

Life on the Coast is Easy?

How native plants are built for life near the beach



Matt Collogan
Area Natural Resources Agent
Brunswick County Center



How can we increase nature-enhancing landscaping in coastal communities with easy, available, affordable, attractive solutions?



What do
you
notice
about
this yard?



Jane Harrison

What about this yard?



Barbara Doll

Coastal Landscaping Challenges

- Poor, sandy soil (also areas of hydric, organic soils)
- Heat
- Drought conditions
- Frequent storms
- Saltwater exposure and soil salinity
- Strong coastal winds
- Salt-aerosol damage
- Rapid development – forest and ag land being converted to housing, roads, commercial



What is a sustainable coastal landscape?

- Attractive
- Environmentally-friendly
- Well adapted to coastal region
- Storm-ready
- Functional & enjoyable
- Cost-efficient & manageable



Debbie Roos, NC State Extension

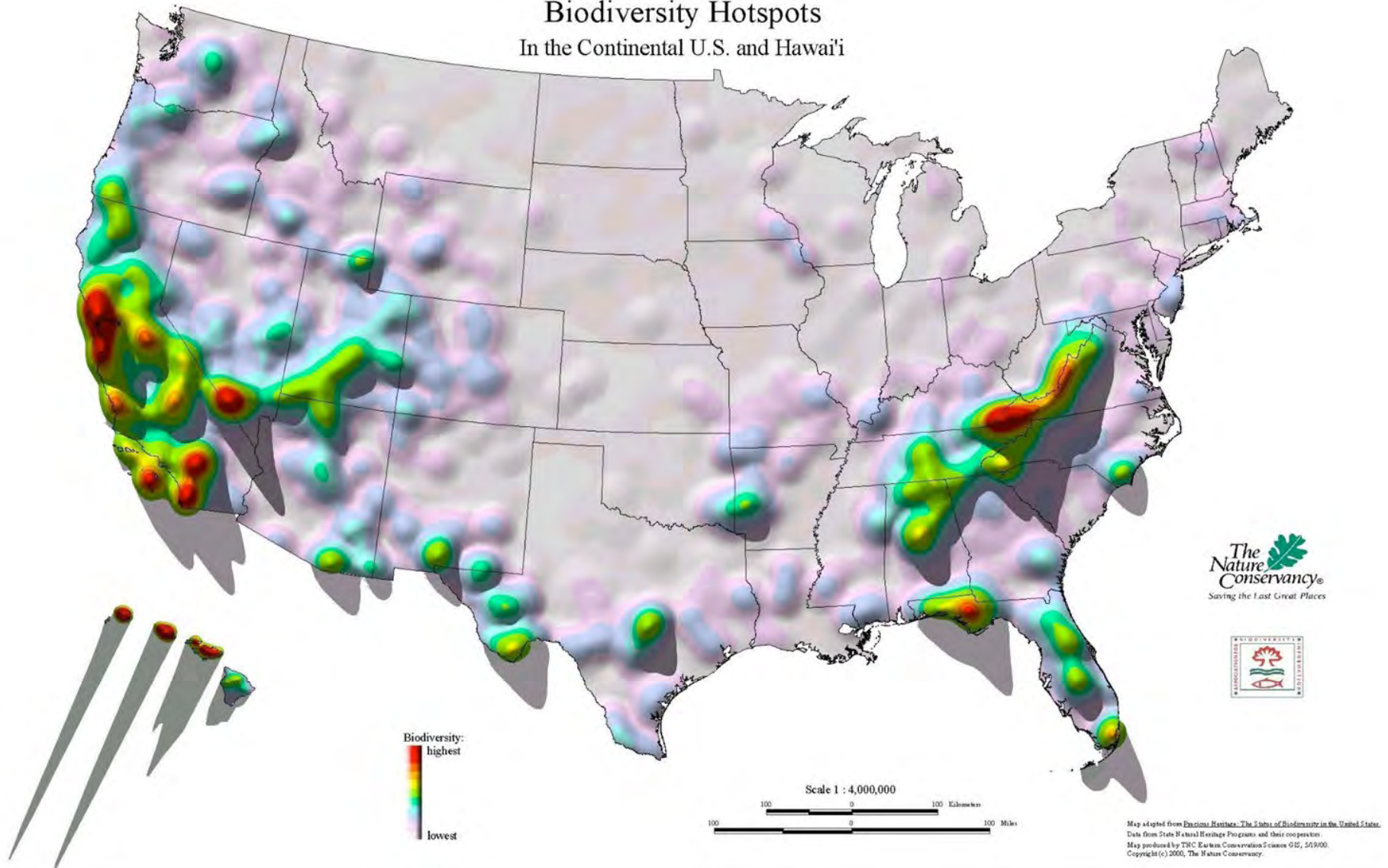
Where are we starting?

- Brand new construction
- New developments with small lots
- Rapid development, clear cutting
- Soil compaction
- Removal of topsoil
- Water drainage issues
- Polluted runoff



NC is a biodiversity hotspot!

Biodiversity Hotspots
In the Continental U.S. and Hawai'i



Choose native and non-invasive plants well suited to coastal conditions



Bob Peterson, CC BY-NC 2.0

Seashore mallow
(*Kosteletzkya virginica*)



Debbie Roos

Carolina anole searches for
prey on a seashore mallow

Can you identify the native tree?



Loblolly bay (*Gordonia lasianthus*)



Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*)

Can you identify the native bush?



Thorny olive (*Elaeagnus pungens*)



Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*)

Shrubs are underutilized – native berries have a high fat content at a crucial time of year (migration), however, many invasive shrubs like privet have sugary berries that aren't healthy for birds

Can you identify the native vine?



Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) Coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

What is “Native”?

Species that evolve naturally in an environment without human intervention

Plants are adapted to local soil and climate conditions over thousands of years

Co-evolve with other species and form interdependent and highly specialized relationships that are necessary for the other's survival

Much of our coast represents the Floristic transition between the Virginian and Carolinian biogeographic regions



- Uniquely adapted to local environmental conditions
- Generally require less care and less water once established
- Protect local water quality by reducing the need for fertilizer
- Provide ecosystem services: clean air & water, heat mitigation, flood abatement, decreased crime, slower traffic, improved mental & physical health
- essential habitat for our native insects and wildlife

Why plant Natives?



Adding Native Plants: base of food web



Ginkgo = 0



Maple = 285



River Birch = 413

Data from Doug Tallamy's Research on Lepidopteran Use of Native and Non-native Plants

Woody Plants

Common Name Plant Genus Butterfly/moth species supported

Oak	Quercus	534
Black cherry	Prunus	456
Willow	Salix	455
Birch	Betula	413
Poplar	Populus	368
Crabapple	Malus	311
Blueberry	Vaccinium	288
Maple	Acer	285
Elm	Ulmus	213
Pine	Pinus	203
Hickory	Carya	200
Hawthorn	Crataegus	159
Spruce	Picea	156
Alder	Alnus	156
Basswood	Tilia	150
Ash	Fraxinus	150
Rose	Rosa	139
Filbert	Corylus	131
Walnut	Juglans	130
Beech	Fagus	126
Chestnut	Castanea	125



Herbaceous Plants

Common Name Plant Genus Butterfly/moth species supported

Goldenrod	Solidago	115
Asters	Aster	112
Sunflower	Helianthus	73
Joe pye, Boneset	Eupatorium	42
Morning glory	Ipomoea	39
Sedges	Carex	36
Honeysuckle	Lonicera	36
Lupine	Lupinus	33
Violets	Viola	29
Geraniums	Geranium	23
Black-eyed susan	Rudbeckia	17
Iris	Iris	17
Evening primrose	Oenothera	16
Milkweed	Asclepias	12
Verbena	Verbena	11
Beardtongue	Penstemon	8
Phlox	Phlox	8
Bee balm	Monarda	7
Veronica	Veronica	6
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium	6
Cardinal flower	Lobelia	4

Carolina Chickadee

Length = 4.75"
Weight = 10.5g
(two nickels)





To raise one
clutch (2-3
birds) to
fledge (plus
21 days) =
10,000
caterpillars!!!

Bird seed
and winter
berries

Moths & Butterflies as Food

- Worldwide 37% of animal species are **herbivorous insects**
- Beetles and Lepidoptera
- Convert plant tissues of all types to protein, fat
- 96% of bird species eat insects



Pound for pound insects have more protein than beef—high in valuable energy! Source of carotene, birds can't make on own.

What can
you do?

