



# NATIVE GARDEN TEMPLATE

## FOR YARDS WITH FULL SUN AND WET SOIL

### Interested in starting a wildlife-supporting garden or landscaping project?

Choose from the plants below or copy the attached sample design. For a successful garden, choose a few plants from each season.

This template provides a list of native Ohio plants which will thrive in **wet areas with full sun (6+hrs/day)**. Most prefer acidic, perpetually moist soils but will tolerate a wide range of conditions. These species may require regular watering after initial establishment.

The following species have been selected for their **attractiveness, availability, ease of care and ability to support native wildlife**. They are deer-resistant and nontoxic unless otherwise specified.

### WILDLIFE KEY



**BEE**  
food source



**HUMMINGBIRD**  
food source



**BUTTERFLY/MOTH**  
food source



**SONGBIRD**  
food and/or shelter



**BUTTERFLY/MOTH**  
larval host



**SMALL MAMMAL**  
food and/or shelter

PERENNIALS	NAME	SIZE	SEASON	ADDITIONAL INFO	WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS
	<b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b> <i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	18–60" high; 12–24" wide	April–July	A favorite of bees, can tolerate shade and drought	
	<b>Virginia Iris</b> ‡ <i>Iris virginica</i>	12–30" high; 12–36" wide	May–July	Can tolerate standing water; good for pond edges	
	<b>Canada Anemone</b> ‡ <i>Anemone canadensis</i>	12–24" high; 24–36" wide	May–June	Fast-spreading ground cover, can be aggressive if left alone	
	<b>Scarlet Beebalm</b> <i>Monarda didyma</i>	24–48" high; 24–36" wide	June–Sept.	A hummingbird favorite. Can be damaged by mildew	
	<b>White Turtlehead</b> <i>Chelone glabra</i>	12–36" high; 18–30" wide	July–Sept.	If started from seed, will flower in its second year	
	<b>Clustered Mountainmint</b> <i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>	12–36" high; 12–36" wide	July–Sept.	Does not spread aggressively like true mint, but is still fragrant	
SHRUBS	<b>Swamp Milkweed</b> ‡ <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	48–60" high; 18–24" wide	July–Oct.	Important monarch butterfly host plant	
	<b>Common Ninebark</b> <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	5–10' high; 4–6' wide	May–June	Host to many moth and butterfly species	
	<b>Common Winterberry</b> ‡ <i>Ilex verticillata</i>	3–15' high; 3–12' wide	May–June	Requires male and female plants to produce berries	
	<b>Common Buttonbush</b> ‡ <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	5–15' high; 5–8' wide	May–June	Benefits from pruning to maintain a neat shape	
	<b>Crimsoneyed Rosemallow</b> <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	2–8' high; 2–5' wide	July–Sept.	Related to and resembles the tropical hibiscus species	
	<b>River Birch</b> † ‡ <i>Betula nigra</i>	40–50' high; 30–40' wide	April–May	Requires regular watering, avoid planting too close to buildings to avoid foundation issues	
	<b>Arborvitae</b> <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	20–60' high; 4–10' wide	Non-flowering	Care depends on variety. Comes in dwarf and regular sizes	

\* Susceptible to deer or rabbit browse; † Drought tolerant; ‡ Toxic to humans or pets



