

# Native Plant Sale - Saturday, May 5, 2012

Sponsored by Chester Township Environmental Commission

**Orders Must Be Received By April 27th**

**Orders Must Be Picked Up At The Chester Township Municipal Building**

**On Saturday, May 5th Between 10 AM and 1 PM**

		Total Ordered	Price Each	Total \$
<b><u>Woodland Wildflowers (Partial Sun to Shade)</u></b>				
Anemone thalictroides	Rue Anemone	1 Quart	\$ 6.95	
Aquilegia canadensis	Columbine	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Asarum arifolium	Arrow-Leaf Wild Ginger	1 Quart	\$ 5.95	
Dodecatheon meadia	Eastern Shooting Star	1 Quart	\$ 7.95	
Gaultheria procumbens	Wintergreen	1 Quart	\$ 8.95	
Heuchera macrorhiza	Coralbells	1 Quart	\$ 3.65	
Podophyllum peltatum	Mayapple	1 Gallon	\$ 6.95	
Polemonium reptans	Jacob's Ladder	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Polygonatum commutatum	Giant Solomon's Seal	1 Quart	\$ 6.50	
Trillium grandiflorum	Great White Trillium	1 Quart	\$ 6.95	
Trillium sessile	Toadshade Trillium	1 Quart	\$ 6.95	
<b><u>Wildflowers for Full Sun</u></b>				
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Aster oblongifolius	Aromatic Aster	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Liatris spicata alba	Blazing Star	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
Rudbeckia fulgida	Blackeyed Susan	1 Quart	\$ 2.65	
<b><u>Woodland Shrubs (Sun - Part Shade)</u></b>				
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea	2 Gallon	\$ 9.75	
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Buttonbush	3 Gallon	\$ 15.95	
Clethra alnifolia	Summersweet	3 Gallon	\$ 15.95	
Vaccinium angustifolium	Lowbush Blueberry	1 Gallon	\$ 9.00	
<b><u>Woodland Trees (Sun - Part Shade)</u></b>				
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	3 Gallon	\$ 15.95	
Corylus americana	American Hazelnut	3 Gallon	\$ 15.95	
Franklinia alatamaha	Franklin-tree	3 Gallon	\$ 15.95	
Magnolia tripetala	Umbrella Magnolia	1 Gallon	\$ 14.95	

Total Order Amount _____	
Add 7% NJ Sales Tax ____	
<b>Total Amount Due _____</b>	

**Use This Form To Order**

Please Enter Your:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please Make Your Check Payable To "Chester Township" And **Mail By April 26th** To:

**Chester Environmental Commission**

**1 Parker Road**

**Chester, NJ 07930**

# 2012 Native Plant Sale

Sponsored by the Chester Township Environmental Commission

**Use the Enclosed Form to Order Plants by April 26th  
Pick-up Plants on Saturday, May 5th**

## What Are Native Plants?

In general “native plants” are those species that were here before the settlers arrived from Europe hundreds of years ago. That means those species that evolved here over time and in response to the local climate, soils, rainfall and interactions with other species. The settlers eventually imported many plants and in fact today about 25% of our flowering plants are non-native or “alien” species.

## Alien Plants Can Be Invasive

Many of the alien plants which were brought here are beneficial and provide food and resources for the benefit of everyone. However, some non-native, alien plants can become a serious threat to biodiversity and can out-compete and displace native plant species. This is because the aliens may not have the natural controls such as insects and plant competitors which tend to control them in their native territories. That can enable invasive alien plants to spread quickly, and grow so densely that native species can't compete.

## What Are The Benefits Of Native Plants?

Since they evolved in our region, native species are well adapted to local environmental conditions. Therefore, once established they are hardy and normally do not require watering, fertilizers, or harmful pesticides. This helps protect our water supplies by reducing run-off of chemicals into our streams and aquifers. (Newly planted natives must be given time to establish themselves and will require some watering during the first year or two when rainfall is insufficient.)