Nature at Home Principles

- 1 Add native plants: right plant, right place
- 2 Remove non-native invasives
- 3 Manage stormwater
- 4 Increase garden beds; reduce lawns
- 5 Reduce use of synthetic herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers
- 6 Leave the leaves; save the stems
- 7 Provide wildlife structures and water features
- 8 Reduce nighttime light pollution



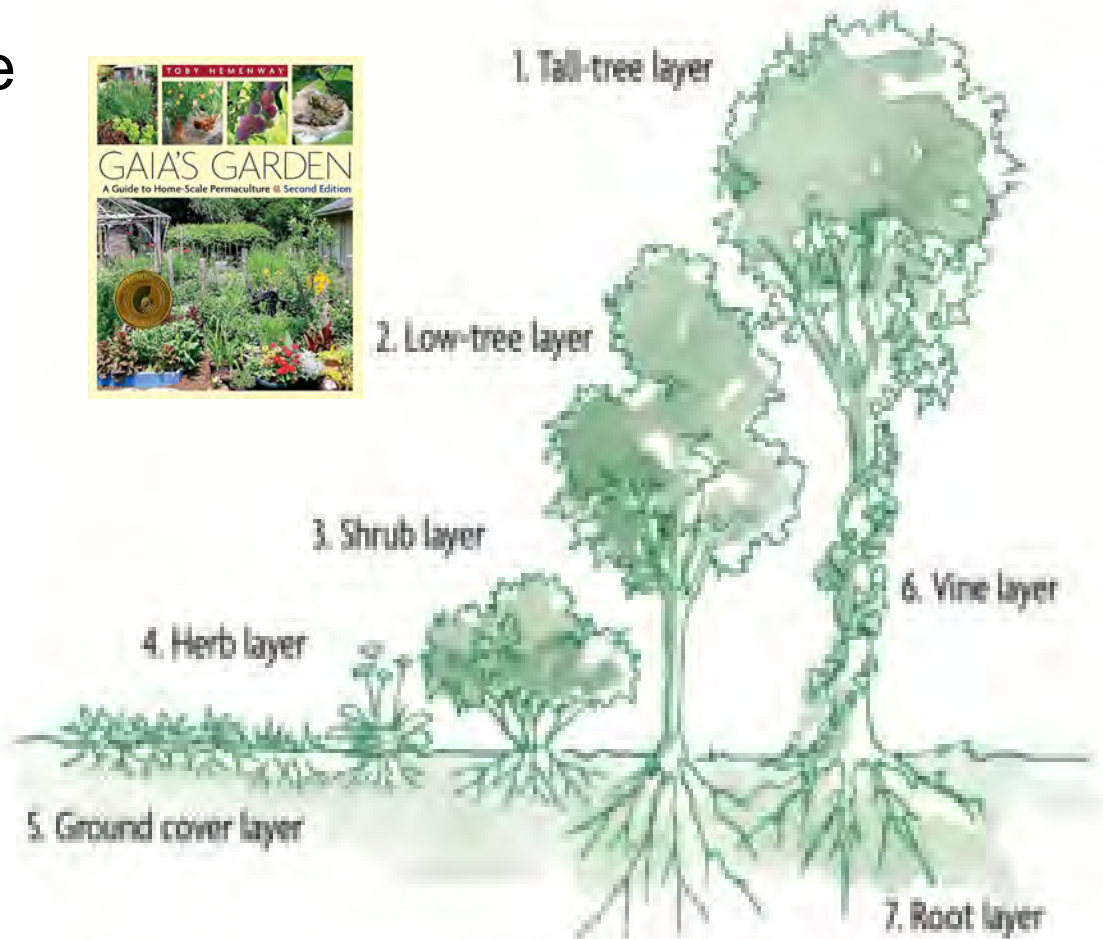
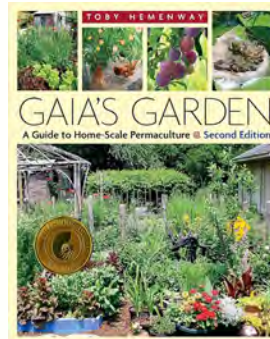
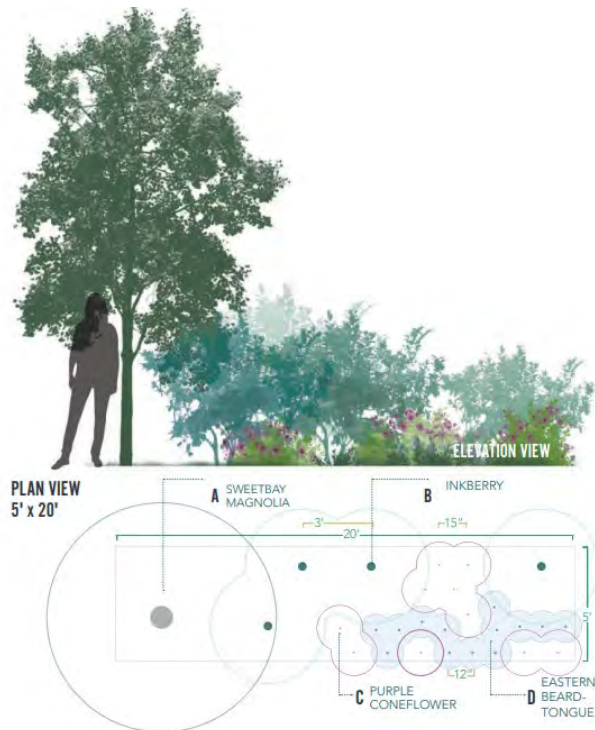
Right Plant, Right Place

- Native alone does not mean a plant is well suited to a site
- Know your soil, hydrology and habitat

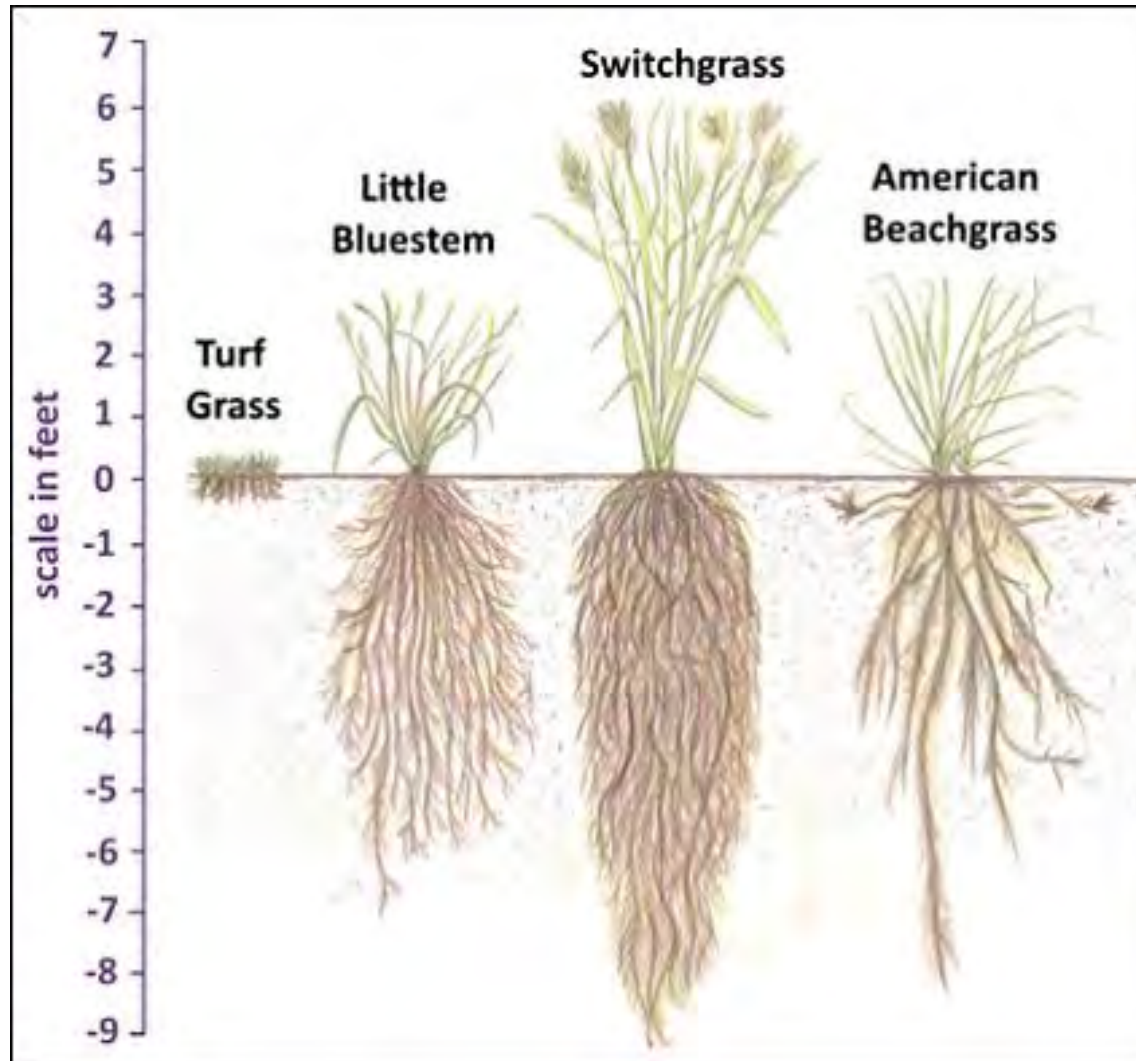


Diversity in Species and Structure

- Five layers of plantings
- Canopy trees if possible
- Try for at least three layers



