

Beneficial Plants for BayScaping in the Chesapeake Bay Region

This plant list is a guide to help you install your landscape plan. There are many more native plants that are suitable for BayScaping. Be careful to avoid invasive plants. Consult native plant lists for your region or your local nursery or agricultural extension agent for additional plants which may fit into your landscape.

LARGE TREE	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	all	75' – 100'	red bloom	sun – ps	w – d	very high wildlife, buffer
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	piedmont & coastal	50' – 75'	catkin flower	ps – fs	w – m	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
Red or green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	piedmont & coastal	50' – 75'		sun	m	buffer
Sweet gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	piedmont & coastal	50' – 75'	ornamental capsule	sun	m – w	wildlife, ornamental
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	all	75' – 100'	yellow-green bloom	sun	d – m	buffer, ornamental
Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	all	50' – 75'		sun – ps	d	ornamental, high wildlife
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	all	75' – 100'	acorn fruit	sun	d – m	very high wildlife
SM. TREE/LG. SHRUB	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Shadblow serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	all	20' – 30'	deep black, edible fruit	sun – ps	d – m	very high wildlife, buffer
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	mountains & piedmont	20' – 30'	pinkish bloom	sun – fs	d – m	ornamental
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	all	10' – 30'	white bloom/scarlet berries	sun – ps	d – m	wildlife, ornamental
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	all	6' – 12'	red-berried fruit	ps	m – w	wildlife, ornamental
Witch hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	all	20' – 35'	yellow bloom-in fall	sun – ps	d	ornamental, borders
Northern bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	piedmont & coastal	6' – 12'	waxy gray fruit	ps	d – w	high wildlife
Common elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	all	6' – 12'	white bloom/purple fruit	sun – fs	d – w	very high wildlife
Highbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	all - acid soil	3' – 10'	dark blue fruit	sun – fs	d – m	high wildlife, ornamental
Southern arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	piedmont & coastal	6' – 12'	bluish-black fruit	sun – fs	m – w	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
EVERGREEN TREE/SHRUB	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	coastal	30' – 50'	red berry	sun – ps	m	cover, high wildlife, orn.
Common juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	all	2' – 30'	blue-black berry	sun	d	cover, high wildlife,
Eastern red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	piedmont & coastal	50' – 75'	blue-green berry	sun	d	very high wildlife
Eastern white pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	mountains & piedmont	75' – 100'	five-needled bundle	sun	d	high wildlife, buffer
SMALL SHRUBS	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos urva-ursi</i>	mountains & piedmont	1'	red berries	ps	d	ornamental
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	all	3' – 5'	white bottlebrush flowers	sun – fs	m – w	ornamental
Inkberry holly	<i>Ilex glabra "Shamrock"</i>	all	4' – 6'	black berry	ps	d – w	evergreen, cover
Compact Oregon grapeholly	<i>Mahonia aquifolium "Compacta"</i>	all	2' – 3'	yellow flower, blue berries	ps – fs	m – w	evergreen, ornamental
Pinxterbloom azalea	<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i>	mountains - acid soil	6'	pink bloom	ps	m – w	ornamental
PERENNIAL	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Wild columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	all	8" – 24"	red & yellow flowers	sun – fs	d – m	wildlife, ornamental
Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	all	2' – 5'	pink-red flowers	sun – fs	m – w	wildlife, buffer
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	all	1' – 3'	yellow to red flowers	sun	d	wildlife, ornamental
New England aster	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	all	3' – 4'	pink to violet flowers	sun	m	wildlife, ornamental
Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	all	1'	yellow flowers	fs	d – m	long flowering ornamental
Wild bleeding heart	<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	mountains & piedmont	8' – 12'	pink flowers	ps – fs	m	ornamental
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	all	2' – 3'	pink flower/seed heads	sun	d	wildlife, ornamental
Mistflower	<i>Eupatorium colostinum</i>	all	3' – 4'	violet-blue flowers	fs	m – w	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
Joe-pye-weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	all	5' – 10'	pink-purple flowers	sun	m – w	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	mountains & piedmont	1' – 2'	rose-purple flowers	sun	m	ornamental
Gayfeather	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	all	2'	purple flower spikes	sun	d	ornamental, wildlife
Black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	all	2' – 3'	yellow flowers	sun	d	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	all	2' – 7'	yellow flowers	sun – ps	d – m	wildlife, buffer
New York ironweed	<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	all	Up to 7'	deep purple flowers	sun	m – w	wildlife, buffer, ornamental
GROUNDCOVER	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Green and gold	<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>	all	4" – 12"	yellow-green flowers	ps – fs	m	ornamental
Woodland phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	mountains & piedmont	6" – 18"	blue flowers, semi-evergreen	ps	m	wildlife, ornamental
Creeping phlox	<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>	all	3" – 4"	semi-evergreen	sun – ps	m	ornamental
Sensitive fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	all	18" – 24"	dried brown spore-stalks	ps – fs	m – w	ornamental
Foamflower	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	mountains & piedmont	6"	white flower	ps	m – w	ornamental
GRASS	BOTANICAL NAME	REGION	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	SUN/SHADE	DRY/WET	VALUE
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	all	3' – 5'	seeds	sun	d	wildlife, ornamental
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	all	up to 3'	seeds	sun	d	wildlife, ornamental
Indian grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	all	5' – 6'	seeds	sun	d – m	wildlife, ornamental

LEGEND

VALUE: Wildlife = provides food and/or shelter
 Buffers = for streamside or riparian areas
 Ornamental = attractive, decorative plant

SUN/SHADE: sun = sun
 ps = partial shade
 fs = full shade

DRY/WET: w = moisture
 m = moderate
 d = drought tolerant