

# Creating Living Landscapes for Birds, Butterflies, Bees and Other Beneficials

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Cover for Songbirds (Protection/ Nesting)	Fruit or Seed for Songbirds	Larval Host for Lepidopterans	Nectar for Lepidopterans (Butterflies and Moths)	Nectar for Hummingbirds	Nectar/ Pollen for Wild Bees	Pollen for Specialist Bees	Notes
<b>Birch</b>	<i>Betula</i> spp.			 hundreds (200+)		 provides sap			Seeds eaten by a variety of songbirds, especially finches and sparrows. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans, including many moths. Peeling bark provides landscape appeal. Sap wells created by yellow-bellied sapsuckers are used by hummingbirds.
<b>Black gum</b>	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>			 dozens (< 50)					Attractive nectar source for bees. Berries readily consumed by many birds. Brilliant fall color provides aesthetic appeal.
<b>Cherry and plum</b>	<i>Prunus</i> spp.								Important nectar and pollen source for early season bees. Thickets of plums provide good escape and nesting cover for songbirds. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans, including the red-spotted purple butterfly and clearwing hummingbird moth. Cherries and caterpillars are important food sources for birds.
<b>Crabapple</b>	<i>Malus</i> spp.								Some species produce small fruit that is eaten by birds, especially overwintering birds. Visited by dozens of wild bee species. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans. Native and non-native species can provide value.
<b>Eastern redbud</b>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>								Clusters of pink-purple flowers lining twigs and branches provide nectar/ pollen for bees, hummingbirds, and lepidopterans as well as aesthetic value. Leafcutter bees may cut leaf segments for use in nesting cells.
<b>Eastern red cedar</b>	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>								Berries eaten by a variety of birds, especially cedar waxwings. Provides important nesting cover and year-round protective cover to birds. Blue-gray berries and dark green foliage provide landscape appeal.
<b>Flowering dogwood, pagoda dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus florida</i> and <i>C. alternifolia</i>			 many (50-200)					Provides pollen and nectar to early bees. Pollen essential for specialist bees. Glossy red fruit matures in fall and is relished by birds. The bright red-purple fall leaves are a "foliar fruit flag," indicating to birds where to feed when migrating. Larval host plant for the spring azure butterfly.
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus</i> spp.								Spring flowers visited by many pollinators. Fruit used by birds, especially during winter. Larval host for dozens of lepidopterans. Provides dense and protective cover for nesting birds.
<b>Maple</b>	<i>Acer</i> spp.					 provides sap			Provides a source of nectar and pollen for bees early in the season, when few other plants are blooming. Mature trees provide nesting cover and cavities for birds. Sap wells created by yellow-bellied sapsuckers are used by hummingbirds.
<b>Oak</b>	<i>Quercus</i> spp.								Oaks are a keystone species, providing habitat for many species. Male catkins provide pollen to bees in spring, acorns are food for many birds and mammals, and mature trees provide nesting cover and cavities. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans, including many moths, which are critical food for nesting birds.
<b>Red buckeye</b>	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>								Red flowers bloom in the spring and are attractive to migrating hummingbirds. Dozens of caterpillars use the genus <i>Aesculus</i> as host plants.
<b>Serviceberry</b>	<i>Amelanchier</i> spp.								Fruits are produced in early summer, before many other woody plants, and are favored by many birds who quickly exhaust the supply. Early source of pollen and nectar for bees such as mining bees and small sweat bees.
<b>Tuliptree</b>	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>								Large, tulip-like flowers provide nectar to bees, lepidopterans, and hummingbirds. Cone-like fruit provides seeds for overwintering birds, such as finches. Larval host for eastern tiger and spicebush swallowtail butterflies.
<b>Willow</b>	<i>Salix</i> spp.								Important early-season source of pollen and nectar for bees. Provides pollen for many specialist bees. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans, such as viceroy and mourning cloak butterflies. Provides caterpillar prey and cover for birds.

## TREES

For more details, consult this fact sheet:



Birch • *Betula* spp.



Black gum • *Nyssa sylvatica*



Cherry and plum • *Prunus* spp.



Crabapple • *Malus* spp.



Eastern redbud • *Cercis canadensis*



Eastern red cedar • *Juniper virginiana*



Flowering dogwood, pagoda dogwood  
*Cornus florida* and *C. alternifolia*



Hawthorn • *Crataegus* spp.



Maple • *Acer* spp.



Oak • *Quercus* spp.



Red buckeye • *Aesculus pavia*



Serviceberry • *Amelanchier* spp.



Tuliptree • *Liriodendron tulipifera*



Willow • *Salix* spp.