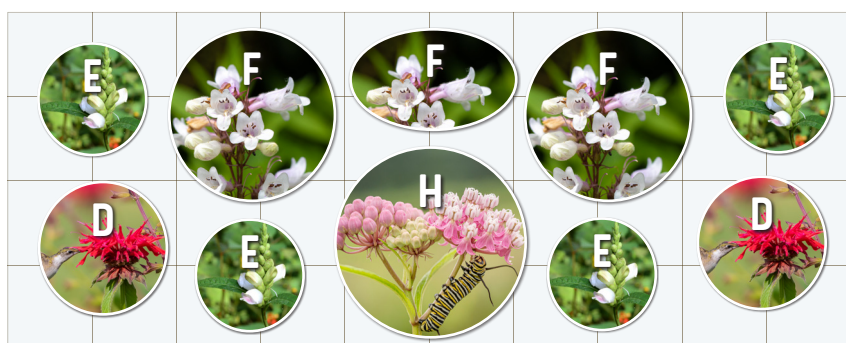
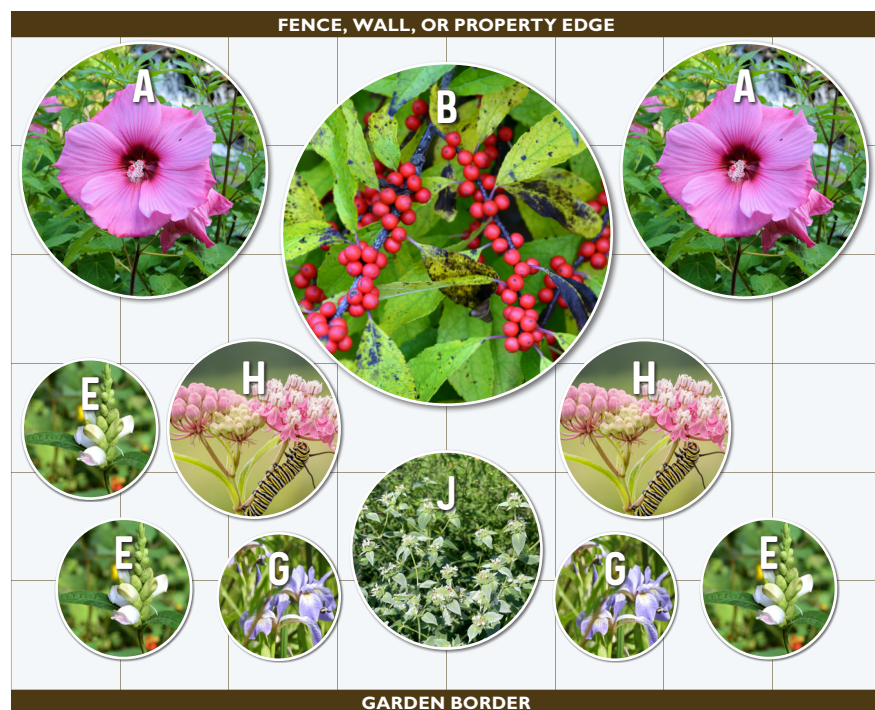
Support Ohio mammals, birds and pollinators!

## NATIVE GARDEN TEMPLATES: FULL SUN AND WET SOIL

Interested in starting a wildlife-supporting garden or landscaping project, but don't know where to start? Sample designs at different sizes have been provided below and can be modified to fit your Wild Back Yard!

**Each square represents a 1 foot by 1 foot area, but can be scaled to fit any space.**

To scale down designs for smaller areas, remove rows or columns to achieve the proper grid size. To scale up a design, either increase the scale (eg. one square side is 1 meter instead of 1 foot) or duplicate rows and columns until a large enough size is reached.



### PLANTS FEATURED:

- A. Crimsoneyed Rosemallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)
- B. Common Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)
- C. Common Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
- D. Scarlet Beebalm (*Monarda didyma*)
- E. White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- F. Foxglove Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)
- G. Virginia Iris (*Iris virginica*)
- H. Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- I. Canada Anemone (*Anemone canadensis*)
- J. Clustered Mountainmint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*)
- K. Common Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

### PLANT SIZING:

Native plants are available in several different sizes (e.g. pint, 1 gallon, 2 gallon, etc.) and formats (e.g. plug, container, bare root). Remember to plant for each species' mature size so they have enough room to grow without crowding. Smaller plants generally take longer to reach their mature size.

### PLANT MASSING:

Garden designs often incorporate one or more common design strategies such as massing, repetition or balance. The designs in these templates tend to use massing, which is the use of many of the same plant in one large shape or mass to create impact. But the plants do not have to be arranged this way. Feel free to experiment with different design strategies and elements if you like.

**Tip: Give plants space to spread when planting to prevent crowding.**

### ECOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS:

Worried about insects or fungi affecting your plants once they're in the ground? Don't be! Native insects, fungi and other organisms depend on native plants for their survival. In fact, it's the whole point of Wild Back Yards. **Remember, a chewed leaf is a good leaf.**



Large spaces can incorporate trees, such as the arborvitae (left) or river birch (right).