

WILDLIFE VALUE OF NATIVE PLANTS

DISCLAIMER

All plants listed in "Wildlife Value of Trees" and "Wildlife Value of Shrubs and Vines" by Gary L. Hightshoe, are native to the continental United States; however, some of the trees, shrubs, and vines may not be native to the Greater Cincinnati area. For plants native to Ohio see "Native Plants for Landscapes and Restoration" on this website to cross-reference. The Greater Cincinnati Chapter Wild Ones is currently not aware of any list of plants native to our area only.

Also note that those plants listed as having the lowest number of wildlife users, for example, Paw Paw, are valuable nevertheless. Hightshoe's lists refer to BIRDS and MAMMALS and not insects. For wildlife value as it pertains to insects, in particular, Lepidoptera, see the Douglas Tallamy lists. Tallamy's lists, however, are for the northeast USA. Paw Paw trees may have few wildlife users as far as birds and mammals are concerned, but according to Ohio wildlife expert, Jim McCormac, are invaluable when the gardener is trying to attract Zebra Swallowtail butterflies which use it exclusively as a host. The plant is also quite showy and lends a tropical look to northern landscapes AND it produces fruit which are wonderful to eat when ripe. Selection of plants for your particular situation requires thought, study, and opportunities for life-long learning.

The best resources for determining which trees and shrubs are historically native to your particular county in Ohio is to reference the book, *The Woody Plants of Ohio*, by Lucy E. Braun, 1961, Ohio State University Press, available at your local library. For Kentucky see *Trees and Shrubs of Kentucky*, by M.E. Wharton and R.W. Barbour, 1973, Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky. For Indiana see *Shrubs of Indiana* (1924) and *Trees of Indiana* (1932) by Charles C. Deam, Indiana Department of Conservation, Division

of Forestry. These books are listed in Hightshoe's very extensive (sixteen page long) bibliography.

Greater Cincinnati Wild Ones

WILDLIFE VALUE OF NATIVE PLANTS

Aralia spinosa (Devils-Walkingstick)

VERY HIGH: 50 wildlife users or more

Acer negundo (Boxelder)
Acer nigrum (Black Maple)
Acer pensylvanicum (Striped Maple)
Acer rubrum (Red Maple)
Acer saccharinum (Silver Maple)
Acer saccharum (Sugar Maple)
Acer spicatum (Mountain Maple)
Betula lenta (Sweet Birch)
Betula lutea (Yellow Birch)
Betula nigra (River Birch)
Betula papyrifera (Paper Birch)
Betula populifolia (Gray Birch)
Celtis occidentalis (Common Hackberry)
Cornus alternifolia (Pagoda Dogwood)
Cornus florida (Flowering Dogwood)
Juniperus virginiana (Eastern Redcedar)
Pinus banksiana (Jack Pine)
Pinus flexilis (Limber Pine)
Pinus ponderosa (Ponderosa Pine)
Pinus resinosa (Red Pine)
Pinus rigida (Pitch Pine)
Pinus strobus (Eastern White Pine)
Prunus pensylvanica (Pin Cherry)
Prunus serotina (Black Cherry)
Prunus virginiana (Common Chokecherry)
Quercus alba (White Oak)
Quercus bicolor (Swamp White Oak)
Quercus borealis (Northern Red Oak)
Quercus coccinea (Scarlet Oak)
Quercus ellipsoidalis (Northern Pin Oak)
Quercus imbricaria (Shingle Oak)
Quercus macrocarpa (Bur Oak)
Quercus marilandica (Blackjack Oak)
Quercus montana (Chestnut Oak)
Quercus muhlenbergi (Chinkapin Oak)
Quercus palustris (Pin Oak)
Quercus stellata (Post Oak)
Quercus velutina (Black Oak)

HIGH: 25 to 49 wildlife users

Abies balsamea (Balsam Fir)
Abies concolor (White Fir)
Abies lasiocarpa (Alpine Fir)
Alnus rugosa (Hazel Alder)
Amelanchier canadensis (Shadblow Serviceberry)
Amelanchier laevis (Alleghany Serviceberry)

