

Borough of Cape May Point Environmental Commission Native and Invasive Plant Lists  
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**1. Native Trees and Woody Plants**

When considering woody trees, shrubs and vines on a gardened property, there are many reasons why considering species native to the area is a sound idea. Native plants will be those that are best adapted to the local climatic conditions, they will need less special care and attention during weather extremes such as drought or prolonged cold spells and they will be the most beneficial to the native wildlife of the area.

This recommended list contains species known, or considered to be, native to Cape May County. It does not include species native to other parts of New Jersey where growing conditions may be quite different to those in Cape May Point. It also omits species that are native to Cape May County, but that are not particularly suited to the conditions found at Cape May Point; for example, trees such as American Beech and Tulip Tree (Yellow Poplar) require deeper, richer soils than those typically found at Cape May Point and, in addition, they have the potential to become too large for gardens and could cause a number of problems in the longer term.

The list gives some widely used alternate names, but there may be others and correct identification of a species should always be based on the most recent scientific name. Scientific names are not always stable and reference should be made to species lists provided by the USDA Plants site on line and, especially, the more up-to-date and ongoing work of the Weakley Flora of Southern & Mid-Atlantic States on line (see references).

In the third column, each species is flagged as either a shrub, tree or vine according to its growth style and ultimate size.

Common Name	Scientific Name		Also Known As
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i> L.	T	Eastern Red Maple
Oblong-leaved Juneberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> (L.) Medik.	T	Canadian Serviceberry, Eastern Serviceberry
Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> (L.) Persoon	S	
Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (Michaux) Elliott	S	
Eastern Baccharis	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> L.	S	Shrubby Groundsel, Groundsel, Silverling, High-tide Bush, Mullet Bush
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i> L.	T	Red Birch
Trumpet Creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i> (L.) Seem ex Bureau	V	Trumpet Vine
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i> (Mill.) Sweet	T	
Sand Hickory	<i>Carya pallida</i> (Ashe) Engl & Graebn.	T	Pale Hickory
Mockernut Hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa</i> (Lam.) Nutt.	T	White Hickory
American Bittersweet-vine	<i>Celastrus scandens</i> L.	V	American Bittersweet

Common Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> L. ( <i>Celtis pumila</i> Pursh)	T	Northern Hackberry
Dwarf Hackberry	<i>Celtis tenuifolia</i> Nutt.	T	Georgia Hackberry
Common Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> L.	S	
Common Sweet Pepperbush	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> L.	S	Coastal Sweetpepperbush, Coastal White-alder
Sweetfern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i> (L.) J.MCoul.	S	Sweet-fern
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i> L.	T	
Common Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> L.	T	American Persimmon, Possumwood
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i> (L.) Agray	S	
Smooth Winterberry	<i>Ilex laevigata</i> (Pursh) AGray	S	
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i> Aiton	T	
Common Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> (L.) AGray	S	
Virginia Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i> L.	S	Virginia-willow, Tassel-white
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i> L.	T	
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> L.	T	Virginia Juniper
Mountain-laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i> L.	S	Mountain Laurel, Calico-bush
Northern Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (L.) Blume	S	
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> L.	T	Red Gum
Trumpet Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> L.	V	Coral Honeysuckle
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> L.	T	Northern Sweetbay, Sweetbay
Southern Crab Apple	<i>Malus angustifolia</i> (Aiton) Michx.	T	Wild Crabapple
Wax Myrtle	<i>Morella cerifera</i> (L.) Small	S	Common Wax-myrtle, Southern Bayberry
Northern Bayberry	<i>Morella pensylvanica</i> (Mirb.) Kartesz	S	
Red Mulberry	<i>Morus rubra</i> L.	T	
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Marsh.	T	Sour Gum, Pepperidge
Common Virginia-creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> (L.) Planch.	V	Virginia Creeper
Shortleaf Pine	<i>Pinus echinata</i> P Miller	T	Rosemary Pine, Yellow Pine
Pitch Pine	<i>Pinus rigida</i> P Miller	T	
Pond Pine	<i>Pinus serotina</i> Michx.	T	Pocosin Pine, Marsh Pine
Loblolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i> L.	T	Oldfield Pine
Virginia Pine	<i>Pinus virginiana</i> P Miller	T	Scrub Pine
Chickasaw Plum	<i>Prunus angustifolia</i> Marsh.	S	

