

2023 Central New York **NATIVE PLANT** **Shopping Guide**



*Woodland sunflower
is a Keystone plant
many specialist bees
rely on*

Compiled by
Habitat Gardening in Central New York



a chapter of Wild Ones:
Native Plants, Natural Landscapes

About HGCNY and Wild Ones



Habitat Gardening in Central New York (HGCNY) is a chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes (wildones.org), a national not-for-profit environmental education and advocacy organization.

Our mission is to promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to encourage biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities.

Learn about our programs, resources, and our native plant sales at hgcnny.org and on Facebook at facebook.com/hgcnny. Subscribe to our free twice-monthly newsletter by sending a request to info@hgcnny.org.

Thank you for using our CNY Native Plant Shopping Guide

HGCNY creates this Guide each year to help you find native plants to purchase. We invite native plant nurseries in CNY to provide a list of native plants they plan to sell during the growing season. We review their selections and compile this Guide, which may be freely downloaded, printed, and shared. The nurseries in this Guide do not pay to be included nor are they paid to participate. View this Guide online or download additional copies of this Guide from our website at hgcnny.org/projects/shopping/.

The plants are listed two ways, though we encourage you to use the scientific names:

Section 1: By scientific name for trees, shrubs, wildflowers, vines, grasses/sedges/rushes, and ferns.

Section 2: By common name for each of these plant types

This Guide's definition of "native"

We use the Darke/Tallamy functional definition of "native" as found in *The Living Landscape*: "*A plant or animal that has evolved in a given place over a period of time sufficient to develop complex and essential relationships with the physical environment and other organisms in a given ecological community.*"


To determine which plants are "native" we have used the [NY Flora Atlas](#) and the Native Plant Trust's [GoBotany](#). We highlight [Keystone plants for the Eastern Temperate Forests - Ecoregion 8](#).


The codes we use in our Guide

BOLD type for Keystone plants: "Keystone plants are native plants critical to the food web and necessary for many wildlife species to complete their life cycle. Without keystone plants in the landscape, butterflies, native bees, and birds will not thrive. 96% of our terrestrial birds rely on insects supported by keystone plants." ~ *Garden for Wildlife NWF*. We strongly encourage you to include keystone plants in your landscape!

S for Species: This Guide includes native plant species, *not cultivars*. **Cultivars** of native plants (increasingly termed "nativars") are generally propagated vegetatively to preserve selected traits attractive to people. They may or may not retain the important habitat properties of the species. **Species**, on the other hand, provide genetic diversity and provide desirable habitat qualities. Read more about the Wild Ones position "*Nativars: Where do they fit in?*" available at hgcnny.org/learn/factsheets/.

L for Local: Species grown from **local** ecotype seeds are indicated by an "L." Why is this important? For example, a red maple from the South and one from the Northeast are both *Acer rubrum*, BUT the local ecotype plant will better match local conditions. **IMPORTANT:** Local ecotype is NOT the same as locally-grown, although local ecotype plants are often grown locally. We applaud our nurseries for increasingly propagating plants from locally-collected seeds. We encourage you to choose these plants.

 – Good for specialist bees: From Cornell: [Creating a pollinator garden for native specialist bees of NY and the Northeast](#) and Keystone native host plants for pollen specialist bees

 – Keystone plants for butterfly and moth caterpillars

Shopping tips

- **Use the scientific name**, including the first (*Genus*) and second (*species*) names. Sometimes knowing the variety is important, too, and is noted as “var.” *Common names are not as accurate and may refer to more than one plant.* We’ve created list organized by common names, but we encourage you to use scientific names when you research and choose plants.
- **Use native plant references** to research and plan your purchases. Know the conditions of your own site and choose plants that will thrive in those conditions. *Bring references with you when you shop!*
- **Read plant labels carefully.** *Be aware that many conventional stores or nurseries may use plant labels that say “Native,” but they may merely be native to the continent, not to the Northeast.* Plants native to the Pacific Northwest, for example, are not necessarily native in CNY and we wouldn’t recommend them.
- **Patronize nurseries that sell nursery-propagated native plants** from seeds or cuttings. Never buy plants dug from the wild (or dig them from the wild yourself). Ask nurseries about the source of their plants.
- **Buy pesticide-free plants.** Increasingly, plants are treated with *systemic* pesticides: pesticides incorporated into the plant that don’t wash off and can linger in the soil for years. These pesticides (banned in many countries) may harm pollinators when they visit the plant. *Confirm with nurseries that their plants are pesticide-free.*
- **Please check your plants for worms!** Virtually any worm you find in a plant pot is NOT native, and jumping worms are particularly harmful. **Learn more:** ccecolumbiagreene.org/resources/jumping-worm-fact-sheet
- **CALL AHEAD** to confirm nursery hours and the **availability of your desired plants** before setting out.

To learn more, we recommend:

Native plant websites:

New York Flora Atlas: newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/ – **Important:** Filter for “Native”

Native Plant Trust: gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org (Check the No. Am. range map below the New England range)

Nat’l Wildlife Fed’n: [Keystone plants for the Eastern Temperate Forests - Ecoregion 8](#) (Developed by D. Tallamy)

Biota of No. America Program: bonap.org/ - Shows native range of plants (green=ative; blue=non-native)

Native Plants for Birds at audubon.org/plantsforbirds - Audubon list of native plants

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at wildflower.org/plants/ by state, size; includes cultural conditions

Native plant books: **Note** that most of these include plants native to the continent; check for the Northeast!