Turfgrass has very shallow roots



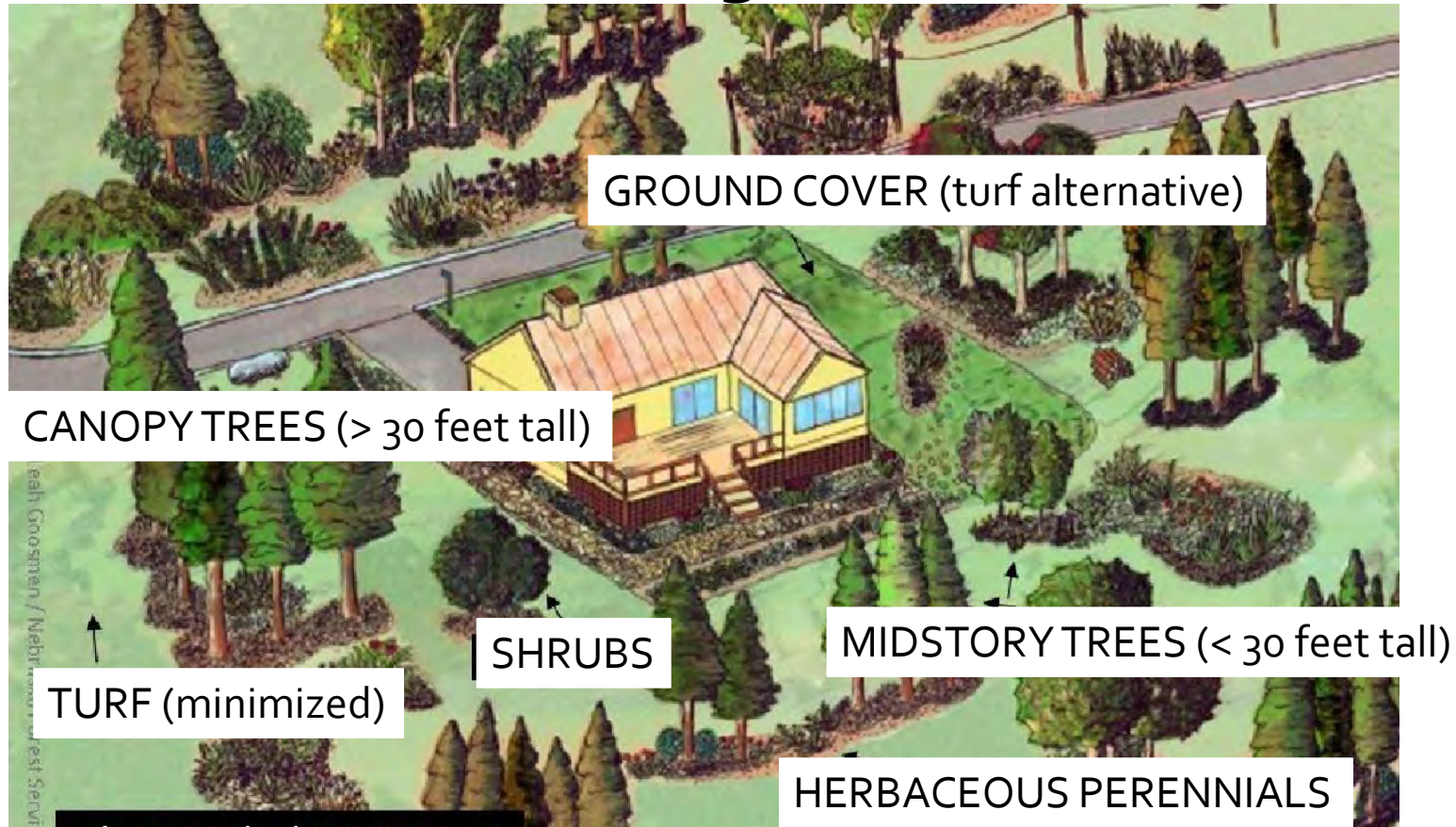


Native Plant Pond Buffer





Use a mix of plant types for health & ecological benefits



COASTAL NORTH CAROLINA



PLANT THIS INSTEAD!

Eco-friendly Alternatives to
Harmful Ornamental Plants



SPECIMEN TREES



AVOID THESE TREES



CALLERY PEAR
Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford' and other cultivars



POPCORN TREE/ CHINESE TALLOW
Triadega sebifera



MIMOSA
Albizia julibrissin

PLANT THIS INSTEAD



SERVICEBERRY *Amelanchier canadensis*

This deciduous tree or small shrub features slightly fragrant white flowers that appear before the leaves in early spring. In late spring, tasty purple-red berries appear, which songbirds and various mammals eat. Its early blooms are important to pollinators, and the *Amelanchier* genus supports over 94 species of butterflies and moths. Its attractive fall foliage is yellow to bright orange-red.

TIP A dark foliage backdrop helps to highlight this tree's attractive flower, leaf, and bark.

LIGHT: Full sun to part shade **SOIL:** Moist
HEIGHT: 10'-20' **WIDTH:** 15'-20'



REDBUD *Cercis canadensis*

In early spring before foliage emerges, this deciduous, multi-trunked understory tree blooms profusely with stunning pea-like rose-purple edible flowers which cover the bare branches. Its heart shaped leaves turn pale yellow to greenish yellow in the fall. Bean-like seed pods often remain through the winter. This tree is a larval host plant for 12 species of Lepidoptera, the insect group that includes butterflies and moths. Birds feed on redbud seeds.

LIGHT: Full sun to part shade **SOIL:** Occasionally dry to moist
HEIGHT: 20'-30' **WIDTH:** 25'-35'



FRINGETREE *Chionanthus virginicus*

A showy, deciduous, multi-trunked tree with an abundance of softly fragrant fringe-like white flowers that appear in spring. The leaves turn yellow in autumn. The tree is used for food and shelter by many animals including birds, bees, and other pollinators. It is a host plant to the Fawn Sphinx and Rustic Sphinx moths.

TIP Plant in a mass (large group) or as a specimen.

LIGHT: Full sun to part shade **SOIL:** Occasionally dry to moist
HEIGHT: 12'-30' **WIDTH:** 12'-20'

MORE SPECIMEN TREES

Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*
Sweetbay Magnolia *Magnolia virginiana*
Blackhaw *Viburnum prunifolium*

Red Mulberry *Morus rubra*
Sparkleberry *Vaccinium arboreum*
Red Buckeye *Aesculus pavia*

Carolina Cherry Laurel *Prunus caroliniana*
Hawthorn *Crataegus phanopyrum*
Red Maple *Acer rubrum*



Stormwater Runoff Pollutes



Runoff
from Roof

Runoff
from
Gutters

Runoff
from
Street

RUNOFF PICKS UP:

- Pet Waste
- Fertilizers
- Motor Oil
- Detergents
- Chemicals
- Litter

STORMWATER RUNOFF
CARRIES POLLUTANTS
INTO OUR WATERWAYS.

Achieving the Post-construction Soil Standard

{ Meeting King County's regulations
to preserve and restore healthy soils
on developments in King County }



Manage storm water to improve water quality



Harvest and use rain water



Direct downspouts to gardens

Maintain stormwater ponds for water quality and beauty

Low Impact Development - LID



Practices that prevent storm water runoff from polluting waterways by mimicking a site's natural surface water & groundwater hydrology

- Disconnected impervious surfaces
- Preservation of open space/natural features
- Rain Gardens or Bioretention Areas
- Porous pavement
- Water harvesting (rain barrels, cisterns)
- Low-input native landscaping

Reduce turf and adopt lawn alternatives to create habitat for wildlife



Wild ginger
(*Asarum canadense*)



Cinnamon fern
(*Osmunda cinnamomea*)



