

# 2019 Central New York **NATIVE PLANT** Shopping Guide



Native plants provide nutritious seeds and berries for birds, but one of their most important contributions is that they support native insects. **96%** of birds feed their young insects, and **more than 90%** of those **REQUIRE** native plant leaves to eat!

Compiled by  
**Habitat Gardening in Central New York**



a chapter of Wild Ones:  
**Native Plants, Natural Landscapes**

## About HGCNY and Wild Ones



Habitat Gardening in Central New York (HGCNY) is a chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes ([www.wildones.org](http://www.wildones.org)), a national not-for-profit environmental education and advocacy organization.

Our mission is to promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to encourage biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities.

Learn about our programs and resources, including our free e-newsletter and our annual native plant sale on the web at [www.hgcny.org](http://www.hgcny.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/hgcny](https://www.facebook.com/hgcny).

## Thank you for using our 2019 CNY Native Plant Shopping Guide

HGCNY creates this Guide each year to help you find native plants to purchase. We invite native plant nurseries in CNY to provide a list of native plants they plan to sell during the growing season. We review their selections and compile this Guide, which may be freely downloaded, printed, and shared. It may not be sold. The nurseries in this Guide do not pay to be included, nor are they paid to participate. View online or download additional copies of this Guide from our website [www.hgcny.org](http://www.hgcny.org).

The plants are listed two ways, though we encourage you to use the scientific names:

**Section 1:** By scientific name for ferns, grasses/sedges/rushes, wildflowers, vines, shrubs, and trees

**Section 2:** By common name for each of these plant types

## This Guide's definition of "native"

We favor the Darke/Tallamy functional definition of "native" as found in *The Living Landscape*: "***A plant or animal that has evolved in a given place over a period of time sufficient to develop complex and essential relationships with the physical environment and other organisms in a given ecological community.***" We have made judgments about which plants to include primarily based on maps found in The Biota of North America database at [www.bonap.org](http://www.bonap.org). The plants included in this Guide may not be strictly native to CNY, but they should be native to the Northeast in general.

## The codes we use in our Guide

List entries in **BOLD** type: These plants are "Biodiversity All-Stars" according to Doug Tallamy and William Cullina, so they should strongly contribute to increasing biodiversity. We encourage you to include these in your landscape!

The "bee" icon indicates plants especially beneficial for native bees (Xerces Society and Wildflower Center). The "bird" icon indicates plants especially beneficial for birds (National Audubon and Wildflower Center).

**S for Species and C for Cultivar:** This Guide primarily lists native plant species, *not cultivars*. An exception for now: some cultivars of plants that require both a male and female plant (e.g. winterberry) and those species that are compromised in some way (e.g. American elm). **Cultivars** of native plants (increasingly termed "nativars") *are generally propagated vegetatively to preserve selected traits so they no longer participate in natural reproduction patterns that would maintain biodiversity.* **Species**, on the other hand, provide genetic diversity and provide desirable habitat qualities. Read more about the Wild Ones position on nativars at the end of this document:

[www.wildones.org/download/guidebook/Position%20Statements/Position%20Statements%20Rev.%20Nov%202018.pdf](http://www.wildones.org/download/guidebook/Position%20Statements/Position%20Statements%20Rev.%20Nov%202018.pdf).

**L for Local:** Plants grown from **local** ecotype seeds and plants are indicated by an "L." Why is this important? For example, a red maple from the South and one from the Northeast are both *Acer rubrum*, BUT the local ecotype plant will better match local conditions. We applaud our nurseries for increasingly propagating plants from locally-collected seeds. We encourage you to choose these selections.

## Shopping tips

- **Use the full scientific name**, including the first (*Genus*) and second (*species*) names. Sometimes knowing the particular variety is important, too, and is noted as “var.” Some scientific names, for example *Asters* and *Eupatoriums*, have been updated to more accurately reflect plants’ evolutionary history and relationships. We’ve included updated names as well as commonly used synonyms to simplify using references that may use older names. *Common names* are not as accurate. More than one common name can refer to the same plant and the same common name can refer to different plants. We’ve included a list of common names for convenience but we encourage you to use scientific names when you research and choose plants.
- **Use native plant references** to research and plan your purchases. Know the conditions of your own site and choose plants that will thrive in those conditions. *Bring your books and lists with you as you shop!*
- **Read plant labels carefully.** *Be aware that many stores or nurseries may have plant labels that say “Native,” but may be native to the continent, not to the Northeast.* Plants native to the Pacific Northwest, for example, don’t belong in CNY.
- **Patronize nurseries that sell nursery-propagated native plants** from seeds or cuttings. Never dig plants from the wild or buy plants dug from the wild. Ask nurseries about the source of their plants.
- **Buy pesticide-free plants.** Increasingly, plants are treated with *systemic* pesticides: pesticides incorporated into the plant that don’t wash off and can linger in the soil for years. These pesticides (banned in some countries) may harm pollinators when they visit the plant. Buying Organic-certified plants ensures that no pesticides were used, but many plants are not labeled as such. *Explore this issue further with each vendor.*
- **CALL AHEAD** to confirm nursery hours and the **availability of your desired plants** before setting out.

