



## BENEFICIAL PLANT SELECTION: Things to consider when making choices

1

**Q. Which are the  
best plants?  
A. Lots to consider!**

(The Habitat Hundred List might help)

2



Trees host hundreds of caterpillar species

3



*Asclepias tuberosa*  
Butterfly milkweed

with Monarch caterpillar  
(and a dozen other species)

4





**Caryopteris = 0**



**Solidago caesia = 115**


No baby bird food



**9000+**

Lots of baby bird food

5

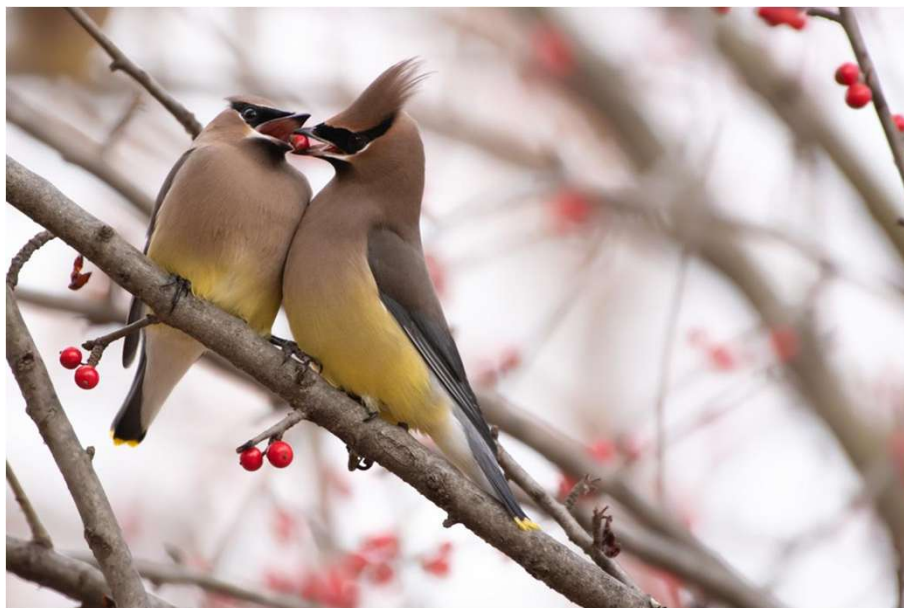


*Prunus serotina*  
 Black cherry  
 with tent caterpillars  
 & 390 other species

(Consider: what is an insect pest?)

6

What if you're a empty-nest bird?



7



*Euonymus americanus*  
**strawberry bush**

Height: 3 to 6'

Blooms: May and June; white/purple

Light: part sun to full shade

Soil: moist; sandy loam

Note: also known as hearts-a-bustin'  
deciduous fall color red; deer-candy



Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © Oct 7, 2013



8





*Panicum virgatum*  
Switchgrass

Leave  
seed heads for  
overwintering  
birds

9



*Viburnum*  
*acerfolium*

Mapleleaf  
viburnum

(Great for shelter from  
pesky predators)

10

What if you're a pollinator?

