Healthy Landscapes – Plant List
Native and Drought-Tolerant Plants

Non-invasive Ontario native plant species and drought tolerant plants thrive in local conditions; this means less water, easier care, fewer pests, and less reliance on pesticides. They require minimal watering once established and very little maintenance. Native plants will grow best in your yard if planted in the same conditions that they thrive in nature.

General Characteristics of Plant Species in this list:

1. All species are fully hardy in Guelph’s climate
2. There is an emphasis on Ontario native species
3. The non-native species included in this list are not locally invasive

Native Plants

Plants are considered native, indigenous, or endemic to a region if they originated and are naturally occurring in that region. Many “wild” plants that we think of as native species were actually introduced during European settlement to North America. Plants that are native to Southern Ontario evolved here and have adapted to the regional climate, soils and wildlife.

Plants native to Southern Ontario have vast differences of planting requirements. Therefore if possible buy plants from local nurseries who sell plants with seeds collected from this area. This will ensure that the plants you are using will be best adapted to local environmental conditions.

Using local genetic stock is particularly important if your property is close to a park or natural area. This is because there will be exchanges of genetic material from your yard into these natural areas. By using native species from local stock you will ensure that Guelph’s native plants will remain genetically adapted to local conditions.

In addition to the benefits of lower cost and maintenance, using native plants can help sustain local ecosystems. Ecosystems are communities of plants and animals including the physical environments they inhabit. Creating healthy, sustainable ecosystems will promote the health of them for years to come.

There are many native plants that have ornamental qualities equal to non-native species. Native plants provide food and shelter for native wildlife. The fruit of most shrubs and vines including dogwoods, viburnums, elderberry, sumac, serviceberry, chokecherry and raspberries attract a wide range of birds and small mammals. Tree species such as eastern white pine, hemlock and hawthorns provide cover for many bird species. Herbaceous plants provide nectar for butterflies and bees. Other species are fast growing or have deep root systems that help stabilize bare sites. You will find many native plants to suit your particular needs.

Note: This is just a partial list of native and drought tolerant plants in this area. Talk to you local nursery, visit the Guelph Arboretum or research native plant web sites to learn more about native and drought tolerant plants that will thrive in your garden.
Native Plants

Perennials
Anaphalis margaritacea
Asclepias tuberosa
Aster ericoides
Aster novae-angliae
Campanula rotundifolia
Chamerion angustifolium
Coreopsis lanceolata
Desmodium canadense
Echinacea pallida
Euphorbia corollata
Fragaria virginiana
Geum triflorum
Liatris aspera
Lupinus perennis
Monarda punctata
Oenothera biennis
Opuntia humifusa
Penstemon hirsutus
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium
Ratibida pinnata
Silphium laciniatum
Siphium terribinthinaceum
Solidago rífa
Solidago speciosa
Verbena stricta

Pearly Everlasting
Butterflyweed
Heath Aster
New England Aster
Bluebells/Harebells
Fireweed
Lance-leaf Coreopsis
Showy Tick Trefoil
Pale Purple Coneflower
Flowering Spurge
Wild Strawberry
Prairie Smoke
Rough Blazing-star
Wild Lupine
Horse Mint
Evening Primrose
Eastern Prickly-pear
Hairy Beardtongue
Hairy Mountain-mint
Yellow Coneflower
Compass-plant
Prairie Dock
Stiff Goldenrod
Showy Goldenrod
Hoary Vervain

Shrubs
Amelanchier alnifolia
Ceanothus americanus
Juniperus communus
Prunus pumila
Rosa carolina
Shepherdia canadensis

Saskatoon Berry
New Jersey Tea
Common Juniper
Sand Cherry
Carolina Rose
Buffaloberry

Trees
Acer rubrum
Gleditsia triacanthos
Gymnocladus dioica
Juglans nigra
Juniperus virginiana
Picea glauca
Pinus resinosa
Pinus strobus
Platanus occidentalis
Prunus nigra
Prunus pensylvanica
Quercus alba
Quercus macrocarpa