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<b>Azalea</b>	<i>Rhododendron</i> spp. ( <i>R. calendulaceum</i> , <i>R. maximum</i> , <i>R. periclymenoides</i> , <i>R. prinophyllum</i> )	🏠		many (50-200)					Spring flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees, particularly bumble bees. Pollen is essential for one species of specialist bee.
<b>Blueberry</b>	<i>Vaccinium</i> spp. ( <i>V. angustifolium</i> , <i>V. corymbosum</i> )	🏠		hundreds (200+)					Provides food to a variety of wildlife, including specialist bees. Provides cover and food to birds. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans.
<b>Bottlebrush buckeye</b>	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>								Flower spikes attract butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Native to southeastern United States.
<b>Brambles</b>	<i>Rubus</i> spp.	🏠							Flowers attractive to many pollinators. Old stems are used by tunnel-nesting bees. Berries are eaten by many songbirds and mammals. Provides excellent nesting cover (especially blackberry and black raspberry) for birds.
<b>Buttonbush</b>	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	🏠		dozens (< 50)					Prefers moist or wetland soils, but adaptable to many garden sites. Ball-like clusters of white flowers are attractive to a variety of pollinators.
<b>Chokeberry</b>	<i>Aronia</i> spp. ( <i>A. arbutifolia</i> , <i>A. melanocarpa</i> )	🏠							White cluster of flowers give way to fruit consumed by birds, especially during winter. Provides dense foliage at maturity. Attractive to shub-nesting birds.
<b>Dogwood, shrub dogwoods</b>	<i>Red-osier</i> ( <i>C. sericea</i> previously called <i>C. stolonifera</i> ), <i>swamp</i> ( <i>C. obliqua</i> ), <i>gray</i> ( <i>C. racemosa</i> ), <i>silky</i> ( <i>C. amomum</i> )	🏠							Berries and dense growth of some species can provide food and nesting sites for songbirds. Pollen essential for specialist bees. Broken or pruned stems are often used by solitary bees as nesting sites. Larval host for spring azure butterflies.
<b>Elderberry</b>	<i>Sambucus</i> spp. ( <i>S. canadensis</i> , <i>S. racemosa</i> )								Flowers visited by pollinators primarily for pollen. Cut or broken stems are used by solitary tunnel-nesting bees. Berries eaten by many birds.
<b>Ninebark</b>	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	🏠							White flowers in spring are visited by a variety of pollinators. Provides excellent cover for nesting songbirds.
<b>Rose</b>	<i>Rosa</i> spp. ( <i>R. blanda</i> , <i>R. carolina</i> , <i>R. palustris</i> , <i>R. setigera</i> )	🏠							Shrubs provide bird habitat for nesting and cover. Flowers provide pollen to many types of bees. Host plant for numerous lepidoptera.
<b>Spicebush</b>	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	🏠							Shade-tolerant and often found in forest understory. Fruit eaten by many birds.
<b>Sumac</b>	<i>Rhus</i> spp. ( <i>R. glabra</i> , <i>R. typhina</i> )								Flowers provide pollen and nectar to many pollinators. Fruit used by overwintering birds, and by migratory birds in the spring. Stems used by solitary tunnel-nesting bees.
<b>Viburnum</b>	<i>Viburnum</i> spp. ( <i>V. opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i> , <i>V. prunifolium</i> , <i>V. acerifolium</i> , <i>V. lentago</i> , <i>V. nudum</i> var. <i>cassinoides</i> , <i>V. dentatum</i> )	🏠							Many species in this genus provide food for pollinators and birds, cover for nesting birds, are larval hosts for lepidopterans.
<b>Willow, shrub willow</b>	<i>Salix</i> spp. ( <i>S. discolor</i> , <i>S. interior</i> , <i>S. myricoides</i> , <i>S. sericea</i> )	🏠							Important early-season source of pollen/nectar for bees, including queen bumble bees and many specialist bees. Larval host for hundreds of lepidopterans. Provides caterpillar prey and cover for birds.
<b>Winterberry</b>	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	🏠							Berries are eaten by birds throughout the winter. Small flowers attract bees, including specialist bees. Provides cover for birds when grown in clusters.

**SHRUBS** For more details, consult this fact sheet:



Azalea and rhododendron *Rhododendron* spp.



Blueberry • *Vaccinium* spp.



Bottlebrush buckeye *Aesculus parviflora*



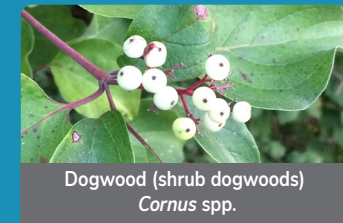
Brambles *Rubus* spp.



Buttonbush • *Cephalanthus occidentalis*



Chokeberry • *Aronia* spp.



Dogwood (shrub dogwoods) *Cornus* spp.



Elderberry • *Sambucus* spp.



Ninebark • *Physocarpus opulifolius*



Rose • *Rosa*



Spicebush • *Lindera benzoin*



Sumac • *Rhus* spp.



Viburnum • *Viburnum* spp.



Willow (shrub willows) • *Salix* spp.

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