Wild Ones
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES
SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

Summer 2025 Newsletter

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Native Groundcovers

Presented by Leah Brooks, Mt. Cuba Center

Groundcovers are sometimes overlooked when we design a garden or think about which plants to add to existing beds. However, these plants provide a visual background and important habitat in native gardens. Why cover the ground with boring brown mulch when we can cover it with plants that are colorful and useful? Groundcover plants provide food, cover, and nesting habitat for birds, insects, amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals. Mulch can't do any of that!

To decide which groundcovers to plant, look at the site conditions -- soil, moisture, and light. Because ground covers are your shortest plants, take into account that they will be shaded by whatever is growing above them.

Like forbs and grasses, different groundcovers can be planted together, as long as the plants have similar growth habits, when they're clump-formers or aggressive spreaders.

Wild ginger and creeping phlox are both spreading groundcovers (right). Wild ginger predominates in the shady part of this north-facing bed, and creeping phlox takes over along the sunnier edges.

Groundcovers are assumed to be low-growing plants, but some taller natives can act as groundcovers if their foliage knits together to cover the ground. These plants can be useful under shrubs, to soften the look of bare stems and provide another layer of color and habitat.

When planted closely, autumn goldenrod (*Solidago sphacelata* 'Golden Fleece') will form a solid mass topped with 1-foot tall golden spikes in early fall. The plants below are in their second summer and will fill in even more in subsequent years. Autumn goldenrod needs full sun and well-drained soil. It can tolerate drought once established. Goldenrods are host plants for more species of butterflies and moths than any other forb.

Goldenrod pollen is too heavy to be wind-borne and is not usually the cause of fall allergies.

WO SEPA 2025 CALENDAR

Sept. 18 Garden tour in Pottstown, Chester County
Oct. 16 National Wild Ones webinar TBA
Nov. 20 Chapter elections; webinar TBA

Watch recordings of past programs on our YouTube channel.

Another sun-loving groundcover, heath aster, also hosts close to 100 species of butterfly and moth larvae. Just one plant of *Symphyotrichum ericoides* var. *prostratus* 'Snow Flurry' will spread to cover a 2-foot-square area (shown below growing with taller showy aster). Heath aster needs sun and well-drained soil, and is especially effective cascading over rocks or on slopes.

A taller relative, aromatic aster (*S. oblongifolium* 'October Skies') forms dense mounds up to 1 foot high which are covered with blue flowers in mid-fall (shown with Golden Fleece goldenrod, below).

Evening primroses (*Oenothera fruticosa* and *O. speciosa*) are known as eager spreaders and can provide a solid layer of cover in sun and medium well-drained soil. *O. fruiticosa* is approximately 1 foot tall with yellow flowers all summer long. *O. speciosa* is prostrate with pink flowers and works well on slopes or as a spiller in pots.

The interlocking roots of wild geranium (*G. maculatum*) form a dense groundcover that prevents weed growth. In full to part sun and moist soil, it will produce small pink flowers from spring through mid-summer.

Moss phlox (*P. subulata*) is a clump-forming plant, while its relative, creeping phlox (*P. stolonifera*), spreads by runners. Both bloom in spring. Moss phlox can be pink, white, pale blue, or lavender (shown below). Creeping phlox has individual purple flowers on short stalks that rise several inches above the leaves. Moss phlox needs full sun, whereas creeping phlox prefers part shade. Both plants need good drainage and thrive in gravelly soil. Both grow in full sun to part shade and can tolerate drought once established, and both are willing self-seeders where happy.

Foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*) and lyre-leaf sage (*Salvia lyrata*) form basal rosettes that can be semi-evergreen over winter and are often tinged with red or bronze. *Penstemon*'s leaves are broad and smooth (right). *Salvia*'s crinkly, dark red leaves are rough in texture.

Both of these clump-formers are willing self-seeders in well-drained or gravelly soil. Below, *S. lyrata* has seeded itself in between cranberry plants.

A specialist bee, the distinct mason bee, collects pollen only from *Penstemon* flowers. The darker leaf color of many *Penstemon* cultivars doesn't affect this plant's wildlife value.