11



*Rudbeckia hirta* Black-eyed Susan

supports 29 bee species

12



*Symphyotrichum  
novae-angliae*

New England Aster

supports 33 bee  
species

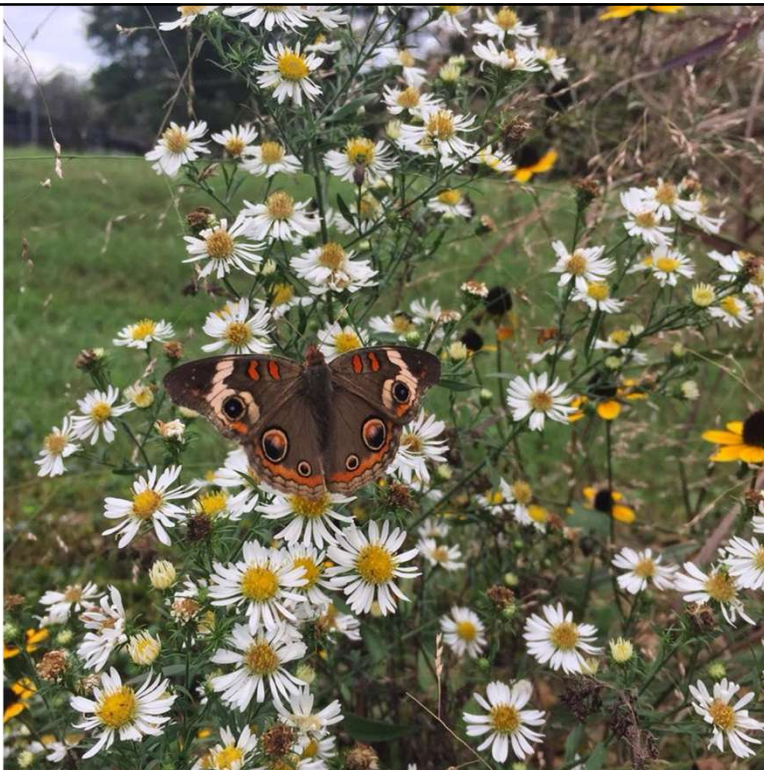
13

**CONTINUOUS BLOOM**  
A beautiful eco-garden throughout  
the growing season

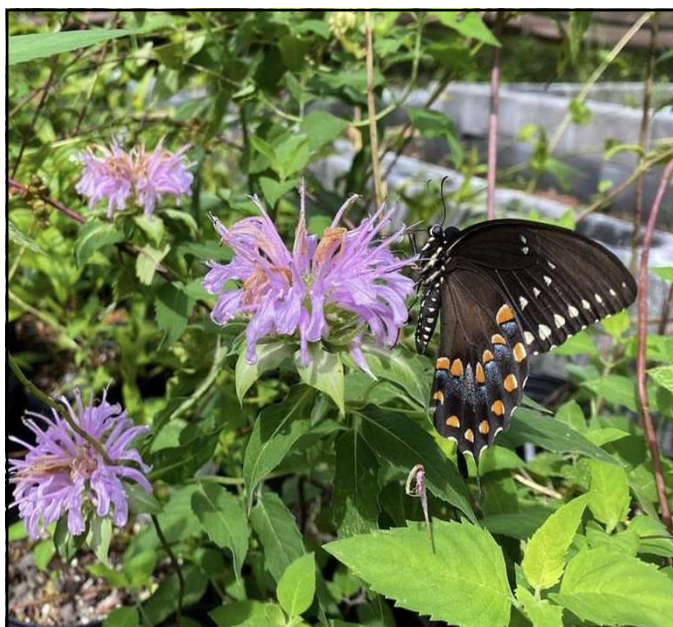
14



What  
if  
you're  
a  
butterfly?

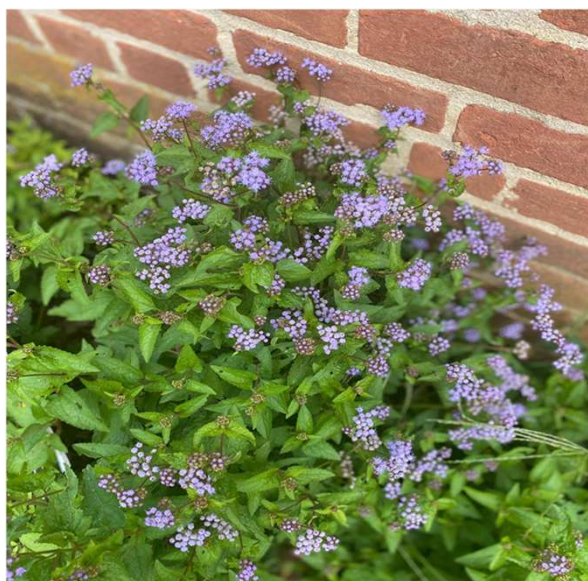


15



*Monarda fistulosum*  
Wild Bee Balm

*Conoclinium coelestinum*  
Blue Mistflower



16



## HIERARCHY OF GARDEN PLANTS

WORST



BEST

EXOTIC INVASIVES

AGGRESSIVE NATIVES

INTRODUCTIONS

NEAR NATIVES—  
Cultivars,  
Regionals

LOCAL ECOTYPES

TOP TEN/KEYSTONES

17



A biodiverse  
garden  
supports all  
wildlife.