Diospyros virginiana (Common Persimmon)
Fagus grandifolia (American Beech)
Morus rubra (Red Mulberry)
Picea engelmanni (Engelmann Spruce)
Picea glauca (White Spruce)
Picea glauca densata (BlackHills White Spruce)
Picea mariana (Black Spruce)
Picea pungens (Colorado Spruce)
Populus deltoides (Easter Poplar)
Populus grandidentata (Bigtooth Aspen)
Populus tremuloides (Quaking Aspen)
Pseudotsuga taxifolia (Common Douglasfir)
Rhus copallina (Flameleaf Sumac)
Rhus glabra (Smooth Sumac)
Rhus typhina (Staghorn Sumac)
Salix amygdaloides (Peachleaf Willow)
Salix bebbiana (Bebb Willow)
Salix discolor (Pussy Willow)
Salix nigra (Black Willow)
Viburnum lentago (Nannyberry Viburnum)
Viburnum prunifolium (Blackhaw Viburnum)
Viburnum rufidulum (Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum)
Zanthoxylum americanum (Common Pricklyash)

INTERMEDIATE: 15 to 24 wildlife users

Carya cordiformis (Bitternut Hickory)
Carya glabra (Pignut Hickory)
Carya illinoensis (Pecan)
Carya ovata (Shagbark Hickory)
Carya tomentosa (Mockernut Hickory)
Chionanthus virginicus (White Fringetree)
Crataegus crusgalli (Cockspur Hawthorn)
Crataegus mollis (Downy Hawthorn)
Crataegus nitida (Glossy Hawthorn)
Crataegus phaenopyrum (Washington Hawthorn)
Crataegus pruinosa (Frosted Hawthorn)
Crataegus punctata (Dotted Hawthorn)
Larix laricina (Eastern Larch)
Malus ioensis (Prairie Crabapple)
Nyssa sylvatica (Black Locust)
Ptelea trifoliata (Common Hoptree)
Sorbus decora (Showy Mountainash)

INTERMEDIATE - continued

WILDLIFE VALUE OF NATIVE PLANTS

Tsuga canadensis (Canada Hemlock)

Ulmus americana (American Elm)

LOW: 5 to 14 wildlife users

Franklinia alatamaha (Franklinia)

Fraxinus americana (White Ash)

Fraxinus nigra (Black Ash)

Fraxinus pennsylvanica (Green Ash)

Fraxinus quadrangulata (Blue Ash)

Hamamelis virginiana (Common Witchhazel)

Juglans cinerea (Bitternut)

Juglans nigra (Eastern Black Walnut)

Liquidambar styraciflua (American Sweetgum)

Liriodendron tulipifera (Tuliptree) *Note: Host plant to Tiger & Spicebush Swallowtail butterfly.*

Ostrya virginiana (American Hophornbeam)

Oxydendrum arboreum (Sourwood)

Sassafras albidum, (Common Sassafras)

Thuja occidentalis (Eastern Arborvitae)

VERY LOW: less than 5 wildlife users

Aesculus grabra (Ohio Buckeye)

Aesculus octandra (Yellow Buckeye)

Asimina triloba (Common PawPaw) *Note: Host plant to the Zebra Swallowtail butterfly. GCWO.*

Carpinus caroliniana (American Hornbeam)

Note: Host Plant to Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly.

Castanea dentata (American Chestnut)

Catalpa speciosa (Northern Catalpa)

Cercis canadensis (Eastern Redbud)

Cladastris lutea (American Yellowwood)

Cotinus americanus (American Smoketree)

Euonymus atropurpureus (Eastern Wahoo)

Note: provides valuable food for birds.

Gleditsia triacanthos (Common Honeylocust)

Gymnocladus dioicus (Kentucky Coffeetree)

Halesia carolina (Carolina Silverbell)

Maclura pomifera (Osageorange)

Magnolia acuminata (Cucumbertree Magnolia)

Platanus occidentalis (American Planetree)

Prunus americana (American Plum)

Rhododendron maximum (Rosebay Rhododendron)

Robinia pseudoacacia (Black Locust)

Taxodium distichum (Common Baldcypress)

Tilia americana (American Linden)

SOURCE: Native Trees, Shrubs, and Vines for URBAN and RURAL AMERICA: A Planting Design Manual for Environmental Designers

