

## Things Worth Knowing!

| Invasive   | Native Alternative                                      |
|--|---|
| Mimosa/Silk Tree ( <i>Albizia julibrissin</i> )                                | Downey Serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> )      |
| Russian Olive ( <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> )                                | Eastern Redbud ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> )             |
| Bradford Pear ( <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> )                                      | Green Hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus viridis</i> )             |
| Privet ( <i>Ligustrum amurense</i> )   | Inkberry ( <i>Ilex glabra</i> )                         |
| Nandina ( <i>Nandina domestica</i> )   | Winterberry ( <i>Ilex verticillata</i> )                |
| Japanese barberry ( <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> )                               | Virginia sweetspire ( <i>Itea virginica</i> )           |
| Chinese or Japanese Wisteria ( <i>Wisteria sinensis</i> or <i>floribunda</i> ) | American Wisteria ( <i>Wisteria frutescens</i> )        |
| English Ivy ( <i>Hedera helix</i> )  | Virginia Creeper ( <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> ) |
| Tree of Heaven ( <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> )                                  | Witch Hazel ( <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> )             |
| Chinaberry Tree ( <i>Mela azedarach</i> )                                      | Fringetree ( <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> )            |
| Golden Raintree ( <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> )                             | Flowering Dogwood ( <i>Cornus florida</i> )             |

| Good Books  | Author  |
|---|---|
| <i>Bringing Nature Home</i>                         | Douglas Tallamy                                   |
| <i>Covering Ground (not Ga. or Native specific)</i> | Barbara Ellis                                     |
| <i>Deep Rooted Wisdom</i>                           | Augustus Farmer                                   |
| <i>Gardening with Native Plants of the South</i>    | Sally and Andy Wasowski                           |
| <i>Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants</i>       | C. Colston Burrell                                |
| <i>Native Plant Propagation</i>                     | Jan Midgley - self published<br>jwildflwr@aol.com |
| <i>Planting in a Post-Wild World</i>                | Thomas Rainer and Claudia West                    |
| <i>The Living Landscape</i>                         | Rick Darke & Doug Tallamy                         |

Cheep Book Sources: Amazon, Thriftbooks.com, eBay, AbeBooks, Alibris

Also see [www.bbg.org/gardening/article/native\\_alternatives\\_plant\\_list1](http://www.bbg.org/gardening/article/native_alternatives_plant_list1) Brooklyn Botanic Garden website

**WEEDS MAKE GOOD READING** Taken from p. 27 *Covering Ground* by Barbara Ellis

PAY ATTENTION to the weeds that are growing in your area, and you'll be able to use what they are telling you. Although most weeds will grow in a variety of soils, here are a few species to look for and the conditions they may indicate. Bear in mind that one or two weeds don't mean much: This technique works best when weeds occur in large drifts. Stunted, sickly weeds may indicate low soil fertility.

- **Bindweed** (*Convolvulus arvensis*). Light-textured, sandy soil that has a crusty surface or hardpan, a dense, nearly impenetrable layer of soil beneath the topsoil.
- **Bracken fern** (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Poor, acid soil.
- **Chickweed** (*Stellaria media*). Deep, humus-rich, fertile soil.
- **Chicory** (*Cichorium intybus*). Rich, heavy clay soil.
- **Creeping buttercup** (*Ranunculus repens*). Moist to wet clay soil that is poorly drained.
- **Dandelion** (*Taraxacum officinale*). Deep, acidic, heavy clay soil.
- **Joe-pye weeds** (*Eupatorium spp.*). Wet or constantly moist soil.
- **Mullein** (*Verbascum thapsus*). Poor, acid soil that is low in organic matter and hasn't been turned or dug recently.
- **Pineapple weed** (*Matricaria matricarioides*). Compacted soil or soil with a crusty surface or hardpan, a dense, nearly impenetrable layer of soil beneath the topsoil.
- **Plantains** (*Plantago spp.*). Acid, constantly wet or poorly drained, heavy clay soil.

## How Many Plants and What Kind?

To calculate the number of plants you'll need to get your ground cover garden started, use the chart below (courtesy of the University of Illinois Extension). Remember, for fast spreading plants, you can reduce the initial number of plants.

| Square feet of planting area | Spacing (in inches) |       |       |        |       |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
|                              | 6 in.               | 8 in. | 9 in. | 12 in. | 18 in |
| 100                          | 400                 | 225   | 178   | 100    | 45    |
| 200                          | 800                 | 450   | 356   | 200    | 90    |
| 300                          | 1,200               | 675   | 535   | 300    | 135   |
| 400                          | 1,600               | 900   | 712   | 400    | 180   |
| 500                          | 2,000               | 1,125 | 890   | 500    | 225   |
| 600                          | 2,400               | 1,350 | 1,068 | 600    | 270   |
| 700                          | 2,800               | 1,575 | 1,246 | 700    | 315   |
| 800                          | 3,200               | 1,800 | 1,425 | 800    | 360   |
| 900                          | 3,600               | 2,025 | 1,602 | 900    | 405   |
| 1,000                        | 4,000               | 2,250 | 1,780 | 1,000  | 450   |

From <http://www.bringingnaturehome.net/what-to-plant.html> by Tallamy

### Best Bets: What to Plant to Support Wildlife

#### Woody Plants

| Common Name  | Plant Genus | Species Supported |
|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Oak          | Quercus     | 534               |
| Black cherry | Prunus      | 456               |
| Willow       | Salix       | 455               |
| Birch        | Betula      | 413               |
| Poplar       | Populus     | 368               |
| Crabapple    | Malus       | 311               |
| Blueberry    | Vaccinium   | 288               |
| Maple        | Acer        | 285               |
| Elm          | Ulmus       | 213               |
| Pine         | Pinus       | 203               |
| Hickory      | Carya       | 200               |
| Hawthorn     | Crataegus   | 159               |
| Spruce       | Picea       | 156               |
| Alder        | Alnus       | 156               |
| Basswood     | Tilia       | 150               |
| Ash          | Fraxinus    | 150               |
| Rose         | Rosa        | 139               |
| Filbert      | Corylus     | 131               |
| Walnut       | Juglans     | 130               |
| Beech        | Fagus       | 126               |
| Chestnut     | Castanea    | 125               |

#### Herbaceous Plants

| Common Name      | Plant Genus   | Species Supported |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Goldenrod        | Solidago      | 115               |
| Asters           | Aster         | 112               |
| Sunflower        | Helianthus    | 73                |
| Joe pye, Boneset | Eupatorium    | 42                |
| Morning glory    | Ipomoea       | 39                |
| Sedges           | Carex         | 36                |
| Honeysuckle      | Lonicera      | 36                |
| Lupine           | Lupinus       | 33                |
| Violets          | Viola         | 29                |
| Geraniums        | Geranium      | 23                |
| Black-eyed susan | Rudbeckia     | 17                |
| Iris             | Iris          | 17                |
| Evening primrose | Oenothera     | 16                |
| Milkweed         | Asclepias     | 12                |
| Verbena          | Verbena       | 11                |
| Beardtongue      | Penstemon     | 8                 |
| Phlox            | Phlox         | 8                 |
| Bee balm         | Monarda       | 7                 |
| Veronica         | Veronica      | 6                 |
| Little bluestem  | Schizachyrium | 6                 |
| Cardinal flower  | Lobelia       | 4                 |

