

Some Sources of NATIVE PLANTS in 2023

5th EDITION (10-5-23)

by Patricia Sutton

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Wildlife Habitat / Conservation Gardening

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To help people find the top ranked plants in their county Doug Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home*, is working with National Wildlife Federation's Native Plant Finder: www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/ (a work in progress).

The **Jersey-Friendly Yards Website** has many helpful resources. Use their searchable plant database to help you select plants for your site. The database has many filters including a "native plants only" filter showcasing @ 313 natives, as well as filters for wildlife value, region, ecoregion (including barrier island/coastal, Pinelands), deer resistant, light requirement, soil type, soil moisture, drought tolerance, salt tolerance, bloom color, bloom time, plant type, and more. Check it out: www.jerseyyards.org/jersey-friendly-plants/ The site also includes a list of nurseries that sell natives county-by-county.

The **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center website** (<http://wildflower.org/>) has an excellent "Native Plants Database" that allows you to search for natives in your state narrowing the search based on plant type (tree, shrub, wildflower, etc.), conditions (sun, shade, dry, wet), and specifics (bloom time, bloom color, height).

Izel Native Plants is a **Marketplace for plants native to the contiguous US. They are not a nursery, but consolidate the inventories of wholesale-only growers and retail nurseries that are dedicated to the responsible collection and propagation of native species into a practical MAIL-ORDER SOLUTION. No cultivars, no neonicotinoids.**

Be sure to read how & why Izel Plants came to be:

<https://www.izelplants.com/our-story/>

They begin shipping plants the week of April 4.

Hours: Mon. to Fri., 9 am - 5 pm. 410-989-3721;

<https://www.izelplants.com/>

NEW JERSEY (continued)

Summersweet Native Plants **open by appointment ONLY**; 6863 Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330 (Atlantic Co.); 609-287-0596; Orders can be placed and appointments to visit the nursery or schedule an order pick up can be made on the website: <https://summersweetnativeplants.com/shop/> Summersweet began accepting orders on April 1, 2023.

info@summersweetnativeplants.com

Heidi Hanlon grows native perennials, shrubs, and trees that benefit wildlife. Her **plants are available by appointment** through the growing season, but she is hosting a **plant sale on Sat., May 20**, (previous sale Sat & Sun., **April 22 & 23**), from 8 am - 2 pm at 24 Cardinal Drive (off Rt. 47 near mm 13), Cape May Court House, NJ (Cape May Co.). See 'Wild About Plants at Heidi's Acre' on Facebook for inventory/pricing. hjhanlon@yahoo.com, 609-425-9097. Cash, check, Venmo, and Zelle. Perennials (\$6); vines, shrubs, & trees (\$12-\$20).

Pinelands Preservation Alliance's "**Spring Native Plant Sale**" will be held in person on **April 21 (3-6 pm for Members ONLY, so join NOW) and April 22 (9 am - Noon: OPEN to the Public)** at the Pinelands Visitor Center (Bishop Farmstead), 17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton, NJ 08088 (Burlington Co.). Check website for updates, sale events, & plant list (to be posted mid-April): <https://pinelandsalliance.org/explore-the-pinelands/pinelands-events-and-programs/spring-native-plant-sales/>

D&R Greenway Land Trust's **Native Plant Sales** at the Johnson Education Center, One Preservation Place, Princeton, NJ 08540 (Mercer Co.); 609-924-4646. **2023 Native Plant Sales: Th., Apr. 20 (Noon-4 pm); Fri., Apr. 21 (1-4 pm); Sat., Apr. 22 (9-11:30 am)**. Check website for plant availability list & future sales:

<https://drgreenway.org/shop/native-plants/>

NEW JERSEY

Goshen Gardens (Nursery), 570 N Delsea Dr, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210; 609-778-4075 (Cape May Co.); goshengardensnj@gmail.com; www.goshengardensnj.com

Open Saturdays and Sundays beginning April 8, and every weekend thru October 28, 2023. April 8 - June 24: Saturdays & Sundays (9 am - 4 pm). July & August SUMMER hours: Saturdays (9 am - 4 pm), Sundays (9 am - 1 pm). September 2 - October 28: Saturdays & Sundays (9 am - 4 pm). Nice selection of native trees, shrubs and perennials; they only sell what they grow and all plants are pesticide free.

