Living with Nature



A Landowner's Guide to Native Vegetation for the Grand Bend to Port Franks Corridor

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the funders of this reprint (2021):

Canada Nature Fund Lakeshore Eco-Network Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.





Lakeshore Eco-Network

Special thanks as well to the original funders of this guide (2009): Grand Bend Community Foundation Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority



GRAND BEND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Thanks to the following contributors for having provided all vegetation photos:

Alistair MacKenzie, Pinery Provincial Park David Bannister, Grand Bend Community Foundation Ian Jean, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Julie Stellingwerff, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Nelson Laporte, GBCF Environmental Committee Thanks to Old Ausable Channel Implementation Committee for having reviewed this Guide.

> Copyright 2009, 2021 Ian Jean and Kari Jean Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

Cover Photograph:

Bloodroot Sanguinaria canadensis in flower – D. Bannister

Bloodroot flowers in April. It is shade-tolerant and prefers loamy soils – but suitable where native sandy soils have been amended.

Guide Contents

Introduction	.1
Local Terrestrial Ecosystem	2
Why Use Native Plants?	3
Guide Information/Format	4
Selected recommended native vegetation for landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor:	e
Black Oak Quercus velutina Black-eyed Susan Rudbeckia hirta Bladdernut Staphylea trifolia Blue Flag Iris virginica	
Butterfly-weed <i>Äsclepias tuberosa</i> Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> Choke Cherry <i>Prunus virginiana</i>	
Closed Gentian Gentiana andrewsii Cylindrical Blazing Star Liatris cylindracea Eastern Hemlock Tsuga canadensis Eastern Red Cedar Juniperus virginiana	
Fragrant Sumac <i>Rhus aromatica</i> Jack-in-the-pulpit <i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	
Little Bluestem Schizachyrium scoparium May-apple Podophyllum peltatum	12
Michigan Lily Lilium michiganense Nannyberry Viburnum lentago New Jersey Tea Ceanothus americanus	
Running Strawberry Euonymus obovata Serviceberry Amelanchier arborea	
Smooth Aster <i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i> Starry False Solomon's Seal <i>Maianthemum stellatum</i> Swamp Milkweed <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	
Tulip Tree <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> White Baneberry <i>Actaea pachypoda</i> White Oak <i>Quercus alba</i>	.17
Wild Bergamot <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> Wild Columbine <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	
Wild Geranium <i>Geranium maculatum</i> Woodland Sunflower <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	19
Recommended Native Tree list for landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor	20
Recommended Native Shrub lists for landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor	
Recommended Native Plant lists for landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor	23
Invasive Non-native Species	26
Native vegetation supplier information and resources	28
Native species pictorial index (back cover)	29

Guide Objective

This guide is intended for landowners in the Grand Bend to Port Franks corridor ecosystem (refer to map below). The guide provides a source of information for area residents who are interested in learning more about, and using, native vegetation in their landscaping. Using native vegetation will enhance and improve the terrestrial ecosystem of this area.

What are Native Plants?

For the purpose of this guide, plants are considered native if prior to European settlement they originated and were naturally occurring within the Grand Bend to Port Franks corridor.

Native plants should not be taken from the wild. Many are becoming threatened through habitat destruction and collection. The best source for native plants to be used in landscaping is a local nursery with plants native to your region, grown by the nursery, and not collected from nature.



The Local Terrestrial Ecosystem

The Grand Bend and Port Franks areas support rare oak savanna and pine-oak woodland communities that provide habitat for numerous provincially and nationally significant flora and fauna.

Historically, these natural communities developed on the dry, sandy soils and persisted due to periodic fires that prevented forest species from establishing. The oak savanna and pine-oak woodland vegetation that evolved on these dunes are able to tolerate the poor soils and dry conditions.

Property owners can play an important role in helping to preserve the oak woodland communities. Leaving areas of your property undisturbed and natural provides a refuge for plants and animals. When landscaping areas around your home, choosing to use native plants that are adapted to the local environment will complement the habitat in surrounding natural areas.



