

Native Woody Shrubs

of the Lockwood Farm

2021

Native woody shrubs offer an alternative to exotics commonly used in landscaping. Native shrubs provide excellent habitat and food for native birds and butterflies.

Our collection of shrubs was assembled in 1962 and in 1976 it was arranged in its present form with a dry site on the gravel mound and a moist site in the shallow, plastic-lined depression.

These shrubs survive with minimal maintenance of occasional mowing, annual removal of dead stems, and replenishment of mulch.

The shrubs have never been fertilized, watered, or treated for disease.



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Text and Photos:**Erin Reilly and Nicholas Tait****Table of Contents**

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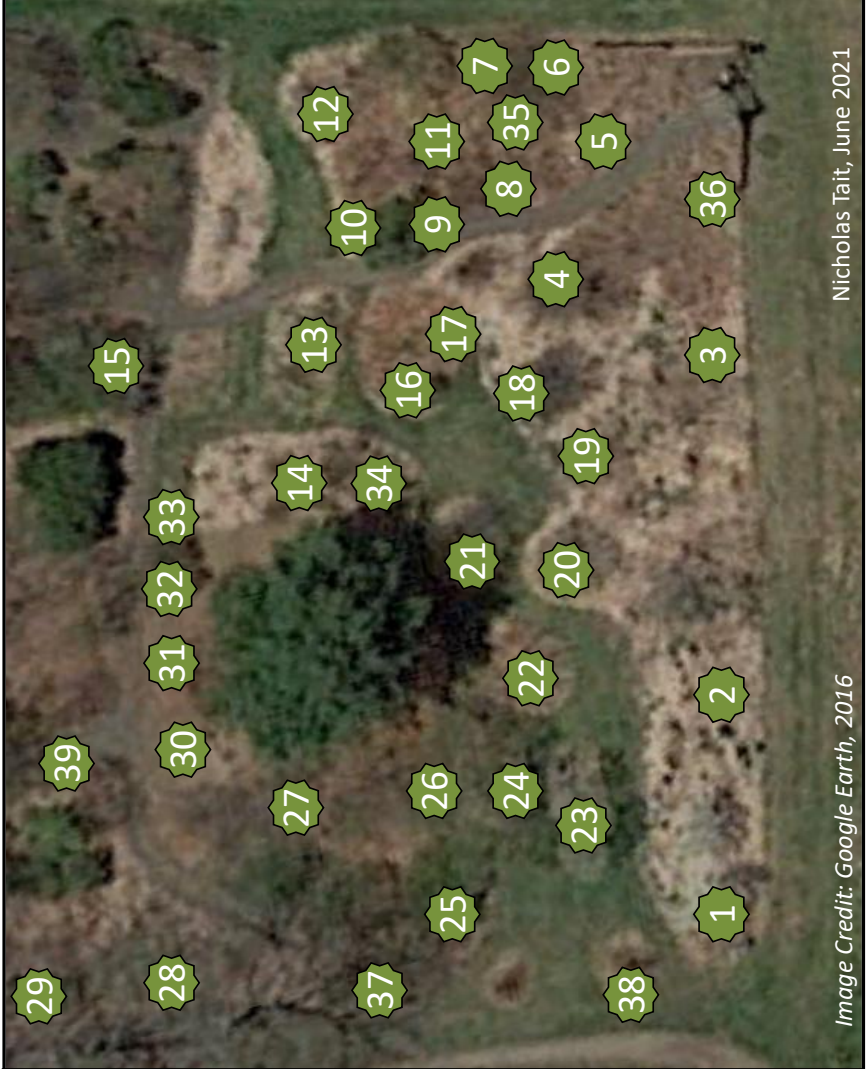
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Native Woody Shrub Collection



