



☑ Have landscaping suitable for local weather conditions:

Because native plants have adapted to the local climate and weather conditions, they are more likely to survive weather extremes than non-native plants. Harsh winters or hot summers will not have the same impact on native plants as they have adapted to the that areas particular extremes.

. Low-maintenance alternative to turfgrass:

Most lawns grow non-native turf grasses. Which is why most lawns require extensive fertilizing and maintenance. Preserving a portion of your yard for a native plant sanctuary, rain garden, or meadow will help lower the use toxic chemicals and fertilizers.

. Preserve biodiversity:

Our native wildlife, especially birds, butterflies, pollinators, and other organisms, evolved with the plants here; many can only feed on plants they co-evolved with. If your garden has no native plants, it becomes an ecological desert for the pollinating insects and local bird species. Additionally, native plants are needed to support local bird species by supplying food for the insects that most baby birds require. They also provide the habitat (food, cover, and places to rear their young) that all local wildlife needs.

. Reduce water runoff:

Create a rain garden with native plants to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from your property. Also native plants are often superior in terms of stormwater management because they usually have deeper and more extensive root systems that prevent erosion and provide extra filtration. They are also beneficial for improving water quality as they require less fertilizer.

. Save you money:

Native plants can help you save money. They don't require as much irrigation reducing your water bill and you won't have to spend as much on fertilizers. Native options often are cheaper than other varieties at the local garden center, thanks to their abundance in the area.

SOME NATIVE PLANTS

- **Black, red, and white Oaks** - Native oaks are the best street trees because most are tap-rooted, drought- and salt resistant.
- **American Plum** - American plum blooms before it leafs out
- **Inkberry**-good for evergreen hedging and deer resistant
- **Highbush Blueberry** - nice fall foliage
- **Native Southeastern Wisterias** - nearly identical to Asian species