Flora for Fauna Nursery **open by appointment ONLY**, but owner Karen Williams will host a **number of Open House Sales in 2023** from 9 am - 3 pm: **April 22, May 13-14**, & as future dates are set, this document will be updated. 1209 Freidriechstadt Ave, Woodbine, NJ 08270 (Cape May Co.); 609-442-3747; flora4fauna@verizon.net. The week before each sale, check the nursery's Facebook page for a list of available plants.

(OVER)

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Dustin Welch, **The Wildlife Gardener**, offers an assortment of native plants for retail sale and creative landscape design BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. He is hosting **native plant sales Fri., May 5 (5-7 pm) & Sat., May 6 (9 am - 2 pm), rain or shine.** 14 Woodland Road (off Goshen Road), Cape May Court House, NJ (Cape May Co.); TheWildlifeGardenerNJ@gmail.com ; follow The Wildlife Gardener on Facebook for current inventory, additional pop up sales, and to make appointments.

NJ Audubon's Spring Native Plant Sales will occur at 3 NJ Audubon Centers on Saturday, May 6th, from 10 am to 4 pm. Selections are limited and no pre-ordering, so arrive early. Check website for full details and plant lists: www.njaudubon.org/native-plant-sales/

- Nature Center of Cape May (NCCM), 1600 Delaware Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204 (Cape May Co.); 609-427-3045; nccm@njaudubon.org .
- Lorrimer Sanctuary, 790 Ewing Avenue, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417 (Bergen Co.); 908-396-6568; lorrimer@njaudubon.org.
- Scherman Hoffinan Sanctuary, 11 Hardscrabble Rd, Bernardsville, NJ 07924 (Somerset Co.); 908-396-7409; shws@njaudubon.org.

Cicconi Farms, 1005 Farmingdale Road, Jackson, NJ 08527 (Ocean Co.); 732-363-1420; www.cicconifarms.com/

Earth First Native Plant Nursery (Atlantic County); Raven Ahmed (grower/owner); 609-287-5090; Earth1stnatives@aol.com. **MAIL-ORDER only:** <http://www.earthfirstnatives.com/CustomervService.html>

Pinelands Direct Native Plants, an **online resource for native plants of the NE:** <http://www.pinelandsdirect.com/>; 609-379-3099. Have your order shipped or schedule a curbside pickup at Pinelands Direct (some larger plants are only available for pickup), 25346 Mount Pleasant Road, Columbus, New Jersey 08022 (Burlington Co.). Partnered with Pinelands Nursery to provide a retail outlet for native plants.

The Pollen Nation located in Bridgetown, NJ; **MAIL-ORDER only;** www.thepollennation.com . Plants are grown as deeper than normal landscape plugs (root mass of each plug is @ 2" by 4.5"), providing an accessible and affordable way to garden with native plants.

Rare Find Nursery, 957 Patterson Road, Jackson, NJ 08527 (Ocean Co.); 732-833-0613; support@rarefindnursery.com. A **MAIL-ORDER nursery, open by appointment ONLY (schedule a visit April - October by calling or emailing).** <https://www.rarefindnursery.com/>

NEW JERSEY (continued)

Toadshade Wildflower Farm Native Plant Nursery (Hunterdon County). **MAIL-ORDER only:** plants & seeds, but also preorders are welcome at all public events Toadshade attends. <http://www.toadshade.com/>; 908-996-7500. Toadshade partners with the Frenchtown Home & Hardware Store (11 Kingwood Ave, Frenchtown, NJ 08825), where orders can be picked up 7 days a week (with 24 hour notice, M-F). When ordering choose: (1) to have your order mailed, or (2) let Toadshade know you'll pick up your order at the hardware store, or (3) during your online checkout select pickup location at public event Toadshade attending (website clearly explains).

Triple Oaks Nursery, 2359 Delsea Drive, Franklinville, NJ 08322 (Gloucester, Co.); 856-694-4272; www.tripleoaks.com/ Some natives.

Wild Ridge Plants, 170 Mountain Rd, Alpha, NJ 08865 (Warren Co.); 908-235-7622 (**NEW #**); <http://wildridgeplants.com/>. **MAIL-ORDER and pick up by appointment only.** Native plants are chemical free and grown from locally collected seeds.

The Clemenson family sold their farm in 2020; **Clemenson Farms Native Nursery no longer exists** (though you may still find it on many native plant nursery lists).