Woodland ecosystem along the Old Ausable Channel, Pinery Provincial Park near Grand Bend

Why Use Native Plants?

Habitat

Some wildlife species that depend on native vegetation are rare due to habitat loss.

Incorporating native species into the landscape surrounding your home may provide habitat for these species and increase declining biodiversity.

Environmental Benefits

Native plants and trees are generally hardy and well adapted to local soil and climate conditions. When properly situated, native plants do not require watering, fertilizer, or soil amendments.

Aesthetics

Native plants provide beauty throughout the year: during blooming times; with attractive leaves and fall colour; and with berries, seed pods and branching that persists throughout the winter months.





Spotted Joe-Pye-weed, *Eupatorium maculatum* Flowers in early August, likes moist soil and sun

This guide is meant to introduce you to a few naturally occurring plants suitable for use in gardening or landscaping in the Grand Bend and Port Franks areas.

We encourage people to learn more about the local oak savanna and oak woodland communities and associated plant and animal species. For those who wish to learn more, a list of resources is provided at the back of this guide.

Guide Information

Format:

This guide includes selected species that are native to the Grand Bend and Port Franks area. The species shown in photos and listed are recommended for planting and use in landscaping by residents.

All species included in this guide are organized alphabetically by common name (scientific names are also included). Each type of native vegetation is categorized as a plant, shrub or tree with the following symbols:



Within each of these categories habitat preferences are noted with the following symbols:

Shade tolerant 🥚 Full sun/dry soil

 \bigcirc

Full sun/moist soil (floodplain)

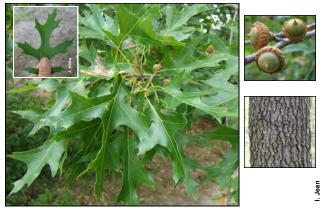
Suitable soil and light conditions are provided, along with flowering start date, fall colour or other aesthetic value. Not all suitable species are shown in photograph or described in detail, but additional recommended species are included in lists as part of this guide.

Information on types of invasive non-native vegetation is included to highlight those varieties that should not be used in landscaping.

Sources for finding native vegetation suppliers, and selected resources for more information are also provided in this guide.

Black Oak Quercus velutina





Soil & Light: dry sand or sandy loam, full sun Height: grows to 70' in forest, in open is shorter with broad crown

Notes: fall colour is a tan brown

Acorns provide food for squirrels, deer and other wildlife.



Soil & Light: tolerates dry sand, requires full sun Flowering Date: late June, July Notes: flowering perennial

Bladdernut Staphylea trifolia



 \bigcirc

Soil & Light: rich loamy soils, full sun or part shade Flowering Date: Late May and June Notes: shrub to 12' tall. Air filled seed pods remain on branches well in to winter.

Blue Flag Iris virginica

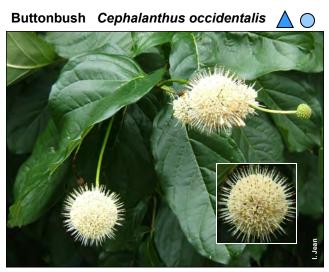


Soil & Light: moist, rich, loamy soils and full sun Flowering Date: June Notes: yellow flag (*Iris pseudacorus*) is a non-native iris.

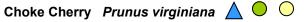




Soil & light: well drained sand, sandy loam, full sun Flowering Date: late June, July Notes: flowering perennial, attractive to butterflies and other insects



Soil & Light: prefers rich, moist to wet soils, full sun Flowering Date: summer (July) Notes: height – shrub up to 8 ' tall





Soil & Light: all soils, well-drained, full sun to light shade

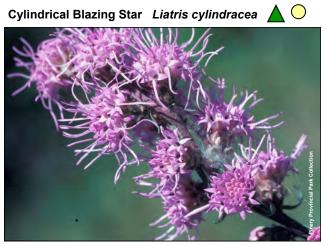
Flowering Date: late May, fruit in late summer Notes: shrub to 10' or small tree to 15' tall