- (1) Shadblow Serviceberry
- (2) Muscledwood
- (3) Witch-Hazel
- (4) Mountain Holly
- (5) Buttonbush
- (6) Spicebush
- (7) Leatherwood
- (8) Sweet-Pepperbush
- (9) Inkberry
- (10) Maleberry
- (11) Stickybud Azalea
- (12) Common Winterberry
- (13) Black Chokeberry
- (14) American Hazelnut
- (15) Red-Osier Dogwood
- (16) Northern Wild Raisin
- (17) Meadowsweet
- (18) Smooth Arrowwood
- (19) Highbush Blueberry
- (20) Highbush-Cranberry
- (21) Gray Dogwood
- (22) Devil's Walking Stick
- (23) Smooth Shadbush
- (24) Nannyberry
- (25) Mountain Laurel
- (26) Winged Sumac
- (27) Beach Plum
- (28) Maple-Leaf Viburnum
- (29) Elderberry
- (30) New Jersey Tea
- (31) Small Bayberry
- (32) Sweet-Fern
- (33) Shrubby-Cinquefoil
- (34) Pinxterbloom Azalea
- (35) Ostrich Fern
- (36) Silky Dogwood
- (37) Hawthorn
- (38) American Chinkapin
- (39) Flowering Dogwood

Image Credit: Google Earth, 2016

Nicholas Tait, June 2021

Shadblow Serviceberry

Amelanchier canadensis

This shrub is named “shad” because the its mid-spring flowering coincides with the season when the shad fish leave the sea to spawn upriver.

Musclewood

Carpinus caroliniana

A small tree that goes by a variety of names – ironwood, blue beech, hornbeam – but musclewood best describes the unique fluting of the tree’s smooth, gray bark.

Witch-Hazel

Hamamelis virginiana

Unusually, this shrub does not expand its golden-yellow flowers until autumn. It scatters its seeds by ejecting them out of a capsule with considerable speed.

Mountain Holly

Ilex mucronata

(Nemopanthus murconatus)

Also known as “false holly,” this shrub with bright red berries thrives in wet soils. It was recently moved into the holly genus (*Ilex*).

Buttonbush

Cephalanthus occidentalis

A wetland species that is important seed source for waterfowl and shoreline birds. A distant relative of coffee, the bark was used as a laxative; however, the bark also contains cephalathin, a dangerous poison.

Spicebush

Lindera benzoin

This woodland shrub is named for its aromatic leaves, twigs, and red fruit. The foliage is consumed by caterpillars of the spicebush swallowtail butterfly.

Leatherwood

Dirca palustris

The fibrous, leathery bark of this shrub gives it its name. The flexible but difficult to snap twigs were used historically to make cordage for horse whips.

Sweet-Pepperbush

Clethra alnifolia

Also known as summersweet, it is named for its fragrant flowers. Hummingbirds, native bees, and other pollinators are drawn to its fragrant, mid-summer flowers.

Inkberry

Ilex glabra

Also known as evergreen winterberry, it is an evergreen holly with thick, shiny leaves. It is threatened species in Connecticut.

Maleberry

Lyonia ligustrina

This is blueberry relative prefers sandy soils. It can be distinguished from blueberries by its dry, five-parted seed capsules that persist throughout most of the year rather than a tasty blue berry.

Stickybud Azalea

Rhododendron viscosum

It also commonly known as swamp azalea or clammy azalea. Its showy white flowers with sticky red hairs in early July are often fragrant.

Common Winterberry

Ilex verticillata

Also known as black alder, the leaves of this holly are not evergreen. The picturesque red berries on its bare branches are an important food source of birds during the winter. There are some cultivars with yellow and orange berries.

Black Chokeberry

Aronia melanocarpa

This shrub is named for its black stems and dark, bitter fruits. These astringent fruits that wither on the branch are another important winter food source for birds.

American Hazelnut

Corylus americana

Well known for its sweet nuts, it can be cultivated for use in bread, soups, or simply to be eaten raw. Northern bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, and deer also find the fruit attractive.

Red-Osier Dogwood

Swida sericea

(*Cornus sericea*)

A fast spreading shrub with attractive red stems and distinctive, persistent blue fruits. Its showy stems are used in traditional basket making.

Northern Wild Raisin

Viburnum nudum

Also known as possum-haw, this shrub prefers wetlands but can grow on moist soil. It is rare in New England and is therefore listed as a species of concern in Connecticut.



