirens*) drought tolerant



Earliest Spring....



Hepatica - the first to wake up!

(*Hepatica nobilis* var. *obtusa*) drought tolerant

Hepatica supports early pollinators

Evergreen foliage provides winter interest when not covered by heavy leaf cover.

Other Common Names: Round-Lobed Liverleaf

More Spring ephemeralsThe Trilliums



(From top L-R)

Catesby Trillium - (*Trillium catesbaei*)

Lanceleaf Trillium - (*Trillium lancifolium*)

Southern Nodding Trillium - (*Trillium rugelii*)

Toadshade Trillium - (*Trillium cuneatum*)

Yellow Trillium - (*Trillium luteum*)

Trilliums range from 8-24" wide, 12-24" tall and are **extremely long-lived**. Trilliums are relatively easy to grow from their rhizomatous root but slow to develop and spread. To make up for it, the plants can live for up to 25 years.

Ann's favorite Spring woodland natives...



Dwarf Crested Iris

(*Iris cristata*)

Nectar for hummingbirds and bees



Wild Red Columbine

(*Aquilegia canadensis*) drought tolerant

Herbal and medicinal value



Woodland Phlox

(*Phlox stolonifera*)

Flowers attract butterflies, including swallowtails, gray hairstreaks, and western pygmy blues. Roots consumed by rabbits and voles.

“Spring ephemerals” (don’t blink, you’ll miss ‘em)



(From top L-R)

Dimpled Trout Lily - *Erythronium umbilicatum*

Bloodroot - *Sanguinaria canadensis* **GNPS POY!!**

Mayapple - *Podophyllum peltatum* drought tolerant

Two-leafed Toothwort - *Cardamine diphylla*



These ephemerals support early pollinators and bees. Native Spring ephemerals grow in shade to partial shade, often in hardwood forest-like settings with rich soil and filtered light in spring, quick to establish in slightly moist areas and on creek banks.

Native woodland trees and shrubs wake up.....

Eastern Redbud

(*Cercis canadensis*) drought tolerant

A Top 10 Native tree! Early source of pollen and nectar



Spicebush

(*Lindera benzoin*)

Red berries in Fall nourish migrating and local birds



And the Queen of Spring Natives....

Native Azaleas (*Rhododendron*)

Early blooms feed hummingbirds,
Blooming in late March and early
April.



Meanwhile, on the woodland floor.....



Dutchman's Breeches - (*Dicentra cucullaria*)

Sometimes known as blue staggers because of its narcotic and occasionally lethal effects on grazing cattle

Jack in the Pulpit - (*Arisaema triphyllum*)

FRUIT: A tight cluster of berries at the base of the spathe; by fall the berries turn **bright red**



Pink Ladyslipper - (*Cypripedium acaule*)

Pollinated by bees, very low pollination level



Solomon's Plume - (*Maianthemum racemosum*)

FRUIT: Very attractive cluster of ~~ruby-red berries~~ in fall.

Solomon's Seal - (*Polyconatum biflorum*)

FRUIT: Pea-sized, dark, ~~steely blue berries~~ in fall.

Fruit is consumed by wildlife. Blooms later than most woodland flowers; fragrant; good nectar source for bumblebees.

Both happily adapts to appropriate garden conditions.

Ann's favorite April natives in the woodlands....

Grancy Greybeard /Fringe tree

(*Chionanthus virginicus*) drought tolerant, Berries feed birds



Mountain Doghobble

(*Leucothoe fontanesiana*)

Flowers attract pollinators,

Evergreen shelters birds in winter



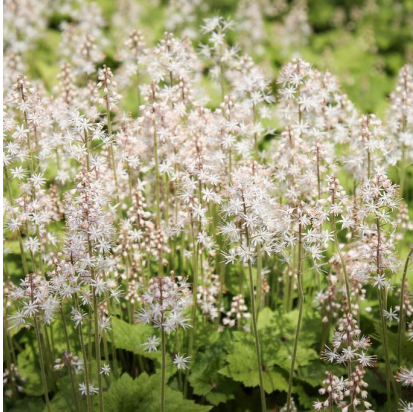
Green and Golds

(*Chrysogonum virginianum*) drought tolerant

Pollen and nectar provider



And then, an explosion of blooms on the woodland floor...