Closed Gentian Gentiana andrewsii





Soil & Light: rich, moist soils Flowering Date: late August Notes: Flowers are a striking violet blue



Soil & Light: tolerates sandy, well drained soils Flowering Date: late July Notes: flowering perennial

Eastern Hemlock Tsuga canadensis 🛕 🔿





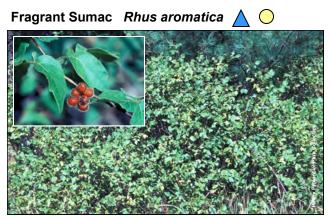
I. Jean

Soil & Light: prefers sandy loam, part shade Height: to 80' but usually much smaller Notes: a slow-growing, long-lived tree; in dense shade trees a few metres tall can be 100 years old





Soil & Light: all soils if well drained Height: to 50' but usually much smaller Notes: the fragrant wood is used to line blanket boxes and closets



Soil & Light: all soils if well drained, full sun Flowering Date: early spring (May) as leaves unfold Notes: brilliant orange to red fall colour, grows to a height of around 5'.





Soil & Light: prefers loamy soils, shade tolerant Flowering Date: May Notes: flowering perennial with red fruit





Soil & Light: tolerates dry, sandy soils Flowering Date: Late summer Notes: feathery seed-heads and rich brown foliage in fall





Soil & Light: prefers rich soil, shade Flowering Date: late May Notes: Plants usually go dormant by late summer

Michigan Lily Lilium michiganense





Soil & Light: prefers moist soils, part shade or sun Flowering Date: July Notes: flowering perennial



Soil & Light: prefers loamy soils, sun Flowering Date: early June Notes: Blue-black fruit and colourful foliage in fall, can reach a height of 10'

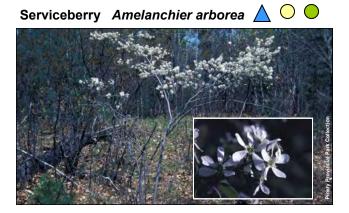


Soil & Light: dry, sandy soils, full sun or light shade Flowering Date: late June Notes: black seedpods mechanically expel seeds when dry, reaches a height of 2'





Soil & Light: tolerates sandy soils, full shade Flowering Date: early June Notes: ground cover with orange-red berry like fruit in red seed pod, alternative to English ivy or periwinkle



Soil & Light: tolerates dry sand and part shade Flowering Date: late April, early May Notes: several species of serviceberry provide early fruit for birds and other animals

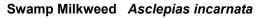


Soil & light: all soils if well drained, full sun Flowering Date: late August Notes: several native aster species provide late summer and fall colour to our landscape

Starry False Solomon's Seal Maianthemum stellatum



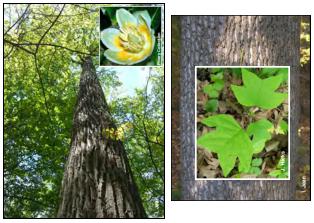
Soil & Light: tolerates dry sandy soils, part shade Flowering Date: late May-June Notes: spreads by rhizomes and can be used as a groundcover





Soil & Light: prefers rich, moist soils, full sun Flowering Date: early July Notes: this wetland plant can be used in landscape gardens if provided with rich, moist soil





Soil & Light: prefers loamy soil, full sun Height: to 100' tall, our tallest native hardwood Notes: greenish yellow flowers in June



Soil & Light: loamy soil, shade Flowering Date: late May and June Notes: also known as 'Doll's Eyes' due to the unique, berry-like fruit in late summer and fall

White Oak Quercus alba





Soil & Light: all soils if well drained Height: to 80' Notes: acorns provide food for squirrels, deer and other wildlife





Soil & Light: all soils, full sun Flowering Date: late July Notes: very adaptable perennial



Soil & Light: tolerates dry sandy soils, shade tolerant Flowering Date: late May Notes: easy to grow by collecting seed pods and scattering on bare soil

Wild Geranium Geranium maculatum





Soil & Light: well-drained soils, part shade Flowering Date: late May Notes: clump forming perennial



