

# Every Garden Needs Keystone Plants

*Support birds, insects and other animals by adding keystone plants*



Keystone species play a major role in supporting a healthy food web. Without keystone species a food web will collapse. According to Doug Tallamy, noted entomologist at the University of Delaware, keystone plants support 90 % of the butterfly and moth species, as well as many native bee species. Birds and other animals depend upon insects for food and many flowering plants depend upon insects for pollination.



## Keystone Plants Native to Piedmont Virginia

### Trees

*Supports up to 500 different caterpillar species*

#### native oaks

white oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
willow oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>
scarlet oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>

#### native birches

sweet birch	<i>Betula lenta</i>
river birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>

#### native pines

pitch pine	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
virginia pine	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>
shortleaf pine	<i>Pinus echinata</i>

#### native maples

red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
boxelder	<i>Acer negundo</i>

#### native cherries

black cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
american plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>

#### native willow

black willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>
upland willow	<i>Salix humilis</i>

#### native dogwoods

flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>
pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>
silky dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>

#### native hickories

pignut	<i>Carya glabra</i>
shagbark	<i>Carya ovata</i>
mockernut	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>

#### native beech

american beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
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#### native serviceberry

shadbush	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>
downy serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>

### Shrubs

*Supports up to 290 different caterpillar species*

#### native blueberries

highbush	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
lowbush	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>

#### native chokeberries

red chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>
black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>

#### native viburnums

arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
blackhaw viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>
mapleleaf viburnum	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>
possumhaw viburnum	<i>Viburnum nudum</i>

### Flowers

*Supports up to 115 different caterpillar species*

#### native asters

aromatic aster	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolius</i>
new england	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>
heart leaved aster	<i>Symphotrichum cordifolium</i>
white wood aster	<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>

#### native goldenrods

gray goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>
rough-stemmed goldenrod	<i>Solidago rugosa</i>
blue stemmed goldenrod	<i>Solidago casesia</i>
showy goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>

#### native sunflower

woodland sunflower	<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>
narrow-leaved sunflower	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>
thin-leaved sunflower	<i>Helianthus decapetalus</i>