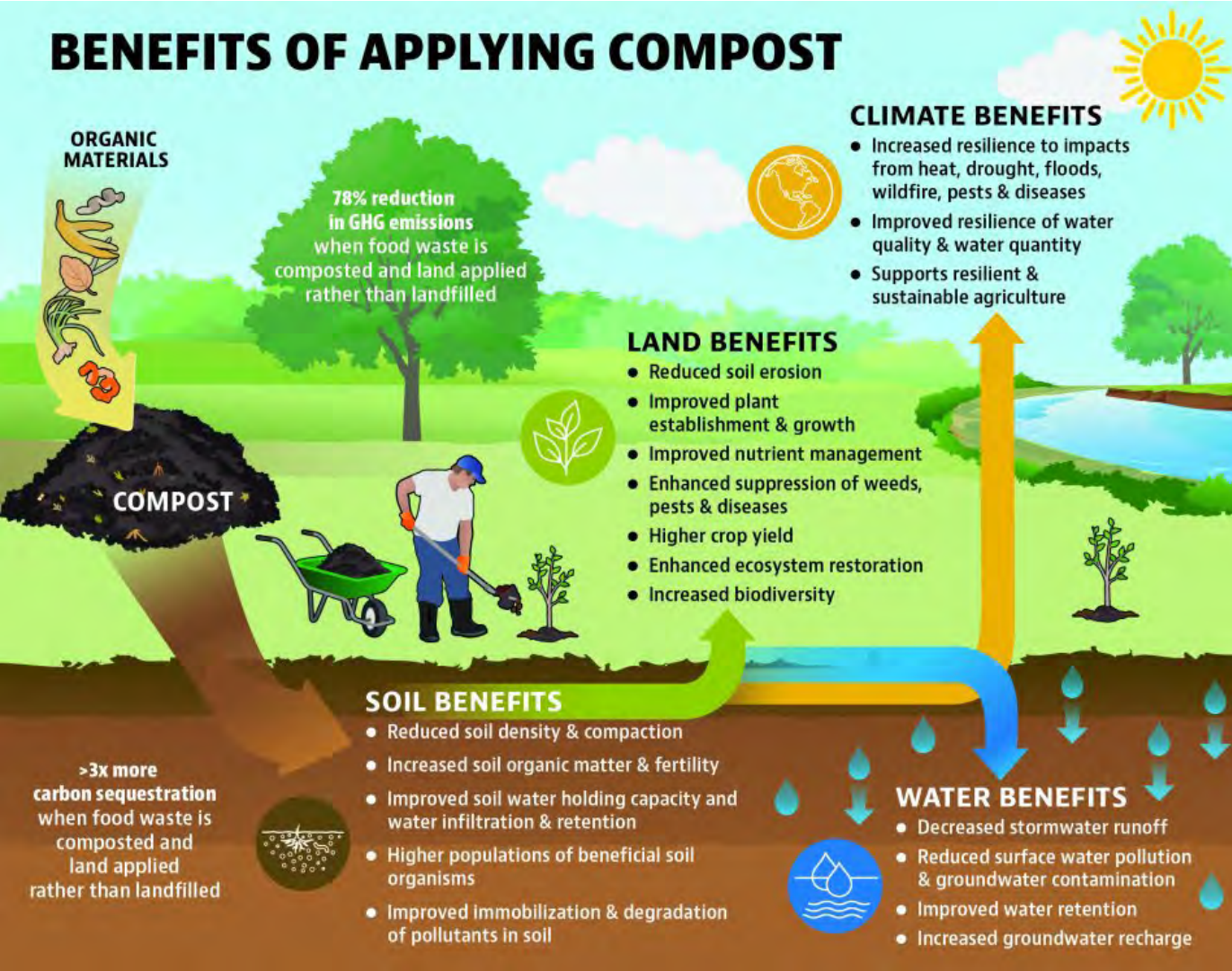
Pink muhly grass
(*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)

**Water & fertilize
strategically to
maintain water
quantity & quality**



Jane Harrison

BENEFITS OF APPLYING COMPOST



carolinacompost.com/

Chapter of the US Composting Council
Graphic source: EPA

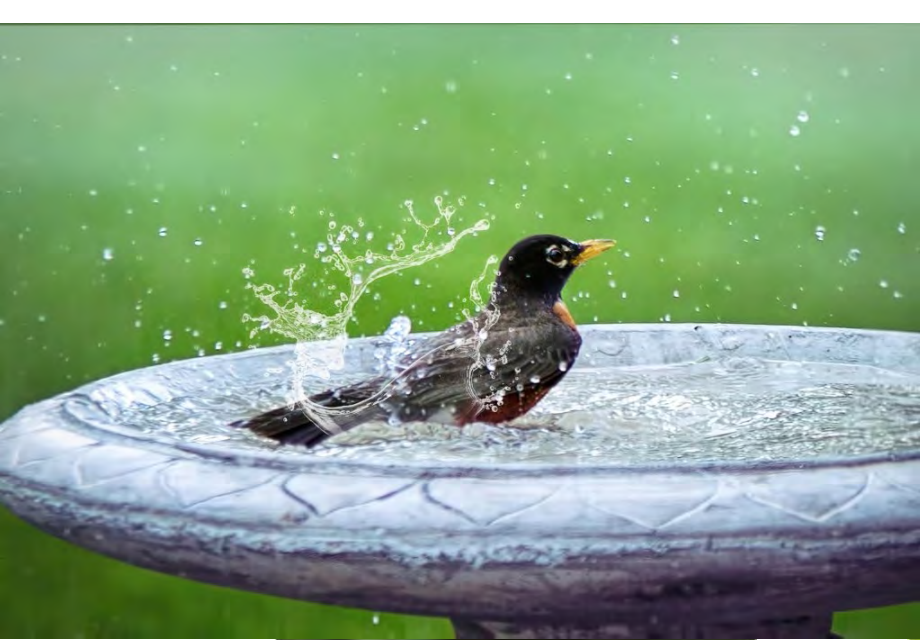
Leave the Leaves, Save the Stems

- Leaving leaf litter in designated areas provides critical habitat for animals like lightning bugs that pupate in leaf litter
- Leaf litter helps to infiltrate water.
- Save stems for overwintering pollinators
- Safe to cut stems only in first winter – trim back after first frost or before last frost – once trimmed, don't cut again
- Trim perennial stems back in fall or winter to leave stubble of 18"-24"
- Stems won't be occupied first winter, they will be available for pollinators and beneficial insects to use as nesting sites the following spring & summer
- Waiting until late winter to trim stems gives birds and wildlife time to feed on seed heads, increasing number of species supported
- Once trimmed, no further maintenance - eventually stems biodegrade
- Cutting stems off at ground level removes them from the ecosystem altogether and prevents them from ever becoming a nesting resource



Elsa Youngsteadt & Hannah Levenson NCSU

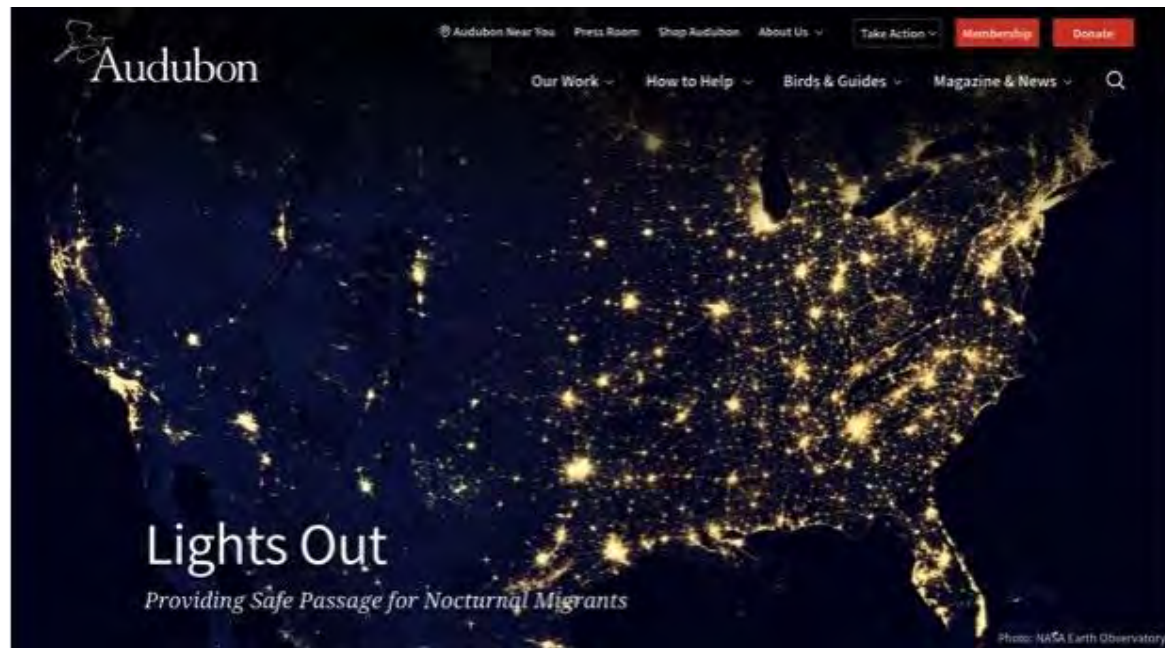
Provide Wildlife Structures & Water Features



- cats...