18



What  
if  
you're  
a  
HUMAN?

19

## Landscape Considerations

Sun/Shade

Damp/Dry

Wet/Erosion

Layers

20





21



***Monarda punctata***  
**spotted beebalm**

**Height: 0.5 to 3.5'**

**Blooms: July to Sept; purple/yellow**

**Light: full sun to part shade**

**Soil: dry; loam, sandy loam**

**Note: aromatic herb**



Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © July 20, 2014

22



*Pycnanthemum muticum*

Clustered Mountain Mint

23



Tall  
Tall sun-loving plants  
Tall

*Helianthus  
giganteus/  
Giant  
Sunflower*

*Vernonia  
noveboracensis/  
New York Ironweed*



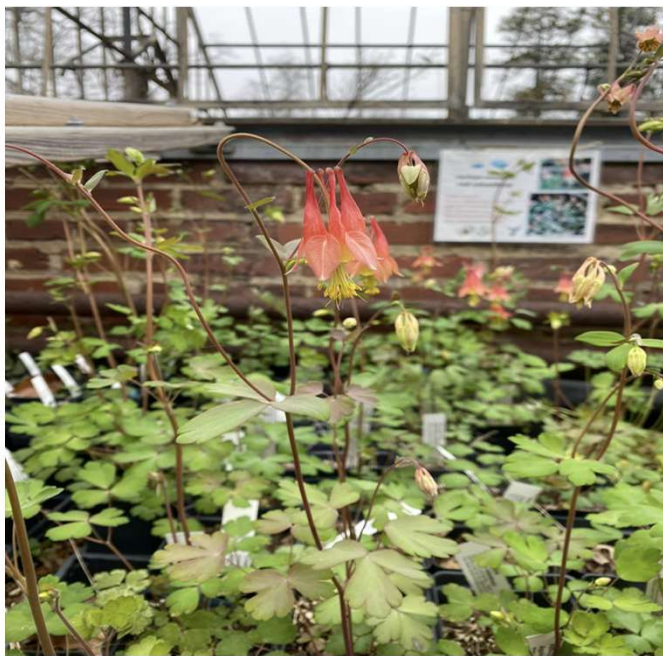
24



## SHADE—Can it be an advantage?

25

*Chelone glabra*  
White turtlehead



*Aquilegia canadensis* / Red columbine

26



Wild Ginger - *Asarum canadense*

*Eurybia divaricata* / White wood aster



27

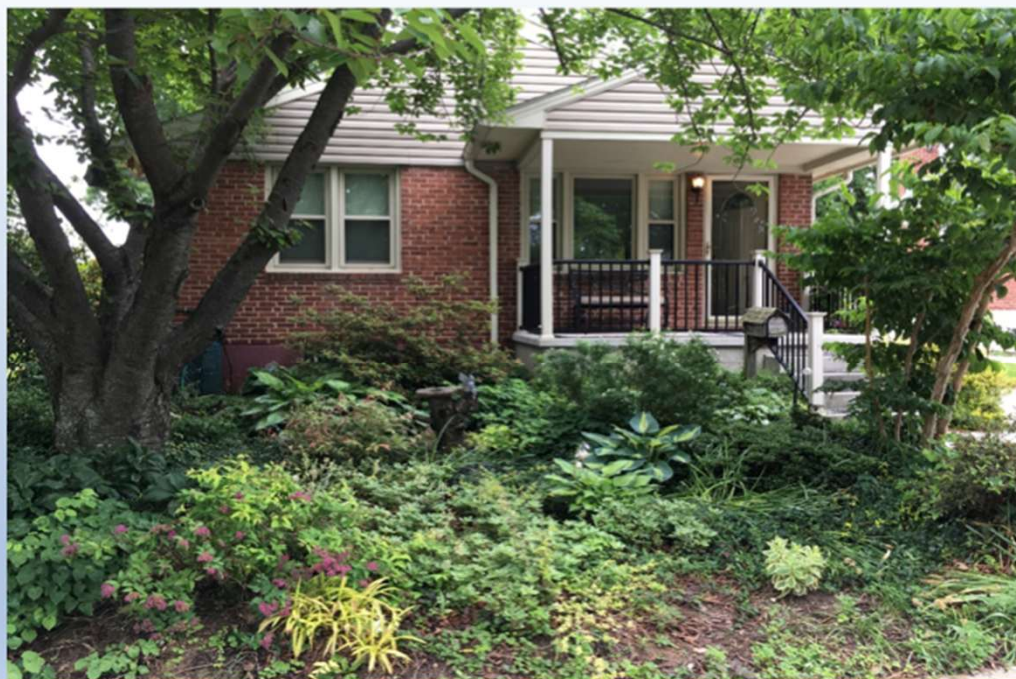


Photo by Erin Reed-Miller

28





## Rain garden

Find a spot  
like this.

