

# Top Native Plants for Wildlife in LA

(Compiled from various sources as listed by TB/NPI as a working reference list for habitat gardeners)

<b>Host Plants per # of Lepidoptera species</b> <b>Source: NWF Native Plant Finder,</b> <a href="https://www.nwf.org/nativePlantFinder/plants">https://www.nwf.org/nativePlantFinder/plants</a> <b>(based on and recommended by Doug Tallamy)</b>	<b>Birds – Frugivory</b> <b>by # of observed bird species using</b> <b>Source: Bill Fontenot author of <i>Native Gardening in the South</i> and the Nature Dude blog</b>
<p><b><u>Trees</u></b></p> <p>Quercus, Oaks (362)            Prunus, Cherry/Plum (225)                - Wild Cherry, Cherry Laurel, Mexican Plum            Carya (178)                - Hickory, Pecan, etc.            Willow (170)            Birch (164)            Maple, Boxelder (158)            Apple, Crabapple (154)            Pine (151)            Cottonwood (141)            Elm (121)            Ash (92)            Hawthorns (89)                - Parsley, Mayhaw            Carpinus (53)            Locust (52)                - Amorpha fruticosa            Persimmon (51)            Sumac (47)            Hackberry (44)            Holly, Ilex (40)            Sycamore (35)            Sweet Gum (33)            Nyssa, Black Gum, Tupelo (26)</p> <p><b><u>Shrubs</u></b></p> <p>Buttonbush (24)            Elderberry (24)            Juniperus, Eastern Red Cedar (24)            Baccharis (28)</p>	<p>Mulberry (58)            Elderberry (47)            Hackberry (43)            Wild Grape, 5-6 species (42)            Rough-leaf Dogwood (34)            Virginia Creeper (34)            Poison Ivy (34)            Nyssa, Black Gum (33)</p> <p>Pokeberry (42)            Black Cherry, Prunus serotina (28)            Flowering Dogwood (27)            Vaccinium, Blueberry sp. (25)            Vaccinium, Huckleberry (21)            Smilax, Greenbriars (23)            Sumac (23)            Callicarpa, Beautyberry (21)</p> <p>Magnolias, Southern, Sweetbay (22)            Spicebush (18)            Eastern Red Cedar (17)            Hawthorn spp. (18)            Sassafras (15)            Persimmon (15)            Arrowwood Viburnum (13)            Supplejack (12)            Holly spp.            Dwarf Palmetto (10)            Prickly Ash (10)</p> <p>Wax Myrtle</p>

## **Flowers & Grasses**

Solidago (68) + Bee Specialists  
Helianthus (56) + Bee Specialists  
Hibiscus (33)  
Eupatorium (28)  
Panicum (25)  
Geranium (25)  
Amorpha (24)  
Oenothera (18)  
Violet (18)  
Verbesina (17)  
Vernonia, Ironweed (17)  
Bluestem grasses (16)  
Sida (14)  
Mimosa (11)  
Partridge Pea (9)  
Malaviscus (8)  
Monarda (7)  
Gaura (7)  
Ludwigia (7)

**Audubon published this list of plants earlier in the year and also has a Native Plant Search by Zip Code on their website:**

<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

American Elm, seeds, leaf buds  
Sycamore, shelter  
Buttonbush, seeds  
Helianthus, Sunflower – seeds  
many more.....

**LOS (LA Ornithological Society) recently recommended these Native Grasses for Birds**

Big Bluestem  
Broomsedge  
Arrowfeather Three-Awn – *Aristida purpurescens*  
Eastern Gama Grass  
Inland Sea Oats  
Virginia Wild Rye  
Fall Witchgrass, *Leptoloma*  
Switchgrass species, *P. virgatum*  
Beaked Panicum, *P. anceps*  
Spreading Panicum, *P. rhizomatum*  
Scribner Panicum  
Fringeleaf Paspalum  
Little Bluestem  
Knotroot Bristlegrass  
*Tridens flavens*