



## Home Grown Native Michigan Plants Add Beauty & More

Native Michigan plants have several appealing characteristics as garden and landscaping plants. There are advantages to using native plants over ornamental and potentially invasive species. There are over 1,800 species of native Michigan plants including: wildflowers, ferns, trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, bushes and hedges.

Native plants naturally adapt to soil and weather conditions of Michigan, so they need less care once they've become established and have a greater chance of survival. When planted in the proper location, they need little fertilization, irrigation, or winter protection. Deep roots of native plants can provide a path for water to seep into the ground, thereby preventing runoff and soil erosion.

The expansive selection of Michigan plants is helpful when creating shade gardens, butterfly gardens, rock gardens, water gardens, and yard landscapes. If you have kids, be sure to plant nectar sources to provide food for caterpillars!

Native plants can be found for every type of environment, from dry and sunny to moist and shady. With their variety of colors, heights, foliage, and bloom times, native plants add beauty and interest to any landscape.

Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan by Lynn M. Steiner has a great native Michigan plant list.

