Delaware Native Plants for Communities of Kent and Sussex Counties
A selection of plants for Wildlife and the Watershed

→ **Recommended for a Rain Garden**

Trees	Wildlife Notes *Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds	Mature Size	Soil Conditions	Sunlight
American Holly *Ilex opaca*	Winter fruit for birds. Female trees have the berries; plant a male & female tree. Evergreen	15'-50' height 18'-40' width	Moist Clay, loam	Full/part sun to shade
Beach Plum *Prunus maritima*	High wildlife value. White flowers in April/May for native pollinators. Fruit in Aug. Fall color	6'-10' height 6'-10' width	Dry, moist Loam, sand (Dunes) *salt tolerant	Full sun
Eastern redbud *Cercis canadensis*	Early spring bloomer; showy flowers.	20'-35' height 20'-35' width	Dry, moist loam, sand	Part sun to shade
Eastern Red Cedar *Juniperus virginiana*	Berries consumed by over 50 species of birds; provides cover. Evergreen	50'-75' height 35'-50' width	Dry, moist Clay, loam, sand	Full sun
Green Hawthorn *Crataegus viridis* 'Winter King'	White flowers in May. Attracts butterflies. Fruit for birds Aug-Jan. Fall purple/scarlet color.	20'-35' height 20'-35' width	Moist, wet Clay, loam	Full sun
River birch *Betula nigra*	Colorful paper-thin bark adds to landscape. Grows quickly.	40'-70' height 40'-60' width	Moist, wet Clay, loam (avoid alkaline soils)	Full/part sun
Serviceberry/Shadbush *Amelanchier laevis* or *canadensis*	White blooms in April; berries June-Aug. for bluebirds, waxwings, etc. Orange/red Fall color.	35'-50' height 35'-50' width **Avoid planting near Eastern Cedar trees.**	Moist, wet Clay, loam, sand (well drained, acidic soils.)	Part sun to shade
Sweet Bay Magnolia *Magnolia virginiana*	Semi-evergreen with fragrant flowers. Provides wildlife cover.	12'-30' height 12'-30' width	Moist, wet clay, loam, sand	Full/part sun, shade
Loblolly Pine *Pinus taeda*	Birds feed on seeds; winter cover. Evergreen	70'-90' height	Dry, moist, wet Clay, loam, sand	Full sun

Common Persimmon *Diospyros virginiana*	High wildlife value. Yellow flowers in June; orange purple fruit Sept.-Nov. Yellow to purple Fall color.	50'-75' height 35'-50' width	Dry, moist Clay, loam	Full/part sun

Shrubs	**Wildlife Notes** ***Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds**	**Mature Size**	**Soil Conditions**	**Sunlight**
→Red Chokeberry *Aronia arbutifolia*	Berries and cover for wildlife.	1.5'-13' height	Dry, moist, wet clay, loam, sand	Full/part sun
Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*	Attracts butterflies. Fragrant flowers in JulyAug.	6'-12' height ***Available in dwarf varieties**	Moist, wet Clay, loam, sand, organic ***tolerates drought and flooding**	Full/part sun, shade
Summersweet/Sweet Pepperbush *Clethra alnifolia*	Fragrant white flower spikes July-Aug attract butterflies and beneficial insects.	6'-12' height 3'-6' width	Moist, wet Clay, loam, sand ***salt tolerant** ***flood tolerant**	Part shade to full shade
Red Twig Dogwood *Cornus sericea*	Small white flower produces berries. Red twigs are attractive in winter.	7'-9' height 10' width	Moist Clay, loam ***erosion control**	Full sun/part sun
→Inkberry *Ilex glabra*	Evergreen shrub provides wildlife cove; berries in winter for bird food. Evergreen	6'-10' height ***Available in dwarf varieties**	Dry, moist clay, loam, sand	Full /part sun, shade
Winterberry *Ilex verticillata*	Deciduous. Red berries on female plants provide winter bird food. **(Need male plant for pollination.)**	6'-12' height	Moist, wet clay, loam, sand	Full/part sun, shade
Virginia Sweetspire *Itea virginica*	*Fragrant white flowers May and June. Autumn red foliage.	3'-4' height 6' width	Moist, wet ***Great for erosion control**	Full sun to shade
→Coast Laurel *Leucothoe axilaris*	Evergreen shrub with fragrant, white pitchershaped flowers in spring.	3'-6' height 3'-6' width	Dry, moist humus/organic	Part shade/full shade
Spicebush *Lindera benzoin*	High wildlife value. Yellow flowers March-May; scarlet red berry Sept.Oct. Yellow Fall color.	6.5'-16' height	Moist, wet Loam, sand	Part shade, shade

→**Northern Bayberry** *Myrica pensylvanica*	High wildlife value. Fragrant leaves; waxy berries persist through winter; high fat content for birds. Produces shoots which leads to spreading.	5'-10' height	Dry, moist, wet clay, loam, sand ***tolerates salt spray and flooding**	Full/part sun
→**Eastern Ninebark** *Physocarpus opulifolius*	White/pink flowers MayJuly and orange/red fruit. Orange/purple Fall color.	5'-12' height	Moist, wet Clay, loam ***drought tolerant**	Full/part-sun
Swamp Azalea *Rhododendron viscosum*	Attracts hummingbirds & butterflies. Fragrant white/pink flowers in May-Aug.	6.5'-10' height 6'-8' width	Moist, wet Clay, loam, sand, organic **(acidic soil)**	Filtered sun to shade ***woodland edge, stream banks**
Fragrant Sumac *Rhus aromatic* **'Grow Low'**	High wildlife value. Flowers in March-May; red berry July-March. Red color in Fall. **Male/female plants.**	2'-3' height 6'-8' width	Dry Loam, sand	Full/part-sun
Swamp Rose ** *Rosa palustris*	High Wildlife Value. Pink flowers June-Aug; fruit (rose hips) for songbirds.	2'-7' height ***tolerates fresh water flooding**	Moist, wet Clay, loam **(prefers acidic soil)**	Full/part sun
→**High Bush Blueberry** *Vaccinium corymbosum*	High wildlife value. White flowers April-June. Edible berries.	6'-12' height	Dry, moist, wet Loam, sand, organic **(prefers acidic soil)**	Full/part sun, shade
→**Southern Arrowwood** *Viburnum dentatum*	High wildlife value. Nonfragrant white flowers May-June; cluster of dark blue berries in Sept-Nov. Reddish/purple Fall color.	10'-15' height	Dry, moist, wet Loam, sand, organic	Full/part sun, shade
Adam's needle *Yucca filamentosa*	Evergreen shrub with sword-like leaves; cream color bell-shaped flowers on stalk in late spring.	4' height (flower stalk up to 10')	Dry loam, sand	Full sun

Plants listed may be found at Garden and Plant Nurseries in Sussex County, DE unless noted**

**Available at Environmental Concerns Plant Nursery, St. Michael's, MD (410) 745-9620