Foam Flower - (*Tiarella cordifolia*)

Flowers can last up to a month, attract and feed pollinators

Tiarella is a **GNPS POY !!**

Rue Anemone - (*Thalictrum thalictroides*)

Flower pollen is collected by small bees.

Grows from small potato-like tubers which can be separated to get new plants.



It's late April and the woodland natives are blooming!

Eastern Sweetshrub

(*Calycanthus floridus*)

Flowers are a **good** source of nectar and feed flies, beetles, butterflies, moths, bees, and wasps. The foliage provides food for several species of aphids, beetles, plant bugs, and caterpillars of various moths.



Mapleleaf Viburnum

(*Viburnum acerifolium*) drought tolerant

Cover for birds, pollen- and nectar-rich flowers, berries



Fly Poison

(*Amianthium muscitoxicum*)

NOTE: This native is highly toxic to humans, pets



And Coral Bells of all colors.....(*Heuchera americana*)



Attract native bees and hummingbirds. The foliage feeds insects and, provides cover for small creatures, and protects the soil.



Evergreen native!

Drought tolerant



Late April and early May...still in the woodlands



Climbing Hydrangea (*Decumaria barbara*)

Climbers provide nesting shelter, flowers feed hoverflies and other pollinators.



Indian Pink

(*Spigelia marilandica*)

“Top 10 Hummingbird Plant”.

Ann's choice for the most perfect woodland Native Plant



Oakleaf Hydrangea

(Hydrangea quercifolia)

Drought tolerant

Simply stunning in Spring,

Summer, Fall and Winter

Flowers are attractive to butterflies and other insects.

Songbirds eat the seeds.

Did you know there's a native MILKWEED for shade??



Redding Milkweed (*Asclepias variegata*)



Copious amount of nectar in the showy flowers attracts butterflies including Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) butterflies, skippers, and moths.

It's Late Spring in the woodlands now - May and into June

Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) drought tolerant

Give it lots of room to grow up to 20'! Mountain laurel's leaves, buds, flowers and fruits are poisonous and may be lethal to livestock and humans. However, white-tailed deer, eastern cotton tails, black bear, and ruffed grouse are known to utilize this species especially as winter forage or during years of food shortages



Bottlebrush Buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*)

Also a big-boy plant, up to 12' Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Warning: Seeds and foliage of *Aesculus* species are poisonous to humans



Beginning of Summer....

Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)

Blooms are adored by butterflies and the seeds are eaten by birds.



White Turtleheads (*Chelone glabra*)

Bumblebees love these!



Moving into the HOT of Summer - July and August



Hardy Ageratum/Mistflower

(*Conoclinium coelestinum*) drought tolerant

This wildflower attracts bees and butterflies. Nectar source. A GNPS POY in 2015.



Carolina Moonseed (*Cocculus carolinus*)

Attractive to birds as a place to shelter when supported on a trellis, and as food.

Woodland natives in the Fall

Eastern Redbud tree - from
purple flowers in Spring to brilliant
red and orange foliage in Fall



Painted Buckeye (*Aesculus sylvatica*)



From lush “bottlebrushes” in the Spring...

To brilliant foliage in Fall



Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)

GNP POY

drought tolerant

Spring



an important food source for birds
and small mammals. At least 10
species of birds feed on the fruit,
especially northern bobwhite. The fruit is
eaten by raccoon, opossum, and gray fox

Fall...



and Winter

Whew!!!! And that was just a small subset of natives in the woodlands.

