

Native Plants in your Neighborhood

6 BENEFITS OF NATIVE PLANTS

SAVE YOU TIME AND MONEY

Native plants require less water, less maintenance, and they need little to no fertilizer, pesticides, or herbicides.



NO NEED TO REPLACE ANNUALLY

They are easier to establish, maintain, and do not need to be replaced annually.



REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

Native plants absorb more stormwater runoff, mitigating climate change impacts.



SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT

Native species provide food and shelter for wildlife and protect water quality.



BUY LOCAL

Purchasing native plants from Michigan-based suppliers helps support local businesses.



CREATE BEAUTY

Michigan offers a wide variety of beautiful and unique native plants that are available at local native plant nurseries.

NATIVE PLANT SUGGESTIONS



Butterfly Milkweed

Asclepias tuberosa

Bloom: June–Aug.

Height: 2–3 ft



Wild Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana

Bloom: April–May

Height: 4–7 inches



Canada Anemone

Anemone canadensis

Bloom: April–June

Height: 18 inches



Blazing Star

Liatris

Bloom: Aug.–Sept.

Height: 2–3 ft



Indian Grass

Sorghastrum nutans

Bloom: Aug.–Sept.

Height: 2–7 ft



Hazelnut

Corylus americana

Bloom: March

Height: 2–3 ft

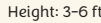


New England Aster

Symphyotrichum novae-angliae

Bloom: Aug.–Oct.

Height: 3–6 ft



Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

Bloom: July–Oct.

Height: 2–3 ft



KEY



Full sun



Partial sun



Moist soil



Dry soil



Attracts butterflies



Supports pollinators



Supports birds

KNOW THE INVADERS!

These plant species are common ornamental invasive plants that are planted in Oakland County. Avoid these plants, and if you have planted them, replace them with native plants. Even if these plants are being sold at local nurseries, do not purchase or plant them. For a full list of Michigan invasive species, refer to the QR code below.



Zebra Grass



Periwinkle Myrtle



Burning Bush



English Ivy

PLANTING TIMELINE & TIPS

1 PREPARE FOR SUCCESS

- Develop a plant list with varying heights and varying bloom times.
- Prepare your site by removing existing plants and weeds through sheet mulching, herbicide applications, or weeding.
- Know your soil and sun exposure.
- Develop and maintain a border around your planting for a manicured look.
- Contact a native plant nursery or native plant sale to determine timing for ordering.

2 FIRST YEAR - PLANTING

- Order plants in late winter/early spring.
- Ensure site prep is complete.
- Mulch your planting area to keep weeds down.
- Pick up plants and plant 12 to 18 inches apart.
- Water immediately after planting and during dry weather.

3 SECOND YEAR - BLOOMING

- Mulch and weed as necessary around your plants in the spring.
- Most native plants will be able to survive on rainfall alone. Water only in drought conditions.
- Trim back dead material in fall or early spring. Leave dry and dormant material for wildlife over the winter.

4 CONTINUING MAINTENANCE

Your native plants will require significantly less maintenance than nonnatives. Here are some maintenance tips:

- Remove dormant material in the late fall or early spring.
- Leave leaf litter in place year round. Excess leaf litter can be gently raked out in the spring.
- Pull weeds as soon as you recognize them.

