



# Native Alternatives for Invasive Plants

*Homeowners Guide to Lake-Friendly Living Fact Sheets Series*



Many of the plants used today for landscaping have been accidentally or intentionally distributed outside of their historic range by human activities. Most of these non-native plants stay where they are planted and do not invade natural areas. However, some do become invasive by establishing a population, reproducing rapidly, displacing native species and causing economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

Instead of these Non-Natives....	Plant these similar Natives...
Burningbush ( <i>Euonymus alatus</i> )	Highbush Blueberry ( <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> ) Red Chokeberry ( <i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> ) Spicebush ( <i>Lindera benzoin</i> )
Butterfly Bush ( <i>Budlia davidii</i> )	Buttonbush ( <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> ) Summersweet ( <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> )
Common Buckthorn ( <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> ) Glossy Buckthorn ( <i>Rhamnus frangula</i> )	American Mountain Ash ( <i>Sorbus americana</i> ) Gray Dogwood ( <i>Cornus foemina ssp racemosa</i> ) Witch Hazel ( <i>Hammanelis virginiana</i> )
Common Barberry ( <i>Berberis vulgaris</i> ) Japanese Barberry ( <i>Berberia thunbergii</i> )	Bayberry ( <i>Morella pensylvanica</i> ) Eastern Ninebark ( <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> ) New Jersey tea ( <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> ) Silky dogwood ( <i>Cornus amomum</i> ) Winterberry Holly ( <i>Ilex verticillata</i> )
Crown Vetch ( <i>Coronilla varia</i> )	Spreading dogbane ( <i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i> ) Whorled Milkweed ( <i>Asclepias quadrifolia</i> )
English Ivy ( <i>Hedra helix</i> )	Christmas fern ( <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> ) Partridgeberry ( <i>Mitchella repens</i> ) Solomon's Seal ( <i>Polygonatum commutatum</i> )
Amur Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera maackii</i> ) Japanese Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera japonica</i> ) Morrow Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera morrowi</i> ) Tartarian Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera tatarica</i> )	Red Osier Dogwood ( <i>Cornus sericea</i> ) Spicebush ( <i>Lindera benzoin</i> ) Winterberry Holly ( <i>Ilex verticillata</i> )
Multiflora Rose ( <i>Rosa multiflora</i> )	Carolina Rose ( <i>Rosa carolina</i> ) Swamp Rose ( <i>Rosa palustris</i> ) Virginia Roase ( <i>Rosa virginiana</i> )
Myrtle or Periwinkle ( <i>Vinca minor</i> ) Pachysandra ( <i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> )	Partridgeberry ( <i>Mitchella repens</i> ) Canada Mayflower ( <i>Maianthemum candense</i> ) Wild Ginger ( <i>Asarum canadense</i> )
Oriental Bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> ) Porcelainberry ( <i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> )	American bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus scandens</i> ) Common Grape ( <i>Vitis labrusca</i> ) Virginia Creeper ( <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> )
Purple Loosestrife ( <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> )	Blazing Star ( <i>Liatris spicata</i> ) Joe Pye Weed ( <i>Eupatorium sp.</i> )
Yellow Iris ( <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> )	Blue Flag Iris ( <i>Iris versicolor</i> )

## Instead of these Non-Natives....

### Trees

Amur Cork Tree (*Phellodendron amurense*)  
Amur Maple (*Acer ginnala*)  
Black Locust (*Robinia pseudocacia*)  
European Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)  
Goldenraintree (*Koeleria paniculata*)  
Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)  
Siberian Elm (*Ulmus pumila*)  
Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)  
White Poplar (*Populus alba*)

### Grasses and Grass-like Plants

Chinese Silver Grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*)  
Giant Reed (*Phragmites communis*)  
Japanese Silt Grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)

### Shrubs and Vines

Autumn Olive (*Eleagnus umbellata*)  
Black Swallow-worts (*Cynanchum nigrum*)  
Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster sp.*)  
Guelder Rose (*Viburnum opulus var. opulus*)  
Japanese Spiraea (*Spiraea japonica*)  
Japanese Yew (*Taxus cuspidate*)  
Mile-a-Minute Vine (*Polygonum perfoliatum*)  
Pale Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum rossicum*)  
Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*)  
Russian Olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*)  
Wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*)

### Flowers and Groundcovers

Dame's Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)  
Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)  
Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)  
Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria officinalis*)  
Indian Cup Plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*)  
Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)  
Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)



Illustrations provided by U. of Wisconsin-Extension & Wisconsin DNR

## Plant these Natives...

### Native Trees

American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)  
American Elm (*Ulmus Americana*)  
Bigtooth Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*)  
Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)  
Common Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)  
Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)  
Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*)  
Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)  
Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)  
River Birch (*Betula nigra*)  
Speckled Alder (*Alnus incana ssp. rugosa*)

### Native Grasses and Grass-like Plants

Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*)  
Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)  
Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)

### Native Shrubs and Vines

Chokecherry (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)  
Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)  
Hop Hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)  
Maple Leaf Viburnum (*Viburnum acerfoillum*)  
Serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*)  
Shadbush (*Amelanchier spp.*)  
Speckled Alder (*Alnus incana*)

### Native Flowers and Groundcovers

Beebalm (*Monarda didyma*)  
Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)  
Blue Flag Iris (*Iris versicolor*)  
Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*)  
Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)  
Canada Mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*)  
Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)  
Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*)  
New York Ironweed (*Veronica novaboricensis*)  
Red Trillium (*Trillium erectum*)  
White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)



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