



Promoting Native Plants since 2003 Certified Women Owned Business Enterprise

Native Shrubs for Small Spaces

Many gardeners find that they want shrubs to stay 3 feet tall or lower. In most cases, native shrubs that stay this low are cultivars or hybrids. A shrub by definition is generally up to 12 or 15 feet in height. Finding a native shrub that stays 3 feet or lower is a challenge.

We often suggest considering a tall growing perennial or warm season grass to fill the space. Consider pulling your planting bed away from the foundation of your home to allow the plants room to attain mature size.

In those cases where you absolutely must have a shrub of 3 feet in height or lower, we can suggest the following. Be sure to read the signage with each plant to make sure you are selecting a plant that will thrive in the site. Many of these plants are available at Edge of the Woods in limited quantities only.

Ilex verticillata 'Red Sprite' (dwarf winterberry holly)– sun to part shade. Red berries in winter.

Rhus aromatica 'Gro-lo' (Gro-Lo Sumac) – sun to part shade. Bird value, fall color.

Potentilla fruticosa– full sun. Drought tolerant.

Ilex glabra (Inkberry) – sun, evergreen.

Clethra alnifolia 'Hummingbird' (Dwarf SUMmersweet)– sun to shade, needs moisture.

Ceanothus americana (New Jersey Tea) – sun to part shade. Butterflies.

Diervilla lonicera (Bush Honeysuckle) – Sun to part shade. Suckers.

Fothergilla gardenia (Witch Alder) – Shade, part shade.

Itea 'Little Henry' (Virginia sweetspire)– sun to shade

Vaccinium angustifolium (Lowbush Blueberry) – sun to part shade.

Xanthorhiza simplicissima(Yellowroot) – moist site, sun to shade.

Hypericum prolificum/densiflorum (St. Johns Wort) – sun.

Rosa carolina (Carolina Rose) - Suckers profusely, fragrant flowers.

Rubus odoratus (Flowering Raspberry) – sun

Symphoricarpis orbiculatus (Coralberry) – sun to part shade attractive berries.

Rhododendron catawbiense- part shade to shade.

Rhododendron caroliniana – part shade to shade

Juniperus virginiana 'Grey Owl' (Grey Owl Juniper) - Sun.

Aronia melanocarpa 'Low Scape Mound' or 'Gound Hug' (Dwarf Black Chokeberry – Sun, part sun.