

Grow Jersey-Friendly Yards with Native Plants



What Are Native Plants?

Native plants are those that have evolved & occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, or habitat without human introduction. They are well-adapted to the local climate, soil & wildlife, therefore offering the most sustainable habitat.

Non-native plants can cause harm to the environment, economy & humans by disrupting the entire ecosystem through habitat changes.

According to the USDA,
Invasive species have contributed to the decline of 42%
of U.S. endangered and threatened species

Significant Key Benefits

- ❖ **Reduces fertilizer & pesticide use**
- ❖ **Lowers water utilization & maintenance costs**
- ❖ **Preserves natural ecosystems** by attracting pollinators & supporting food webs
- ❖ **Reduces plant diseases, local insects & pest problems** due to higher resistance & tolerance
- ❖ **Cleaner water** by increasing water (in)filtration & storage, **reducing water runoff & flooding**
- ❖ **Improves water quality**, reducing aquatic harm & contamination of drinking water

NOT A FUN FACT

Native bees, butterflies, bats
& wild turkey are no longer
as abundant as they used to
be in NJ suburbs

**Ready to
redesign your
garden?**

Check Next Page

**For
WEALTH OF RESOURCES**

Example of Harmful Non Native Plants

- Chinese Wisteria
- Japanese Wisteria
- Japanese Clematis
- Japanese Honeysuckle
- English Ivy
- Japanese Barberry
- Butterfly Bush
- Linden Viburnum
- Porcelain Berry
- Norway maple
- Callery/Bradford pear
- Winged Burning Bush
- Wintercreeper
- Japanese Meadowsweet
- Chinese Silvergrass

Common Myths Busted

Native Plants Thrive in Drought
Depending on the species, some native plants are water-loving and others are more drought-tolerant.

U.S. Native Plants Flourish Anywhere in the States
Native plants thrive in specific ecosystems depending on the state.

All Native Plants are Wild, Weedy & Messy
Not all native plants are wild. You can choose which ones work best for your landscape aesthetic.

Native Plants Require Extra Work
Native plants actually require low to no maintenance when grown in their specific environments.

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REDESIGN YOUR GARDEN

Suggested Websites

- 1) Jersey Yards: www.jerseyyards.org
- 2) Native Plant Society Of NJ: www.npsnj.org
- 3) <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1140/>
- 4) www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/Plants



Approved List of Plant Species under Environmental Commission from WARREN Environmental Resource Inventory

Please Use the link Below to View Pages 70-77
[Warren Township Approved List of Plant Species](#)

Key EPA Questions to Ask When Buying

1. Are the native plants locally grown or shipped in? Native plants grown locally are best suited to the regional climatic conditions.
2. Have the seeds been propagated in a nursery or collected from the wild? Seeds from the wild need to be protected to not deplete our natural areas.
3. Will the native plants grow best in sun or shade?
4. What soil type is required? Is it sandy or loamy, wet or dry?
5. Which native plants grow well together? Call your local nature center to find out about plants.
6. How long will it take seeds to germinate or plants to mature?

Warren Community & Recreational RESOURCES

Trails in Warren Township allow users to experience about 660 acres of open space which equates to 23 active and non-active trails.

Explore wide variety of aged and young native wildlife & plants, wildflowers, shrubs and trees.

- Codington Woods
- Dealaman Nature Trail and Pond
- Glenhurst Meadows
- Stransky Farm
- Town Hall Circles – Holfheimer Woods
- Wagner Farm Arboretum

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 1) **TO VOLUNTEER FOR The WARREN Green Team** Please Contact Warren Township
- 2) **FOR KIDS** Environment-Related Educational Activities:
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids>
- 3) **TO VOLUNTEER FOR** The Invasive Species Strike Team Join:
<https://www.fohvos.info/invasive-species-strike-team/>
- 4) **FOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING** Join Rutgers Master Gardener Program:
<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners/>
- 5) **SUGGESTED READING:** Bringing Nature Home by Douglas Tallamy
<http://www.bringingnaturehome.net/>



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