

Native Riparian Species

This list of native Massachusetts species was compiled by Russ Cohen at Riverways. These species are suitable for planting in most riparian areas. All the plants on this list have value as food for wildlife and/or humans.

Angelica (*Angelica atropurpurea*)[summer wildflower]

Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*)[emergent]

Basswood (*Tilia americana*)[tree]

Beach Plum (*Prunus maritima*)[shrub] [grows inland in sandy soil as well as on the coasts]

Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*)[summer wildflower]

Black Birch (*Betula lenta*) [tree]

Blueberry, Highbush (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)[shrub]

Bugleweed (*Lycopus uniflorus*) [a tuber-bearing wild mint]

Bulrush, Common (*Scirpus validus* and *acutus*)[emergent]

Bulrush, River (*Scirpus fluviatilis*)[emergent]

Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) [ground cover]

Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*)[tree]

Calamus (*Acorus calamus*)[emergent]

Canada Mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*)[spring wildflower/ground cover]

Carrion Flower (*Smilax herbecea*)[vine]

Cat Brier (*Smilax rotundifolia*)[vine]

Cattail (*Typha latifolia* and *angustifolia*)[emergent]

Cow Parsnip (*Heracleum maximum*)[summer wildflower]

Cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*)[ground cover]

Elderberry, Black (*Sambucus canadensis*)[shrub]

Evening Primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) [summer wildflower]
False Solomons' Seal (*Smilacina racemosa*)
Flowering Raspberry (*Rubus odoratus*) [summer wildflower]
Fox Grape (*Vitis labrusca*) [vine]
Groundnut (*Apios americana*) [summer wildflower/vine]
Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) [tree]
Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*) [shrub]
Hog Peanut (*Amphicarpa bracteata*) [summer wildflower/vine]
Jerusalem Artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*) [fall wildflower]
Jewelweed (*Impatiens biflora* or *pallida*) [summer wildflower]
Juneberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) [tree]
Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*) [spring wildflower]
Meadow Beauty (*Rhexia virginica*) [summer wildflower]
Mountain Ash (*Sorbus americana*) [tree]
Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*) [shrub]
Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia pennsylvanica*) [fern]
Partridgeberry (*Michella repens*) [spring wildflower/ground cover]
Pickernelweed (*Pontederia cordata*) [emergent]
Riverside Grape (*Vitis riparia*) [vine]
Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) [summer wildflower, very showy]
Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) [shrub]
Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza claytoni*) [spring wildflower]
Sweet Fern (*Comptonia peregrina*) [shrub]
Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*) [spring wildflower/ground cover]

Wild Raisin (*Viburnum cassinoides* and *prunifolium*) [shrubs]

Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) [ground cover]

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<http://www.newfs.org>

The New England Wild Flower Society is a reputable source for seeds/seedling plants of many if not most of these species. A good way to find out whether or not a species you're thinking of planting is native to your particular region of the state is to consult ***The Vascular Plants of Massachusetts: A County Checklist***, by Bruce Sorrie and Paul Somers <http://www.state.ma.us/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhpubs.htm>

State botanist Paul Somers points out that a number of native grasses, sedges and woody species not appearing on Russ' list above are also suitable for planting in riparian areas. Many of these other suitable species are included in a booklet on suggested plantings for Riverfront Areas prepared by Mike Abell of DEP's Northeast Regional Office. This booklet is currently undergoing final review in DEP's Boston office and will eventually be posted on the Web at <http://www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/ww/wwpubs.htm>