Native plants provide familiar sources of food and shelter for wildlife. They attract a greater variety of butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds and other wildlife. There is no evidence that alien plants are superior to natives. In fact, native plants are often more beautiful, colorful and more harmonious in size, shape and texture when used in our local landscapes, woodlands and fields.

## Why Is The Environmental Commission Sponsoring A Native Plant Sale?

Planting native species contributes to the overall health of natural communities which in turn helps to protect our environment, including the air we breathe and our critical water resources. A healthy environment also lifts spirits by protecting our natural world. The use of native plants is on the rise across the country and more nurseries are propagating them so that naturally occurring wild populations are not decimated by irresponsible, and often illegal, collecting. By sponsoring a sale of nursery-propagated native plants the Chester Township Environmental Commission hopes to encourage interest in them by making them available for purchase by our citizens.

## A Word About Deer

Deer also like native plants – but for different reasons! Before their population got out of scale the balance of the natural world ensured that the plants would survive. That is not necessarily the case today and deer have been known to wipeout natural stands of many plants. A hike in the Evans Preserve and similar areas will reveal the loss of much of our best wildflowers, shrubs and saplings. (This is another excellent reason why our citizens can help restore our native species.) However, in order for all of us to become stewards of our environment some type of protection against deer will have to be provided for your plants.

If you already have a fenced area that deer do not graze, that is ideal. You may want to consider replacing some of the aliens with natives in those protected areas. By the way, a fenced-in wooded area of just 20 feet square can provide a home for literally a hundred native wildflowers. Strategically placed shrubs (native of course!) can reduce the impact of the fencing.

## Chester Township Native Plant Sale - May 5, 2012

### Planting Suggestions

To plant container-grown wildflowers, shrubs and trees dig a hole that is about twice the diameter of the container but about the same height. Depth of planting is extremely important. The crown of the plant should be about the same level or slightly higher than the surrounding soil. Place the excavated soil in a wheelbarrow or similar and amend the soil by adding leaf-mold and builder's sand so that the resultant mixture is one-third each excavated soil / leaf mold / sand, all well mixed. Remove the plant from the container and place in the planting hole. Back-fill loosely with the amended mixture and water slowly using a watering can. After the water drains down and the soil settles add more amended mixture and form a shallow bowl to capture rain water for the plant (do not backfill soil higher than the original crown of the plant). For all except the full-sun wildflowers, mulch the plant using leaves, pine needles or other material that won't mat and prevent rain water from reaching the plant. For example, don't use peat moss for mulch. Full-sun wildflowers may rot if mulched. For the first summer and autumn water new plants thoroughly once a week if it doesn't rain at least 1 inch in the interval.

A word about soil types. Soil pH is a measurement of acidity / alkalinity. In our area the pH can range from pH 7 which is neutral to pH 5 which is fairly acid. Woodsy soils, especially oak woods, are typically pH 5-6. Ordinary or average soils are typically pH 6-7.

### Woodland Wildflowers (Partial Sun to Shade)

Anemonella thalictroides - **Rue Anemone** is a beautiful, little, slender-stemmed perennial with clusters of white flowers on 6 to 8 inch stalks in early spring. Prefers shade and moist soil with pH 6-7.

Aquilegia canadensis - **Wild Columbine** is a graceful, erect plant (up to 24") that attracts hummingbirds with its red-orange flowers that bloom in May. Prefers light shade and moist soil with pH 6-7.

Asarum arifolium - **Arrow-Leaf Wild Ginger** is an excellent ground cover for shade gardens. It has triangular variegated green leaves, grows to 6 to 8 inches and prefers shade and moist soil with pH 6-7.

Dodecatheon meadia - **Eastern Shooting Star** has white flowers in an umbel on a 10 to 12 inch stalk in spring. Prefers well-drained woodsy soil with pH of 6-7. Leaves form a basal rosette.

Gaultheria procumbens - **Wintergreen** is a low, semi-woody plant with erect perennial stems which rise to 3 to 6 inches and spread by creeping, underground stems. Prefers partial shade in well-drained, acidic soil.