Shadblow Serviceberry
Leaves and Fruit



Musclewood
Fruit



American Hazelnut
Fruit



Winged Sumac
Leaves



Shrubby-Cinquefoil
Leaves



Inkberry
Leaves and Flower



Devil's Walking Stick
Thorns



Maleberry
Fruit



Beach Plum
Fruit



Sweet-Fern
Leaves



Buttonbush
Leaves and Fruit



Highbush Blueberry
Fruit

Meadowsweet

Spiraea alba

Also known as pale bridewort or simply spirea, it is a host plant of the spring azure butterfly. It has white or pale pink spires of small flowers at the end of its branches in mid-summer.

Smooth Arrowwood

Viburnum dentatum

This species is named for its straight stems that were historically used as arrow shafts. The shiny blue fruits of this shrub feed a variety of bird species.

Highbush Blueberry

Vaccinium corybosum

This shrub is a key food source for birds such as the wild turkey, scarlet tanager, and eastern bluebird. Most cultivated blueberry varieties come from this species.

Highbush-Cranberry

Viburnum opulus

While not a true cranberry, this viburnum is named for its tart red fruit that is a staple winter food source for ruffed grouse. It has brilliant yellow and orange fall foliage.

Gray Dogwood

Swida racemose

(*Cornus racemose*)

A deciduous shrub that often forms dense thickets. It has distinctive white fruits with red stems that are an important food for migrating birds.

Devil's Walking Stick

Aralia spinosa

Also known as Hercules' club or angelica tree, nearly every part of this shrub was used for medicinal purposes. Its branches, leaves, and smaller stems are covered in thorns. It is an aggressive plant that should not be planted in small gardens.

Smooth Shadbush

Amelanchier laevis

Also known as the Alleghany serviceberry or simply as shadbush, it has sweet, red-purple fruits can be used in jams, preserves, and pies.

Nannyberry

Viburnum lentago

A large shrub that prefers rich, moist soil near streams and swamps. It is named for its sweet, edible fruit that, according to lore, was a favorite of nanny goats.

Mountain Laurel

Kalmia latifolia

The state flower of Connecticut; this shrub has white, sometimes pinkish flower clusters that bloom May through early June. Its broad evergreen leaves are often speckled with fungal leaf spots.

Winged Sumac

Lyonia ligustrina

A large shrub with brilliant red fall color. It is not poisonous and is easily distinguished from other sumacs by its winged leaf axis. Its red seed clusters are an important winter food for resident birds.

Beach Plum

Prunus maritima

It is a salt and cold-tolerant shrub that bears edible dark purple-red fruit that ripens in late summer. The fruit of this shrub was used to make the alcoholic beverage “syllabub.”

Mapleleaf Viburnum

Viburnum acerfolium

Often forming dense, waist to chest high thickets; it has attractive white flower clusters turn to dark fruits that contrast well with their pink-purple fall foliage.

Elderberry

Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis

This shrub is prized for the wine and jams made from its dark fruit, as well as for its flowers which can be fried and eaten.

New Jersey Tea

Ceanothus americanus

A small shrub with white flowers clusters that prefers dry, open woods. Its dried leaves were used as tea substitute during the Revolutionary War.

Small Bayberry

Morella caroliniensis
(*Myrica pensylvanica*)

This aromatic shrub prefers sandy or peaty soils. The waxy berries were once utilized in the production of valuable candles, requiring up to 10,000 berries for a single 2-ounce candle.

Sweet-Fern

Comptonia peregrina

The fragrant foliage that resembles fern blades gives this species its name. The leaves are used in potpourri, and tea made from these leaves was used to treat dysentery symptoms.

Shrubby-Cinquefoil

Dasiphora floribunda
(*Potentilla floribunda*)

This hardy shrub puts out rose-like yellow blooms throughout the summer. The unique hand-shaped leaves of this plant were thought to have a variety of uses, from teas to poison.

Pinxterbloom Azalea

Rhododendron periclymenoides

A deciduous shrub with showy pink or white flowers that often bloom before its leaves appear. It gets its name “Pinxter” from the Dutch term for the seventh Sunday after Easter, when the shrub typically begins to bloom.

Ostrich Fern

Matteuccia struthiopteris

The ostrich fern is not a shrub, but it is a graceful plant worth noting. The fronds grow in clumps up to 5 feet tall that taper abruptly at the top and gradually at the base.