Native Plants season by season for Full Sun

Year-round beauty: Sumac trees - very drought tolerant

Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*)

Flameleaf/Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallina*)

Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*)

All are important food sources for upland gamebirds, song birds, deer, rabbits and other mammals.



Winter Native Vines -



Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans*)

This trailing plant is sometimes marketed as **hummingbird vine** because its showy blossoms do indeed attract hummingbirds. The ruby-throated hummingbird's affinity for trumpet creeper blossoms has long been recognized.

And “woodland” vines come into the sun...

Carolina Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)

Flowers attract native bees, hummingbirds and Spicebush Swallowtail Butterflies

Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

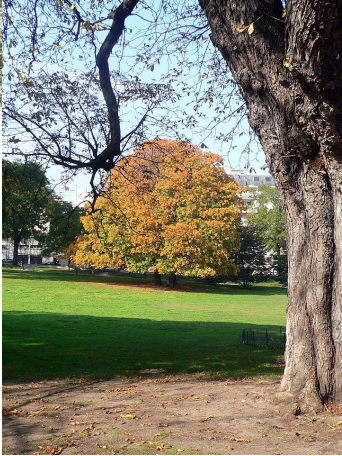
The flowers attract pollinators (bees and butterflies) and hummingbirds, but the seeds of this plant are also a source of food for birds including American robins, purple finches, goldfinches and others.

Sempervirens means “always flourishing or vigorous”



*Like all vines, these
shelter birds.*

Throughout the Spring.....



Creeping Phlox (*Phlox subulata*)

An evergreen nectar-rich perennial that attracts native pollinators including butterflies, bees, moths, and hummingbirds.

Birdfoot Violet (*Viola pedata*)

This plant supports Fritillary butterfly larvae. Host plant for fritillary butterflies. It also supports numerous species of bees.

Painted/Dwarf Buckeye (*Aesculus sylvatica*)

Hummingbirds feed on the nectar from the flowers in the spring. Squirrels eat the seeds. Attract butterflies. Great fall color, too!

Pretty in Spring and Fall...

Fothergilla (*Fothergilla gardenia*)



Larval host for some species of azure and dusky wing butterflies

And in April....

Passionflower / Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*) drought tolerant

Much-loved food for birds

Virginia Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*) drought tolerant

Creeping Verbena (*verbena canadensis*)

Flowers are very attractive to butterflies. Drought tolerant.



More April blooming sun-loving natives....



American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)

Many birds and small mammals love the berries and it is a **host plant** for a number of butterflies and moths, most notably the Cecropia moth, North America's largest moth.

Wild Blue Indigo (*Baptisia australis*) drought tolerant

Flowers are attractive to butterflies, bees, and other insects. This plant is also a **larval host** plant for a variety of butterflies including: Orange sulphur, Clouded Sulphur, Frosted Elfin, Eastern Tailed Blue, Hoary Edge, and Wild Indigo Duskywing.



May explosion!!

Blue Eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*)

Bees visit the flowers for pollen or nectar and seeds are attractive to prairie chickens, wild turkeys, and songbirds.

Sundrops (*Oenothera fruticosa*) drought tolerant

Hummingbirds nectar at the flowers and songbirds eat the seeds. Supports the following specialized bees: *Melissodes* (*Apomelissodes*) *fimbriatus* and *Lasioglossum* (*Sphecodogastra*) *oenotherae*.



Another of Ann's favorite native plants for Spring sun



AMERICAN Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*)

Not your grandma's wisteria that escaped into the woods....American Wisteria grows only to 15-20'.

Host plant for Zarucco Duskywing and Long-Tailed Skipper butterflies. Butterflies nectar at the blooms.

Still coming out in May...

Coreopsis / Tickseed (*Coreopsis*) drought
tolerant

Attractive to butterflies and songbirds eat the seeds.

Evening Primrose (*Oenothera biennis*)

This is a drought tolerant biennial

The flowers of this plant attract a variety of moths. Small mammals eat the roots and leaves of young plants. Birds eat the seeds. Deer graze older plants.