Red Maple
Honey-locust
Kentucky Coffee-tree
Black Walnut
Eastern Red-cedar
White Spruce
Red Pine
White Pine
American Sycamore
Canada Plum
Pin Cherry
White Oak
Burr Oak

Vines
Celastrus scandens
Parthenocissus quinquefolia

American Bittersweet
Virginia Creeper

Grasses
Andropogon gerardii
Bouteloua curtipendula
Elymus canadensis
Panicum virgatum
Schizachyrium scoparium
Sorghastrum nutans

Big Bluestem
Sideoats Grama
Canada Wild Rye
Switch Grass
Little Bluestem
Indian Grass

★ = Very invasive in natural areas. Not recommended, especially on properties adjacent to natural areas/ravines/woodlands

Source: guelph.ca/healthylandscapes
# Native Plants

## Perennials
- Allium cernuum (Nodding Wild Onion)
- Aster laevis (Smooth Blue Aster)
- Aster oolentangiensis (Sky Blue Aster)
- Campanula americana (Tall Bellflower)
- Coreopsis tripteris (False Ticktrefoil)
- Desmodium canadense (False Sunflower)
- Heliopsis helianthoides (Starry False Solomon's Seal)
- Maianthemum stellatum (Wild Bergamot)
- Monarda fistulosa (Black-eyed Beardtongue)
- Penstemon digitalis (Ohio Spiderwort)
- Rudbeckia hirta (Ironweed)

## Ferns
- Pteridium aquilinum (Western Brackenfern)

## SHRUBS
- Cornus racemosa (Grey Dogwood)
- Cornus stolonifera (Red Osier Dogwood)
- Corylus americana (American Hazel)
- Juniperus horizontalis (Creeping Juniper)
- Physocarpus opulifolius (Ninebark)
- Potentilla fruticosa (Shrubby Cinquefoil)
- Prunus americana (Wild Plum)
- Prunus virginiana (Choke Cherry)
- Rhus aromatica (Fragrant Sumac)
- Rosa blanda (Smooth Rose)
- Rosa setigera (Climbing Prairie Rose)
- Taxus Canadensis (Canadian Yew)
- Viburnum dentatum (Arrowwood)

## TREES
- Acer saccharum var. nigrum (Black Maple)
- Amelanchier arborea (Smooth Serviceberry)
- Amelanchier laevis (Downy Serviceberry)
- Carya cordiformis (Bitternut Hickory)
- Carya ovata (Downy Hickory)
- Crataegus crus-galli (Hawthorn)
- Fraxinus americana (Hackberry)
- Fraxinus pennsylvanica (Eastern Redbud)
- Heliopsis helianthoides (False Sunflower)
- Malus coronaria (White Ash)
- Ostrya virginiana (Green Ash)
- Prunus serotina (Tulip Tree)
- Prunus virginiana (Black Cherry)
- Quercus rubra (Ironwood)
- Thuja occidentalis (Eastern White Cedar)

## VINES
- Campsis radicans (Trumpetvine)
- Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper)
- Vitis riparia (Riverbank Grape)

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Native Plants

Perennials
Actaea rubra  Red Baneberry
Anemone Canadensis  Canada Anemone
Asarum canadense  Wild Ginger
Aster macrophyllus  Large-leaf Aster
Aquilegia canadensis  Canadian Columbine
Frageria virginiana  Wild Strawberry
Geranium maculatum  Wild Geranium
Helianthus divaricatus  Woodland Sunflower
Maianthemum racemosum  False Solomon's-seal
Podophyllum peltatum  Mayapple
Polygonatum biflorum  Soloman's Seal
Phlox divaricata  Wild Blue Phlox
Solidago flexicaulis  Zig Zag Goldenrod
Virgin’s Bower  Clematis virginiana

Bulbs
Claytonia virginica  Spring Beauty
Erythronium americanum  Trout Lily

Ferns
Adiantum pedatum  Northern Maidenhair
Polystichum acrostichoides  Christmas Fern