Soil & Light: tolerates dry, sandy soil, sun or light shade Flowering Date: early August Notes: usually around 2' tall

Recommended Native Trees for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

 \frown

 \sim

		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Common Name	Scientific Name	Floodplain	Full Sun	Shade
basswood	Tilia americana	Х	Х	Х
beech	Fagus grandifolia			Х
bitternut hickory	Carya cordiformis	Х	Х	Х
black cherry	Prunus serotina	Х	Х	
black oak	Quercus velutina		Х	
black walnut	Juglans nigra	Х	Х	
blue beech	Carpinus caroliniana	Х	Х	Х
bur oak	Quercus macrocarpa	Х	Х	
hemlock	Tsuga canadensis			Х
ironwood	Ostrya virginiana		Х	Х
peachleaf willow	Salix amygdaloides	Х	Х	
red cedar	Juniperus virginiana	Х	Х	
red maple	Acer rubra		Х	Х
red oak	Quercus rubra	Х	Х	
red pine	Pinus resinosa		Х	
sassafras	Sassafras albidum		Х	
shagbark hickory	Carya ovata	Х	Х	Х
silver maple	Acer saccharinum	Х	Х	
sugar maple	Acer saccharum			Х
sycamore	Platanus occidentalis	Х	Х	
tulip-tree	Liriodendron tulipifera	Х	Х	
white cedar	Thuja occidentalis	Х	Х	Х
white oak	Quercus alba		Х	
white pine	Pinus strobus		Х	Х



Oak woodland, Pinery Provincial Park

Recommended Native Shrubs for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

Oak Woodland / Deciduous Forest Species



Tolerate dry sandy soils Shade tolerant *prefer loamy soils but suitable where native sandy soils have been amended

Flowering / Fruiting Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
alternate leaved dogwood	Cornus alternifolia	early June
chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	late May
downy arrow-wood	Viburnum rafinesquianum	June
*flowering dogwood	Coruns florida	May
maple-leaved viburnum	Viburnum acerifolium	June
purple flowering raspberry	Rubus odoratus	July
*redbud	Cercis canadensis	late April
serviceberry	Amelenchier spp	late April
witch hazel	Hamamelis virginiana	late September

Prairie / Meadow Species: Require full sun Tolerate dry sand *prefer loamy soils

Flowering / Fruiting Shrubs:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
carolina rose	Rosa carolina	June
common juniper	Juniperus communis	berries in winter
dwarf chinquapin oak	Quercus prinoides	May
fragrant sumac	Rhus aromatica	early May
new jersey tea	Ceanothus americanus	June
redroot	Ceanothus herbaceous	June
sand cherry	Prunus pumila	late May
serviceberry	Amelenchier spp.	late April
staghorn sumac	Rhus typhina	late June

Recommended Native Shrubs for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

Floodplain / Wet Meadow Species

These species are appropriate when landscaping in floodplain areas, near water features or where soil has been amended to retain moisture.

Flowering / Fruiting Shrubs		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
bladdernut	Staphylea trifolia	late May
buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	July
Canada plum	Prunus nigra	late May
highbush cranberry	Viburnum trilobum	early June
nannyberry	Viburnum lentago	early June
native willow shrubs	Salix spp	early April
ninebark	Physopcarpus opulifolius	late June
red osier dogwood	Cornus sericea	July
silky dogwood	Cornus amomum	July
spicebush	Lindera benzoin	late April
swamp rose	Rosa palustris	July
wild crabapple	Malus coronaria	late May



Wild crabapple *Malus coronaria* Flowers in late May, will grow in all soils

Recommended Native Plants for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