Native Plant Society of NJ (look for a chapter near you): <https://www.npsnj.org/>

PENNSYLVANIA:

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve; 1635 River Road, New Hope, PA 18938 (Bucks Co.); 215-862-2924; www.bhwp.org/. See native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees in a natural setting: preserve trails are open (admission fee for non-member). The **Native Plant Nursery opened April 14, 2023, and is open 10 am to 4 pm every day the Preserve is open: April 14 - June (open DAILY); July - March (closed Tuesdays).** The nursery is **closing for the season on Monday, October 30, 2023.** Check plant availability at: www.bhwp.org/grow/native-plant-nursery/

Churchville Nature Center, 501 Churchville Lane, Churchville, PA 18966 (Bucks Co.); 215-357-4005. **Annual Native Perennial Wildflower Sale: April 29-30, May 6-7, 2023 (10 am - 5 pm).** As the date approaches, check for a plant availability list at: www.churchvillenaturecenter.org/

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PENNSYLVANIA (continued)

Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, 8480 Hagy's Mill Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128; 215-482-7300; www.schuylkillcenter.org. **2023 Native Plant Sale with Online Ordering is open now at:** <https://shop.schuylkillcenter.org/native-plants>

Natural Lands' **Buds & Suds Native Plant Sale. Shop online** (<https://natural-lands-plantsale.myshopify.com/>) **between April 16-20, 2023**, (or when sold out) and come by Stoneleigh (1829 County Line Rd, Villanova, PA 19085) at the pre-selected time to pick up the plants you've ordered and paid for online. Grab a to-go pack of suds from Tired Hands Brewing Company and tour the native plant gardens (10 - 5).

Tyler Arboretum, 515 Painter Road, Media, PA 19063; 610-566-9134. **2023 Plant Sale (Fundraiser)**, on **Sat, & Sun., May 6 & 7**, 9 am - 2 pm. Terrific tips and pollinator lists on their website: <https://tylerarboretum.org/plant-sale-2023/>

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, 1700 Hawk Mountain Rd., Kempton, PA 19529; 610-756-6961. **2023 Spring Native Plant Sale** to be held on **Sat., May 20** (10 am - 3 pm) and **Sun., May 21** (10 am - 2 pm) will include 100 species of Pennsylvania native wildflowers, vines, grasses, ferns, shrubs, and trees. They'll be grouped by habitat (sunny/hot or shady/wet) to make it easy to choose, plus volunteers will be on hand to assist. See the Plant Sale List on their website: <https://www.hawkmountain.org/events/spring-native-plant-sale>

Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery, 2415 Route 100, Orefield, PA 18069 (west of Allentown, PA; Lehigh Co.); 610-395-2570. **Open April - October, Mon. - Sat. (9 am - 4 pm)**. Display gardens on the grounds showcase natives in a garden setting; 45 minute "Demonstration Garden Tours" held Tuesday mornings at 10 am (sign up in advance on website); www.edgeofthewoodsnursery.com/

Gino's Nursery, 2237 Second Street Pike, Newtown, PA 18940 (Bucks Co.) ; 267-750-9042; **April - Nov., Wed. - Sun., 10 am - 4 pm.**; <http://www.ginosnursery.com/>. Specializing in the growing and sale of native plants.

Go Native Tree Farm, dedicated to the understanding, preservation, and recovery of the Eastern American forest. **Mail order or pre-arranged pick up** (678 South Chiques Road, Manheim, PA 17545). www.gonativetrees.com ; 717-399-0195.

PENNSYLVANIA (continued)

Good Host Plants Native Plants Nursery, open for curbside pickup 7 days/week in West Mt. Airy (Philadelphia, PA); in-person visits by appointment; 267-270-5036; <https://www.goodhostplants.com/> Check "availability list" and email info@goodhostplants.com with inquiries or to place an order (or use the website's "Contact" link). Directions & pickup instructions will be provided when ordering.