Grasses
Elymus hystrix  Bottlebrush Grass

Shrubs
Cornus alternifolia  Alternative Dogwood
Cornus rugosa  Round-leafed Dogwood
Hamemalis virginiana  Witch-hazel
Prunus virginiana  Choke Cherry
Ribes americanum  Black Currant
Rubus odoratus  Flowering Raspberry
Sambucus canadensis  American Elder
Viburnum acerifolium  Mapleleaf Viburnum

Vines
Parthenocissus quinquefolia  Virginia Creeper

Trees
Acer saccharum  Sugar Maple
Carpinus caroliniana  Blue Beech
Cercis canadensis  Eastern Redbud
Cornus alternifolia  Pagoda Dogwood
Tsuga canadensis  Hemlock
Non-Native/Drought Tolerant Plants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perennials</td>
<td>Armeria maritima</td>
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<td>Allium tuberosum</td>
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<td>Amsonia tabernaemontana</td>
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<td>Dianthus alpinus</td>
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<td>Papaver alpinum</td>
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<td>Linum perenne</td>
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<td>Vines</td>
<td>Hydrangea anomala</td>
<td>Grape Hyacynth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>subs. petiolaris</td>
<td>Silver Lace vine</td>
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<td>Polygonum aubertii</td>
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guelph.ca/healthylandscapes
Non-Native/Drought Tolerant Plants

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<tr>
<th>Perennials</th>
<th>Common Chives</th>
<th>Shooting-star</th>
<th>Purple Cornflower</th>
<th>Day Lily</th>
<th>Dwarf Iris</th>
<th>Prairie Phlox</th>
<th>Creeping Phlox</th>
<th>Chinese Stonecrop</th>
<th>Lamb's-ear</th>
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<th>Grape Hyacinth</th>
<th>Daffodil</th>
<th>Siberian Squill</th>
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<td><em>Festuca cinerea spp.</em></td>
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<th>Euonymus</th>
<th>Shrubby potentilla</th>
<th>Spirea</th>
<th>Chinese yew</th>
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<td><em>Buddleia daviddi</em></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trees</th>
<th>Ohio Buckeye</th>
<th>Bottlebrush Buckeye</th>
<th>Northern Catalpa</th>
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<td><em>Aesculus glabra</em></td>
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<td><em>Aesculus parviflora</em></td>
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<td><em>Catalpa speciosa</em></td>
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<tr>
<th>Vines</th>
<th>Dutchman's Pipe</th>
<th>Climbing Hydrangea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Aristolochia durior</em></td>
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<td><em>Hydrangea anomala</em></td>
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</table>
Non-Native/Drought Tolerant Plants

**Perennials**
- *Aconitum sp.* - Monkshood
- *Alchemilla mollis* - Lady’s Mantle
- *Aruncus dioicus* - Goatsbeard
- *Chelone oblique* - Turtlehead
- *Cimicifuga racemosa* - Bugbane
- *Epimedium* - Barrenwort
- *Heuchera sp.* - Heuchera
- *Hosta spp.* - Plantain Lily
- *Vinca minor* - Periwinkle
- *Pulmonaria officinalis* - Lungwort

**Bulbs**
- *Scilla siberica* - Siberian Squill

**Grasses**
- *Carex sp.* - Sedge grass
- *Chasmanthium latifolium* - Northern Sea Oats
- *Panicum sp.* - Switch grass

**Shrubs**
- *Buxus hybrids* - Green Mountain Boxwood
- *Fothergilla major* - Large Fothergilla
- *Hydrangea sp.* - Hydrangea
- *Kerria japonica* - Kerry Bush
- *Hammamelis mollis* - Chinese Witchhazel
- *Mahonia aquifolium* - Oregon Grape Holly

**Trees**
- *Taxus sp.* - Yew
- *Tsuga sp.* - Hemlock

**Vines**
- *Akebia quinata* - Five-leaved Akebia
- *Hydrangea anomala subs. petiolaris* - Climbing Hydrangea

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