Beach Plum	<i>Prunus maritima</i> Marsh.	S	
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i> Ehrh.	T	
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i> L.	T	
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i> Münchh.	T	
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i> Michx.	T	Spanish Oak
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus montana</i> Willd. ( <i>Quercus prinus</i> L.)	T	
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i> L.	T	
Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i> Wangenh.	T	
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i> Lam.	T	
Dwarf Azalea	<i>Rhododendron atlanticum</i> (Ashe) Rehder	S	
Pink Azalea	<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i> (Michx.) Shinners	S	Wild Azalea, Pinxterflower, Pinxterbloom Azalea
Swamp Azalea	<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i> (L.) Torr.	S	Clammy Azalea
Winged Sumac	<i>Rhus copallinum</i> L.	S	Flameleaf Sumac
Smooth Sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i> L.	S	
Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i> L.	S	
Carolina Rose	<i>Rosa carolina</i> L.	S	
Virginia Rose	<i>Rosa virginiana</i> Mill.	S	
Missouri Willow	<i>Salix eriocephala</i> Michx.	T	Missouri River Willow, Heart-leaved Willow, Diamond Willow
Black Willow	<i>Salix nigra</i> Marsh.	T	
American Elder	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> L. ( <i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i> )	S	Common Elderberry, American Black Elderberry
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i> (Nutt.) Nees	T	
New Jersey Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium caesariense</i> Mack.	S	New Jersey Highbush Blueberry
Southern Highbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium formosum</i> H.C. Andrews ( <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> L.)	S	Highbush Blueberry, Southern Blueberry, Swamp Highbush Blueberry
Southern Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> L.	S	Arrow-wood
Blackhaw	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> L.	S	Nannyberry
Summer Grape	<i>Vitis aestivalis</i> Michx.	V	
Fox Grape	<i>Vitis labrusca</i> L.	V	
Adam's Needle	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i> L.	S	Curlyleaf Yucca, Spoonleaf Yucca

## 2. Prohibited Non-native Trees and Woody Plants

Prevention is always cheaper and more effective than cure. By identifying those woody plant species that have already established themselves as invasive aliens in the region, the Borough is able to save costs on controlling these species by discouraging their planting in the first place. This list identifies those species that should not be intentionally planted within the Borough of Cape May Point because of their potentially invasive tendencies. This list gives both Common and Scientific names for each species, as well as a list of widely used alternate names. For most species, the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (NJISST) is taken as the authoritative source for data on invasive aliens and, where this is the case, this is indicated in the Source column in the table below. A small number of other species not listed by NJISST are also included, based on information from the USDA Plants website, as well as observations made in the field by local botanists. Where this is the case, a note is attached in the Comments column in the table below.

The presence of invasive alien plants not only threatens the integrity of Cape May Point's natural ecosystem, but also has the potential to create legal issues where plants may spread from one private property to another.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Also Known As	Source	Comments
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i> L.		NJISST	
Tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (Mill.) Swingle	Copal Tree, Stink-tree	NJISST	
Silktree	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> Durazz.	Mimosa	NJISST	
Porcelain-berry	<i>Ampelopsis glandulosa</i> (Wall.) Momiy. ( <i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> (Maxim.) Trautv.)	Amur Peppervine	NJISST	
Japanese Angelica Tree	<i>Aralia elata</i> (Miq.) Seem.		NJISST	
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> DC.		NJISST	
Paper Mulberry	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i> (L.) L'Hér ex Vent.		NJISST	
Butterflybush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i> Franch.	Summer-lilac, Orange-eye Butterfly-bush	NJISST	
Chinese Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i> (Lour.) K. Koch			Although not yet a problem in Cape May Point, this species is reported as invasive elsewhere in the USA (see: <a href="https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=13946">https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=13946</a> )
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> Thunb.	Oriental Bittersweet-vine, Round-leaved Bittersweet, Staffvine	NJISST	