29



*Asclepias incarnata*/ Swamp milkweed



*Hibiscus  
moscheutos*

Swamp  
rosemallow



30





*Lobelia cardinalis*  
Cardinal flower

*Lobelia siphilitica*  
Great blue lobelia



31

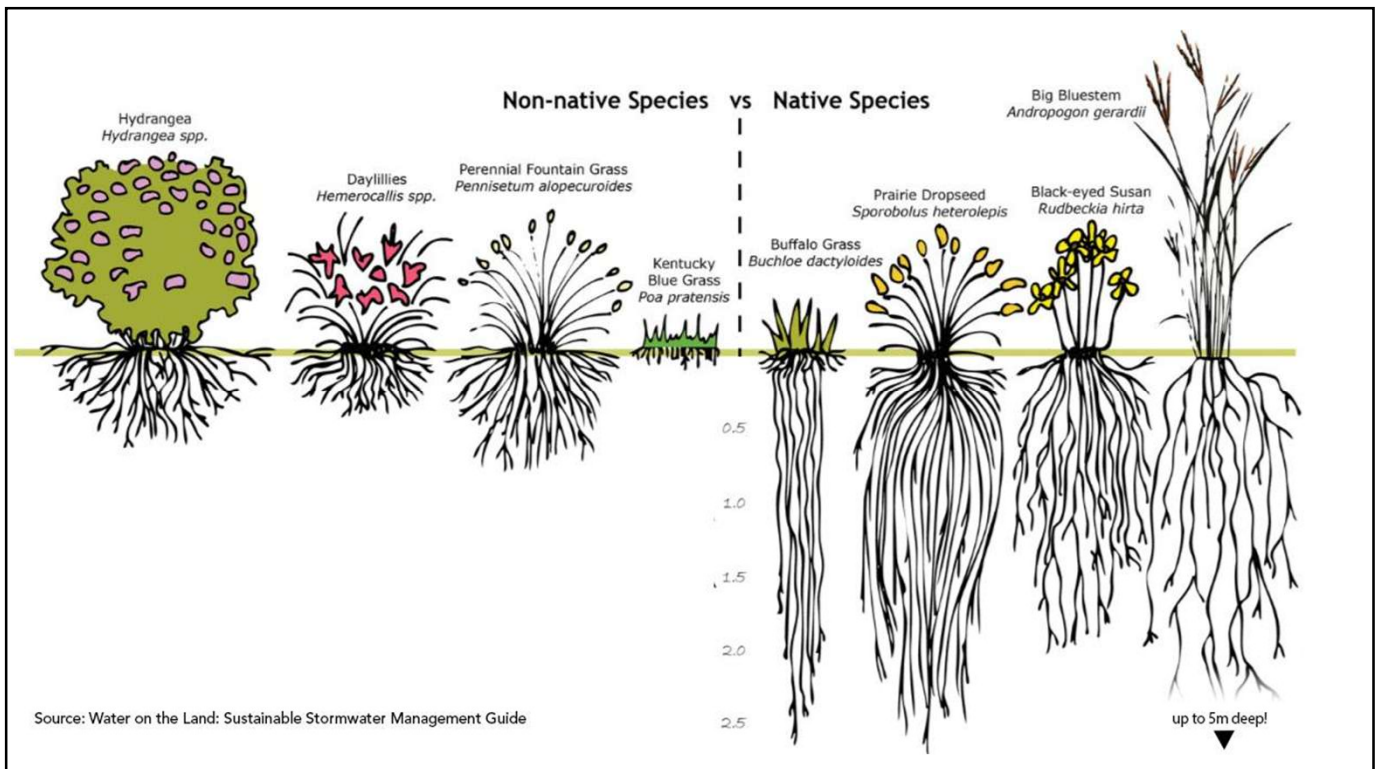


32





33



34





*Eragrostis spectabilis*  
