New Jersey tea (Ceanothus americanus) is one of many beautiful plants that support specialist bees.
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 and resources, including our free e-newsletter and our annual native plant sale on the web at hgcny.org/ and on Facebook at facebook.com/hgcny.

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 online or download additional copies of this Guide from our website at hgcny.org/projects/shopping/.

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

Section 1: By scientific name for ferns, grasses/sedges/rushes, wildflowers, vines, shrubs, and trees
Section 2: By common name for each of these plant types

This Guide’s definition of “native”

HGCNY favors 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.”

We make judgments about which plants to include based on The Biota of North America database at bonap.org/. The plants included in this Guide may not be strictly native to CNY, but they should be native to the Northeast in general.

The codes we use in our Guide

List entries in BOLD type: These plants are “Biodiversity All-Stars” according to Doug Tallamy and William Cullina, so they contribute to increasing biodiversity. We encourage you to include these in your landscape!

S for Species and C for Cultivar: This Guide includes native plant species, not cultivars. An exception for now: some cultivars of plants that require both a male and female plant (e.g. winterberry) and those species that are compromised in some way (e.g. American elm). 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 hgcny.org/learn/factsheets/.

L for Local: Plants grown from local ecotype seeds and plants 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.
Shopping tips

- **Use the full scientific name**, including the first (*Genus*) and second (*species*) names. Sometimes knowing the particular variety is important, too, and is noted as “var.” Some scientific names have been updated to more accurately reflect plants’ evolutionary history and relationships. We’ve included updated names as well as commonly used synonyms to simplify using references that may use older names. **Common names are not as accurate and may refer to more than one plant.** We’ve included a list of common names for convenience 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 your books and lists with you when you shop!*

- **Read plant labels carefully.** Be aware that many stores or nurseries may use plant labels that say “Native,” but they may be native to the continent, not to the Northeast. Plants native to the Pacific Northwest, for example, are not necessarily native in CNY.

- **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 some countries) may harm pollinators when they visit the plant. Buying Organic-certified plants ensures that no pesticides were used, but many plants are not labeled as such. *Explore this issue further with each vendor.*

- **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”
- Biota of No. America Program: bonap.org/ - Shows native range of plants (green=native; blue=non-native)
- Native Plants for Birds at audubon.org/plantsforbirds - Audubon list
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at wildflower.org/plants/ by state, size; includes cultural conditions

**Native plant books:**  
*Note* that some of these include plants native to other parts of the continent:
- 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: *Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines*
- William Cullina: *Native Ferns, Moss, & Grasses*

**Habitat gardening books – Highly recommended!**:
- 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 hgcny.org/projects/course/.

**Habitat gardening websites:**
HGCNY website at hgcny.org/ – describes our programs and projects; links to more information Stewardship Garden at ourhabitatgarden.org/ - An example of a local HGCNY habitat garden
Participating nurseries
We recommend you always CALL AHEAD to confirm hours and plant availability before setting out on your shopping trip.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amanda's Garden</th>
<th>Butterfly Effect</th>
<th>The Fernery</th>
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<tr>
<td>8030 Story Road</td>
<td>Butterfly effect</td>
<td>108 Whitehouse Rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dansville, NY 14437</td>
<td><a href="mailto:butterflyeffectplants@gmail.com">butterflyeffectplants@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Hartwick, NY 13348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(585) 750-6288</td>
<td>(315) 719-6022</td>
<td>theferneryatwhitehouse.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amandasnativeplants.com/</td>
<td>butterflyeffectplants.com/</td>
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</tbody>
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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 why:
Cooperative Extension Jumping Worms factsheet: cccolubriagreene.org/resources/jumping-worm-fact-sheet
Great Lakes Worm Watch at nrri.umn.edu/worms/

Need help designing and/or installing 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. Stress 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 Folts at amandasnativeplants.com.

Ecoscape 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 ecoscapedesignocny.com.

The Plantsmen Nursery – Offers both design and install services throughout Tompkins County, sometimes as far as Binghamton and Syracuse or further. Contact plantsmen.com/design for details.

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

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

White Oak Nursery – Offers both design and install services in the Syracuse/Ithaca/Rochester area. Contact Jim Engel at whiteoaknursery.biz/ for details.

HGC NY thanks you for using our Native Plant Shopping Guide!