Autumn Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis terniflora</i> DC.	Sweet Autumn Virginsbower, Japanese Clematis, Autumn Clematis, Yam-leaved Clematis	NJISST	
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> L.	Oleaster	NJISST	
Autumn Olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> Thunb.	Oriental Silverleaf, Spring Silverberry	NJISST	
Winged Burning Bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i> (Thunb.) Siebold	Winged Euonymus	NJISST	
Russian Vine	<i>Fallopia baldschuanica</i> (Regel) Holub. ( <i>Polygonum baldschuanicum</i> Regel; <i>Polygonum aubertii</i> Henry)	Mile-a-minute Vine, Bukhara Fleeceflower, Silver-lace-vine, China Fleece-vine	NJISST	
Sea Buckthorn	<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> L.	Seaberry	NJISST	
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i> L.	Common Ivy	NJISST	
Silky Bush-clover	<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i> (Dumont-Cours.) G Don	Sericea Lespedeza, Chinese Lespedeza	NJISST	
Broad-leaved Privet	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i> Siebold & Zucc.	Border Privet (Includes Amur Privet as a subspecies)	NJISST	
Oval-leaved Privet	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> Hassk.	California Privet	NJISST	
Chinese Privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> Lour.			Absent from the NJISST, but this species is the most invasive privet in Cape May County. (See <a href="http://capemaywildlife.com/_templates/group_oleaceae.html#Chinese%20Privet">http://capemaywildlife.com/_templates/group_oleaceae.html#Chinese%20Privet</a> )
European Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> L.	Common Privet	NJISST	
Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Thunb.		NJISST	
Amur Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> (Rupr.) Herder		NJISST	
Morrow's Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i> A. Gray		NJISST	
Tatarian Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i> L.		NJISST	
White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i> L.			Regenerates freely from seed and readily colonizes abandoned farm fields and other marginal areas in Cape May County, while the native <i>Morus rubra</i> has almost disappeared from the county.

Foxglove-tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> (Thunb.) Siebold & Zucc ex Steud.	Princess Tree, Empress Tree, Paulownia		Although not yet a problem in Cape May, this species is reported as invasive elsewhere in the USA (see: <a href="https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=2426">https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=2426</a> )
Japanese Black Pine	<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i> Franco			Widely planted for dune stabilization in the past, but has proved to be potentially invasive elsewhere and has the potential to displace native vegetation by shading and overcrowding. Is proving to be relatively short-lived, incurring extra costs in removal and replacement.
White Poplar	<i>Populus alba</i> L.	Silver Poplar	NJISST	
Gray Poplar	<i>Populus x canescens</i> (Aiton) Sm		NJISST	This taxon has been widely planted in the past and has even been mistaken for the native Bigtooth Aspen ( <i>Populus grandidentata</i> ). Its use as a garden ornamental is not recommended as it habitually forms large numbers of suckers from extensive, creeping root systems which have the potential to invade neighboring land or to damage property
Kudzu Vine	<i>Pueraria montana</i> (Lour.) Merr.		NJISST	
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> Decne.	Including Bradford Pear and other cultivated forms of this species	NJISST	The genetics of manipulated cultivars of fruiting trees are complex and poorly understood by the non-scientific community. Nurseries continue to sell Bradford Pear (a cultivar of Callery Pear) as a sterile tree, i.e. not producing fruits and therefore incapable of becoming invasive. In reality, this cultivar is self-infertile, but readily cross-pollinates with other Callery Pear cultivars (as well as with the species itself), and it is the offspring of these cross-pollinations that form the basis for invasive populations to occur.
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Reynoutria japonica</i> Houttuyn ( <i>Fallopia japonica</i> (Houttuyn) Ronse Decraene)	Japanese Bamboo, Japanese Buckwheat	NJISST	
Giant Knotweed	<i>Reynoutria sachalinensis</i> (F. Schmidt ex Maximowicz) Nakai ( <i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i> (F. Schmidt ex Maximowicz) Ronse Decraene)	Sachaline	NJISST	
Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i> Thunb.		NJISST	
Japanese Rose	<i>Rosa rugosa</i> Thunb.	Seaside Rose, Rugosa Rose	NJISST	

Himalayan Blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i> Focke		NJISST	
Wine Raspberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i> Maxim.	Wineberry	NJISST	
Common Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i> (L.) S.F Blake			<i>Native in the USA but not native in Cape May County. Spreads to form extensive thickets which would be unsuitable for garden use.</i>
Coralberry	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> Moench			<i>Native in the USA but not native in Cape May County. Spreads to form extensive thickets which would be unsuitable for garden use.</i>
Japanese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i> (Willd.) DC.		NJISST	
Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i> (Sims) DC.		NJISST	

### 3. Prohibited Non-native, Non-woody Plants

Prevention is always cheaper and more effective than cure. By identifying those non-woody plant species that have already established themselves as invasive aliens in the region, the Borough is able to save costs on controlling these species by discouraging their planting in the first place. This list identifies those species that should not be intentionally planted within the Borough of Cape May Point because of their potentially invasive tendencies. This list gives both Common and Scientific names for each species, as well as a list of widely used alternate names. For most species, the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (NJISST) is taken as the authoritative source for data on invasive aliens and, where this is the case, this is indicated in the Source column in the table below. A small number of other species not listed by NJISST are also included, based on information from the USDA Plants website, as well as observations made in the field by local botanists. Where this is the case, a note is attached in the Comments column in the table below. The comments column has also been used where it is felt that potentially confusing issues need to be addressed.