Native Milkweeds!



Iconic of the “Plant Native” movement!!

Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) drought tolerant

.....and her taller sister,

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

The flowers are a nectar source for many butterflies and insect pollinators. The plant is a larval host plant for monarch (which appear in the spring and summer and may have one to three broods in the north and four to six broods in the south), gray hairstreak, queen, and milkweed tussock moth caterpillars. Adult Monarch butterflies feed on nectar from all species of milkweeds.

It's June and it's getting hot in the sun....

Garden Phlox (*Phlox paniculata*)

Garden **Phlox** is a nectar-rich perennial that attracts native pollinators including butterflies, bees, moths, and hummingbirds.

Bee Balm (*Monarda punctata*) drought tolerant

Attracts bees, butterflies, moths, and hummingbirds. Ruby-throated hummingbirds and butterflies nectar from the blooms. **Monarda** supports the following specialized bees: *Dufourea monardae*, *Perdita (Perdita) gerhardi*, and *Protandrena abdominalis*.



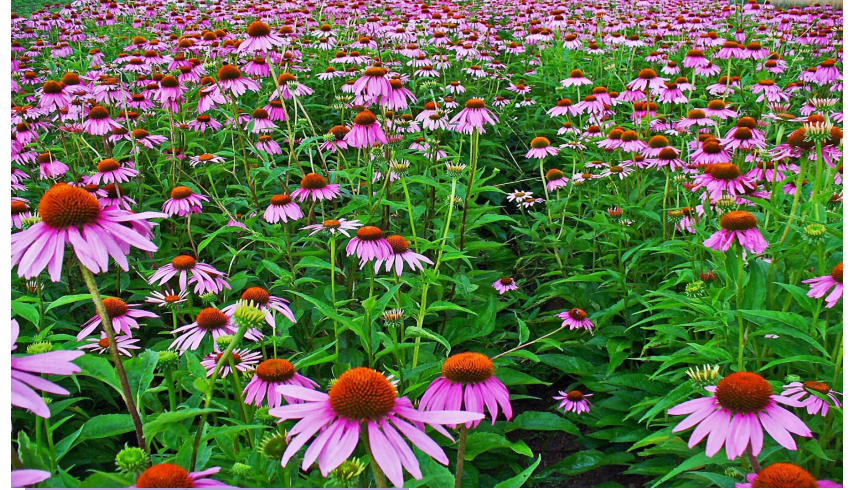
Monarda gets up to 6' tall

The Heavy-lifters of Sunny Summer Natives...



Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia*) drought tolerant

Attracts bees, butterflies, and other pollinators with nectar and pollen in the blooms. This is a **larval host plant** for Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*) caterpillars



Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
drought tolerant

Attractive to bees, butterflies and other pollinators. This plant supports Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*) larvae.

It's July and soooooooooo hot.



Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Shrub up to 6' in height. Bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds use flowers. Many birds and mammals eat the fruit.

Virgin's Bower Clematis (*Clematis virginiana*)

Hummingbirds and bees seek out the nectar.

Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*)

Songbirds, ground birds, small mammals, and browsers use this plant for food, cover, and nesting sites.

Fall is coming.....

Georgia Asters (*Symphyotrichum georgianum*)

Georgia asters are rare and endangered.



Goldenrod (*Solidago*) drought tolerant

Many insects feed on the nectar and pollen including bees, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, and butterflies. Praying mantis might be found on these flowers, seeking to eat the insects that it attracts.



Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
drought tolerant

Thirty species of birds, including chickadees, woodpeckers, robins, catbirds, warblers, and bluebirds relish the dark blue berries in autumn.



Fall is beautiful!



Purple Muhly Grass (*Muhlenbergia*) drought tolerant

Planted in groupings, Muhly grass creates shelter for small creatures including butterflies, who like to hang from **grasses** in a rainstorm or at night for protection. Songbirds love the seeds produced in the fall, and may even pluck dead stems to use in building their nests.