Jacob's ladder (*Polemonium reptans*) is a clump former but spreads rapidly by seed to fill in under tall shrubs. It emerges quickly in spring and blooms before many shrubs leaf out. Although it needs full sun in spring to bloom, in the heat of summer it appreciates the shade of taller plants. Its fern-like foliage can be semi-evergreen.

Iris isn't often considered a ground cover, but its interlocking roots can form a dense mat that protects the soil and discourages weeds. Blue flag iris (*I. versicolor*) needs moist to wet soil and is ideal in rain gardens and pm the edges of ponds and streams. Dwarf crested iris (*I. cristata*, below) blooms in spring in part shade under taller shrubs. Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) is in the iris family, but its narrow leaves can look more like grass until the pale blue, star-shaped flowers bloom in spring. Plants can be short-lived, but they reseed..

Wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*) is just as much of a spreader as its cultivated cousin. Its small berries are quickly eaten by birds and mammals.

Woodland stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*) is a versatile groundcover that will tolerate nearly any well-drained soil conditions. It will adjust to light levels from full sun to full shade but maintains better form in full or partial sun. It tolerates shade and moist soils better than most other sedums, as well as handling drought, heat, rocky soil, and poor soil. Sprays of starry white flowers are held above the 4" succulent foliage in spring. Stonecrop spreads slowly to form a semi-evergreen mat under taller plants or spilling over rocks.

Golden ragwort (*Packera aurea*) is touted as an effective groundcover for good reason. Its fibrous root system forms a barrier to most encroaching weeds. It has even been used to outcompete garlic mustard. infestations. Its dense, semi-evergreen rosettes of serrated heart-shaped leaves with purple undersides are an attractive ground cover all year. In early spring, starry yellow flowers on 1-foot stalks rise above the plants. This plant prefers full sun to light shade and wet to medium soil moisture. Its nectar and pollen attract small native bees.

Green and gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*) and marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) are two other yellow-flowered groundcovers that bloom in spring. Both require moist soil. Marsh marigold thrives in full to part sun, whereas green and gold works in shadier locations.

Foamflower (*Tiarella* spp) thrives in partial to full shade and humus-rich, moisture-retentive soil. In early spring, short spikes of tiny white or pink-tinged flowers are held above green, deeply veined leaves (below), which are often veined or splashed with burgundy. Some varieties of foamflower are clump-forming and some spread by runners.

Foamflower grows well with blue violet (*Viola sororia*, both shown below). Violets are an important larval host plant for many species of fritillary butterfly.

Violets spread by seed as well as underground rhizomes, forming resilient vegetative colonies. Their waxy, heart-shaped leaves protect them from predation by most herbivores. They are so irrepressible that they grow even under black walnut trees. However, their foliage disappears completely in winter.

Flower color Is variable, from solid blue-violet to white with purple veins or speckles, and white-edged petals with blue centers.

Plantain-leaved pussytoes (*Antennaria plantaginifolia*) spreads to form a silvery, soft-leaved carpet just a few inches high. In late spring, stiff 8" flower stalks carry clusters of tiny white flowers that transform into fluffy silver seed heads before disappearing by mid-summer. Pussytoes is a host plant for the larvae of the American painted lady butterfly, and the fluffy seed heads are said to provide nesting material for hummingbirds.

In deep shade, moist soil, and northern to eastern exposures, wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) can form a dense mat of rhizomes topped with large, heart-shaped deep green leaves. Its roots prefer to stay moist and will happily grow between stepping stones (below). In addition to spreading via rhizomes, its seeds are dispersed by ants to form new clumps far from the original plant.

Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) spreads slowly to create swaths of pale green foliage up to 2 feet high. It grows in sun or shade, requiring moist soil in sun and tolerating drier soil in shade. It disappears completely in winter, leaving its stiff dark brown spore-bearing fronds to mark its place before reemerging slowly in spring.

Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) is a vine that climbs readily into trees and on structures, but it can be an effective groundcover when allowed to run along the ground under shrubs and trees. Its large five-lobed leaves block weeds from sprouting, and many birds rely on the berries as food during winter. Sphinx moths lay their eggs on the undersides of the leaves. In fall, the fully-grown caterpillars spin cocoons in the vine's leaves, which can turn orange, red, or purple after a frost. Virginia creeper can become aggressive in optimal conditions. The vines are relatively easy to pull out of beds or cut at the base of trees or structures, but they will regrow unless the roots are removed.