**purple lovegrass**

**Height: 1 to 2'**

**Blooms: August to October; purple**

**Light: full sun**

**Soil: dry; sand, loam, clay**

**Host: skippers**



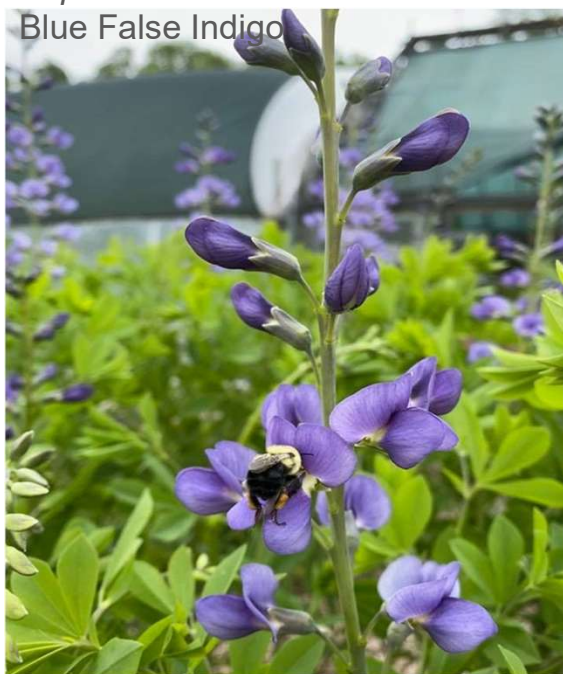
Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © Sept 6, 2013

