

Native Shrubs – slide list in order of bloom in North Georgia

Common name	Scientific Name	Comments	Sun	Bloom Month
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Host plant for spicebush swallowtail; berries for birds; blue-green foliage; tolerates wet . Male/female plants.	Part	Early March
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium</i> 'Tifblue'	Get two plants with different cultivar name but same bloom season. UGA CAES has good handout; great fall color; supports native pollinators. Fruit ripens in June/July.	Sun	Early April
Red buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	Nectar plant for hummingbirds	Part	Early April
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla major/gardenii</i>	Handsome foliage; good fall color	Sun	Early April
Native Azaleas	<i>Rhododendron canescens</i> , <i>R. flammeum</i> , etc.	White ones are fragrant – used to be called “wild honeysuckle” shrubs.	Part	April through May
Florida anise	<i>Illicium floridanum</i>	Evergreen; aromatic foliage, handsome foliage, tolerates shade and wet.	Part	Mid April
Viburnums	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i> , <i>V. nudum</i> , <i>V. prunifolium</i>	Good for pollinators; berries for birds; all have excellent fall color; get two non-related ones for good cross-pollination.	Part	Mid April
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Good for pollinators; cultivars with dark foliage are popular now like 'Coppertina', 'Center glow', 'Summer Wine', 'Diabolo' and 'Little Devil'.	Sun	Mid April
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	Unique bloom and fragrance; cultivars available for reliable fragrance like 'Michael Lindsey' and 'Athens.'	Part	Late April
Virginia sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	Good for pollinators; cultivars available for dwarf forms and best fall color; tolerates wet and can sucker in ideal conditions.	Part	May
Mountain laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Evergreen; cultivars available for dwarf forms and different bloom colors. Likes moist conditions.	Part	May
Smooth hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Blooms on new wood; cultivars like 'Annabelle', and 'Invincible Spirit' but species has the most fertile flowers for pollinators; found naturally on streamsides and moist areas.	Sun	Late May, June

For “Part” sun, place in an area that gets afternoon shade. “Good for pollinators” includes butterflies as well as native bees.

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Common name	Scientific Name	Comments	Sun	Bloom Month
Oakleaf hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Blooms on old wood; cultivars available for dwarf forms/double blooms; good fall color. Shown: species and 'Little Honey.'	Sun	Late May, June
St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum</i> spp.	Good for pollinators; blue-green foliage; vibrant bloom color. Shown <i>Hypericum hypericoides</i> , <i>H. punctatum</i> , <i>H. densiflorum</i> , <i>H. frondosum</i> 'Sunburst'.	Sun	June
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i>	Good for pollinators; berries for birds; tolerates wet. Cultivars like 'Black Beauty' and 'Black Lace' have dark foliage.	Sun	June
Summersweet	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Good for pollinators; cultivars available for dwarf forms and colors; tolerates wet but suckers in ideal conditions. Show 'Ruby Spice' and 'Hummingbird.'	Sun	July
Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Small flowers; showy fall berries.	Sun	July
Bottlebrush buckeye	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	Good for pollinators; can get large in full sun – very dramatic looking in bloom.	Sun	June-July
Plumleaf azalea	<i>Rhododendron prunifolium</i>	Hummingbirds love this in summer; symbol of Callaway Gardens.	Part	July-August
Turk's cap hibiscus	<i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i>	Hummingbirds love this; can get large in full sun. Pink form needs crown protection in winter. Red form is hardy.	Sun	July-frost
Georgia savory	<i>Clinopodium georgianum</i>	Small shrub; aromatic foliage, flowers late.	Sun	September
Witch hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Large shrub with unusual blooms very late in the season.	Part	November

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