

Native Shrubs: Guide to Landscape Uses

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Native shrubs can be used to create attractive, sustainable landscapes that blend naturally with the surrounding flora. Landscapes composed of native plants are considered sustainable since native shrubs do not pose the threat of introducing new species to an area. When established in landscape sites similar to their natural habitat, native shrubs require little maintenance, are well adapted to local soils and climates and attract beneficial wildlife to the garden. The information in this guide describes landscape adaptability which may extend beyond what is expected for a species based on its natural habitat. However, these recommendations are based on findings from applied research. For more information contact Jessica.Lubell@uconn.edu

Hedge, screen or border

- *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (black chokeberry)
- *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush)
- *Cornus amomum* (silky dogwood)
- *Cornus racemosa* (gray dogwood)
- *Cornus rugosa* (round leaf dogwood)
- *Morella pensylvanica* (northern bayberry)
- *Physocarpus opulifolius* (eastern ninebark)
Cultivars: Diablo®; 'Luteus'; Summer Wine™
- *Rhododendron maximum* (rosebay)
- *Rhus copallina* (shining sumac)
- *Rhus typhina* (staghorn sumac)
Cultivars: 'Laciniata'; Tiger Eyes®
- *Sambucus canadensis* (elderberry)
- *Vaccinium corymbosum* (highbush blueberry)
- *Viburnum dentatum* (arrowwood viburnum)
- *Viburnum trilobum* (American cranberrybush)



Sambucus canadensis



Above: *Viburnum dentatum*

Left: *Physocarpus opulifolius* Diablo®



Hedge, screen or border continued



Morella pensylvanica



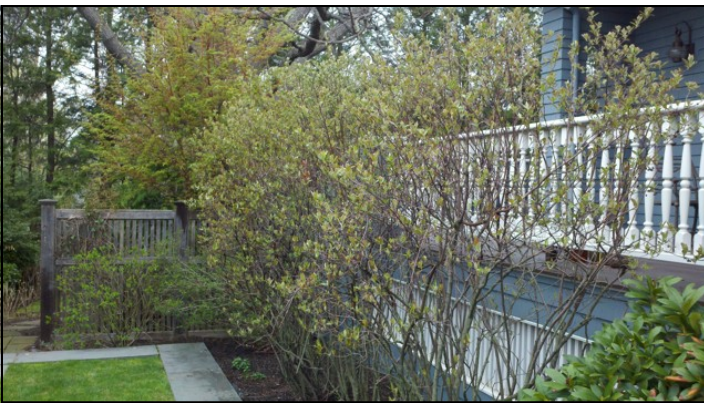
Morella pensylvanica



Cornus rugosa



Viburnum trilobum



**Above: *Aronia arbutifolia*
Right: *Morella pensylvanica***



Low groundcovers

- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (bearberry)
- *Juniperus horizontalis* (creeping juniper)
Cultivars: 'Blue Chip'; 'Mother Lode'; 'Wiltonii'
- *Prunus pumila* var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)
- *Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low' (fragrant sumac)



Juniperus horizontalis



Prunus pumila var. *depressa*

Foundation or low, mass plantings

- *Clethra alnifolia* (summersweet)
- *Comptonia peregrina* (sweet fern)
- *Cornus sericea* (redtwig dogwood)
- *Corylus americana* (American filbert)
- *Corylus cornuta* (beaked filbert)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Eubotrys racemosa* (sweetbells)
- *Ilex glabra* (inkberry holly)
- *Ilex verticillata* (winterberry holly)
- *Itea virginica* (sweetspire)
Cultivar: 'Little Henry'
- *Juniperus communis* (common juniper)
- *Kalmia latifolia* (mountain laurel)
- *Morella pensylvanica* (northern bayberry)
- *Myrica gale* (sweet gale)
- *Physocarpus opulifolius* (eastern ninebark)
Cultivars: 'Dart's Gold'; 'Donna May'; 'Nugget'; Summer Wine™
- *Potentilla fruticosa* (bush cinquefoil)
- *Spiraea latifolia* (meadowsweet)
- *Spiraea tomentosum* (steeplebush)
- *Vaccinium angustifolium* (lowbush blueberry)



