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GREAT
NATIVE
FOUNDATION
SHRUBS

*and why you
should plant them*

What are native plants

“A Florida native plant refers to a species occurring within the state boundaries prior to European contact, according to the best available scientific and historical documentation.”

—Florida Native Plant Society



Castle Windy trail at Canaveral National Seashore (photo via FloridaHikes.com)

Why natives



- Adapted to our climate
- Require less water, pesticides and fertilizer
- Contribute to Florida's ecosystems
- Convey a sense of place

**Will my yard
look a mess**



In

a

word:

no!



(Photo by Russell Sparkman)



(Photo via Florida Wildflower Association)



(Photo via Florida Association of Native Nurseries)

Foundation basics

- No “parsley around the pig,” please
- Think in layers and groups
- Allow for mature size of plant
- Don’t plant too close to house (aim for half mature width plus a foot)

COONTIE (*Zamia floridana*)



(Photo via Wilcox Nursery)

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DWARF WALTER'S VIBURNUM

*(Viburnum obovatum 'Mrs. Schiller's
Delight')*



(Photo by Allen Owings/Louisiana State University)

3

SCHILLING'S HOLLY

(Ilex vomitoria 'Schillings Dwarf')



(Photo via IFAS/Polk County)

4

ELLIOTT'S LOVEGRASS

(Eragrostis elliottii)



(Photo via Fairchild Gardens)

5

MUHLY GRASS

(Muhlenbergia capillaris)



6

BLUE PORTERWEED

(Stachytarpheta jamaicensis)



(Photo via richardlyonsnursery.com)

7

GOLDEN CREEPER (*Ernodea littoralis*)



(Photo via PlantCreations.com)

8 WILD COFFEE (*Psychotria nervosa*)



(Photo via AgriStarts)

9

BLUESTEM PALMETTO (*Sabal minor*)



(Photo via Wilcox Nursery)

10 SIMPSON'S STOPPER (*Myrcianthes fragrans*)



(Photo by M. Collins via fairchildgarden.org)



(Photo via PlantCreations.com)

For more info:

- Florida Native Plant Society:
fnps.org/plants
- University of Florida:
edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_native_plants
- National Wildlife Federation:
nwf.org (native plant finder in development)

**Thank
you!**