No inventory of groundcovers would be complete without including sedges. There are native sedges for wet to dry and sun to shade conditions. Mt Cuba's report on *Carex* for the Mid-Atlantic Region is a helpful resource when deciding which sedges will work best in a particular location.

Clump-forming *C. appalachica* and *Penstemon digitals* work well together as a groundcover layer (right).

A few clump-forming plants that aren't normally thought of as groundcovers include blue wood aster (*Symphiotrichum cordifolium*), white wood aster (*Eurybia divericata*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), ostrich fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*), and alumroot (*Heuchera americana*). The asters thrive in full to part sun and medium to dry soil, reseeding where happy. Alumroot and Christmas fern prefer part shade. Alumroot needs moist, well-drained, even gravelly soil. Christmas fern can tolerate dry soil once established.

Ostrich fern prefers cool, moist soil and will spread rapidly in wet, shady areas. It grows 3 to 4 feet tall, sending out numerous rhizomes that sprout new plants. Once established, it can be difficult to con-

Keystone Tree of the Month

A few genera (family groups) of native trees and shrubs have been shown to support a very high number of species of native insects by providing food and habitat. These keystone species form the backbone of a local ecosystem and are critical to maintaining the diversity and stability of that ecosystem.

Keystone plants are not always the most abundant species in the ecosystem, but their existence has a big impact on the local food web. One study found that 90 percent of all caterpillar diversity is centered around just 14 percent of plant species.

Trees are major components of the list of keystone plants, in part simply because a tree has more leaves and flowers than herbaceous plants or grasses occupying the same ground. Another contribution is the amount of pollen and new leaves a tree provides early in the season, when native insects are emerging.

One native oak tree can support the caterpillars over 500 species of butterflies and moths. Those caterpillars are a critical food source for over 96 percent of our native songbirds. For example, a pair of Carolina chickadees needs 6,000 to 9,000 caterpillars to successfully raise just one brood of young.

By planting just one keystone tree, you can help restore native biodiversity.

Resources

National Wildlife Federation Native Plant Finder

Keystone Trees & Shrubs

The Little Things That Run the World, E.O. Wilson

Black Willow, *Salix nigra*

Black willow is a medium to large, fast growing, short-lived tree often found near streams and ponds. It is native to moist or wet soils in floodplains, marshes, and along the banks of streams and ponds, and tolerates flooding. Its shallow, spreading root system is useful to stabilize soil, making this tree effective in controlling erosion. A keystone host plant, willow supports more species of butterfly and moth than any species except oak.


Photo : Joseph A. Marcus

Identification

Black willow is dioecious -- male and female flowers occur on separate trees. Tiny yellow-green flowers appear on 2” catkins in early spring just as the leaves emerge. The buds and catkins are eaten by birds, and the early-emerging pollen and nectar are an important food source for native pollinators.

Black willow has narrow (1/2” to 3/4" wide) lance-shaped finely toothed leaves that are 3” to 6” long. Leaves are medium to dark green and taper at the tip. The leaves turn yellow to russet in the fall. Black willow provides excellent seasonal cover for birds in wetland sites.

The bark of black willows is dark brown to black. On mature trees, the bark develops deep grooves and a rough texture with shaggy scales. Black willow has soft, weak wood, and its branches are prone to breaking in storms. Young branches are flexible and can be used to weave baskets and fencing.

Habitat value

The bark, tender twigs, and buds are food for browsers such as deer, rabbits, and beaver. The pollen, nectar, and flowers feed insects and birds.

Black willow is a good tree to plant for habitat and function. In a smaller area, it can be a single-trunk or multi-trunk tree and can be kept at shrub size by cutting it to the ground every 2 to 3 years. It can be propagated via live stakes, which is an efficient and effective method of controlling erosion on stream banks and around ponds.