Reduce Nighttime Light Pollution

- Outdoor light major cause of insect decline (moths = majority of caterpillar diversity)
- Save on power bill
- Change bulbs to yellow/amber bug light (insects attracted to white & blue wavelengths, converting to yellow reduces interference); motion sensor, direct lighting downward





Create storm-ready,
resilient landscapes

Travis Klondike

Consider nature-enhancing alternatives when replacing deteriorating bulkheads



Jane Harrison

**Install
living
shorelines
to protect
your
property &
wildlife**



North Carolina Coastal Federation

Select storm-ready trees to protect your home

Common Name	Storm Observations
Coastal American hornbeam (<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>)	Hard, dense wood; limbs resist breakage; medium-high wind resistance
Flowering dogwood (<i>Cornus florida</i>)	Hard, dense wood; high wind resistance; limbs resist breakage; wind defoliates tree
Common persimmon (<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>)	Hard, dense wood; medium-high wind resistance
American holly (<i>Ilex opaca</i>)	High wind resistance
Yaupon (<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>)	High wind resistance; high flood tolerance

Source: Paul E. Hosier, Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas

Select storm-ready trees to protect your home

Common Name	Storm Observations
Southern magnolia (<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>)	High wind resistance; wind defoliates tree; flood tolerant
Black gum (<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>)	High flood tolerance; good wind resistance
Live oak (<i>Quercus virginiana</i>)	High wind resistance; wind defoliates tree; deep roots when in well-drained soil; somewhat low profile
Cabbage palmetto (<i>Sabal palmetto</i>)	High flood tolerance; high wind resistance
Bald Cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>)	High wind resistance; widespread roots; few branches and leaves; flood-tolerant (fresh water only)

Source: Paul E. Hosier, Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas

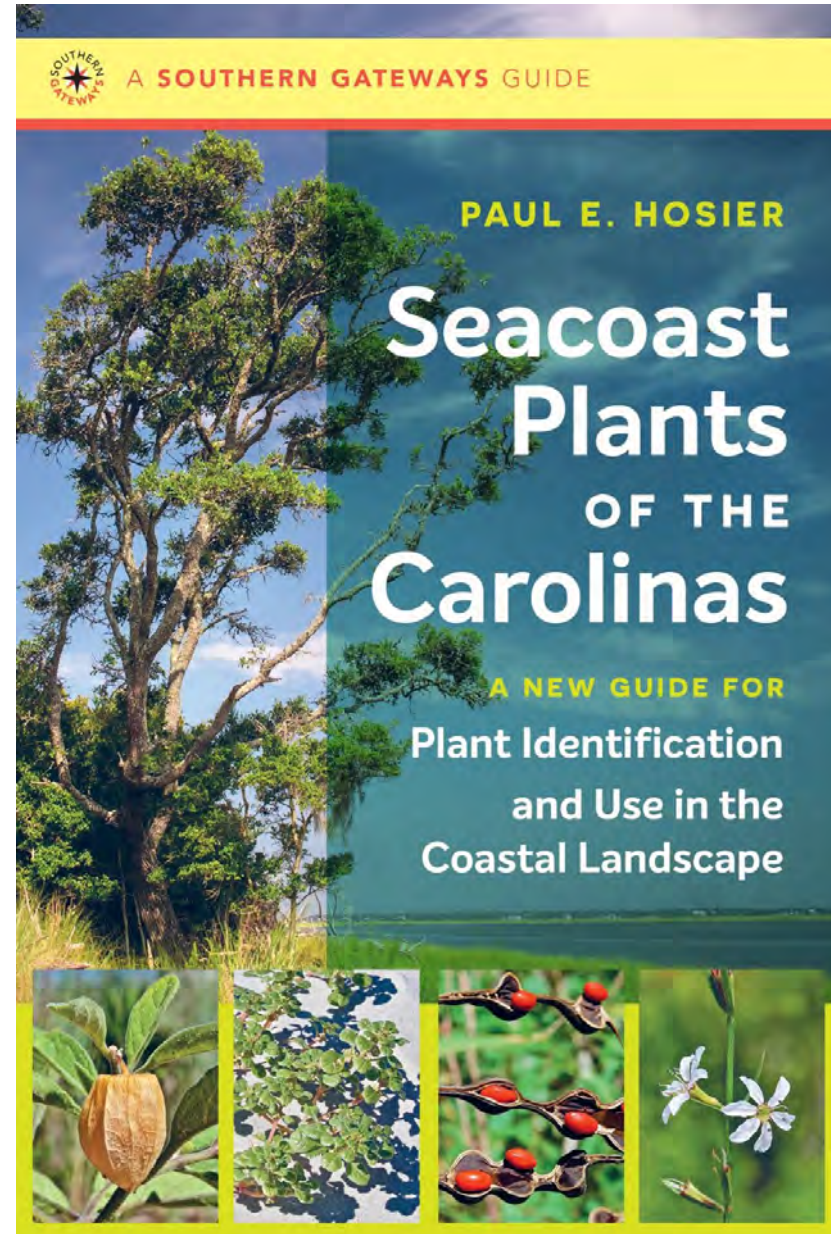
Select storm-ready trees

See Chapter 7 on Native Vegetation and Coastal Storms



Lucy Bradley

Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*)



Lucy Bradley CCO



Scott ZonaCC BY-NC 2.0

Live Oak

Quercus virginiana

40-80' tall, 40-100' spread, not a "true" evergreen

Adaptable to both clay and sandy soils that are acidic and well-drained

Most wind resistant tree

'Cathedral' cultivar



Imperial Moth (*Eacles imperialis*)

Hosts: *Pinus* sp., *Acer* sp., *Quercus* sp. *Liquidambar styraciflua*, *Sassafras albidum*

Shumard Oak

Quercus shumardii

40-80' tall, 40-50' spread

Adaptable to wide
variety of soils, very
stress tolerant

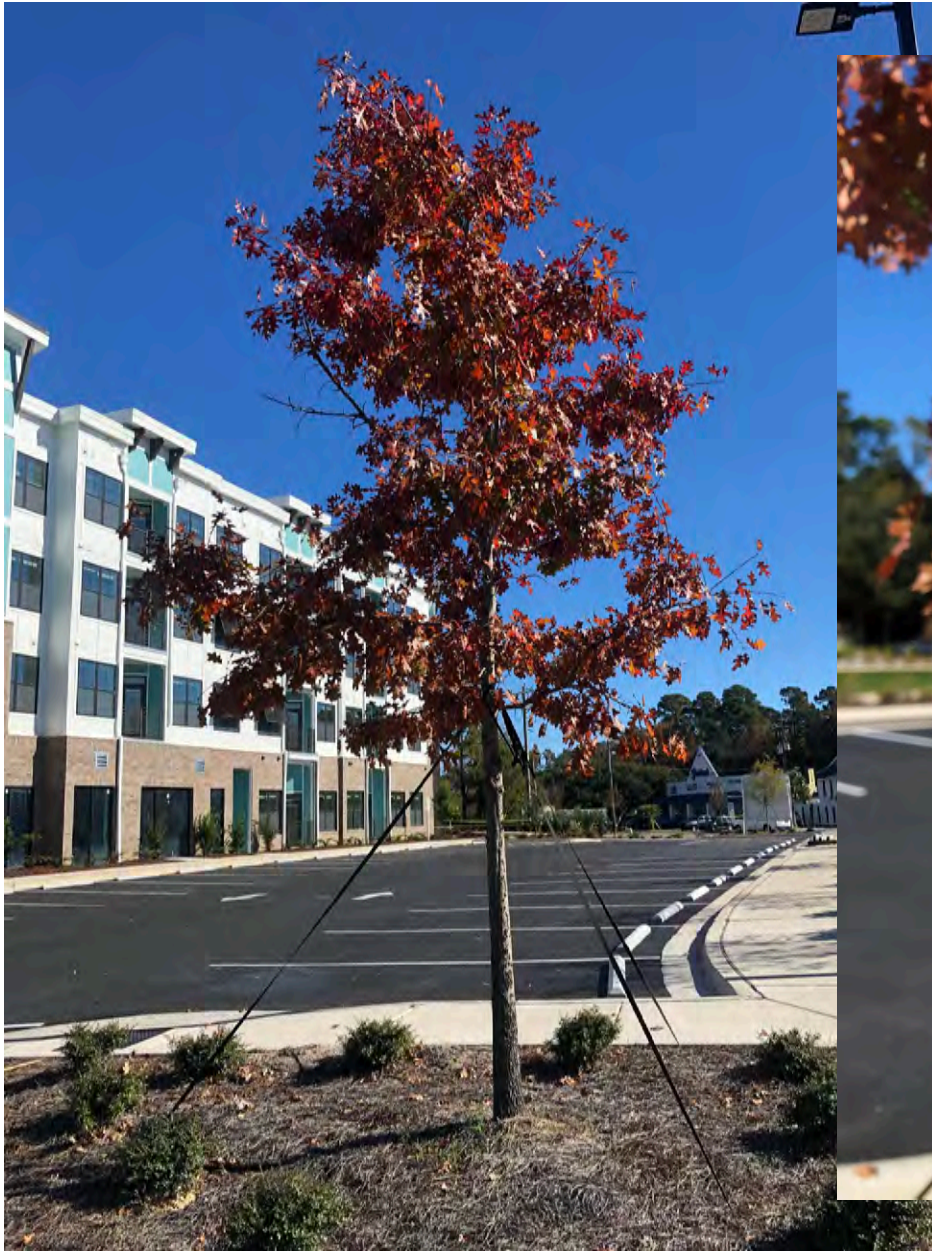
Great tree for urban
settings

Wildlife value



Gitta Hasing







Nicholas A. Tonelli
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Janet and Phil
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Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

Evergreen tree that can grow to 30+' tall, width 12-24'

Fast growing conifer

Extremely drought tolerant

Provides cover and food for wildlife

Sweetbay Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana

20+' tall, semi-evergreen tree or multi-stemmed shrub, deer resistant, 10-20' width

Fragrant flowers

Larval host for Spicebush Swallowtail and Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterflies

Medium-high wind resistance





Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly

UNCW Campus- Longleaf Pine and
Sweetbay Magnolia





American Holly

Ilex opaca

40-60' tall, full sun to part shade

Will take a broad range of soils and is pollution tolerant

Flowers are attractive to pollinators and fruits for wildlife

Highly wind resistant



Yaupon Holly

Ilex vomitoria

Large shrub or small tree, can reach 10-20' tall, 8-12' width

Very drought tolerant

Female plants produce attractive red berries

Very attractive to pollinators





Dwarf Yaupon Holly

Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'

Dense, compact, evergreen shrub 3-5' tall, 3-6' width

Drought and salt spray tolerant

Grows rapidly

Has a more formal appearance





Inkberry

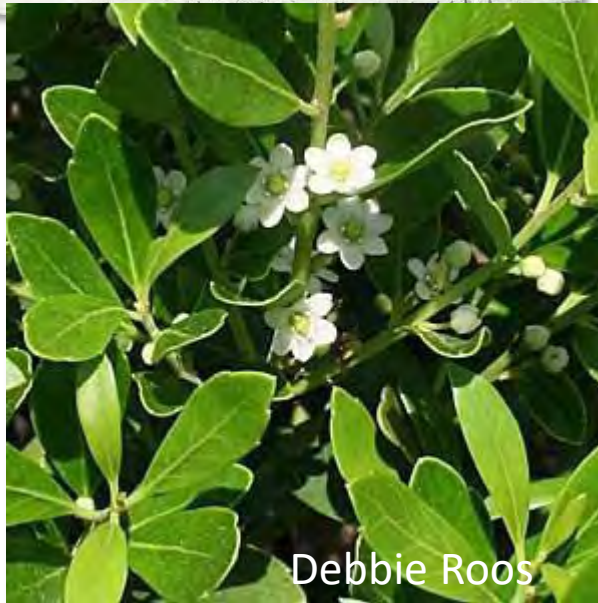
Ilex glabra

Evergreen shrub

Slow growing, 5-8' tall

Tolerates a variety of
soils, moderately salt
tolerant

Cover and food for birds
and pollinators enjoy
flowers



Debbie Roos

Dwarf cultivar:
'Shamrock'
3-4' tall



Dwarf Palmetto

Sabal minor

2-5' tall, 4-6' width

Drought and moderately
salt tolerant

Most cold hardy native
palm

Fruits eaten by robins,
raccoons, and other
birds and mammals



Wax Myrtle

Myrica cerifera

Evergreen tree/shrub,
15-20' at maturity

Native to NC marshes,
swamps, fresh-brackish
streams

Great for erosion, wind
and salt spray tolerant

Wildlife value



Beautyberry

Callicarpa americana

3-8' tall, Full sun

Deciduous Shrub

Fruits appear August-Oct
Valuable food source for
songbirds and small
mammals



Yucca

Yucca filamentosa

Evergreen sword-shaped leaves with curly filaments

Prefers coarse, sandy soils in full sun

Tall panicle of white flowers attracts pollinators



‘Color Guard’



Muhly Grass

Muhlenbergia capillaris

4' tall, 3' width

Long-lived, little to no insect or disease pests and highly resistant to deer grazing

Tolerates heat, humidity, drought, poor soil and is highly salt tolerant





Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

2' tall, Vigorous, long rooted grass

Good for erosion control:
Stream banks, slopes,
rain gardens

Larval host plant for
skippers, seeds eaten by
birds

Cut back in March





Jim RobbinsCC BY-NC-ND 4.0

Cultivar 'Northwind'

Switchgrass

Panicum virgatum

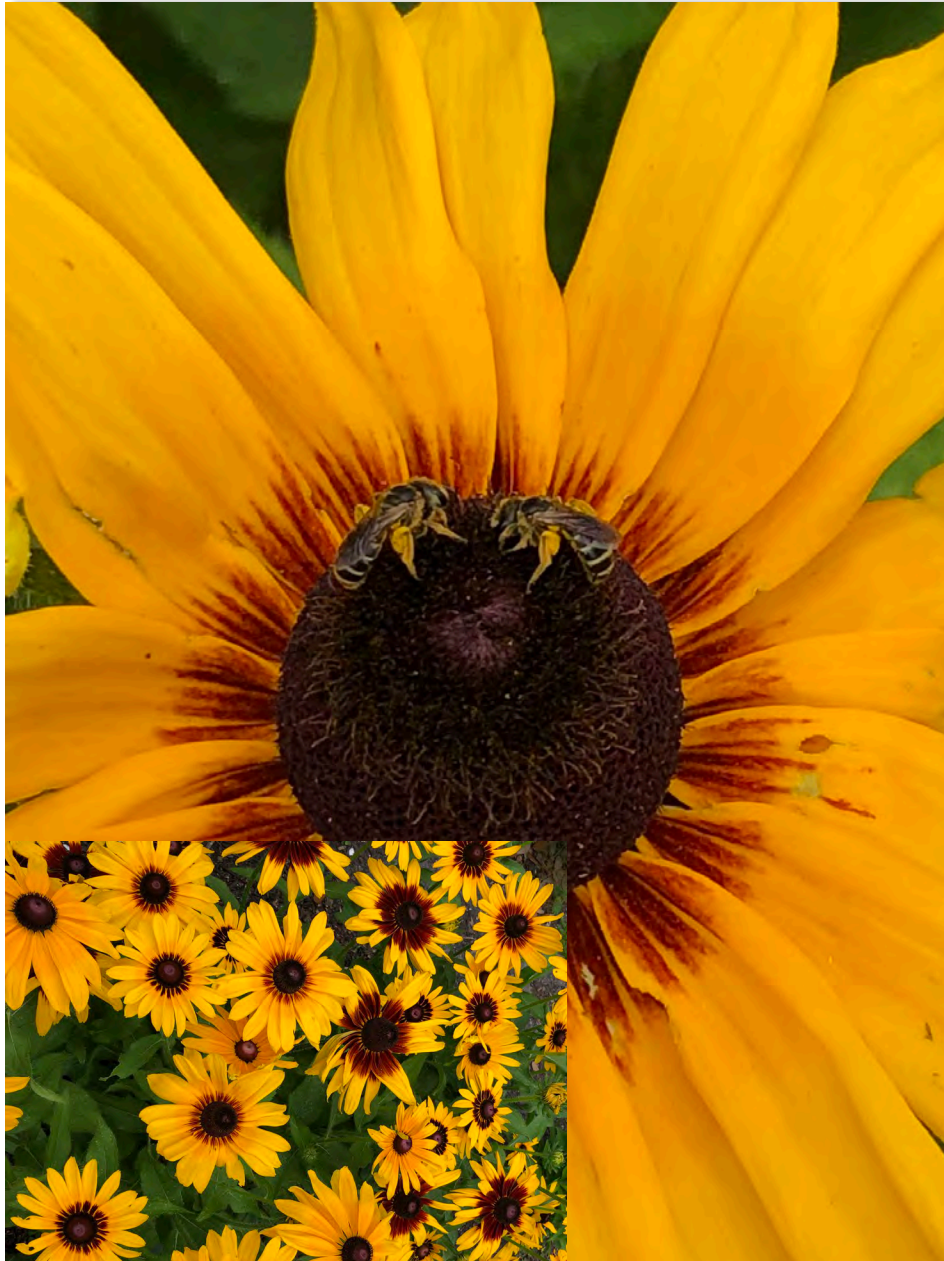
3-5' tall, full sun

Moist clay or sandy soils

Bluish cast in the summer, pink flowers in fall

Slightly salt tolerant

Plant in masses



Black-eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta

Full Sun

Blooms summer through fall

Short lived perennial,
easily reseeds



Blanket Flower

Gaillardia pulchella

Naturalized in NC

Barrier island, sandy
soils, full sun

Drought and salt tolerant

Blooms summer to fall

Attracts butterflies



Spotted Horsemint

Monarda punctata

2-4' tall

Herbaceous perennial

Drought tolerant

Excellent cut flower

Deer and rabbit resistant



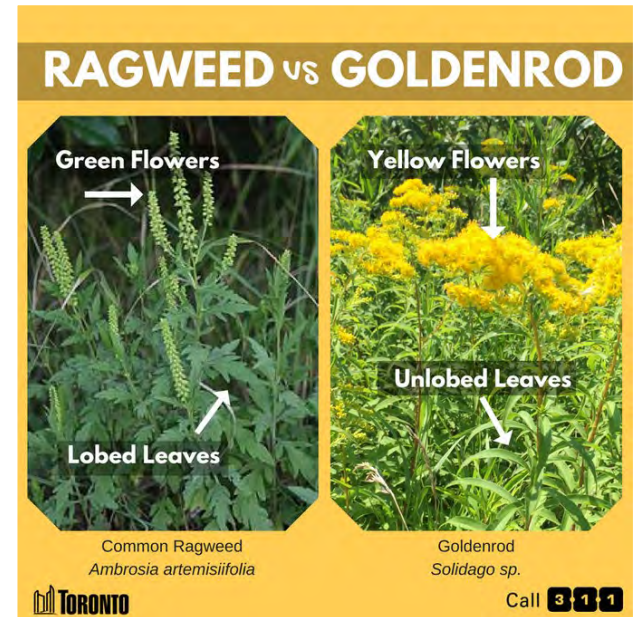


Beautiful, Beneficial Goldenrods...

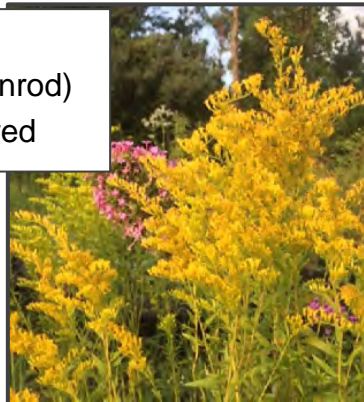
solidago spp



...different
from ragweed!



Solidago odora:
(anise-scented goldenrod)
Early and short-statured



S. speciosa (showy) & *S. rigidum*
(prairie):
Back of the border, late summer
pollinator magnets

The Goldenrods *Solidago spp*



Solidago
'Fireworks':
Heralds the fall,
evergreen foliage



S. sempervirens:
(seaside goldenrod)
Late fall monarch favorite,
prefers low nutrient soils



Surf City Roundabout



Eastern Red Cedar
Dwarf Palmetto
Dwarf Yaupon Holly
Yaupon Holly
Magnolia 'Little Gem'
Laurel Oak or
Darlington Oak



- Public & private sector partners collaborating to encourage sustainable practices in coastal communities by fostering coastal landscapes that are beautiful, functional, cost efficient and environmentally friendly
- <https://ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/program-areas/healthy-ecosystems/coastal-landscapes>
- “Native Plant Picks” videos featuring beautiful, maintainable, cost-efficient, and environmentally beneficial selections adapted to thrive in the harsh conditions of coastal NC, strong sun and wind, the dry, sandy soil, and the salty air and water; check out Sea Grant’s Youtube Channel
<https://ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/news/2021/09/new-video-series-highlights-native-plants-for-coastal-landscapes/>
- Design Templates
- Booklet (A Native Plant Guide Provided by the Coastal Landscapes Initiative – 34 plants) and Brochure
- Videos, webinars, presentations
- Container gardens with natives

CLI Design Templates



Screening Designs

- Screening with Trees
- Pollinator-Friendly Border
- Screening High & Low
- Foundation
- Evergreen Screen

Border Designs

- Low Evergreen Border
- Bird-Friendly Screen
- Shoreline Border
- Screening with Vines
- Filter strip

POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY BORDER

FOR SUNNY AREAS WITH DRY TO MOIST SOIL

SUN: ☀️
SOIL MOISTURE: 🌧️-💧
SEASONAL COLOR: APR-DEC

DESCRIPTION
The combination of flowering perennials, native ornamental grass and shrubs add year-round interest with texture and color. This design also provides important foraging grounds and habitat for birds, bees and butterflies. Butterfly weed (or milkweed) is a host plant for monarch butterflies. It also readily seeds, so patient gardeners can plant less, letting it naturally colonize over time. If exposure to salt spray is a concern, search for more salt-tolerant plants.

ALTERNATIVE
Shrub substitutes: For dry soils, Adams' needle (Yucca filamentosa) is a good choice. Otherwise, opt for inkberry (Ilex glabra).

Perennial substitutes: eastern smooth beardtongue (Penstemon laevis), sand coneflower (Coreopsis lanceolata) or more butterfly weed. Also, add a tall (6-foot) semi-evergreen bush like zinnia (Zinnia pulverulenta) on the back of the border for year-round structure.

MAINTENANCE
Prune deadness in winter or early spring, if needed. Cut back grasses in late winter or early spring. Leave an 8-to-12-inch crown on mulch grass.

PLAN VIEW 5' x 20'

PLANT SELECTION

NO.	QTY	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PLANT TYPE	SIZE	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
A	3	Sweet pepper bush	Cleome spinosa	SHRUB	3' D.C.											
B	18	Butterfly weed	Asclepias tuberosa	PERENNIAL	12" D.C.											
C	3	Blue wild indigo	Epilobium angustifolium	PERENNIAL	18" D.C.											
D	3	Purple coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	PERENNIAL	15" D.C.											
E	6	Mulch grass	Muhlenbergia capillaris	GRASS	2' D.C.											

BIRD-FRIENDLY SCREEN

FOR DRY TO MOIST AREAS WITH SUN TO PART-SHADE

SUN: ☀️
SOIL MOISTURE: 🌧️-💧
SEASONAL COLOR: MAY-DEC

DESCRIPTION
All plants in this design attract birds to the yard. Wax myrtle, inkberry and beautyberry produce abundant berries in late summer and autumn that are irresistible to birds and other backyard wildlife. Many birds also eat the seeds of the orange coneflower.

This design provides a screen to increase privacy or block unwanted views. It also creates a stand-alone garden area for observing wildlife. Only female plants of wax myrtle and inkberry produce berries, so try to select a female plant in the nursery and ensure there are male plants nearby for pollination (in a neighbor's yard or a natural area). This approach is also true for the alternatives below.

Wax myrtle and beautyberry are fast-growing while inkberry is slow-growing.

ALTERNATIVE
All of these plants should be readily available. If you need less height, dwarf varieties exist for most of the shrubs.

Shrub substitutes: For wax myrtle, try yaupon holly (Ilex verticillata). For beautyberry, choose winterberry holly (Ilex verticillata) or red chokeberry (Aronia arbutifolia). For inkberry, try dwarf palmetto (Sabal minor) or variegated cordyline (Cordyline allamanda).

MAINTENANCE
If needed, shrubs can be pruned in late autumn or winter. Beautyberry can be pruned more than other shrubs if a smaller size is desired, but it also thrives if left to grow. Wax myrtle recovers quickly from minor storm damage, but broken branches or damaged bark should be removed.

PLAN VIEW 5' x 20'

PLANT SELECTION

NO.	QTY	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PLANT TYPE	SIZE	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
A	1	Wax myrtle	Myrica carolinensis	SHRUB	4.5' D.C.											
B	4	Inkberry	Alnus glabra	SHRUB	6.5' D.C.											
C	1	American beautyberry	Callicarpa americana	SHRUB	8' D.C.											
D	18	Orange coneflower	Rudbeckia hirta	PERENNIAL	18" D.C.											

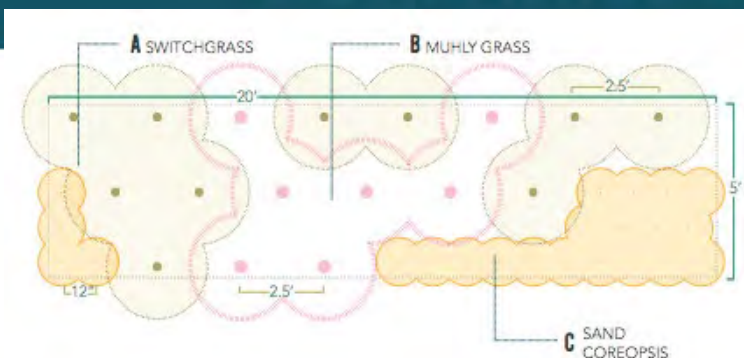
go.ncsu.edu/CoastalLandscapes

Greening Your Space
Creating Eco-Friendly Container Gardens for Coastal North Carolina
From the COASTAL LANDSCAPES INITIATIVE