Silky Dogwood

Swida amomum
(*Cornus amomum*)

A small shrub that spreads rapidly by suckering. Its blueish fruits are a preferred food source for many bird species during fall migration.

Hawthorn

Crataegus spp.

Hawthorns are a diverse genus of 28 native species in Connecticut. They are large shrubs or small trees that can grow up to 25 feet tall. Most of them have rigid, one-inch long thorns along their branches.

American Chinkapin

Castanea pumila

Also known as dwarf chestnut, this low shrub bears chestnuts that are popular with wildlife and humans alike for their superior taste and palatability. Chestnut blight is a threat to this species.

Flowering Dogwood

Benthamidia florida
(*Cornus florida*)

A small tree that prefers rich, well-drained soil. It is well-known for its large, showy spring flowers. Dogwood populations in Connecticut and across the Eastern Seaboard have taken a hit from dogwood anthracnose. This fungal disease infects dogwoods causing leaf necrosis, cankers, and tree death.

Species	W	M	D	S	PS	SH
Shadblow Serviceberry		X		X		
Musclewood	X	X			X	X
Witch-Hazel		X				X
Mountain Holly	X	X		X	X	
Buttonbush	X			X		
Spicebush	X				X	X
Leatherwood		X			X	X
Sweet-Pepperbush	X			X	X	X
Inkberry	X	X			X	
Maleberry	X	X		X	X	
Stickybud Azalea	X				X	
Common Winterberry	X			X	X	
Black Chokeberry		X		X	X	
American Hazelnut		X	X		X	X
Red-Osier Dogwood	X	X		X		
Northern Wild Raisin		X		X	X	
Meadowsweet		X		X	X	
Smooth Arrowwood		X		X		
Highbush Blueberry		X		X		
Highbush-Cranberry		X			X	
Gray Dogwood		X		X		
Devil's Walking Stick		X		X		
Smooth Shadbush		X			X	X
Nannyberry		X			X	
Mountain Laurel		X	X	X	X	
Winged Sumac		X		X		
Beach Plum		X	X	X		
Mapleleaf Viburnum		X				X
Elderberry	X	X		X		
New Jersey Tea			X	X		
Small Bayberry			X	X	X	
Sweet-Fern			X	X		
Shrubby-Cinquefoil		X	X	X		
Pinxterbloom Azalea		X			X	
Ostrich Fern		X			X	X
Silky Dogwood	X			X		
Hawthorn		X			X	
American Chinkapin		X	X	X	X	
Flowering Dogwood		X			X	X

Tolerances:

W = Wet, M = Moist, D = Dry; S = Sun, PS = Partial Sun, SH = Shade



LOCKWOOD FARM:

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Lockwood Farm is named after William Raymond Lockwood, a Norwalk resident who willed his estate to The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. The Lockwood Trust was used to purchase the first 19 acres in 1910. Future purchases expanded the farm to its current 74 acres.

From CT Route 15 (Wilbur Cross Parkway):

- **Traveling north:** Take Exit 61, Whitney Avenue. Take a right off the exit and go north for 2.3 miles. Take a left onto Evergreen Avenue, go 0.1 mile and take a right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on your left; enter the second driveway.
- **Traveling south:** Take Exit 62, Whitney Avenue. Take a right off the exit and go north for 2.2 miles. Take a left onto Evergreen Avenue, go 0.1 mile and take a right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on your left; enter the second driveway.

From I-91:

- **Traveling north:** Take Exit 10. Follow the Route 40 connector for 3.1 miles. Take a right onto Whitney Avenue (Route 10) and go north for 0.6 miles. Take a left onto Evergreen Avenue, go 0.1 mile and take a right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on your left; enter the second driveway.
- **Traveling south:** Take Exit 10. Follow the Route 40 connector for 3.0 miles. Take a right onto Whitney Avenue (Route 10) and go north for 0.6 miles. Take a left onto Evergreen Avenue, go 0.1 mile and take a right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on your left; enter the second driveway.

[Directions Main Laboratories Lockwood Farm Valley Laboratory
Griswold Research Center](#)