Quick Facts -- Black Willow

Size 70-80 feet tall

Sun Full sun to part shade

Soil Moist to wet soil -- clay, loam, or sand

Water Consistent moisture; tolerates flooding

Habitat Value Larval host plant for over 400 species of butterflies and moths; nest sites and shelter for birds

Key Plant Families for Pollinators

Certain families of plants are especially beneficial for native pollinators. The flowers in one family might be particularly attractive to bees, for example, while another family attracts butterflies. The plant characteristics that contribute to family groupings can provide important information about the pollinators attracted to these plants.

Four plant families that are especially important for native pollinators are asters, mints, umbels, and legumes. A pollinator garden featuring a variety of plants from each of these families will ensure an abundant supply of nectar and pollen for a wide range of pollinators. The April-May newsletter showcased the aster family. We'll focus on the mint family this month and the remaining two families in subsequent newsletters.

Mint Family (*Lamiaceae*)

Members of the mint family can be recognized by their distinctive square stems as well as their aromatic foliage. Flower petals are typically fused into an upper lip and a lower lip. Some species have closed flower lips, requiring the pollinating insect to wriggle inside. Once there, the flower's pollen is deposited onto the insect's back.

The mint family attracts a wide range of pollinators, including bees, butterflies, wasps, and flies. What's special about the mint family that makes these plants so important for pollinators? The answer is: both quality and quantity.

Mints offer nectar that's particularly rich in carbohydrates, providing quick energy for pollinators. Most plants in the mint family have a lot of flowers blooming at the same time, whether they're arranged along the stems in clusters (*Agastache* and obedient plant) or concentrated in whorls at the tops of many stems (mountain mint and bee balm).

Many species in this family have extended bloom periods, and some will re-bloom if deadheaded after the first flush of blooms. Plants with a long bloom season ensure that nectar and pollen will be available whenever pollinators visit. In addition, many species in this family are vigorous spreaders, allowing gardeners to create large swaths of flowers that will attract and feed a lot of pollinators. Insects that visit these large patches of flowers won't need to fly far to find a generous source of food.

Plants in the mint family include anise hyssop (*Agastache*), bee balm (*Monarda*), nountain mint (*Pycnanthemum*), sage (*Salvia),* and obedient plant (*Physostegia*) as well as many non-native herbs: basil, catnip, lavender, lemon balm, marjoram, oregano, peppermint, rosemary, sage, savory, and spearmint. While bee balm and the herbs probably are familiar to many gardeners, the less well known plants on this list offer more opportunities to attract pollinators with colorful masses of flowers.

Anise hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) is an upright plant that grows 2 to 4 feet high and forms clumps 1 to 3 feet wide. Young anise-scented leaves can be tinged with purple. Individual plants may be short-lived, but *Agastache* reseeds generously.

Once flowering starts in mid-summer, it continues nonstop until the first frost. Multiple tall spikes of small lavender or white flowers are covered with skipper butterflies (inset). The photo shows one plant; a drift of these are a beacon for pollinators.

Agastache thrives in full sun to part shade and well-drained soil. It can wilt in a drought but will recover.

Mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum*) is easy to grow. It spreads by rhizomes to naturalize and form large colonies. Clumping species (*P. incanum*, *P. tenuifolium*) can be used as fillers between other perennials. The spreading species (*P. muticum*, *P. virginianum*) should be planted with other assertive plants like rhizomatous goldenrods or sunflowers.

Although not particularly showy, mountain mint's tightly packed tiny flower clusters offer a steady supply of nectar for pollinators throughout its long flowering period of 6 to 8 weeks, starting in June.

Mountain mints prefer full to part sun, tolerate a wide range of soils as long as they're well drained, and are somewhat drought resistant. Deer and rabbits don't bother these plants due to their scented leaves. The seed heads feed small songbirds and add structure to the winter garden.

