

Alternatives to Common Invasive Plants

Alternatives to Commonly Planted Invasive Plants

<i>Invasive Species</i>	<i>Non-Invasive Alternatives</i> <i>* native to Vermont</i>	
<p>Japanese Barberry <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> Japanese Barberry is an ornamental shrub that that is attractive because of its colors and dark red berries. It also comes in various heights and can be used is as be shaped into hedges.</p>	Black Chokeberry* Common Winterberry* Highbush Blueberry* Inkberry* Meadowsweet*	Northern Bayberry Sliky Dogwood* Smokebush Sweetfern* Sweet Pepperbush
<p>Bush Honeysuckles <i>Lonicera morrowil</i>, <i>Lonicera maackii</i>, <i>Lonicera x bella</i>, <i>Lonicera tatarica</i> Bush Honeysuckles have been planted mostly for their ornamental value, including the fragrant flowers and red berries.</p>	Beach plum Black Chokeberry* Black Elderberry* Buttonbush*	Common Winterberry* Silky dogwood* Spicebush* Trumpet honeysuckle
<p>Burning Bush <i>Euonymus alatus</i> Burning Bush is used as an ornamental shrub, and is valued for its neat habit and spectacular red to pink fall color. It is shade tolerant.</p>	Arrowwood* Black Chokeberry* Button bush* Fragrant Sumac* Highbush Blueberry*	Nannyberry* Northern Bayberry Shining Sumac Smokebush Smooth Sumac*
<p>Norway Maple <i>Acer platanoides</i> Norway Maple is an ornamental tree. Some cultivars have a maroon leaf color which it keeps throughout the growing season.</p>	Blackgum* Red maple* Sugar maple*	
<p>Buckthorn <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> Buckthorn is a shrub/small tree that is valued for its hardiness and its ability to grow in a variety of soil and light conditions. It has been used in many areas to create hedges.</p>	American Bladdernut* Beach plum* Black Chokeberry* Buttonbush*	Serviceberry* Silky Dogwood* Speckled Alder* Witchhazel*
<p>Bishop's Goutweed <i>Aegopodium podagraria</i> Bishop's Goutweed is used as an ornamental ground cover, especially on steep slopes. It flourishes in moist, shaded areas.</p>	Canadian Anemone* Canadian Wild Ginger* Wild Blue Phlox or Sweet William Wild Sarsaparilla*	

Characteristics of Select Alternatives

<p>Beach plum <i>Prunus maritima</i></p> <p>Multi-branched shrub, 1 – 8 ft tall. Egg shaped, finely toothed leaves. White fruit in umbels along the stem. Fruit purple. Salt Tolerant. Fruit eaten by birds and wildlife.</p> <p>Light: Full Sun Moisture: Dry Soil: Sandy</p>	<p>Black Elderberry <i>Sambucus canadensis</i></p> <p>A deciduous shrub with branches to 12 ft. Leaves up to 12 inches long. Flowers white in conspicuous clusters appearing from May to July. Fruit berrylike, dark purple when ripe, edible when ripe. Berries relished by many bird species and mammals. Deer eat twigs and leaves. Attracts birds and is a nectar source.</p> <p>Light: Part Shade Moisture: Wet Soil: Tolerates a wide variety of wet to dry soils but prefers rich, moist, slightly acid soil.</p>
<p>Black Chokeberry <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i></p> <p>A small, mound-shaped shrub. Glossy, dark green foliage turns crimson-red in fall. White flowers with pink anthers. Persistent, blackish-purple berries. Provides nectar to insects, fruit provides food for birds and mammals.</p> <p>Light: Part Shade, Full Sun Moisture: Moist , Dry Soil: Sandy, acid</p>	<p>Blackgum <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i></p> <p>A handsome ornamental and shade tree which has glossy, dark-green summer foliage changing to fluorescent yellow, orange, scarlet and purple in fall. Grows to 30-60 ft. or taller. Berries are small and blue. It is also a honey plant. The juicy fruit is consumed by many birds and mammals. Used by substrate-insectivorous birds, Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals, Nectar-bees. Attracts birds.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Moist Soil: Various acid soils. Acid-based, Gravelly, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay</p>
<p>Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i></p> <p>Shrub, 3-10 ft, with flowers in round, ball-like heads. White , tubular flowers. Egg shaped leaves opposite or whorled.</p> <p>Provides food for variety of wildlife.</p> <p>Light: Shade, Part Shade, Full Sun Moisture: Moist, Wet Soil: All kinds</p>	<p>Common Winterberry <i>Ilex verticillata</i></p> <p>A very “showy” shrub, especially in fall & early winter with its bright red berries. Provides cover, nesting site, nectar for insects and fruit for birds. Attracts birds & butterflies. NOTE: Need both male and female plants to have berries.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Wet, Moist, Dry Soil: Moist, acidic soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam Medium Loam Clay Loam, Clay</p>

<p>Fragrant Sumac <i>Rhus aromatica</i></p> <p>A sprawling, small to medium-size shrub (6-12 ft. tall) with aromatic foliage. Has glossy, somewhat blue-green leaves which turn orange, red, purple and yellow in the fall. Yellowish catkin-like flowers precede dark-red berries which persist into March. The berries provide winter food for small animals and birds. Attracts birds & butterflies. Is highly deer resistant.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Moist, Dry Soil: Dry, rocky soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam Clay</p>	<p>Highbush Blueberry <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i></p> <p>A deciduous shrub with reddish-green spring leaves which turn blue-green in summer and red, yellow, orange and purple in fall. White or pink, bell-shaped flowers in drooping clusters. Blue fruit. Berries are relished by most birds and mammals. Browsers eat foliage. Attracts 30 species of birds.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Wet, Moist, Dry Soil: Wet to dry, acid, rocky soils to organic peats</p>
<p>Northern Bayberry <i>Morella pensylvanica</i></p> <p>A spreading shrub, 3-12 ft. tall. Glossy, fragrant gray-green, turn tan-colored and persist into winter. Green catkins appear before leaves. Clusters of small, round, hard, white berries remain on the female plant all winter. Berries eaten by winter birds. Attracts birds & butterflies.</p> <p>Light: Part Shade Moisture: Moist Soil: Clay, Loam, Sand</p>	<p>Red maple <i>Acer rubrum</i></p> <p>A shade tree, displaying red in different seasons. This is a preferred species for browsing deer and moose. Attracts Birds and is larval host and/or nectar source for Rosy Maple Moth.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade Moisture: Moist Soil: Clay, Loamy, Sandy, slightly acidic soils.</p>
<p>Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier</i></p> <p>Shrub or small tree with early white spring flowers in loose racemes at the end of branches. In the rose family.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade Moisture: Dry, Moist Soil: Loamy, Sandy</p>	<p>Shining Sumac <i>Rhus copallinum</i></p> <p>A large, deciduous ornamental shrub or small tree, 20-35 ft. tall. Glossy, dark-green leaves turn reddish-purple in the fall. Yellowish-green flowers are succeeded by drooping fruit clusters which turn dull red and persist through winter. Often forms thickets. Winter food for many upland game birds, songbirds, and large and small mammals. Wildlife eat the fruit, and deer also browse the twigs.</p> <p>Light: Sun Moisture: Dry Soil: Rocky, poor soils</p>

<p>Smooth Sumac <i>Rhus glabra</i></p> <p>An ornamental, 10-20 ft. shrub with short, crooked, picturesque branches. Deciduous leaves become extremely colorful in early fall. On female plants, yellow-green flowers are followed by bright-red, hairy berries which persist throughout winter. Berries consumed by birds of many kinds and small mammals, mainly in winter. Deer browse the twigs and fruit throughout the year. Attracts birds & butterflies.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Dry Soil: Most dry soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay, Caliche type</p>	<p>Spicebush <i>Lindera benzoin</i></p> <p>A single- or few-stemmed, deciduous shrub, 6-12 ft. tall. Dense clusters of tiny, pale yellow flowers which are followed by glossy red fruit. Both fruit and foliage are aromatic. Leaves turn a colorful golden-yellow in fall. Attracts Birds & Butterflies. Larval host for Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Spicebush Swallowtail.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Wet , Moist , Dry Soil: Moist, sandy, well-drained soils. Caliche type, Limestone-based, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam</p>
<p>Sugar maple <i>Acer saccharum</i></p> <p>Large (60-75 ft.) shade tree with rounded, dense crown and striking, brilliant red, yellow and orange fall foliage. Its straight, central trunk; wide-spreading branches; and pointed crown are all attractive landscape characteristics. Attracts birds.</p> <p>It is susceptible to salt. (Dirt)</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Moist , Dry Soil: Rich, moist, well-drained soils</p>	<p>Sweet Pepperbush <i>Clethra alnifolia</i></p> <p>1 – 4 foot shrub with sweet-scented white flowers in long racemes. Egg shaped leaves, sharply toothed above the middle. Attracts pollinators.</p> <p>Light: Part Shade, Full Shade Moisture: Moist, Wet Soil: Clay, Loamy, Sandy</p>
<p>Trumpet honeysuckle <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i></p> <p>High-climbing, twining vine, 3-20 ft. long, with smooth, glossy, semi-evergreen leaves and 2-4 flowered clusters of red, tubular blooms followed by bright-red berries. Not too aggressive. Good climber or ground cover. Flowers attract hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies. Fruits attract quail, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Hermit Thrush, American Robin. Nectar source. Larval host for Spring Azure, Snowberry Clearwing Moth.</p> <p>Light: Sun, Part Shade Moisture: Dry, Moist Soil: Various soils, but rich preferred</p>	<p>Witchhazel <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i></p> <p>Shrub, 5-15 ft., with yellow flowers that bloom in late fall. Leaves are long (2-5") and egg shaped with wavy edges.</p> <p>Provides food for birds and small mammals.</p> <p>Light: Part Shade, Shade Moisture: Dry, Moist Soil: Clay, Loamy, Sandy</p>

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