

# Invasive Plant Replacements

Plant Type	Invasive	Suitable NC Native Replacements		
Trees	Mimosa tree	Red oak	<a href="#">Quercus rubra</a>	Recommended for its ability to tolerate compacted soil and pollutants, and for its fast growth. Oaks support more caterpillars (500+ species) and other beneficial insects and wildlife than any other plant species in the US
		White oak	<a href="#">Quercus alba</a>	
	Bradford Pear	River birch	<a href="#">Betula nigra</a>	Fast growing deciduous tree, looks good in all seasons. Sun to part-sun, well-drained soil, but tolerates flooding. Supports 299 caterpillar species of value as pollinators and to feed birds.
	Tree of Heaven	Redbud	<a href="#">Cercis canadensis</a>	Understory tree that is one of the first to bloom in spring. Sun to part-shade. Drought tolerant. If it can grow on the islands on Fordham Boulevard, it can grow in your yard. Supports 25 species of caterpillar.
		Eastern red cedar	<a href="#">Juniperus virginiana</a>	Dependable, fast growing evergreen tree for sun to part-sun. Needs male pollinator for fruit. Supports 29 species of caterpillar.
Shrubs	Thorny olive	Wax myrtle	<a href="#">Morella cerifera</a>	Beautiful evergreen shrub for screening and to provide fruit for migrating cedar waxwings and other birds. Deer hardy.
	Autumn olive	Native blueberries	<a href="#">Vaccinium spp.</a>	Need more than one genetic strain for best fruit. Sun to part-sun. Loves our acid soil and puts on a show through 3 seasons. Host plant for elfin butterflies. May be browsed by deer.
	Chinese privet	Coastal witch-alder	<a href="#">Fothergilla gardenii</a>	Deciduous shrub for part-sun. "One of our showiest shrubs with year-round appeal" per Larry Mellichamp, <i>Native Plants of the Southeast</i> . Reasonably deer resistant but may need protection in some areas.
	Japanese privet	Florida doghobble	<a href="#">Agarista populifolia</a>	Fast-growing evergreen shrub with arching habit. Can be used for screening. Part-shade. Deer hardy.
	Oregon olive	Hardy anise	<a href="#">Illicium parviflorum</a>	Excellent evergreen screening plant for part to full shade with some soil moisture. Deer hardy.
	Heavenly bamboo	American beautyberry	<a href="#">Callicarpa americana</a>	Sun. Tolerates dry soil. Beautiful iridescent purple berries hug the long arching stems in the fall. Deciduous. May be browsed in some areas.
		False indigo bush	<a href="#">Amorpha fruticosa</a>	Sun to part-sun. Fine-textured foliage, Small purple flowers tinged in gold appear in spikelets in late spring or early summer. Supports several species of skipper butterflies. Deciduous. Deer hardy.
Vines	English ivy	Crossvine	<a href="#">Bignonia capreolata</a>	Beautiful tropical-looking flowers on vine that is deer hardy. Sun to part-shade. Likes to grow up trees to 50 feet. Feeds hummingbirds.
	Asian wisteria	Coral honeysuckle	<a href="#">Lonicera sempervirens</a>	Blooms in sync with returning hummingbirds.
	Japanese honeysuckle	Carolina jessamine	<a href="#">Gelsemium sempervirens</a>	Tolerates wet soil. Its golden trumpet shaped flowers are attractive to hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinators. Flowers from February to May. Deer hardy.
	Oriental bittersweet			
Grasses, ferns, & herbaceous perennials	Japanese stiltgrass	Cherokee sedge	<a href="#">Carex cherokeensis</a>	Clumping ornamental grass, evergreen. Needs some moisture and part-sun. Deer hardy.
		River oats	<a href="#">Chasmanthium latifolium</a>	Very ornamental clumping native grass with drooping seed heads that remain beautiful over the winter. Part-sun. Deer hardy.
		Christmas fern	<a href="#">Polystichum acrostichoides</a>	Keeps fronds through winter. Prefers cool, moist soil and shade or part-sun. Deer hardy.
	Youngia japonica	Green-and-gold	<a href="#">Chrysogonum virginianum</a>	Yellow flowers on low-growing plant, with some varieties spreading. Part-shade, some moisture. Deer resistant.
		Little bluestem	<a href="#">Schizachyrium scoparium</a>	Ornamental grass for dry to medium soil, to 4 feet. Good for erosion control. Full sun. Deer hardy.