FILTER STRIP

FOR SUNNY AREAS WITH DRY TO MOIST SOIL

SUN: ☀️☀️☀️
SOIL MOISTURE: 💧—💧💧
SEASONAL COLOR: SPRING & FALL



go.ncsu.edu/ModelLandscapes

Notable Coastal North Carolina Landscaping

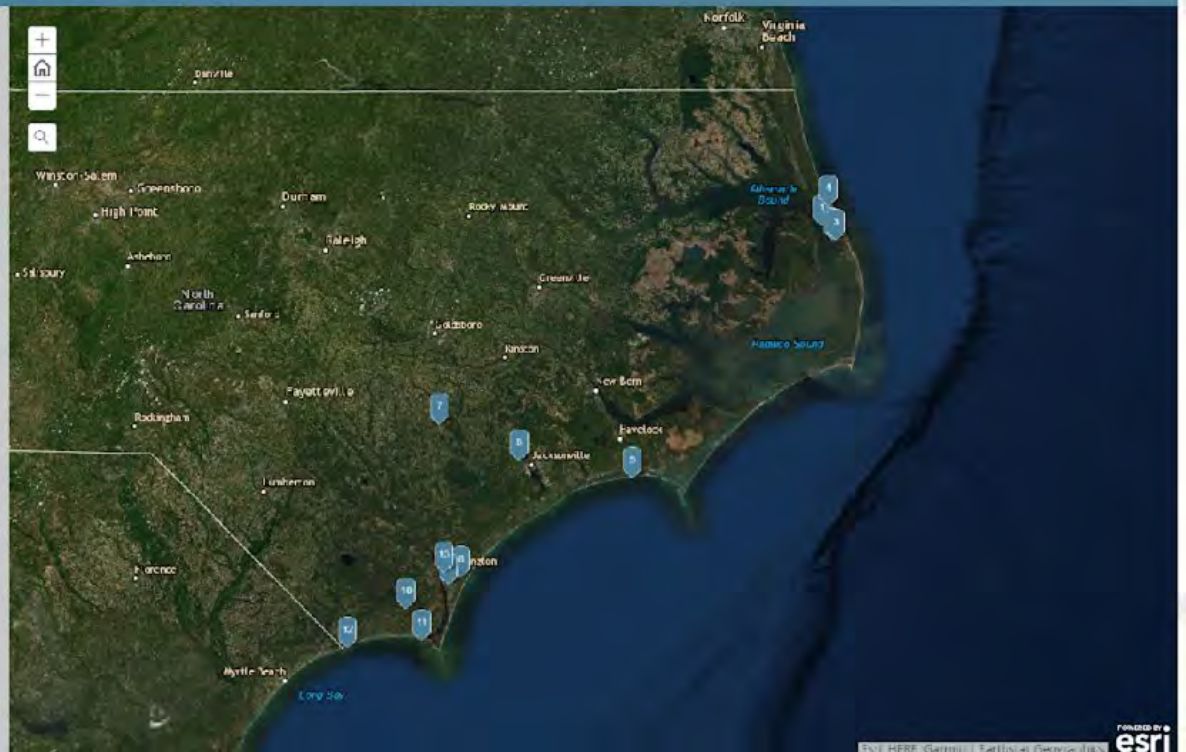
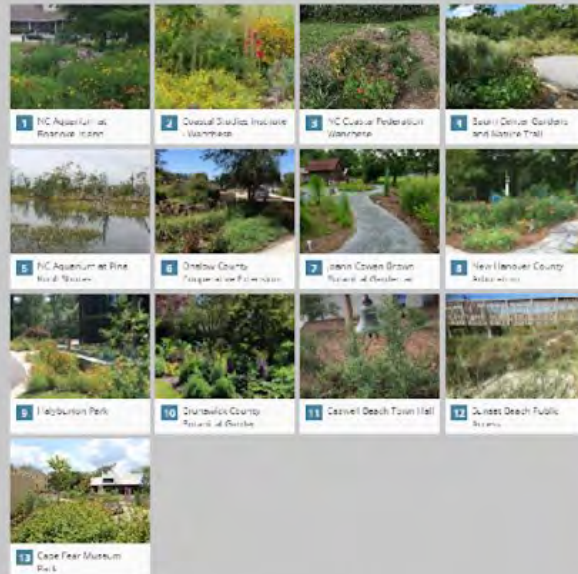
This map identifies publicly accessible sites with attractive and beneficial landscaping features, primarily using native plants, that can be replicated on residential and commercial or government properties. Sites have been vetted through partners of the Coastal Landscapes Initiative. To suggest additional sites for this map please complete the online form found here: go.ncsu.edu/suggestCLISite or contact Ulona Putnam at 919-959-1469 and gputnam@ncsu.edu. To learn more about the initiative visit go.ncsu.edu/coastallandscapes.

Coastal Landscapes Initiative



Native Plant / Pollinator / Rain Gardens

Commercial / Public Space / Stormwater Pond Designs



Created by esri

NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox plants.ces.ncsu.edu

NC STATE EXTENSION

North Carolina
Extension Gardener
Plant Toolbox

Home Find a Plant Identify a Plant Design Gallery Help Give Now Contact

Search Search

NC Region: Coastal Plant Type: Bulb Plant Type: Native Plant

17 plants by Scientific Common Name

Display: [Grid] [List]

Find a Plant

Cultural Conditions

- Light
- Soil Texture
- Soil pH
- Soil Drainage
- Available Space To Plant

NC Region

- ☒ Coastal 17
- ☐ Mountains 13
- ☐ Piedmont 15

USDA Plant Hardiness Zone

Landscape

- Landscape Location
- Landscape Theme
- Design Feature
- Attracts
- Resistance To Challenges
- Problems to exclude

Whole Plant Traits

Plant Type

- ☒ Bulb 17
- ☐ Cool Season Vegetable 1
- ☐ Edible 1
- ☐ Ground Cover 1
- ☐ Herb 2
- ☐ Herbaceous Perennial 5
- ☒ Native Plant 17
- ☐ Perennial 12
- ☐ Poisonous 4
- ☐ Weed 1
- ☐ Wildflower 9

Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics

- Habit/Form
- Growth Rate
- Maintenance

Allium canadense
Meadow Garlic, Wild Garlic, Wild Onion

Allium cuthbertii
Cuthbert's Onion, Striped Garlic

Amianthium muscitoxicum
Crow Poison, Fly Poison, Stagger Grass

Crinum americanum var. americanum
Seven-sisters, String-illy, Swamp-lily

Hymenocallis occidentalis var. occidentalis
Hammock Spiderlily, Woodland Spiderlily

Iris cristata
Crested Iris, Dwarf Crested Iris, Iris

Iris tridentata
Savannah Iris

Iris verna
Dwarf Iris, Dwarf Violet Iris, Vernal Iris

Liatris
Blazing Stars, Gay Feather

Liatris spicata
Blazing Star, Blazing Stars, Dense Blazing Star, Dense Button Snakeroot, Gayfeather, Marsh Blazing Star, Sessile-headed Blazing Star, Snakeroot, Spike Gayfeather

Liatris spicata var. resinosa
Bog Blazing Star, Dense Blazing Star, Dense Button Snakeroot

Lilium superbum
Turk's Cap Lily, Turk's-cap Lily

Sisyrinchium atlanticum
Bicknell Blue-eyed Grass, Eastern Blue Eyed Grass

Sisyrinchium mucronatum
Needle-pointed Blue-eyed Grass, Needle-tip Blue-eyed Grass, Slender Blue-eyed Grass

Tipularia discolor
Crane-fly Orchid, Crippled Crane-fly

Zephyranthes atamasco
Atamasco Lily, Common Atamasco-lily, Fairy Lily, Rain Lily, Zephyr Lily

Zephyranthes drummondii
Evening Rain Lily, Evening Star Rain Lily, Giant rain lily, Hill Country Rain Lily, Prairie Lily, Prairie Lily, Rain Lily

- Find a Plant
- Identify a Plant
- Gallery of Garden Designs
- **Filter to generate lists of plants to fill niche**
- Photographs
- Botanical features
- Life cycle
- Seasonal interest
- Native alternatives
- Better adapted options

Nature At Home



newhanover.ces.ncsu.edu/nature-at-home/resources/

Consumer Horticulture

Horticulture Programs
Nature at Home, School Gardens &
Garbage to Gardens

Pesticide Classes

Native Plants

Cape Fear Native Plant Festival-Re-
Imagined!

Extension Master GardenerSM Volunteer Program

Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale
EMGVA Grants

New Hanover County 4-H

Enrollment: 4-H Online 2.0 4-H Programs
4-H Clubs in New Hanover County,
4-H Teen Leaders Council

4-H School Enrichment
Embryology School
Enrichment Program

4-H Events and Awards ...
4-H Presentations / Public
Speaking, 4-H Project Record
Books, Annual 4-H Food Drive
Caring HEARTS, Helping HANDS

Therapeutic Horticulture

Simple Activity Sheets Accessibility in
School Gardens Campus Nature Rx ...

Family & Consumer Sciences in
New Hanover County

Nature at Home Program Resources

> [en Español](#) / [em Português](#)

Nature at Home Resources

- [Homeowner Folder Contents](#) 🌱
- [Nature at Home Practices and Principles](#) 🌱
- [Nature at Home Brochure](#) 🌱
- [Recommended Native Plants for Southeastern NC](#) 🌱
- [Coastal Native Plant Sources \(NC\)](#) 🌱
- [Cape Fear Area Garden Centers](#) 🌱

Helpful Links for Eco-Friendly Landscaping

- [How to Create Wildlife-Friendly Landscapes](#)
- [Coastal Landscapes Initiative](#) 🌱 (NC State) Includes design templates, native plant guides, brochures, and more
- [Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants](#) (NC State Extension)
- [Butterflies in Your Backyard](#) (NC State Extension)
- [Managing Backyard and other Urban Habitat for Birds](#) (NC State Extension)
- [How to Make Wildlife Friendly Landscapes](#) (NC State Extension)

<https://newhanover.ces.ncsu.edu/nature-at-home/>

Native Plants for Coastal North Carolina Landscapes

"We can each make a measurable difference almost immediately by planting a native nearby. As gardeners and stewards of our land, we have never been so empowered—and the ecological stakes have never been so high."

Dr. Orlan Tackx



The Dune Book



Matt Collogan

- Area Natural Resources Agent – NC Cooperative Extension
Brunswick, New Hanover, Pender counties
 - Plant Clinic at NHC Arboretum – Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm,
6206 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, NC
 - mecollog@ncsu.edu
 - 910-253-2584
 - <https://brunswick.ces.ncsu.edu>
- Supervisor – New Hanover
Soil & Water Conservation
District
 - <https://soilwater.nhcgov.com/>

