## Dos and Don'ts

- ✓ Do plant native species
- ✓ Do plant pollinator gardens
- ✓ Do plant stream buffers
- Do compost yard waste
- Do plant drought-resistant species
- Oon't plant invasive plants

Did you know that invasive species cost the US an estimated \$120 billion per year in economic and environmental damages?



### RESOURCES

- The Native Plant Society of New Jersey is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the appreciation, protection, and study of the native flora of New Jersey. Find the best native plants for your yard at: https://npsnj.org/
- Jersey Friendly Yards provides details and resources for creating a beautiful landscape including a plant database and an interactive design tool: https://www.jerseyyards.org/
- New Jersey Audubon provides a native plant database as well as tips for providing habitat for birds and other pollinators: https://njaudubon.org/
- The National Wildlife Federation provides resources on native plants and offers a Certified Wildlife Habitat program: https://tinyurl.com/44snyr3d

### **STATE/LOCAL LAWS**

- The Jersey Native Plants Program encourages and promotes the sale of New Jersey native plants at retail garden centers and nurseries: <u>https://tinyurl.com/3xzek6tr</u>
- Native Plant Ordinance: Eatontown: <u>https://tinyurl.com/4fydz23j</u>
- Invasive Species Control Ordinance: Point Pleasant Beach: <u>https://tinyurl.com/p7rtx4b5</u>
- Legislation to Watch: A3677/2807- Prohibiting sale of Invasive Species: <u>https://tinyurl.com/3cp3xkka</u>



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# NATIVE PLANTS



### WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

Native plants have adapted to grow well in the areas where they are naturally found. Over 90 percent of plants rely on pollinators for help. By using and maintaining native plant gardens, New Jersey residents can entice pollinators of fruit, vegetables and other farmed crops. Since the decline of the honey bee population, providing pollinator habitat is more important than ever. Activities, expert advice and opportunities to participate in the growing national native plant movement are available – right here in the Garden State.

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#### Source: NJISST -Easy Steps to rid your landscape of invasive plantshttps://www.fohvos.info/invasive-species-strike-team/



#### **DO NOT Purchase Invasive Plants**

Despite the fact that invasive plants are causing great damage to ecosystems, they are still available at nurseries.

If the public continues to purchase invasive plants, the nurseries will continue to sell them.

If the public demands native plants, they will become more readily available.



Start demanding natives!

### **Remove Invasive Plants** from Your Property

Identify the plants on your property that are considered invasive. They may be planted in your landscape or sprouting up as "weeds."

#### **Techniques to remove invasive plants**

Small plants and weeds can be pulled by hand or smothered by a heavy layer of mulch.

Larger shrubs and trees can be cut down to stumps. Allow each stump to re-sprout and spray the new leaves with a foliar herbicide. As an alternative, dig up shrubs and trees, remembering that small pieces of root can re-sprout. Continue to pull seedlings as seeds may continue to germinate for many years.

**Common Invasive Plants** Used in NJ's Landscape (Complete "Do Not Plant" List at: https://tinyurl.com/46nfmphk)



Japanese Barberry (Berberis thunbergii)



Linden Viburnum (Viburnum dilatatum)



Purple Loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria)



(Pyrus calleryana)





(Miscanthus sinensis)

English Ivv (Hedera helix)



Butterfly Bush (Buddleia davidii)



Grow plants that are *native* to New Jersey

There are many native plants to choose from and a variety of online sources to help you learn about native alternatives to invasive plants. To help you get started, here is a list of commonly available native plants:





Birch (Betula)

Flowering Dogwood (Cornus florida)

Redbud Serviceberry (Cercis canadensis) (Amelanchier)



Arrowwood (Viburnum dentatum) Winterberry Holly (llex verticillata)

Blueberry

Witchhazel (Vaccinium (Hamamelis virginiana) corvmbosum)





Beebalm (Monarda fistulosa)



Beardtongue Christmas Fern (Penstemon (Polystichum hirsutus) acrostichoides)

Some exotic plants have the same common names as native plants. When shopping, check the scientific names of the plants to ensure that they are the native variety before you make your purchase!