Heartwood Nursery & Nature Preserve, 8957 Hickory Road, Felton, PA 17322 (York Co.); 717-993-5230. **Retail Nursery open Monday - Saturday, 9 am - 4 pm**. Tour the preserve during scheduled events or schedule a visit for you or your group. <https://heartwoodnurseryinc.com/>

Redbud Native Plant Nursery, 904 N Providence Road, Media, PA 19063 (Delaware Co.); 610-892-2833. **Open mid-March - November, Tuesday - Friday (10 am - 5 pm), Saturday (9 am - 4 pm)**. <https://redbudnative.com/>

Pennsylvania Native Plant Society is an excellent resource: <http://www.panativeplantsociety.org/> Check out their listing of native plant sales: <https://www.panativeplantsociety.org/plant-sales-and-festivals---featuring-natives.html>

MARYLAND

Kollar Native Plant Nursery, 5200 West Heaps Road, Pylesville, MD 21132; 410-836-0500. **Spring hours: Mon., Tu., & Th. (10 am - 6 pm), Fri. & Sat. (10 am - 5 pm)**. www.kollarnursery.com/

Maryland Native Plant Society: <http://www.mdflora.org/> See their list of native plant sales and their clickable map of native plant nurseries: www.mdflora.org/nurseries.html

DELAWARE

Delaware Nature Society's **2023 Spring Native Plant Sale** will be **May 6, 2023 from 9 am - 3 pm** (also **May 5 from 2-7 pm for Members**), at their Cloverdale Farm Preserve, 543 Way Road, Greenville, DE 19807. Check their website for full details and to view their 2023 Plant Sale Catalogue: <https://www.delawarenaturesociety.org/activities/events/native-plant-sale/>

EXCELLENT MAIL ORDER CATALOGUES

for creating prairies and for native plants (and seeds):

(1) Prairie Nursery; www.prairienursery.com/

(2) Prairie Moon Nursery; www.prairiemoon.com/

BEWARE OF Neonicotinoids

BEWARE OF NEONICS – Avoid plants treated with Neonicotinoid Insecticides. Neonicotinoids are systemic (get into every part of the plant, including pollen, nectar, even dew) pesticides that are applied to many commercially-available nursery plants and are harmful to bees, caterpillars, moths, and butterflies. **Around the world steps are being taken to protect pollinators from Neonics.** In 2018, the European Union voted to completely ban all outdoor uses of three types of neonics (citing their impacts to honey bees). Canada followed suit, planning to phase out all outdoor use of three specific neonics in 3-5 years (2021-2023) because of impacts to aquatic ecosystems. In 2016 Connecticut became the first state in the nation to restrict the use of neonicotinoids when the legislature unanimously passed An Act Concerning Pollinator Health (banning sales of neonics for use by general consumers in backyard garden settings). Soon after, Maryland passed a similar bill. In January 2022 New Jersey became the 6th state to pass a bill to save pollinators by classifying bee-killing neonicotinoids as restricted use pesticides.

Speak up when you purchase plants. Ask if the nursery uses Neonicotinoid Insecticides. If they don't know what you are talking about, it sounds like a nursery to avoid. If they proudly share that they do not use Neonicotinoid Insecticides (verbally and/or on their website), they are a nursery "in the know" and a nursery to support. The **Xerces Society's publication, "Protecting Pollinators from Pesticides: Buying Bee-Safe Plants,"** addresses asking nurseries these important questions and is available at: <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>. There is a complimentary **Xerces Society publication for nurseries, "Offering Bee-Safe Plants: A Guide for Nurseries,"** available at: <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/offering-bee-safe-plants-guide-for-nurseries>. Let nurseries you frequent know about it. **If you find that any of the nurseries on my list are "in the dark" & still using Neonicotinoids, please alert me!**

Educate yourself about Neonics by reading the following:

(1) **Xerces Society's "Protecting Bees From Neonicotinoids in Your Garden, 2nd version** (includes list of products with neonics in them)" at: <https://www.xerces.org/publications/brochures/protecting-bees-from-neonicotinoids-in-your-garden>

(2) **Xerces Society's "How Neonicotinoids Can Kill Bees, the Science Behind the Role These Insecticides Play in Harming Bees (in depth study, 2nd Edition)** at: <https://www.xerces.org/publications/scientific-reports/how-neonicotinoids-can-kill-bees>

(3) **Xerces Society's "Neonicotinoid Movement in the Environment" POSTER** – Neonicotinoids are being found throughout the landscape in areas where they were not applied. This poster illustrates some of the main pathways for neonicotinoid movement in the environment and also shows how this movement has undoubtedly exposed beneficial insects: <https://www.xerces.org/publications/other/neonicotinoid-movement-in-environment>

(4) **American Bird Conservancy's "Neonicotinoid Insecticides Harm The Little Creatures,"** including how 90 percent of food samples taken from Congressional cafeterias contain neonicotinoid insecticides (highly toxic to birds and other wildlife): <https://abcbirds.org/behind-the-report-neonicotinoid-insecticides-harm-the-little-creatures/>

