Native Plants for Northeastern Rain Gardens

More resources @ MassWildOnes.org
Why native plants?

From Wildflower.org:

"...North American native plants, defined as those that existed here without human introduction, are disappearing at an alarming rate due to human activities, such as urban development, agribusiness and the introduction of invasive species. The loss of native plant communities has reduced wildlife habitat and the genetic diversity necessary for balanced ecosystems.

Unlike many non-native plants, native plants introduced into landscape plantings are hardy, less susceptible to pests and diseases and unlikely to escape and become invasive."
Using native plants and trees instead of non-native plants:

- Saves water
- Reduces the time, energy, and pollution of mowing
- Provides food, nectar, and habitat for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife
- Helps reduce soil run off and erosion
- Gives us a sense of place
Using native plants ... saves water
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Using native plants... saves water
Using native plants ... saves water
Using native plants ... reduces time, energy, & pollution of mowing
Using native plants ... reduces time, energy, & pollution of mowing

Pennsylvania sedge (Carex pensylvanica)
Using native plants ... provides for wildlife
Using native plants ... provides for wildlife
Using native plants ... reduces soil run-off and erosion
Using native plants ... reduces soil run-off and erosion
Using native plants ... gives us a sense of place.
Using native plants... gives us a sense of place in the southwest.
Using native plants.... gives us a sense of place.
	northwest
Non-native vs native

Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*)

Blueberry (*Vaccinium spp.*)
Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*)
Vaccinium

Highbush blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum

Lowbush blueberry
Vaccinium angustifolium

Three types of Cranberry bushes

Several lesser known blueberry bushes

and Deerberry
Blueberry (Vaccinium spp.)

Striped hairstreak butterfly

Brown Elfin butterfly

Spring azure butterfly
NON-NATIVE
Boxwood (*Buxus* spp.)

NATIVE
Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)
A few native plants for your **FULL SUN** rain gardens:

- **Cardinal flower**
  - *Lobelia cardinalis*

- **Canada anemone**
  - *Anenome canadensis*

- **Joe pye weed**
  - *Eutrochium maculatum*

- **False blue indigo**
  - *Baptisia australis*

- **Bee Balm**
  - *Monarda fistulosa*

- **Nodding onion**
  - *Allium cernum*

- **New England aster**
  - *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*

- **Culvers root**
  - *Veronicastrum virginicum*

- **Swamp (AKA rose) milkweed**
  - *Asclepias incarnata*

- **Blue vervain**
  - *Verbena hastata*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sensitive fern</th>
<th>Northern blue flag iris (Iris versicolor)</th>
<th>Wild strawberry (Fragaria virginiana)</th>
<th>Rose milkweed (Asclepias incarnata)</th>
<th>Ostrich fern (Matteuccia struthiopteris)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image5.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steeplebush (Spiraea tomentosa)</td>
<td>Small yellow wild indigo (Baptisia tinctoria)</td>
<td>Great blue lobelia (Lobelia siphilitica)</td>
<td>Marsh blazing star (Liatris spicata)</td>
<td>Purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image7.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image8.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image9.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image10.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A few native plants for your **SHADE** rain gardens:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wild ginger</td>
<td>Asarum canadense</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spring beauty</td>
<td>Claytonia virginica</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sweet Joe pye weed</td>
<td>Eutrochium purpureum</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bloodroot</td>
<td>Sanguinaria canadensis</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>celandine poppy</td>
<td>Stylophorum diphyllum</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack-in-the-pulpit</td>
<td>Arisaema triphyllum</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>white trout lily</td>
<td>Erythronium albidum</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spicebush</td>
<td>Lindera benzoin</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia bluebells</td>
<td>Mertensia virginica</td>
<td><img src="https://via.placeholder.com/150" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wild blue phlox</td>
<td>Phlox divaricata</td>
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</table>
### Where to buy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Native seeds</th>
<th>Native plants</th>
<th>Annual native plant sales</th>
<th>Local garden centers that carry native plants in addition to non-native</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
# Where to buy

## native seeds

- **Wild Seed Project • seeds**  
  Portland, Maine

- **Helia Native Nursery**  
  West Stockbridge, Massachusetts

- **Prairie Moon Nursery • seeds, plugs, and bare root plants**  
  Winona, Minnesota (but they carry plants native to New England)

- **Prairie Nursery • seeds and plugs**  
  Westfield, Wisconsin (but they carry plants native to New England)
### Where to buy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Garden in the Woods</td>
<td>Framingham and Whately, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Monarch Gardener</td>
<td>Ipswich, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helia Native Nursery</td>
<td>West Stockbridge, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Moon Nursery</td>
<td>Winona, Minn. (New England)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prairie Nursery</td>
<td>Westfield, Wis. (New England)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Pollinator Plants</td>
<td>Fairfax, Vt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Thrush Natives</td>
<td>Floyd, Va. (Farther away)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izel Plants</td>
<td>Native plant marketplace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where to buy

annual native plant sales

- Wild Ones chapter annual sale - 2020 date TBD
  South Shore, Massachusetts

- South Shore Natural Science Center - 2020 TBD
  Norwell, Massachusetts

- Grow Native Massachusetts - June, 2020
  Waltham, Massachusetts

- Mass Audubon - 2020 TBD
  Marshfield, Massachusetts
Where to buy

**local garden centers that carry native plants in addition to non-native**

Local nurseries that carry BOTH non-native and native plants. You will have to do your own research to determine which is which.

- Cochato Nursery
  Holbrook, MA

- Thayer Nursery
  Milton, MA

- Weston Nurseries
  Hopkinton, Chemlsford, and Hingham, Massachusetts

- Kennedy's Country Gardens
  Scituate, Massachusetts

- Seoane's Garden Center
  Abington, Massachusetts
Quick note about ‘cultivars’ (generally clones)

Common Ninebark
Physocarpus opulifolius

Common Ninebark
Physocarpus opulifolius ‘Diablo’

Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea

Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea ‘Pink Double Delight’