Gary L. Hightshoe

Professor of Landscape Architecture

Iowa State University

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Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

ISBN 0-471-28879-9

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For proper siting of native plants, check out the native plant data base of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center:
<http://www.wildflower.org/plants>

To see how these species grow in the Greater Cincinnati area, see Steve Foltz's website:
www.plantplaces.com Steve is the horticultural director of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden

WILDLIFE VALUE OF NATIVE PLANTS

VERY HIGH: 50 wildlife users or more

Amelanchier sanguinea (Roundleaf Serviceberry)

Betula pumila (Low Birch)

Cornus amomum (Silky Dogwood)

Cornus racemosa (Gray Dogwood)

Cornus rugosa (Roundleaf Dogwood)

Cornus stolonifera (Redosier Dogwood)

Juniperus communis (Common Juniper)

Juniperus horizontalis (Creeping Juniper)

Lindera benzoin (Common Spicebush)

Pinus aristata (Bristlecone Pine)

Quercus ilicifolia (Scrub Oak)

Quercus prinoides (Dwarf Chinkapin Oak)

Rhus aromatica (Fragrant Sumac)

Rubus allegheniensis (Allegany Blackberry)

Rubus occidentalis (Blackcap Raspberry)

Rubus odoratus (Fragrant Thimbleberry)

Rubus strigosus (American Red Raspberry)

Sambucus canadensis (American Elder)

Sambucus pubens (Scarlet Elder)

Vaccinium angustifolium (Lowbush Blueberry)

Vaccinium corymbosum (Highbush Blueberry)

Vaccinium stamineum (common Deerberry)

Vines

Vitis labrusca (Fox Grape)

Vitis riparia (Riverbank Grape)

HIGH: 25 to 49 wildlife users

Ilex decidua (Possumhaw)

Ilex glabra (Inkberry)

Ilex verticillata (Common Winterberry)

Mahonia aquifolium (Oregongrape)

Myrica pensylvanica (Northern Bayberry)

Ribes americanum (American Black Currant)

Ribes cynosbati (Pasture Gooseberry)

Ribes missouriense (Missouri Gooseberry)

Ribes odoratum (Clove Currant)

Salix humilis (Prairie Willow)

Salix lucida (Shining Willow)

Symphoricarpos albus (Common Snowberry)

Symphoricarpos occidentalis (Western Snowberry)

Symphoricarpos orbiculatus (Indiancurrant

Snowberry)

Viburnum acerifolium (Mapleleaf Viburnum)

Viburnum alnifolium (Hobblebush Viburnum)

Viburnum cassinoides (Witherod Viburnum)

Viburnum dentatum (Arrowwood Viburnum)

Viburnum nudum (Possomhaw Viburnum)

Viburnum rafinesquianum (Rafinesque Viburnum)

Viburnum trilobum (American Cranberrybush Viburnum)

Xanthorhiza simplicissima (Yellowroot)

Vines

Minispermum canadense (Common Moonseed)

Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper)

Toxicodendron radicans (Common Poisonivy)

INTERMEDIATE: 15 to 24 wildlife users

Alnus serrulata (Common Alder)

Amorpha canescens (Leadplant Amorpha)

Amorpha fruticosa (Indigobush Amorpha)

Aronia arbutifolia (Red Chokeberry)

Aronia melanocarpa (Black Chokeberry)

Aronia prunifolia (Purplefruit Chokeberry)

Ceanothus americanus (Jersytea Ceanothus)

Ceanothus ovatus (Inland Ceanothus)

Clethra acuminata (Cinnamon Clethra)

Clethra alnifolia (Summersweet Clethra)

Corylus americana (American Filbert)

Corylus cornuta (Beaked Filbert)

Hypericum densiflorum (Dense Hypericum)

Hypericum frondosum (Golden St. Johnswort)

Hypericum kalmianum (Kalm St. Johnswort)

Hypericum prolificum (Shrubby St. Johnswort)

Physocarpus opulifolius (Common Ninebark)

Prunus hortulana (Hortulan Plum)

Rosa carolina (Carolina Rose)

Rosa setigera (Prairie Rose)

Spiraea alba (Narrowleaf Meadowsweet Spirea)