Oak Woodland / Deciduous Forest Species

Tolerate dry sandy soils Shade tolerant

*prefer loamy soils but suitable where native sandy soils have been amended

Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
ALTERNATIVE TO LAWN		, in the second se
ebony sedge	Carex eburnea	
Pennsylvania sedge	Carex pennsylvanica	
GRASSES & SEDGES		
mountain rice	Oryzopsis pungens	
plantain-leaved sedge	Carex plantaginea	
woodland sedge	Carex blanda	
GROUND COVERS		
bush honeysuckle	Diervilla lonicera	late June
Canada mayflower	Maianthemum canadense	late May
running strawberry	Euonymus obovata	early June
*Virginia creeper	Parthenocissus vitacea	early July
*Virginia waterleaf	Hydrophyllum virginianum	early June
*wild ginger	Asarum canadense	late May
FLOWERING PERENNIALS		
barren strawberry	Waldsteinia fragarioides	early May
*bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis	late August
*blue cohosh	Caulophyllum thalictroides	early May
blue stemmed goldenrod	Solidago caesia	early Sept
*blue violet	Viola	late May
downy yellow violet	Viola pubescens	early May
false solomon's seal	Maianthemum racemosum	early June
*foamflower	Tiarella cordifolia	late May
*jack-in-the-pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum	early May
*large flowered bellwort	Uvularia grandiflora	early May
large-leaved aster	Eurybia macrophylla	late July
*may-apple	Podophyllum peltatum	late May
poke milkweed	Asclepias exaltata	late June
*red baneberry	Actaea rubra	late May
*red trillium	Trillium erectum	early May
round lobed hepatica	Hepatica nobilis var obtusa	early May
sharp lobed hepatica	Hepatica nobilis var. acuta	early May
starry false solomon's seal	Maianthemum stellatum	late May
*white baneberry	Actaea pachypoda	late May
*white trillium	Trillium grandiflorum	early May
wild columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	late May
wild geranium	Geranium maculatum	late May
wild lupine	Lupinus perennis	late May
wood anemone	Anemone quinquefolia	early May
woodland sunflower	Helianthus divaricatus	early August
yellow pimpernel	Taenidia integerrima	late May
*zig zag goldenrod	Solidago flexicaulis	late August

Recommended Native Plants for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

 \bigcirc

Floodplain / Wet Meadow Species

These species are appropriate when landscaping in floodplain areas, near water features or where soil has been amended to retain moisture.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
GRASSES & SEDGES		
awl-fruited sedge	Carex stipata	
cyperus-like sedge	Carex pseudo-cyperus	
dark green bulrush	Scirpus atrovirens	
fox sedge	Carex vulpinoidea	
fringed sedge	Carex crinita	
gray's sedge	Carex grayii	
riverbank rye	Elymus riparius	
virginia wild rye	Elymus virginicus	
wool grass	Scirpus cyperinus	
GROUND COVER		
Canada anemone	Anemone canadensis	early June
FLOWERING PERENNIALS		
blue flag	Iris versicolor	early June
blue vervain	Verbena hastata	early July
blue lobelia	Lobelia siphiltica	early August
boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum	early August
cardinal flower	Lobelia cardinalis	early August
closed gentian	Gentiana andrewsii	late August
golden alexanders	Zizia aurea	late May
spotted joe-pye-weed	Eupatorium maculatum	early August
marsh marigold	Caltha palustris	early June
Michigan lily	Lillium michiganense	early July
sneezeweed	Helenium autumnale	early August
swamp milkweed	Asclepias incarnata	early July
tall sunflower	Helianthus giganteus	early August
turtlehead	Chelone glabra	late August
violet species	Viola spp	May/June
white snakeroot	Ageratina altissima var. altissima	early August

Recommended Native Plants for Landscaping in the Grand Bend-Port Franks Corridor

Prairie / Meadow Species:

 \bigcirc

Require full sun Tolerate dry sand *prefer loamy soils

Common Name	Scientific Name	Flowering Date
GROUND COVER		
bearberry	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	late April
common juniper	Juniperus communis	early June
*wild strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	early May
GRASSES		
big bluestem	Andropogon gerardii	
indian grass	Sorghastrum nutans	
little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	
switch grass	Panicum virgatum	
FLOWERING PERENNIALS		
black-eyed susan	Rudbeckia hirta	late June
blazing star	Liatris spp	July - August
butterfly-weed	Asclepias tuberosa	late June
common milkweed	Asclepias syriaca	late June
early goldenrod	Solidago juncea	late July
flowering spurge	Euphorbia corollata	early June
grey goldenrod	Solidago nemoralis	early August
harebell	Campanula rotundifolia	late June
heath aster	Symphyotrichum pilosum	late August
hoary vervain	Verbena stricta	late July
*New England aster	Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	late August
showy tick trefoil	Desmodium canadense	late August
smooth aster	Symphyotrichum laeve	late August
*sweet ox-eye	Heliopsis helianthoides	late July
Virginia mountain mint	Pycnanthemum virginianum	late July
wild bergamot	Monarda fistulosa	late July

Invasive Non-native Species

Invasive non-native species of vegetation are a concern in the Grand Bend to Port Franks corridor.

Invasive non-native plants, shrubs and trees can outcompete and displace native species and their associated wildlife. In many cases a single invasive species can displace dozens of native species over a relatively large area. Displacing native species can permanently alter this fragile ecosystem, directly affecting local wildlife that require these ecosystems for food and habitat. This type of habitat loss can lead to drop in population for many wildlife species, or worse, local extirpation.

Monitor your property for the appearance of unwanted, invasive non-native species and take appropriate steps to manage these species if they appear. If possible prevent and remove these species in your landscaping. Below you will find a list of some invasive non-native species and their preferred habitats within the Grand Bend to Port Franks Corridor.

More information regarding invasive non-native species can be found on Ontario Invasive Plant Council's website: www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca

		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Common Name	Scientific Name	Floodplain	Full Sun	Shade
autumn olive	Elaeagnus umbellata	Х	Х	Х
barberry	Berberis spp.	Х	Х	Х
common reed	Phragmites australis	Х	Х	
dame's rocket	Hesparis matronalis	Х	Х	Х
dog-strangling vine	Cynanchum vincetoxicum	Х	Х	Х
English ivy	Hedera helix	Х		Х
Eurasian honeysuckle	Lonicera tatarica	Х	Х	Х
European buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica	Х	Х	Х
garlic mustard	Alliaria petiolata	Х		Х
knapweed species	Centaurea spp		Х	
multiflora rose	Rosa multiflora	Х	Х	
Norway maple	Acer platanoides	Х	Х	Х
Oregon grape	Mahonia aquifolium			Х
oriental bittersweet	Celastrus orbiculata	Х	Х	Х
periwinkle	Vinca minor	Х		Х
purple loosestrife	Lythrum salicaria	Х	Х	

Some Invasive Non-Native Species found in the Grand Bend to Port Franks Corridor









European Buckthorn Rhamnus cathartica





Garlic Mustard Alliaria petiolata



Eurasian honeysuckle Lonicera tatarica

Find a Native Vegetation Supplier

*Contact or visit your **local nurseries** – they may carry some native species.

*Carolinian Canada's **Sources of Native Plants in the Carolinian Zone** is available at https://caroliniancanada.ca/itz/guides/sources or phone 519-433-7077

*Contact **Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority** for advice at 519-235-2610 or toll-free 1-888-286-2610 or info@abca.ca

Select Resources for more Information

Newcomb's Wildflower Guide - Lawrence Newcomb

<u>Photo Field Guide to Some Wildflowers of Southern</u> <u>Ontario</u> – St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club (available at Pinery Visitor's Centre)

<u>Pinery Provincial Park Vascular Plant Checklist</u> – Pinery Provincial Park (available at Pinery Visitor's Centre)

<u>Shrubs of Ontario</u> – J. Soper *et al.*, published by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)

<u>The ROM Field Guide to Wildflowers of Ontario</u> – T. Dickinson *et al.* Royal Ontario Museum

<u>The New Ontario Naturalized Garden</u> – L. Johnson Trees of the Carolinian Forest – G. Waldron

Native Species Pictorial Index by Habitat & Page Number

Shade Tolerant















Full Sun, moist soil







 \bigcirc















Full Sun, dry soil

