35



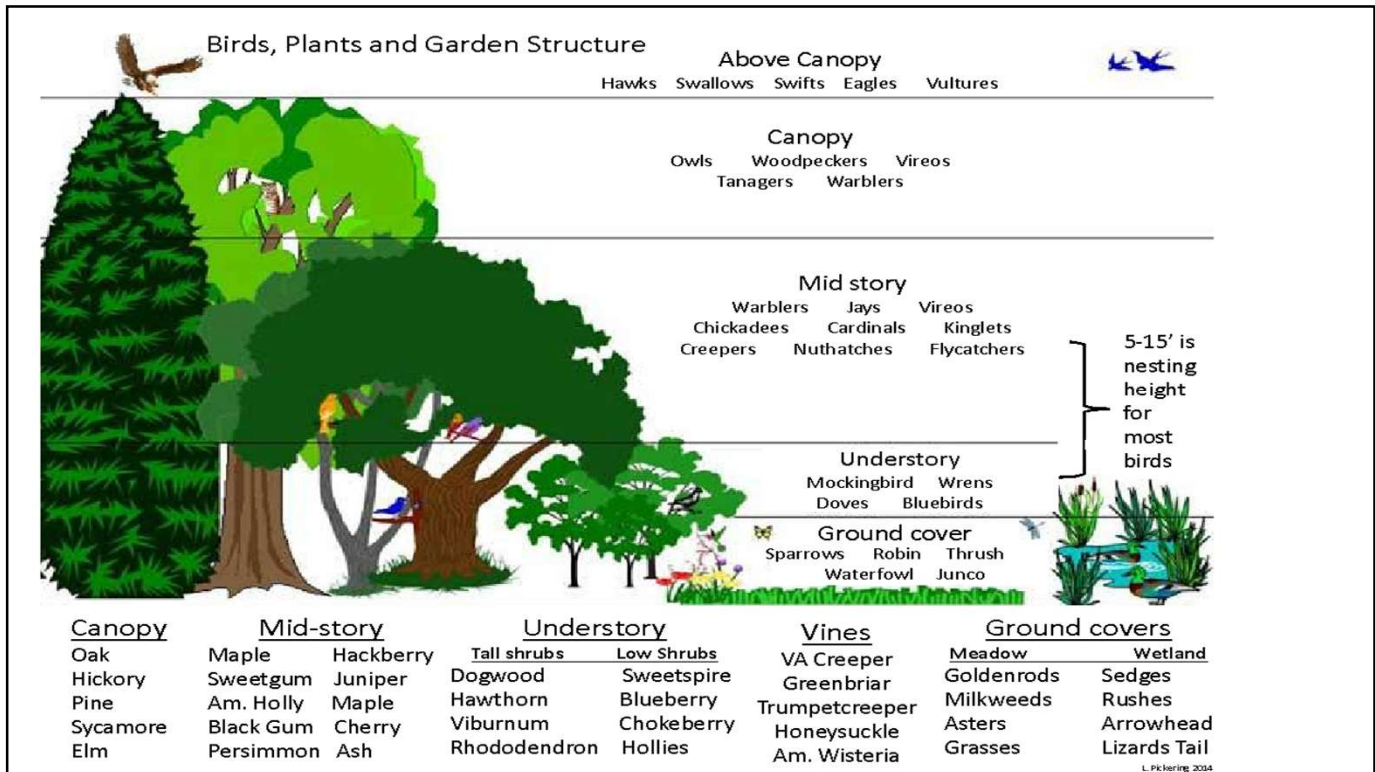
*Penstemon digitalis*  
Hairy Beardtongue

*Baptisia australis*  
Blue False Indigo





36








37







***Veronicastrum virginicum***  
**Culver's root**

**Height:** 3 to 5'  
**Blooms:** June to September; white  
**Light:** full sun to part shade  
**Soil:** moist to wet; loamy-clay  
**Note:** white spires of flowers