The presence of invasive alien plants not only threatens the integrity of Cape May Point's natural ecosystem, but also has the potential to create legal issues where plants may spread from one private property to another.

Common Name	Scientific Name(s)	Also Known As	Source	Comments
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Hedge Garlic	NJISST	
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Common Wormwood, Common Mugwort, Felon Herb	NJISST	

Bamboo	<i>Bambusa; Dendrocalamus; Phyllostachys; Pseudosasa</i>			There are no species of bamboo currently on the New Jersey State list of invasive species. However, these huge grasses can be very difficult to maintain and encroachment onto neighboring properties is a known issue. The large species in the genera listed here should not be planted (see references, below).
Japanese Sedge	<i>Carex kobomugi</i>	Asiatic Sand Sedge, Sea Isle Sedge, Japanese Beach Sedge	NJISST	
Largehead Sedge	<i>Carex macrocephala</i>		NJISST	
Chinese Fountaingrass	<i>Cenchrus purpurascens; Pennistenum alopecuriodes</i>	Foxtail Fountain-grass, Black Fountaingrass	NJISST	
Crimson Fountaingrass	<i>Cenchrus setaceus; Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Tender Fountaingrass	NJISST	
Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos; Centaurea maculosa</i>	Bushy Knapweed	NJISST	
Brazilian Waterweed	<i>Egeria densa</i>	Elodea, Anacharis	NJISST	
Common Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>		NJISST	
Weeping Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>		NJISST	
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ficaria verna; Ranunculus ficara</i>	Fig Buttercup	NJISST	
Chameleon-plant	<i>Houttuynia cordata</i>	Fishleaf, Fish Plant	NJISST	
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Waterhyme	NJISST	
Himalayan Balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Ornamental Jewelweed, Policemen's Helmet, Indian Balsam	NJISST	
Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag, Paleyellow Iris, Water Flag	NJISST	
Yellow Archangel	<i>Lamium galeobdolon; Lamium galeobdolon</i>		NJISST	
Floating Primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	Creeping Waterprimrose	NJISST	



Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>		NJISST	Do not plant cultivars sold as 'sterile' as these plants are proving to be capable of cross-pollination with other varieties and add to the invasive problem of this species. See: <a href="http://www.purpleloosestrife.org/faq/">http://www.purpleloosestrife.org/faq/</a>
Japanese Stiltgrass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Nepalese Browntop, Flexible Sasa-grass, Japanese-grass	NJISST	
Chinese Silvergrass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Eulalia Grass	NJISST	
Parrot-feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot Feather Water Milfoil	NJISST	
Kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate	<i>Persicaria orientalis; Polygonum orientale</i>	Oriental Smartweed, Prince's Feather, Prince's Plume	NJISST	
Mile-a-minute Vine	<i>Persicaria perfoliata; Polygonum perfoliatum</i>	Asiatic Tearthumb, Devil's-tail Tearthumb	NJISST	
Water Lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>		NJISST	
Curly-leaved Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curly Pondweed, Curled Pondweed	NJISST	
European Water Chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>	Water-chestnut, Water-caltrop	NJISST	
Ravenna-grass	<i>Tripidium ravennae; Ripidium ravennae; Saccharum ravennae</i>	Plume-grass, Hardy Pampas Grass	NJISST	

### Online References

Bamboo - <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/goldenbamboo.shtml>

Cape May Wildlife Guide - <http://capemaywildlife.com/>

Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States - <https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/>

New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team - <http://www.njisst.org/>.

Purple Loosestrife InfoCenter - <http://www.purpleloosestrife.org/faq/>

USDA Plants - <https://plants.usda.gov/java/>

Weakley's Flora of the Southern & Mid-Atlantic States - <http://www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm>