A New Vision for Native Shrubs
It starts with a vision.

The first step in creating a new plant is not selecting the parents, or collecting pollen, or making the actual cross. What must be established before any of the physical work begins is a vision. Not just of what the ideal results of the breeding will look like, or how the plant will be new and different, but how it will impact the people who grow and sell it, the people who buy it, and the landscapes they plant it in.

In our vision for developing and selecting new North American native shrubs, we don’t look to improve on nature; we look to find new ways to make it a part of people’s everyday lives. Our goals are to create new applications for native shrubs, with sizes and habits that are in scale with residential landscapes. We seek to offer a diversity of species, bloom times, habits, and sizes – enough to fill every role in a landscape, from hedges to specimens to foundation plantings – to provide native options for every project.

The native shrubs on these pages are the embodiment of this vision, representing the work of plant breeders near and far who share it. Nearly a quarter of our 325 proprietary flowering shrub varieties are North American native species, grown by people who value plants and nature as much as you do. Subjected to the same trialing and testing process as all of our selections, our native shrubs provide the opportunity to beautify landscapes of any size and style, from a postage-stamp condo lot to the outskirts of a shopping center. Get inspired and share in the vision!

Resources:
Discover which species are native to your state or province at plants.usda.gov/checklist.html
Learn more about specific native habitats and wildlife value at wildflower.org/plants-main
## SEASONS OF INTEREST

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<th>Season of Interest</th>
<th>Early Spring</th>
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**Legend:**
- Flower
- Foliage
- Fruit
- Edible Berries
- Stem Color/Form
Conjure up a mental image of a challenging landscape. Now imagine it lush, green, and completely low maintenance, thanks to Ground Hog® aronia. Developed by Dr. Mark Brand at the University of Connecticut, it’s an ideal alternative to Rhus ‘Gro-Low’, vigorously covering the ground to stabilize soil and outcompete weeds with the added benefit of flowers that attract pollinators.

Aronia melanocarpa ‘UCONNAM012’ PPAF CBRAF

Everything you love about the classic ‘Viking’ but with a neater, tidier, more versatile habit. Dr. Brand and his crew imbued Low Scape Hedger® aronia with a narrow “stovepipe” habit that makes it ideal for low hedges in formal and informal landscapes. Densely branched for excellent coverage from base to top, this robust triploid selection flowers abundantly but does not set fruit.

Aronia melanocarpa ‘UCONNAM566’ PP#28831 CBRAF

To boldly grow where flowering shrubs couldn’t grow before: this is the mission of Low Scape Mound® aronia. This innovative selection naturally grows as a neat little tuffet, a unique habit that suits it for edging, ground cover, and perennial beds. Finally, get the storied durability and three-season interest of the genus in a hey-I-can-plant-this-anywhere package!

Aronia melanocarpa ‘UCONNAM565’ PP#26760 CBRAF

Tolerances: wet soil, dry soil, salt, acidic soil, alkaline soil, cold (USDA zone 3)
Wildlife: flowers attract honeybees, fruit attracts birds
Walk along a stream or riverbank anywhere from Quebec to Texas and you’re likely to encounter a buttonbush. If you happen to be walking in summer, you’ll find it covered in these amazing, honey-scented, disco ball flowers that belie their humble ubiquity. While the blooms give it instant appeal, its sprawling, rather awkward habit previously precluded its use in the landscape. Sugar Shack changes that with a lush, dense habit, smaller size, supremely glossy foliage, and flowers that leave behind a showy red ball (as opposed to the conventional brown) that persists through frost. It boils down to this: Sugar Shack buttonbush packs more beauty into a smaller, more landscape-friendly habit. Sounds pretty sweet, yes?

**Tolerances:**
- wet soil, standing water, bogs/rain gardens, shade, deer, heat (USDA zone 10)

**Wildlife:**
- flowers attract native bees, honeybees, and butterflies;
- fruit attracts birds, including waterfowl

*Cephalanthus occidentalis* ‘SMCOSS’ PP236543 CBR#4124
Meet summer’s most fragrant flower. The dwarf habit and dense growth of *Sugartina ‘Crystalina’* clethra opens up a new range of planting opportunities: tuck it in near a patio, pool, or frequently open window so its deliciously sweet root beer scent can be relished on the warm breeze.

*S. clethra* ‘Crystalina’ PP#21561 CBR#4160

Vanilla *Spice* clethra is the secret ingredient that kicks things up a notch in the landscape. Extra-large flowers increase the visual impact of this shrub even from a distance, making it ideal for larger scale plantings or those that simply prefer their flowers super-sized.

*C. alnifolia* ‘Caleb’ PP#21589 CBR#4167

**Tolerances:** wet soil, bogs/rain gardens, acidic soil, salt spray, heat (USDA zone 9)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract native bees, honeybees, butterflies, and hummingbirds
Spark joy in the dreariest season with Arctic Fire Red cornus. Smaller and tidier than conventional red-twig dogwood, this half-sized, non-suckering selection is ideally scaled for home gardens.

Life changing? That may be a stretch. Landscape changing? For sure.

**Tolerances:** wet soil, dry soil, deer, shade, cold (USDA zone 2)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract birds and butterflies; foliage is host for spring azure butterfly larvae

**Cornus stolonifera** ‘Farrow’ PP#18523

True garden workhorses, Kodiak diervillas are the best supporting actors of the plant world: these unassuming but durable and eminently capable shrubs work as specimens, hedges, foundation plantings, and more. Take your pick of three colors: black, red, or best-selling orange (pictured here).

**Tolerances:** dry soil, shade

**Wildlife:** flowers attract bumblebees

**Diervilla** ‘G2X88544’ PP#27548 CBR#5596
Don’t you love it when a beloved garden plant just so happens to be native? That’s one reason why we’re crazy about Hydrangea arborescens. Though they are generally called ‘Annabelle’ hydrangeas, a reference to the iconic variety that launched it into the mainstream in the 1960s, the breeding efforts of Dr. Tom Ranney at NCSU merit a complete reconsideration of this species’ potential. His team has made and evaluated literally thousands of crosses since 2001, selecting for strong stems, a range of colors, a new palette of sizes, and reblooming ability, giving your grandmother’s favorite plant a welcome 21st Century update.

Choose from nine worthy cultivars: super-sturdy Lime Rickey®, classic Incrediball® in white or blush-pink, and the six award-winners in the Invincibelle® series. Before you settle on a favorite (or three), check them all out online.

**Tolerances:** cold (USDA zone 3), acidic soil, clay soil, salt

**Wildlife:** foliage is larval host for hydrangea sphinx moth

(Clockwise from top)

INVINCIBLE MINI MAUVETTE®
Hydrangea arborescens ‘NCHA7’ PP#30358 CBRAF

INVINCIBLE Ruby®
Hydrangea arborescens ‘NCHA3’ PP#28317 CBR#5623

INVINCIBLE LIMETTA®
Hydrangea arborescens ‘NCHA8’ PP#30431 CBRAF
While showy blue-flowering hydrangeas command all the attention in the summer, they can't even begin to compete with our native oakleaf when it comes to beautifying the landscape the other 10 months of the year. Big, oak-shaped leaves, lightly flocked with white and tan hairs, emerge in spring, followed by football-shaped (and sized!) fragrant summer flowers. Autumn ushers in the best fall color in all of the Hydrangeaceae, and winter reveals a dramatic silhouette and peeling, cinnamon-colored bark. Few other deciduous shrubs – much less hydrangeas – can claim true year-round beauty. Now that's something to be proud of!

Another point of pride: four outstanding selections. Gatsby Moon is a mophead, Gatsby Star a double, Gatsby Gal a semi-dwarf, and Gatsby Pink ages to appealing rosy tones.

**Tolerances:** shade, heat (USDA zone 9)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract native bees, honeybees, and butterflies
GEM BOX®

Introducing the heavyweight champion of boxwood alternatives! Measuring in at 2-3’/.6-.9m tall and wide, Gem Box inkberry holly punches above its weight. Equally at home in formal and naturalistic settings, you’ll be glad to have it in your corner.

**Tolerances:** wet soil, acidic soil, heat (USDA zone 9)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract honeybees

*Ilex glabra* ‘SMNIGAB17’ PP#27564 CBR#5629

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BERRY POPPINS® & MR. POPPINS®

The “It” couple! Not only do Berry Poppins and Mr. Poppins winterberry hollies bring a welcome dwarf option to our line of best-selling *Ilex verticillata*, they’re also perfectly paired for pollination to ensure a paparazzi-worthy crop of big red berries.

**Tolerances:** shade, wet soil, standing water, cold (USDA zone 3), heat (USDA zone 9)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract native bees and honeybees; fruit attracts birds; foliage is a host for Henry’s elfin butterfly larvae

*Ilex verticillata* 'FARROWBPOP' PP#25835 CBR#5286

*Ilex verticillata* 'FARROWMRP' PP#25834 CBR#5287
Physocarpus

Cats supposedly have nine lives, and Physocarpus supposedly have nine layers of bark. We’ve never taken the time to count, but we do know that we can always count on handsome, durable ninebarks for landscaping sunny spots. This member of the rose family has come a long way since Diabolo® hit the market 20 years ago, and the species is now characterized by a range of sizes, elegant habits, snazzy colors, and improved resistance to powdery mildew.

For a deciduous plant, physocarpus offers considerable year-round interest. Anchored by clean, colorful foliage all season, ninebarks are festooned in spring with clusters of whiskered white florets. Unique fruits take on bright color in late summer and autumn, then the namesake peeling bark keeps it compelling in winter, particularly as plants mature.

**Tolerances:** wet soil, dry soil, full sun, clay, deer, cold (USDA zone 3)

**Wildlife:** flowers attract native bees and honeybees; birds use exfoliating bark for nest-building

**FESTIVUS GOLD®**  
Physocarpus opulifolius ‘Bert Dart’s C’ PP#26246 CBRAF

**GINGER WINE®**  
Physocarpus opulifolius ‘SWOBUR’ PP#26605 CBRAF/5930

**SUMMER WINE® Black**  
Physocarpus opulifolius ‘SMNPMS’ PP#26232 CBRAF

**TINY WINE®**  
Physocarpus opulifolius ‘SMPOTW’ PP#26749 CBRAF/5528

(Clockwise from left to right) GINGER WINE® - SUMMER WINE® Black - FESTIVUS GOLD® - TINY WINE®
HAPPY FACE® series

Don’t be misled by its ubiquity: potentilla is worthy of your landscape, and Happy Face® potentilla especially so. Some of the longest-blooming shrubs available, they offer bigger flowers, truer colors, and outstanding deer resistance.

**Tolerances:** cold (USDA zone 2), drought, deer, rabbits

**Wildlife:** flowers attract butterflies

HAPPY FACE HEARTS®
Dasiphora fruticosa ‘SMNPS’ PP#2732

HAPPY FACE® Pink Paradise
Dasiphora fruticosa ‘Kupinpa’ PP#22761

HAPPY FACE® White
Dasiphora fruticosa ‘White Lady’ PP#22761

HAPPY FACE® Yellow
Dasiphora fruticosa ‘Lundy’ PP#22176 CBR#4912

LEMONY LACE®

Soured on a dull landscape? Tart it up with Lemony Lace® elderberry. Early spring flowers are followed by lacy golden foliage that simulates the visual appeal of a Japanese maple.

**Tolerances:** wet soil, shade, deer

**Wildlife:** flowers are good food source for early pollinating insects

Sambucus racemosa ‘SMN’ PP#26613 CBR#5719
Thuja occidentalis

Here’s a rare case where the botanical name, *Thuja*, is simpler than the common name, arborvitae, yet it’s the more complicated name that stuck. Though arborvitae has become a mundane commodity, it comes by its name – which translates to “tree of life” in Latin – earnestly. It really has saved lives: Native Americans showed early explorers how to make a tea that helped them avoid scurvy on sea voyages, which made it the first North American native tree to be introduced to Europe in 1536.

Whatever you call it, look to our *Thuja* selection to find a shape, size, and color for any landscape application.

Tolerances: dry soil, shade, cold (USDA zone 3), air pollution
Wildlife: plants provide food and cover for birds

NORTH POLE®
*Thuja occidentalis* Art Box PP#21174 CBR#9212

ANNA’S MAGIC BALL®
*Thuja occidentalis* Anna van Vloten PP#25868 CBR#5284

TATER TOT®
*Thuja occidentalis* SMT0BAE PP#30761 CBRAF

‘Filips Magic Moment’
*Thuja occidentalis* 7 Eric Magic Moment PP#21974 CBR#5285
Don't you hate it when you have to run all over tarnation figuring out which pollinator to buy for a viburnum? Simplify! All That Glitters and All That Glares viburnums were selected specifically to pollinate one another for a fabulous, reliable crop of blue berries. **Tolerances:** wet soil, dry soil, acidic soil, shade **Wildlife:** flowers attract birds, butterflies, and native bees; fruit attracts birds and small mammals; foliage is larval host for spring azure butterfly

Viburnum dentatum var. deamii 'SMVDBL' PP#25897 CBR#5410

Ivory, pink, and blue berries, and luscious wine-red fall color: it sounds too good to be true, but that's exactly what **Brandywine** viburnum delivers. And it does it all without the need for a pollinator, making it the rare viburnum. **Tolerances:** wet soil, acidic soil, deer **Wildlife:** fruit attracts birds and small mammals

**Viburnum nudum 'Bulk'**

There's a real shortage of space-saving viburnums out there, but we're doing the best we can to change that with plants like **Lil' Ditty** viburnum. This dwarf selection of *V. cassinoides* opens up a whole new world of landscaping possibilities: refined habit, handsome, glossy foliage, and a truly impressive crop of foamy white flowers. **Tolerances:** wet soil, shade, acid soil, lime, deer

**Viburnum cassinoides 'SMVCCDO' PP#27549 CBRAF**

GATSBY PINK® Hydrangea quercifolia

Questions about growing native shrubs? Visit www.provenwinners.com/feedback. We’ll get back to you right away.