Comptonia peregrina

Foundation or low, mass plantings continued



Diervilla lonicera



Itea virginica



Juniperus communis



Cornus sericea



Potentilla fruticosa



Vaccinium angustifolium

Sunny slope (low plants)

- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (bearberry)
- *Ceanothus americanus* (New Jersey tea)
- *Comptonia peregrina* (sweet fern)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Juniperus communis* (common juniper)
- *Prunus pumila* var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)
- *Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low' (fragrant sumac)
- *Spiraea tomentosum* (steeplesbush)

Sunny slope (tall plants)

- *Rhus copallina* (shining sumac)
- *Rhus typhina* (staghorn sumac)
- *Rhus aromatica* (fragrant sumac)



Comptonia peregrina



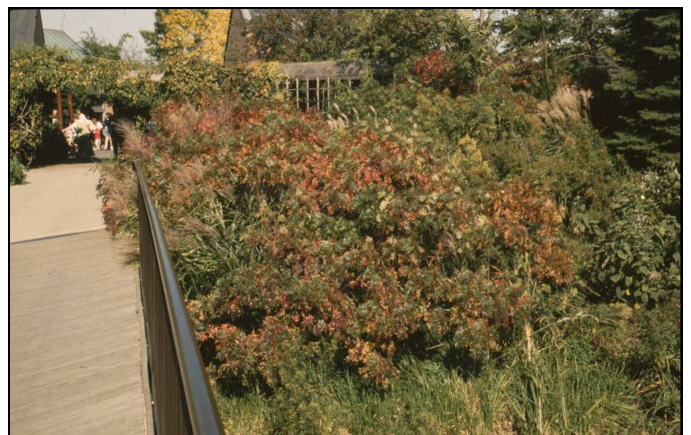
Spiraea tomentosum



***Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low'**



***Rhus typhina* 'Tiger Eyes'**



Rhus copallina

Shady slope

- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Kalmia latifolia* (mountain laurel)
- *Rhododendron maximum* (rosebay)
- *Viburnum acerifolium* (maple leaf viburnum)



Diervilla lonicera

Evergreen

- *Ilex glabra* (inkberry holly)
- *Juniperus communis* (common juniper)
- *Juniperus horizontalis* (creeping juniper)
- *Kalmia latifolia* (mountain laurel)
- *Rhododendron maximum* (rosebay)



Ilex glabra



Rhododendron maximum



Juniperus horizontalis



Rhododendron maximum

Dry, full sun

- *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (black chokeberry)
- *Comptonia peregrina* (sweet fern)
- *Cornus racemosa* (gray dogwood)
- *Corylus americana* (American filbert)
- *Corylus cornuta* (beaked filbert)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Juniperus communis* (common juniper)
- *Juniperus horizontalis* (creeping juniper)
- *Morella pensylvanica* (northern bayberry)
- *Potentilla fruticosa* (bush cinquefoil)
- *Prunus pumila* var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)
- *Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low' (fragrant sumac)
- *Rhus copallina* (shining sumac)



Diervilla lonicera



Corylus cornuta



Morella pensylvanica



Rhus copallina



Juniperus communis

Dry, full sun continued



Diervilla lonicera



Corylus americana



Above and below: *Aronia melanocarpa*



Morella pensylvanica



**Above: *Comptonia peregrina*
Below: *Aronia arbutifolia***



Dry, part shade

- *Amelanchier stolonifera* (running serviceberry)
- *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (black chokeberry)
- *Comptonia peregrina* (sweet fern)
- *Corylus americana* (American filbert)
- *Corylus cornuta* (beaked filbert)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Kalmia latifolia* (mountain laurel)
- *Viburnum acerifolium* (maple leaf viburnum)



