

## Landscaping with Native Plants

A native plant is one which occurred within this region before settlement by Europeans. Native plants include ferns and clubmosses; grasses, sedges and rushes; perennial and annual wildflowers; and the woody trees, shrubs, and vines which covered “Penn’s Woods” when the first settlers arrived. There are over 2,100 native plant species known in Pennsylvania. Because Pennsylvania’s native plants are meant to grow here, they thrive with less maintenance, thereby reducing the need to water and fertilize them. They also serve as pollinators, attract wildlife, and reduce other unwanted species.

An introduced or non-native plant is one that has been brought into the state and escaped cultivation to become established in the wild. Invasive plants are non-native plants which grow and spread quickly and aggressively, displacing native plants. They are usually introduced by people, into a region far from their native habitat where they spread rapidly since their natural biological controls are not present. Invasive species cause major disruptions to the natural local ecosystem.

Pennsylvania is rapidly losing the native plants that characteristically help to define our state. The spread of invasive species, poor planning, overdevelopment and other factors are contributing to their loss. But you can help reverse that trend. Buying native plants to help with your landscaping projects can help us save the species that call Pennsylvania “home.”

## History of the Garden

This garden was built by a Senior Girl Scout for her Gold Award project to promote the use and gardening of native plants. This garden contains only plants native to Pennsylvania and grown in local nurseries. Funding and labor for the project were provided by Girl Scouts Troop 60048, the Bureau of Forestry and the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation.

## Loyalsock State Forest

The Loyalsock State Forest, located in Sullivan, Lycoming and Bradford Counties is a valuable part of Pennsylvania’s 2.2 million acre State Forest system. It receives its name from the Loyalsock Creek, which winds for over 60 miles through the forest district.

The Loyalsock State Forest contains about 115,000 acres, characterized by high plateaus and ridges cut with numerous deep stream valleys. Northern hardwood tree species, such as birch, beech and maple associated with black cherry, white ash, tulip-poplar and hemlock, fill the forest. The beauty of these hardwoods, combined with the spectacular topography provides for a diversity of forest based recreational opportunities. Under the provisions of the forest’s Resource Plan, forest managers integrate this recreational potential with the increasing demand for sustained yields of high quality water, beneficial wildlife habitat, and valuable wood products. These requirements, not only depend heavily on scientific expertise, but demand the full cooperation of all forest users.



## Care for the Land

State forests belong to all Pennsylvanians. Take time to enjoy them, but know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. Please be careful with fire, keep our forests litter free and don’t damage trees and other plants.

## Certified “Well Managed”

Pennsylvania state forests are certified to FSC® standards. The Forest Stewardship Council® is an independent organization supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests.



## iConservePA

To learn more about the state’s natural resources and what you can do to help protect and enjoy them, log onto [iConservePA.org](http://iConservePA.org).



## For more information

Loyalsock State Forest  
Resource Management Center  
Forest District #20

6735 Route 220  
Dushore, PA 18614  
(570) 946-4049



## Native Plant & Butterfly Garden Loyalsock State Forest



Pennsylvania’s vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health and to conserve native wild plants.

The Loyalsock State Forest comprises 115,000 acres in Bradford, Lycoming and Sullivan counties.



## Plants you will see here...

### Blazing Star

*Liatris spicata*



These showy purple flowers grow in spikes and are magnets to butterflies and hummingbirds! In the winter their flowers turn to tubes that look like ears of corn.

### Labrador Violets

*Viola labradorica*



This flower is a fantastic purple color in cooler temperatures and turns green-bronze in warmer weather. Cardinals love to eat their seeds.

### Whorled tickseed

*Coreopsis verticillata*



This flower's seeds grow at the center of the flower and resemble ticks, hence the name 'tickseed'. It has abundant light yellow flowers that bloom throughout the summer.

### Bee Balm

*Monarda didyma* 'Jacob Cline'



This brilliant scarlet flower, also known as Oswego Tea, provides nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies. This plant is also deer resistant! Its leaves contain a fragrant oil that has medicinal uses.

### New England Aster

*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*



This very hardy aster variety has abundant showy purple flowers with bright yellow disks. It is common in the eastern US and is a favorite of many butterfly species.

### Nodding Wild Onion

*Allium cernuum*



A distinctive flower that is very easy to grow and is hardy even in tough climates. In late spring, the flowers turn a pastel pink color. In the wild the onion bulbs are eaten by bears and ground squirrels.

### Butterfly Weed

*Asclepias tuberosa*



The bright color and the abundant nectar of these flowers attracts lots of butterflies, especially monarchs and swallowtails.

### White Beardtounge

*Penstemon digitalis*



This plant's tubular white flowers provide nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies. The stamen protrudes from the flower like a tongue and is covered in small hairs, hence the name 'beardtounge.'

### Rough Stemmed Goldenrod

*Solidago rugosa* 'Fireworks'



This plant grows up to 3-4 feet tall. This eye-catching variety has brilliant yellow flowers that radiate in all directions and look like exploding fireworks. They provide abundant pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies in early fall.

### Green and Gold

*Chrysogonum virginianum* var. *australe*



This luscious ground cover has bright yellow flowers and that attracts many native insects in early spring. It is also deer resistant.

### Heath Aster

*Symphyotrichum ericoides* 'Snow Flurry'



These flowers are closely related to daisies. Their yellow disks turn brown in late summer. This variety has very abundant small white flowers that attract a wide variety of butterflies.

### Joe Pye Weed

*Eupatorium fistulosum*



These flowers grow in pink clusters. They attract a lot of butterflies! Their clusters also provide nesting area for small birds. It is named after a Native American healer from New England.