RELIABLE, DURABLE AND DEPENDABLE NATIVE PLANTS FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA

The following list of favorite natives was compiled by Jake Ingram, Landscape Architect in 2013. These plants (68 in total with 24 “favorites” marked with *) are all inhabitants of upland sites in Florida and, with three or four exceptions, are native to NE Florida counties, USDA Zones 8B & 9A.

- **TREES (14)**
  - Live Oak *Quercus virginiana*
  - Southern Magnolia *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Sweetbay Magnolia *Magnolia virginiana*
  - Sabal Palm *Sabal palmetto*
  - Winged Elm *Ulmus alata*
  - Loblolly Bay *Gordonia lasianthus*
  - Hornbeam *Carpinus caroliniana*
  - Fringe Tree *Chionanthus virginicus*
  - Florida Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum ssp. 'floridanum'*
  - American Holly *Ilex opaca*
  - Yaupon Holly *Ilex vomitoria (Tree-Form, Std., Multi-Stem)*
  - Black Gum *Nyssa sylvatica*
  - Southern Red Cedar *Juniperus virginiana (silicicola)*
  - Slash & Longleaf Pines *Pinus elliotti, P. palustris*
  - Dogwood *Cornus florida*

- **SHRUBS, PALMS & CYCADS (14)**
  - Yellow or Ocala Anise *Illicium parviflorum*
  - Florida Anise *Illicium floridanum*
  - Simpson’s Stopper *Myrcianthes fragrans*
  - Walter’s Viburnum *Viburnum obovatum (incl. dwarf variety)*
  - Saw Palmetto *Serenoa repens (green & silver)*
  - Blue Stem Palmetto *Sabal minor*
  - Coontie *Zamia pumila*
  - Needle Palm *Rhapidophyllum hystrix*
  - Spanish Bayonet *Yucca aloifolia*
  - Yaupon Holly *Ilex vomitoria (nana & pendula)*
  - Wax Myrtle *Myrica cerifera (incl. dwarf varieties)*
  - American Beautyberry *Callicarpa americana*
  - Oakleaf Hydrangea *Hydrangea quercifolia*
  - Florida Flame Azalea *Rhododendron austrinum*
  - Firebush *Hamelia patens*

- **GROUND COVERS AND FERNS (8)**
  - Partridgeberry *Mitchella repens*
  - Sunshine Mimosa *Mimosa strigillosa*
  - Wild Petunia *Ruellia caroliniana*
  - Beargrass, Adam’s Needle *Yucca filamentosa*
  - Venus Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum capillus-veneris*
  - Southern Shield Fern *Thelypteris kunthii*
  - Dichondra or Ponyfoot *Dichondra caroliniana*
The favorites are judged on their longevity, toughness, drought-tolerance, utility as an urban ‘landscape’ plant, visual or aesthetic beauty and adaptability to well-drained, upland sites in northeast Florida.
THE BEST BOOKS IN PRINT ABOUT LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVES

For Inspiration, the WHY:
This will answer the age-old question:  Why should I use Native Plants in my yard/garden?

For Getting it Done, the HOW:
Every page of this book is packed with pithy information about gardening, especially the first 46 pages.  Read a little bit every day. . .


WHERE CAN I FIND NATIVE PLANTS IN MY AREA?

Start with the Association of Florida Native Nurseries’ web site -  www.AFNN.org.  Click on “Find Plants” to help you locate a wholesale (or retail) grower that has the specific plant you’re looking for.  Pass this along to your local garden center, and they can get it for you.

To find a list of plants native to your county, go to  www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu  and click on your county on the state map in the center of the page.

Reflections of Nature nursery in Fernandina:  3030 S. 8th. St., A1A
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  www.rnlnursery.com  904 225 9915

Native and Uncommon Plants  6511 Lou Drive, S., Jacksonville, FL 32216
www.nativeanduncommonplants.com  904 388 9851

Philips Garden Center  Herschel St., Fairfax Manor has a limited selection.
www.philipsgardenstore.com

Trad’s Nursery  8178  San Jose Blvd. has a limited selection  www.tradsgardencenter.com
904 733 7549
Native Gardens Nursery  St. Augustine, FL  www.nativeplantconsulting.com  904 692 3927

Earthworks Garden Center  12501 Beach Blvd. Jax., FL  www.earth.works.com  904 996-0712

Southern Horticulture  St. Augustine, FL  www.southernhorticulture.com  904 471-0440

ADDITIONAL NATIVE PLANT INFORMATION ONLINE
The Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants, Institute of Systematic Botany, USF is a great resource for identifying and locating Native plants all over our state: www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu
For Invasive Exotic Plants consult:  http://www.plantatlas.usf.edu/flip/
The Florida Native Plant Society:  www.FNPS.org  The FNPS website offers a wealth of native plant gardening information with a variety of links, plus it tells you what the local IXIA Chapter is doing in their Northeast Florida region. The Ixia Chapter meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of months Sept thru June at the Willowbranch COJ Library. Please come join us!