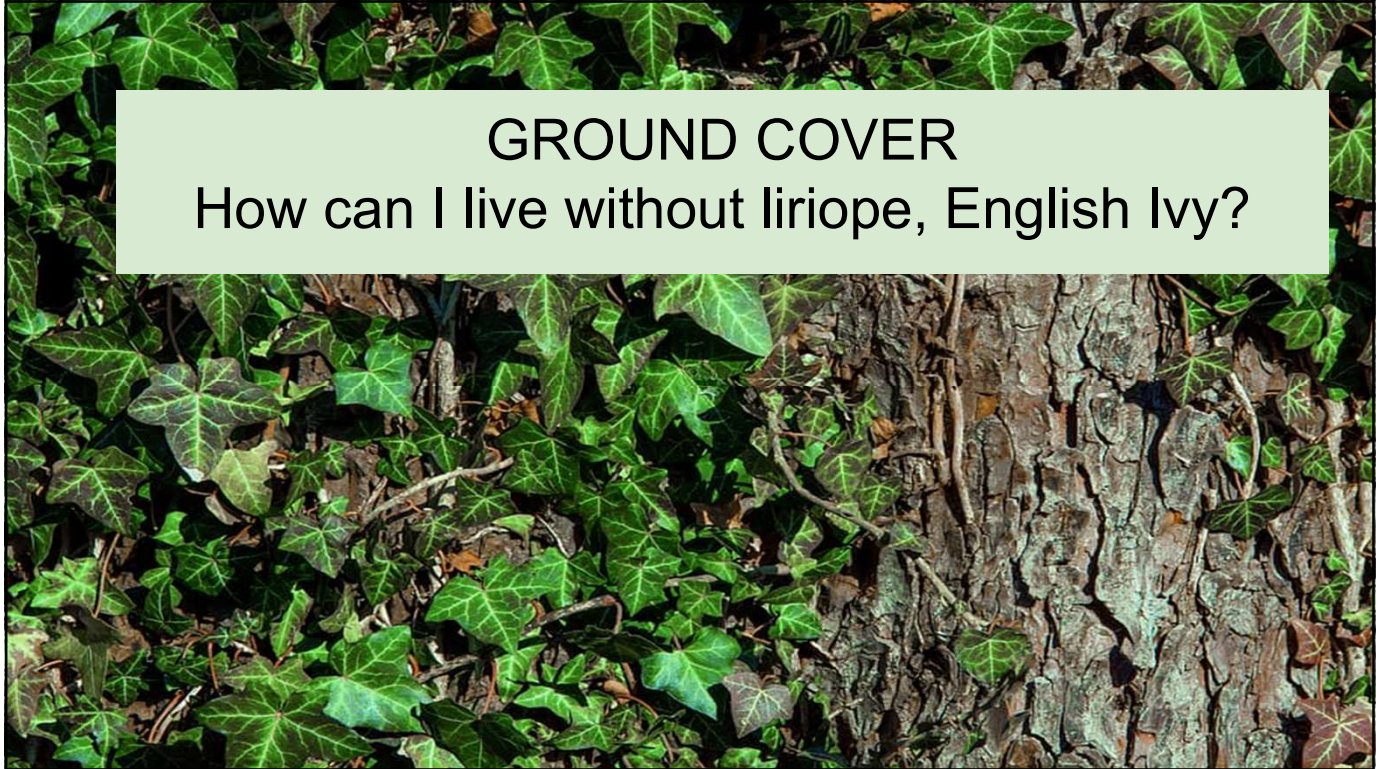



Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © Sept 6, 2013

***Eutrochium fistulosum***  
**Hollow Joe Pye Weed**

38








## GROUND COVER

### How can I live without liriopse, English Ivy?

39






*Fragaria virginiana*  
Wild strawberry

*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*  
**narrowleaf  
blue-eyed grass**

Height: 0.5 to 1'  
 Blooms: May and June; blue  
 Light: full sun to part shade  
 Soil: moist; sandy  
 Note: dies back in summer and  
 looks ragged



Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © Sept 6, 2013

40





***Antennaria plantaginifolia***  
**plantainleaf pussytoes**

**Height: 3 to 6"**

**Blooms: April and May; white**

**Light: full sun to part shade**

**Soil: dry to moist; well-drained loam**

**Host to: American painted lady**

**Note: evergreen, erosion control**



Chesapeake Natives, Inc. © Sept 6, 2013

41

## Lifestyle considerations



What's your budget?  
time and energy?

What's your

What's your space like?

What's the look you

42



43



44



## CONTAINER GARDENING

No yard? You can still benefit wildlife.



45

## HOW TO MANAGE COST

1. PLANT A small SECTION AT A TIME
2. DIVIDE AND SPREAD PLANTS INTO YOUR OWN YARD
3. SWAP EXTRAS WITH NEIGHBORS
4. LEARN TO PROPAGATE YOUR OWN PLANTS
5. LOOK FOR WAYS TO DEFRAY COST–  
Spring and Fall plant sales  
Special offers–free stuff, incentives



46





*Thuja  
occidentalis*

Arborvitae

(for privacy  
screening and  
evergreen accents)

47

Garden  
rooms



48





A Natural Play Area:

The best plants are trees and their "debris" GIFTS.

49



Which niche?

Just enough lawn for play and entertaining.

The rest of the space for natives and veggies.