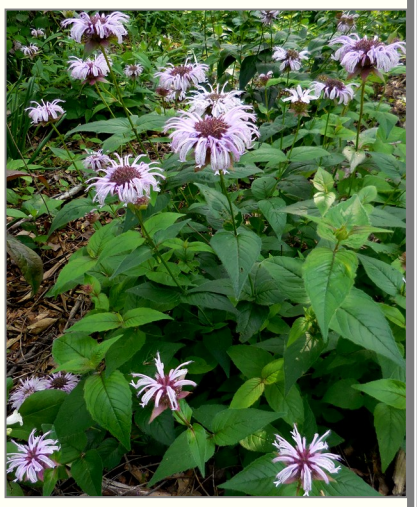
Clustered mountain mint (*P. muticum*) tallied the most pollinator visits and attracted the most diverse group of pollinators, including bees, butterflies, wasps, syrphid flies, and tachinid flies, in a PennState survey. Clustered mountain mint has broad silvery leaves that surround the small flower clusters, marking the flowers to attract pollinators.

Narrowleaf or slender mountain mint (*P. tenuifolium*) has fine, needle-like leaves that give it a delicate look and contrast well with larger-leaved plants. It blooms earlier than clustered mountain mint, with tight clusters of white flowers atop fine foliage.

Hoary mountain mint (*P. incanum*) features silvery-grey foliage and silver flower bracts, similar to clustered mountain mint but with a taller, looser habit.

Whorled mountain mint (*P. virticillatum* var. *pilosum*) has dense, fuzzy leaves and stems. Each stem is topped by a round cluster of small white flowers dotted with purple (right), which open a few at a time to provide a long bloom period.

Bee balm (*Monarda*) is characterized by opposite, triangular leaves, sometimes fuzzy textured, arranged around a square stem. It is somewhat deer resistant. Flowers can be lavender, pink, or red and have a wide lower lip. Plants grow 2 to 5 feet tall in open-branched clumps. *Monarda* prefers full sun and will grow in a wide range of soils average to moist soil.



Wild bergamot *(M. fistulosa*, right) blooms from early summer with clusters of lavender flowers similar to ragged pompoms.

Scarlet bee balm *(M. didyma)* is a hummingbird magnet. It spreads rapidly by rhizomes but is easy to pull up and transplant.

Obedient plant (*Physostegia)* is another vigorous spreader whose underground rhizomes will quickly form dense colonies and choke out most weeds. Slender, toothed, dark green leaves are topped with multiple long spikes of pink or white flowers resembling snapdragons which open progressively, from bottom to top, starting in late summer.

Two species of *Salvia* are native to Pennsylvania, and several others are naturalized. Native salvias prefer poor, dry soil and need excellent drainage.

Nettle-leaf sage (*S. urticifolia*) is a delicate-looking plant found in dry shady woods. Wiry stems hold whorled tiers of tiny blue-violet flowers that have a wide lower lip and prominent white stripes marking the landing area for pollinators.

Lyre-leaf sage (*S. lyrata*, below) has a basal rosette of dramatic burgundy leaves that form an attractive groundcover. Slender spikes carry whorls of small, tubular white or lavender flowers. This *Salvia* will reseed but does not compete aggressively.

Invasive Species -- Privet

Privet (*Ligustrum* spp.) is native to Asia and Europe. It was introduced to this country in the 1880s as an ornamental shrub, primarily for use as a hedge. It is a woody semi-deciduous perennial growing up to 10 feet tall. With small, dark green leaves, unpleasant-smelling white flowers, and unremarkable blue-black berries, privet is simply an adaptable, serviceable hedge plant that requires little care.

As well as forming large colonies through root suckering, privet is spread to new locations by birds that consume the berries and excrete undamaged seeds in new locations.

Four common species of privet (*L. japonicum*, *L. obtusifolium, L. sinense*, and *L. vulgare*) are listed on the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed list. The propagation and sale of these plants is banned in Pennsylvania.

Effect on Native Habitat

Privet prefers full sunlight, such as at forest edges and along fence rows. It thrives in floodplains, fields, disturbed forests, abandoned fields, and forest edges. Being moderately shade tolerant, it can invade under a mature forest canopy. Privet can form dense thickets that dominate the shrub layer, outcompeting many native seedlings to become the only shrub underneath trees, especially in streamside areas. Chemical compounds in the leaves protect plants from leaf-feeding native insects.

A 2011 study found that forested areas with no privet had six time the number of bees and 4 times as many species of bees as forested areas infested with privet.