Joel Baines: *Native Plants for Native Birds*, published by Ithaca’s Cayuga Bird Club

Donald Leopold: *Native Plants of the Northeast: A Guide for Gardening and Conservation*

William Cullina: *Wildflowers: A Guide to Growing and Propagating Native Flowers of No. America*

William Cullina: *Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines*

William Cullina: *Native Ferns, Moss, & Grasses*

Habitat gardening books – **Highly recommended!:**

Douglas Tallamy *The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees*

Douglas Tallamy *Nature’s Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*

Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity*

Douglas Tallamy *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*

Sara Stein *Noah’s Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards* – an enduring classic!

Discussion course: HGCNY has created a 6-session discussion course called “*Caring for Our Piece of the Earth*” for use in small groups or for individuals. FREE to download at hgcnny.org/projects/course/.

Habitat gardening websites:

HGCNY website at hgcnny.org/ – Describes our programs and projects; links to more information

Our Habitat Garden at ourhabitatgarden.org/ - An example of a local HGCNY habitat garden

Participating nurseries: Note: Not all of these nurseries have storefronts. Call or visit their websites first!

Amanda's Garden 8030 Story Road Dansville, NY 14437 (585) 750-6288 amandasnativeplants.com/ ellen@amandasnativeplants.com	Butterfly Effect (315) 719-6022 butterflyeffectplants.com/ butterflyeffectplants@gmail.com	Faverolles Gardens 1955 Meeker Hill Rd LaFayette, NY 13084 (315) 677-1337 faverollesgardens.com faverollesgardens@gmail.com
The Fernery 108 Whitehouse Rd. Hartwick, NY 13348 theferneryatwhitehouse.com/ theferneryatwhitehouse@gmail.com	Go Native! Perennials 3130 East Lake Rd. Skaneateles, NY 13152 (240) 626-5209 gonativeperennials.com gonativeskan@gmail.com	Grow Wild! 245 Speed Hill Rd. Brooktondale, NY 14817 (314) 749-2882 growwildnatives.com/ Deanna.l.english@gmail.com
Lazy Dirt Flower Farm 340 Dry Bridge Rd Mexico, NY 13114 (315) 509-4408 lazydirtflowerfarm.com lazydirtflowerfarm@gmail.com	The Plantsmen Nursery 482 Peruville Rd. (Route 34B) Groton, NY 13073 (607) 533-7193 plantsmen.com/ info@plantsmen.com	White Oak Nursery 4350 Kipp Rd., <i>By appointment</i> Gorham, NY (315) 789-3509 whiteoaknursery.biz/ jengel53@rochester.rr.com

Need help designing, installing, or maintaining your landscape?

You can create habitat for wildlife and a healthier planet simply by planting native plants. But if you're unsure of what to plant in your yard or how to design an attractive landscape, the following CNY nurseries and landscapers can help. *Emphasize that you're interested in a natural landscape with NATIVE plants!*

Amanda's Garden: Consults with you, evaluates your site and recommends plants. They can help with gardens for shady areas, or bird and butterfly gardens. Contact Ellen at ellen@amandasnativeplants.com

Birdsong Landscape Design: Native plant landscape design in the greater Rochester area – birdsonglandscapedesign.com. Contact Noreen at (585) 402-4061 or birdsonglandscapedesign@gmail.com

Busy Bee Ecological Designs: Native gardening and sustainable landscape design and installation in Tompkins Cty - busybee-ecologicaldesigns.com. Contact Brandon at busybee.ecologicaldesigns@gmail.com

Ecoscope Design: Organic landscaping and lawn care services in CNY; landscaping buffers with native plants to protect Skaneateles Lake. Contact Lyle or Tom: (315) 720-8887 or ecoscapedesignofcny.com.

Go Native! perennials: Design, installation and follow up maintenance guidance for ecological gardens and meadows - <http://gonativeperennials.com/>. Contact gonativeskan@gmail.com

Native Roots Ecosystems: A sustainable, ecologically focused landscape company in East Syracuse - nativerootseco.com. Contact Peyton at (315) 897-0643 or at info@nativerootseco.com.

Plantsmen Nursery: Offers both design and install services throughout Tompkins Cty., sometimes as far as Binghamton, Syracuse or further - plantsmen.com/design. Contact landscaping@plantsmen.com

Rootz LLC: Site assessment, planning and installation of riparian buffers and living shorelines using native plants - rootzllc.com. Contact Matt at (315) 530-5294, mbiondolillo@rootzllc.com.

Turtle Island Landscapes: Design plans, consultation, maintenance, project management for garden and design installations. Contact Mena at (608) 217-0696 or turtleislandscapes.com/.

White Oak Nursery: Offers both design and install services in the Syracuse/Ithaca/Rochester area - whiteoaknursery.biz/. Contact Jim at jengel53@rochester.rr.com.