

# Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Native Plant Resource Guide

## Plant Selection

Find the right native plants for your landscape with these helpful websites:

- **Florida Association of Native Nurseries**  
[www.plantrealflorida.org/plants](http://www.plantrealflorida.org/plants)
- **Florida Native Plant Society**  
[www.fnps.org/plants](http://www.fnps.org/plants)
- **Institute for Regional Conservation - Natives for Your Neighborhood**  
[www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn](http://www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn)

## Where to Buy Native Plants

### Retail Nurseries

- **Amelia's SmartyPlants**  
1515 N Dixie Hwy, Lake Worth  
561-540-6296  
[www.amelias-smartyplants.com](http://www.amelias-smartyplants.com)
- **Meadow Beauty Nursery**  
Design, installation services available. Call in advance.  
5782 Ranches Rd, Lake Worth  
561-601-9673  
[www.meadowbeautynursery.com](http://www.meadowbeautynursery.com)
- **Native Choice Nursery**  
561-843-1192  
[jeffrem@bellsouth.net](mailto:jeffrem@bellsouth.net)
- **Indian Trails Native Nursery**  
Consult, design, grow, deliver, install  
6315 Park Ln W, Lake Worth  
561-641-9488  
[www.indiantrailsnativenursery.com](http://www.indiantrailsnativenursery.com)

### Wholesale Nurseries (Some Open to Public)

- **Carl Bates Indigenous Plants**  
Call for retail options  
17639 64th Place North,  
Loxahatchee  
828-342-7764
- **Native Green Cay Nursery Inc.**  
Wholesale only  
12750 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach  
561-496-1415  
[mijam@mac.com](mailto:mijam@mac.com)

### Native Landscape Design & Installation Services

- **Neglected Plants** (Installation, maintenance)  
561-767-6554  
[www.neglectedplants.com](http://www.neglectedplants.com)
- **The Nursery at Sustainscape** (Design, installation)  
561-245-5305  
[www.sustainscapeflorida.com](http://www.sustainscapeflorida.com)
- **General Landscaping Corporation** (Design, installation, landscape architecture)  
561-239-8280  
[generalland@bellsouth.net](mailto:generalland@bellsouth.net)
- **Mesozoic Landscapes** (Design, installation)  
561-967-2630  
[moyroud@prodigy.net](mailto:moyroud@prodigy.net)
- **Lorax Designs** (Design, installation)  
7713 Park Lane Rd, Lake Worth  
954-592-2980  
[lxdesigns13@gmail.com](mailto:lxdesigns13@gmail.com)

## Top 12 Native Plants for Home Landscapes



Firebush  
(*Hamelia patens*)

Firebush is a fast-growing, semi-woody shrub native

to Florida. It features bright red-orange tubular flowers that attract hummingbirds and butterflies. This plant can grow between 5 to 20 feet tall, 10 feet wide and thrives in full sun to partial shade. Firebush is drought-tolerant once established and is commonly used in wildlife gardens and hedges.

---



Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)

Wild Coffee is an evergreen shrub that grows 2 to 6 feet tall, 1.5 to 3 feet wide. It has glossy, dark green leaves with deep veins and produces clusters of small, white flowers followed by red berries. This plant thrives in partial to full shade and well-drained soils. Wild Coffee is a great choice for attracting birds and pollinators to the garden.

---



Palmetto (*Serenoa repens*)

Saw Palmetto is a hardy, slow-growing palm that typically reaches 4 to 6 feet in height. It has fan-shaped, silvery-green leaves and produces small, yellowish-white flowers followed by dark berries that provide food for wildlife. This plant thrives in a variety of conditions, from full sun to shade, and is highly drought-tolerant.

---



Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)

Seagrape is a coastal tree or shrub that can grow up to 50 feet tall by 35 feet wide. It has large, round leaves with red veins and produces clusters of grape-like fruits that are edible. This plant thrives in sandy, well-drained soils and full sun, making it an excellent choice for coastal landscapes and erosion control.

---



### Gumbo Limbo (*Bursera simaruba*)

Gumbo Limbo is a fast-growing, semi-evergreen tree native to South Florida. It can reach 25 to 30 feet in height, equally as wide, and is known

for its distinctive peeling red bark. This tree thrives in full sun to partial shade and well-drained soils. It is drought- and salt-tolerant, making it an excellent choice for coastal and urban landscapes.



### Wild Cinnamon Bark (*Canella winterana*)

Wild Cinnamon Bark is an evergreen shrub or small tree that grows 15 to 20 feet tall. It features glossy green leaves, small red flowers, and red berries that attract birds. This plant thrives in full sun to partial shade and sandy, well-drained soils. It is drought- and salt-tolerant, making it well-suited for coastal gardens.



### Florida Thatch Palm (*Thrinax radiata*)

Florida Thatch Palm is a slender, single-trunk palm that grows 15 to 30 feet tall, 5-15 feet wide.

It has fan-shaped, deep green leaves and produces small white flowers followed by white to purple fruits. This palm prefers full sun to partial shade and well-drained sandy soils. It is salt-tolerant and commonly used in coastal and ornamental landscapes.



### Cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*)

Cocoplum is a versatile

evergreen shrub or small tree that grows 10 to 30 feet tall, by 10-2- feet wide. It has rounded, glossy green leaves and produces small white flowers followed by edible purple fruits. This plant thrives in full sun to partial shade and well-drained sandy soils. It is salt- and drought-tolerant, making it ideal for coastal and residential landscapes.



**Jamaican Caper**  
(*Capparis cynophallophora*)

Jamaican Caper is an evergreen shrub or small tree that grows 6 to 12 feet tall and 6-10 feet wide. It has glossy green leaves with a

silvery underside and produces fragrant purple and white flowers that attract pollinators. This plant thrives in full sun to partial shade and well-drained soils. It is highly drought- and salt-tolerant, making it ideal for coastal and urban landscapes.



**Chapman's Senna** (*Senna mexicana* var. *chapmanii*)

Chapman's Senna is a fast-growing, shrub that reaches 2-4 feet tall and 3 to 6 feet wide. It produces clusters of bright yellow flowers that attract butterflies, especially sulfur butterflies. This plant thrives in full sun and well-drained soils. It is drought-tolerant and commonly used in native plant gardens and pollinator habitats.



**Coontie**  
(*Zamia integrifolia*)

Coontie is a slow-growing, native

cycad that reaches 2-3 feet in height, 3 to 5 feet wide. It features stiff, feather-like leaves and thrives in well-drained soils with full sun to partial shade. This drought-tolerant plant provides habitat and food for the rare Atala butterfly, making it an excellent choice for wildlife gardens and native landscapes.



**Dahoon Holly**  
(*Ilex cassine*)

Dahoon Holly is an evergreen tree that grows 20 to 30 feet tall, spread 10 to 15 feet. It has glossy, dark green leaves and produces small white flowers

followed by bright red berries that attract birds. This plant thrives in full sun to partial shade and moist to wet soils, making it well-suited for rain gardens and wetland areas.

**For more information, please contact your Palm Beach County Extension Office and Master Gardener Volunteer Help Desk.  
531 N. Military Trail West Palm Beach, FL, 33415.  
(561)233-1750/ [MasterGardener@pbc.gov](mailto:MasterGardener@pbc.gov)**