Removal and Control

Small plants can be pulled or dug out by hand. If the root is larger, consider cutting the plant below the root crown with a hand saw or heavy loppers and leaving the root in place to minimize soil disturbance. Larger plants must be cut in place, below the root crown. Whenever roots are left in the ground, check the site several times during the season to remove any root shoots. Repeatedly depriving the plant of nutrition ultimately will starve it.

Native Alternatives

The plants listed below are multi-stem shrubs that will spread to form colonies and can be used as single specimens or as part of a mixed hedgerow. A hedge of mixed species offers a long period of bloom and a variety of leaf and berry color, for maximum visual interest as well as habitat value.

Arrowwood viburnum (*V. dentatum*). Plants thrive in moist, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Flat clusters of white flowers in spring produce blue-black berries favored by birds. Ovate, rough, serrated leaves turn yellow to orange or red in fall.

Blackhaw viburnum (*V. prunifolium*). Flat-topped creamy white flowers are held above smooth green leaves in spring and attract many pollinators. Blue-black berries in fall feed birds. Foliage turns red to bronze in fall. Tolerates a wide range of soil and growing conditions, including clay and drought.

Northern bayberry (*Morella pennsylvanica*). Plants tolerate poor soils (but not poor drainage) and exposure to salt. Glossy leaves are aromatic when crushed. Female plants produce small, waxy gray berries clustered tightly along the stems, persisting through winter to provide food for wildlife.

Red chokeberry, black chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia, A. melanocarpa*). Fragrant white flowers in spring attract pollinators; red or black berries in fall feed birds and mammals. Adaptable to sun or part shade. Leaves turn scarlet in fall.

Silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*). Flat-topped clusters of tiny, creamy-white flowers produce clusters of porcelain-blue berries in late summer. Leaves can turn reddish-purple in fall. Adaptable to sun or shade; prefers moist soil

Grey dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*). Tolerates wet soil, dry soil, and heavy shade. Clusters of white flowers are followed by white berries on bright red stalks.

Winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*). Tiny white flowers produce brilliant red berries on female plants in fall. Prefers moist soil and will grow on wet sites. Straight species plants are hardy and not preferred by deer.

Resources

North Carolina Extension Gardner Plant Toolbox

Events and Educational Opportunities

June 18 Instant Pollinator Garden. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

June 21, 28 Gardening for Ecological Resilience Tour. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:30 a.m.

June 21 Navigating Non-Chemical Restoration. Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

June 21 Knowing Native Plants: Invasive Species ID and Management. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, virtual & on site, 10:00 a.m.

June 28 Plants That Like Wet Feet. Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

June 28 Planting Under Mature Trees. Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

July 5, 12, 19 26 Gardening for Ecological Resilience Tour. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:30 a.m.

July 18 Native Plants -- Spreading the Word Beyond the Choir**.** Jenkins Aarboretum, 7:00 p.m.

July 18 Native Alternatives to Invasive Ornamentals. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

July 18 Milkweed and Monarchs. Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

July 23 Instant Hummingbird Garden. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

July 26 Knowing Native Plants: Meadow Magic. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, virtual & on site, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 2 Create a Native Container Garden - Fall**.** Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 2, 8, 16, 23, 30 Gardening for Ecological Resilience Tour. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:30 a.m.

Aug. 20 Pollinator Meadows: Grassland to Gardens. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 22 Designing Resilient Landscapes. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 23 Lawn-Less Yards. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 23 Knowing Native Plants: Confusing Yellow Composites. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, virtual & on site, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 24 Late Season Garden Care. Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

Aug. 27 Inviting Wildlife into the Garden. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 28 Trial Garden Highlights: Vernonia (Ironweed). Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 3 Native Plants of Fall. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 4 Gardening for Watershed Conservation. Mt. Cuba Center, 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 10-17-22 & Oct. 15 Landscaping with Nature. New Directions in American Landscaping, virtual, 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 11-18-25 & Oct. 16 Meadow Making: A Brains Over Brawn Approach. New Directions in American Landscaping, virtual, 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 17 Trial Garden Highlights: Solidago (Goldenrod). Mt. Cuba Center, 1:00 p.m.

Sept. 20 Knowing Native Plants: Classic Asters and Their Colorful Companions. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, virtual & on site, 10:00 a.m.