50



## VEGGIE GARDENING

### How can I integrate it with wildlife gardening?

51

### Six Reasons Why Vegetable Gardens Need Native Plants

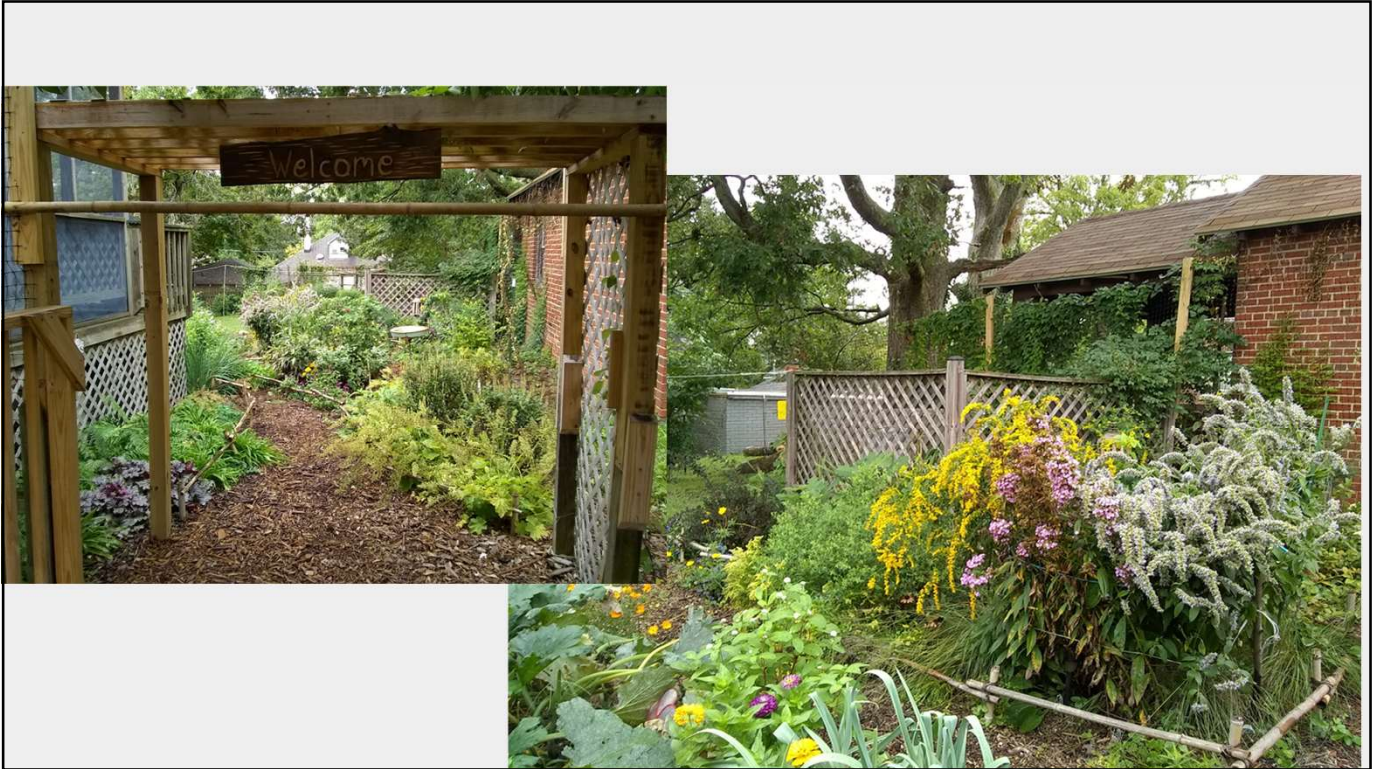


1. Your vegetables will do better.
2. You will no longer need to use pesticides in your garden.
3. You will have to water less.
4. You will be able to avoid using chemical fertilizers.
5. Your gardening will become less labor intensive.
6. You will be helping the planet.



52





53



54



## Traditional landscape replacements



Foundation  
plantings

55



56





57



58