## To learn more, we recommend:

**Native plant books:** Note that some of these include plants native to other parts of the continent:

Joel Baines: *Native Plants for Native Birds*, published by Ithaca’s Cayuga Bird Club

Donald Leopold: *Native Plants of the Northeast: A Guide for Gardening and Conservation*

William Cullina: *Wildflowers: A Guide to Growing and Propagating Native Flowers of No. America*

William Cullina: *Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines*

William Cullina: *Native Ferns, Moss, & Grasses*

## Native plant websites:

New York Flora Atlas: [www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/](http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/) – **Important:** Filter for “Native”

Biota of No. America Program: [bonap.org/](http://bonap.org/) - Shows native range of plants (green is native)

Native Plants for Birds at [www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds](http://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds) - Audubon list

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at <https://www.wildflower.org/plants/> by state, size etc.

**Discussion course:** HGCNY has created a 6-session discussion course called “Caring for Our Piece of the Earth” for use in small groups or for individuals. FREE to download at [www.hgcny.org/course/](http://www.hgcny.org/course/).

## Habitat gardening books – Highly recommended!:

Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy: *The Living Landscape: Designing for beauty and biodiversity*

Douglas Tallamy: *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*

Sara Stein: *Noah’s Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards* – an enduring classic!

## Habitat gardening websites:

HGCNY website at [www.hgcny.org](http://www.hgcny.org) – describes our programs and projects; links to more information

Stewardship Garden at [www.ourhabitatgarden.org/](http://www.ourhabitatgarden.org/) - An example of a local HGCNY habitat garden

Habitat Network at <http://content.yardmap.org/learn/> – A wealth of information in the “Learn” section!

Audubon’s Bird-Friendly Communities: [www.audubon.org/conservation/bird-friendly-communities](http://www.audubon.org/conservation/bird-friendly-communities)

## Participating nurseries

We recommend you always CALL AHEAD to confirm hours and plant availability before setting out.

### A Amanda's Garden

8030 Story Road  
Dansville, NY 14437  
(585) 750-6288

[www.amandasnativeplants.com/](http://www.amandasnativeplants.com/)

### B The Fernery

108 Whitehouse Rd.  
Hartwick, NY 13348  
(607) 293-8114

[www.theferneryatwhitehouse.com](http://www.theferneryatwhitehouse.com)

### D The Plantsmen Nursery

482 Peruville Rd. (Route 34B)  
Groton, NY 13073  
(607) 533-7193

[www.plantsmen.com](http://www.plantsmen.com)

### E White Oak Nursery

*Physical location:*

4350 Kipp Rd.  
Gorham, NY 14461

*Mailing address:*

801W. Washington St.  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-3509

[www.whiteoaknursery.biz](http://www.whiteoaknursery.biz)



Approximate location of the nurseries  
(Note: Nannyberry Nursery "C" was unable to participate this year but will return in the future.)

## Need help designing and/or installing your landscape?

You can create habitat for wildlife and a healthier planet simply by planting native plants. But if you're unsure of what to plant in your yard or how to design an attractive landscape, the following CNY nurseries and landscapers can help. ***Stress that you're interested in a natural landscape with NATIVE plants!***

**Amanda's Garden** – Consults with you, evaluates your site and recommends plants. She can help with gardens for shady areas, or bird and butterfly gardens. Contact her at <http://www.amandasnativeplants.com/>.

**Green Scapes** – Ask for HGCNYer Beth Fry. Offers both design and install services in Syracuse and surrounding areas. Contact her at [greenscapesonline.com/](http://greenscapesonline.com/).

**The Plantsmen Nursery** – Offers both design and install services throughout Tompkins County, sometimes as far as Binghamton and Syracuse or further. Contact them at [www.plantsmen.com/design](http://www.plantsmen.com/design) for details.

**White Oak Nursery** – Offers both design and install services in the Syracuse/Ithaca/Rochester area. Contact Jim Engel at [www.whiteoaknursery.biz](http://www.whiteoaknursery.biz) for details.

## Contributions and suggestions

If you find this Guide helpful and wish to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make checks payable to *Habitat Gardening in CNY* and mail to: HGCNY Treasurer, 7022 Bush Rd., Jamesville, NY 13078.

You may also support us by becoming a member of Wild Ones, which makes you a member of HGCNY, too! See membership information on the Wild Ones website at [www.wildones.org](http://www.wildones.org). *Thank you!*

- Please let the nurseries you patronize know you're using this Guide. *Thanks!*
- For suggestions, feedback or corrections, or to participate in next year's Guide, email [hg.cny@verizon.net](mailto:hg.cny@verizon.net)