Spiked Gayfeather /Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*) drought tolerant

Attractive to butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. Larval forms of *Schinia sanguinea* (**Liatris** Flower Moth) feed on the flowers and seeds, and the larval form of *Carmenta anthracipennis* (**Liatris** Borer Moth) eat the stems. Goldfinches eat the seeds with relish.



So....When the Opportunity Arises.....

Instead of privet..



Plant Southern Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*)ev



© 2006 David Stang <http://Zipporah.com>

Or...

Tea Olive (*Osmanthus americanus*) ev

Birds nest here and the flowers smell delicious!



Leucothoe (*Agarista populifolia*) ev

Attractive to bees, butterflies and other pollinators. It provides good cover, especially in the winter.



Instead of planting Japanese Honeysuckle, plant these....

Carolina
Jessamine

(Gelsemium sempervirens)



Cross
Vine

(Bignonia cpreolata)



Coral
Honeysuckle

(Lonicera sempervirens)



Instead of planting Japanese or Chinese Wisteria...choose:

American Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*)



Or Passion Flower Vine (*Passiflora incarnata*)



Instead of Boxwood, plant some of these....

Dwarf Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) ev



Evergreen Blueberry (*Vaccinium darrowii*)
ev



Get rid of the Nandinas and plant:

Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)



Deciduous Holly (*Ilex decidua*)



Pull up that English Ivy and try

Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)



Foam Flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*, *T. Wherryi*)
ev



Instead of

Burning Bush



Try:

Fothergilla (*Fothergilla major* 'Mt Airy')



And instead of big box azaleas....there are so many options!!

Native Azaleas (*Rhododendron canescens*,
R. arborescens)



Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) ev



And.....

Evergreen Rhododendrons

(*Rhododendron maximum*, *R minus*) ev



Mountain Fetterbush (*Pieris floribunda*) ev



Skip the Crepe Myrtles, and opt for.....

Sumacs (*Rhus*)



Viburnums

(*Viburnum
acerifolium*)



Pepperbush

(*Clethra alnifolia*)



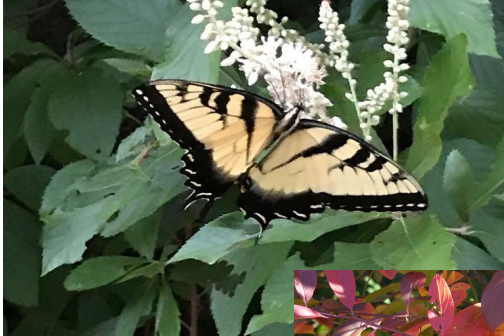
SmokeTree

(*Cotinus obovata*)



But I wanna Butterfly Bush... Try these instead!

Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)



Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

With swallowtail

Caterpillar!



When those Red Tip Photinias finally succumb.....

Try Anise (*Illicium floridatum*) ev



Or Carolina Cherry Laurel (*Prunus caroliniana*) ev



I know Leyland Cypresses are bad...what CAN I plant?

Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) ev

Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) ev

Eastern Arbovitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) ev



Uhhh, I have a **BRADFORD PEAR**... Replace it with....

Native Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)

White Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* 'Texas White')

Grancy Greybeard /

Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)



Instead of Japanese pachysandra...



Allegheny Pachysandra (*pachysandra procumbens*)



What about large grasses? Try these.....

Switch Grass (*Panicum virgatum*)



Pink Muhly Grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)



Is there a Native Clematis or clematis-like vine??

Yes! Try Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*)



Or try Passion Flower Vine (*Passiflora incarnata*)



Resources

Georgia Native Plant Society - <https://gnps.org/georgias-native-plants/sources-native-plants/>

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center - <https://www.wildflower.org/>

Doug Tallamy - <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/tallamys-hub-1>

Ellen Honeycutt, Using Georgia Native Plants - <http://usinggeorgianativeplants.blogspot.com/>