Spiraea corymbosa (Corymed Spirea)

Spiraea tomentosa (Hardhack Spirea)

Vines

Ampelopsis arborea (Peppervine)

Ampelopsis cordata (Heartleaf Ampelopsis)

Berchemia scandens (Alabama Supplejack)

Cocculus carolinus (Carolina Snailseed)

Lonicera dioica (Limber Honesuckle)

Lonicera sempervirens (Trumpet Honeysuckle)

Smilax glauca (Cat Greenbrier)

Smilax rotundifolia (Common Greenbrier)

Smilax tamnoides (Bamboo Greenbrier)

LOW: 5 to 14 wildlife users

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (Bearberry)

Castanea pumila (Allegany Chinkapin)

Cephalanthus occidentalis (Common Buttonbush)

Comptonia peregrina (Sweetfern)

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Cornus canadensis (Bunchberry Dogwood)
Cyrilla racemiflora (American Cyrilla)
Diervilla lonicera (Dwarf Bushhoneysuckle)
Dirca palustris (Atlantic Leatherwood)
Elaeagnus commutata (Silverberry)
Epigaea repens (Trailing-arbutus)
Euonymus americanus (Brook Euonymus)
Euonymus obovatus (Running Euonymus)
Fothergilla gardeni (Dwarf Fothergilla)
Fothergilla major (Large Fothergilla)
Gaultheria procumbens (Checkerberry Wintergreen)
Hamamelis vernalis (Vernal Witchhazel)
Hydrangea arborescens (Smooth Hydrangea)
Hydrangea quercifolia (Oakleaf Hydrangea)
Itea virginica (Virginia Sweetspire)
Ledum groenlandicum (Labradortea Ledum)
Leiophyllum buxifolium (Box Sandmyrtle)
Leucothoe catesbaei (Drooping Leucothoe)
Lonicera canadensis (American Fly Honeysuckle)
Lyonia ligustrina (He-huckleberry)
Neviusia alabamensis (Snowwreath)
Pachistima canbyi (Canby Pachistima)
Philadelphus grandiflorus (Big Scentless Mockorange)
Pieris floribunda (Mountain Pieris)
Potentilla fruticosa (Bush Cinquefoil)
Rhododendron arborescens (Sweet Azalea)
Rhododendron calendulaceum (Flame Azalea)
Rhododendron carolinianum (Carolina Rhododendron)
Rhododendron
Rhododendron catawbiense (Catawba Rhododendron)
Rhododendron nudiflorum (Pinxterbloom Azalea)
Rhododendron roseum (Roseshell Azalea)
Rhododendron vaseyi (Pinkshell Azalea)
Rhododendron viscosum (Swamp Azalea)
Robinia hispida (Roseacacia Locust)
Robinia viscosa (Clammy Locust)
Staphylea trifolia (American Bladdernut)
Shepherdia argentea (Silver Buffaloberry)
Shepherdia canadensis (Russet Buffaloberry)
Stewartia ovata (Mountain Stewartia)
Taxus canadensis (Canada Yew)
Zenobia pulverulenta (Dusty Zenobia)

Vines

Bignonia capreolata (Crossvine)
Celastrus scandens (American Bittersweet)

VERY LOW: fewer than 5 wildlife users

Aesculus parviflora (Bottlebursh Buckeye)
Aesculus pavia (Red Buckeye)
Andromeda polifolia (Bogrosemary Andromeda)
Baccharis halimifolia (Eastern Baccharis)
Calycanthus floridus (Common Sweetshrub)
Kalmia angustifolia (Lambkill Kalmia)
Kalmia latifolia ((Mountainlaurel Kalmia)
Kalmia polifolia (Bog Kalmia)
Magnolia virginiana (Sweetbay Magnolia)
Vaccinium macrocarpum (Cranberry)
Yucca filamentosa (Adamsneedle Yucca)

Vines

Aristolochia durior (Common Dutchmanspipe)
Campsis radicans (Common Trumpet creeper)
Clematis verticillaris (Rock Clematis)
Clematis virginiana (Virginsbower)
Wistaria macrostachya (Kentucky Wistaria)

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Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
ISBN 0-471-28879-9

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