HUGE INSECT DIE-OFF / INSECT APOCALYPSE

'A car "splatometer" study finds huge insect die-off'

Nov. 13, 2019, by Damian Carrington, Environmental Editor, *The Guardian* – Measuring how many bugs fly into car windshields might sound silly. But to scientists predicting an "insect apocalypse," the numbers are deadly serious. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/feb/12/car-splatometer-tests-reveal-huge-decline-number-insects>

'Insect apocalypse' poses risk to all life on Earth, conservationists warn

Feb. 12, 2020, by Damian Carrington, Environmental Editor, *The Guardian*

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/nov/13/insect-apocalypse-poses-risk-to-all-life-on-earth-conservationists-warn>

The Insect Crisis, The Fall of the Tiny Empires That Run the World, by Oliver Milman. 2022. A devastating examination of how collapsing insect populations worldwide threaten everything from wild birds to the food on our plate. – 4 –

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BIRDS ARE VANISHING

“**Birds are Vanishing from North America**” – The number of birds in the United States and Canada has declined by 2.9 billion, or 29 percent, over the past 50 years (1970-2019), scientists find (*Science*, 2019).

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/19/science/bird-populations-america-canada.html>

A Neonicotinoid Insecticide Reduces Fueling and Delays Migration in Songbirds,” by Margaret Eng, Bridget Stutchbury, Christy Morrissey. *Science*, 13 September 2019, Vol. 365, Issue 6458, pp. 1177-1180.

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/365/6458/1177>

WHAT WE CAN DO

Here are just a few of the things that each and every one of us can do:

1. Plant NATIVES, especially Keystone Species (read Doug Tallamy’s books to understand what Keystone Species are).
2. Ask nurseries you frequent if their native plants have been treated with Neonicotinoids (see Xerces Society’s document, “Protecting Pollinators from Pesticides: Buying Bee-Safe Plants,” noted on previous page, for tips and how to ask these important questions) . If they don’t know, ask them to find out. If the answer is yes, don’t purchase and explain why, that Neonics are hazardous to the wildlife you are trying to attract and benefit.
3. Leave fallen leaves on the ground: they are full of insect life, they protect tree and shrub and perennial roots, they break down and naturally nourish your soil, and they prevent erosion. Listen to Doug Tallamy’s talk about his latest book, *The Nature of Oaks* (search youtube Doug Tallamy Nature of Oaks), and learn that **oak leaves are the BEST fallen leaves to LEAVE on the ground because it takes them so long to break down (3 years or more)**. All that time (3+ years) they are providing for an abundance of LIFE that needs fallen leaves to survive. To truly preserve the life in oak leaf litter (and other leaf litter) do not mow it / mulch it (that would chop up all that life).
4. DO NOT USE Pesticides (including Organic – they KILL too) or Herbicides or synthetic Fertilizers
5. Turn outdoor lights OFF at night (use motion sensor lights instead)
6. Remove as many invasive plants as possible on your property
7. Share some of your native “Chocolate Cake” perennial divisions (that are also Keystone Species: Asters and Goldenrods, for example) with others to help get them hooked
8. Read and give Doug Tallamy’s books (*Bringing Nature Home*, *Nature’s Best Hope*, and *The Nature of Oaks*) to family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors.
9. If you ever have a chance to hear Doug Tallamy speak, BE THERE and bring your neighbor, friend, family member, landscaper, lawn care service worker so they can learn to speak the same language. In the meantime Google “YouTube videos (or podcasts) Doug Tallamy” and you’ll have dozens to choose from, many of which are keynote talks he’s given about the importance of insects, native plants, fallen leaves, and much more. Watch them and they may change your life and/or the way you view life. Share them with neighbors, friends, family members, co-workers.
10. Read and give Heather Holm’s books about beneficial pollinators (*Pollinators of Native Plants*; *Bees, An Identification and Native Plant Forage Guide*; and *Wasps, Their Biology, Diversity, and Role as Beneficial Insects and Pollinators of Native Plants*) to family members, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to help you (and others) understand beneficial pollinators and provide for their nesting needs by leaving stem stubble during spring garden clean up, standing dead trees, utilizing fallen branches and tree trunks to line garden or woodland paths, leaving fallen leaves, and avoiding too much hardscaping, mulching, and turf so that ground-nesting pollinators have places to nest.