Kalmia latifolia



Comptonia peregrina



Aronia arbutifolia



Aronia arbutifolia

Well-drained, full sun

- *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (black chokeberry)
- *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush)
- *Comptonia peregrina* (sweet fern)
- *Cornus amomum* (silky dogwood)
- *Cornus racemosa* (gray dogwood)
- *Cornus sericea* (redtwig dogwood)
- *Corylus americana* (American filbert)
- *Corylus cornuta* (beaked filbert)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (northern bush honeysuckle)
- *Ilex glabra* (inkberry holly)
- *Ilex verticillata* (winterberry holly)
- *Itea virginica* (sweetspire)
- *Juniperus communis* (common juniper)
- *Juniperus horizontalis* (creeping juniper)
- *Kalmia latifolia* (mountain laurel)
- *Morella pensylvanica* (northern bayberry)
- *Myrica gale* (sweet gale)
- *Physocarpus opulifolius* (eastern ninebark)
- *Potentilla fruticosa* (bush cinquefoil)
- *Prunus pumila* var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)
- *Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low' (fragrant sumac)
- *Rhus copallina* (shining sumac)
- *Sambucus canadensis* (elderberry)
- *Spiraea latifolia* (meadowsweet)
- *Spiraea tomentosum* (steeplebush)
- *Vaccinium angustifolium* (lowbush blueberry)
- *Vaccinium corymbosum* (highbush blueberry)
- *Viburnum dentatum* (arrowwood viburnum)
- *Viburnum cassinoides* (withrod viburnum)
- *Viburnum nudum* (smooth viburnum)



Aronia arbutifolia



Cornus racemosa



***Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Donna May'**

Well-drained, full sun continued



Viburnum nudum



Spiraea tomentosum



Morella pensylvanica



Viburnum cassinoides



Cephalanthus occidentalis



Myrica gale

Moist, full sun

- *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (black chokeberry)
- *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush)
- *Cornus amomum* (silky dogwood)
- *Cornus racemosa* (gray dogwood)
- *Cornus sericea* (redtwig dogwood)
- *Eubotrys racemosa* (sweetbells)
- *Ilex glabra* (inkberry holly)
- *Ilex verticillata* (winterberry holly)
- *Morella pensylvanica* (northern bayberry)
- *Myrica gale* (sweet gale)
- *Sambucus canadensis* (elderberry)
- *Spiraea latifolia* (meadowsweet)
- *Spiraea tomentosum* (steeplebush)



Ilex glabra



Cornus sericea

Moist, part shade

- *Clethra alnifolia* (summersweet)
- *Cornus amomum* (silky dogwood)
- *Cornus racemosa* (gray dogwood)



Cephalanthus occidentalis



Eubotrys racemosa



Clethra alnifolia

Native shrub combinations

Cornus rugosa (round leaf dogwood)

Comptonia peregrina (sweet fern)

Juniperus horizontalis (creeping juniper)

Physocarpus opulifolius Diablo® (eastern ninebark)

Rhus typhina 'Tiger Eyes' (staghorn sumac)

Rhus aromatica 'Gro-low' (fragrant sumac)

Rhus copallina (shining sumac)

Ilex glabra (inkberry holly)

Prunus pumila var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)

Viburnum trilobum (American cranberrybush)

Potentilla fruticosa (bush cinquefoil)

Prunus pumila var. *depressa* (creeping sand cherry)

Cornus sericea (red twig dogwood)

Itea virginica 'Little Henry' (sweetspire)

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (bearberry)

Viburnum dentatum (arrowwood viburnum)

Ilex verticillata (winterberry holly)

Spiraea tomentosum (steeplebush)

Places to see native shrubs in the landscape

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Boothbay, ME

Connecticut College, New London, CT

Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery, Woodbury, CT

Garden in the Woods, Framingham, MA

Woodland Trails Wildflower Nursery, Eastford, CT



Wild *Juniperus communis* and *Spiraea latifolia* atop Mt. Megunticook, Maine.

Select nurseries offering native shrubs

Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden, CT

Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery, Woodbury, CT

Fiddlehead Creek Nursery, Fort Ann, NY

Planters' Choice, Newtown, CT

Pierson Nurseries, Biddeford, ME

Prides Corner Farms, Lebanon, CT

New England Wetland Plants, Amherst, CT

White Oak Nursery, Geneva, NY

Woodland Trails Wildflower Nursery, Eastford, CT