Heuchera macrorhiza - **Coralbells** prefers a semi-shaded area with average soil and good drainage, growing to 18" high with even taller white flowers in summer. Grown for its green to burgundy foliage.

Podophyllum peltatum - **Mayapple** is a spreading colonial plant that grows in the shade in wet to dry, woodsy soil. Over the years will form large patches, 8 to 16 inches high.

Polemonium reptans - **Jacob's Ladder** is a low, branching perennial prefers sun to light shade. Likes moist, well-drained, neutral soil. Small blue flowers in terminal clusters.

Polygonatum commutatum - **Giant Solomon's Seal** forms large clumps, 4 feet or more high, with graceful, arching stems and drooping white flowers in spring. Prefers woodsy soil and shade.

Trillium grandiflorum - **Great White Trillium** are woodlands royalty! Magnificent white flowers in May and attractive green foliage. Partial shade and well-drained woodsy soil. The kings of woodland wildflowers!

Trillium sessile - **Toadshade Trillium** has mottled green leaves and purplish flowers. Partial shade and well-drained woodsy, calcareous soil. The first sessile-flowered trillium named by Linnaeus.

### Wildflowers for Full Sun

Asclepias incarnata - **Swamp Milkweed** has rose-purple colored flowers in July. Prefers a wet, sunny location but will survive in drier soils. Reaches about 3 feet tall and attracts butterflies. Soil pH 4-6.

Aster oblongifolius - **Aromatic Aster** has 3 foot tall lavender-blue flowers in late summer that are attractive to bees and butterflies. Drought tolerant once established. Grow in full sun in average soil.

Echinacea purpurea - **Purple Coneflower** is the champion butterfly flower, with pink to purple blooms on 30" stalks in summer. Full sun in ordinary garden soil.

Liatris spicata alba - **White Blazing Star** holds tall white spikes of flowers from July to August. Plants form a low, grassy clump of leaves. Excellent for borders.

Rudbeckia fulgida - **Black-eyed Susan** forms attractive, 2-3 foot clumps. Blooms in summer with yellow flowers and has sword-shaped gray-green leaves. Attracts butterflies and goldfinches.

### Woodland Shrub-like Plants (Sun - Part Shade)

Ceanothus americanus - **New Jersey Tea** is multi-stemmed, has creamy white blooms in summer and can reach 2-3 feet tall. Prefers well-drained, acidic soil in sun or part sun. Great nectar plant for butterflies.

Cephalanthus occidentalis - **Buttonbush** has creamy white blooms in summer and can reach 3-8 feet tall. Prefers moist to wet soil. Great nectar plant for butterfly gardens.

Clethra alnifolia - **Summersweet Clethra** has fragrant white flower spikes in summer that attract butterflies. Reaches 3-6' and spreads through suckering. Will grow in sun to partial shade in average soil.

Vaccinium angustifolium - **Lowbush Blueberry** is the famous Maine blueberry, with white blooms in spring followed by strong-flavored berries. Grows to 24" high in well-drained, moist to dry woodlands.

### Woodland Trees (Sun - Part Shade)

Cercis canadensis - **Eastern Redbud** has bright magenta flowers in early spring. Heart-shaped leaves flutter with the slightest breeze. Can reach 20' tall. Part shade or sun in average soil.

Corylus americana - **American Hazelnut** reaches 5-12 feet tall and 4-8 feet wide. Prefers part sun to shade in well-drained soil. Important food source for turquoise hairstreak butterflies.

Franklinia alatamaha - **Franklin-Tree** has bright white flowers in fall and grows 12-15 feet tall. Somewhat difficult to establish, but worth the effort. Needs moist, acidic, well-drained soil and a sheltered location.

Magnolia tripetala - **Umbrella Magnolia** has creamy white blooms, 6 to 10 inches in diameter in late spring. Will reach 20-30' in moist, well-drained soil and part shade to sun.

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