



What is BayScapes?

BayScaping is a system of landscape principles designed to help the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. BayScape plants require little maintenance, water or fertilizer; grow in difficult conditions; and benefit wildlife. These ideas and practices are also called conservation or beneficial landscaping and xeriscaping.

BayScaping provides habitat for local and migratory animals, conserves native plants and improves water quality. Landowners also benefit, as this type of landscaping reduces the time and expense of mowing, watering, fertilizing and treating lawn and garden areas, and offers greater visual interest than lawn. Beneficial landscaping can also be used to address areas with problems such as erosion, poor soils, steep slopes, or poor drainage.

What are native plants?

Native plants have evolved in and are adapted to local soils and climate conditions. They generally require less watering and fertilizing than non-native plants. Acquired resistance to insects and disease means they are less likely to need pesticides. Regional wildlife uses native plant communities for food, cover and rearing young. Using native plants helps preserve the balance and beauty of natural ecosystems.



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US Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov



**National Fish and
Wildlife Federation**
www.nfwf.org

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by the National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Small
Watershed Grants program in 2006.*

*American Bald Eagles nest and roost in
significant numbers throughout the refuge
boundary area. Virginia's largest wintering
roost for bald eagles is located within the
refuge boundary.*

Putting it Into Action: Building a BayScape Garden at Wilna House Refuge Headquarters



Mission of the Friends

The Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends is an independent nonprofit group dedicated to supporting the National Wildlife Refuge System and to promoting awareness of the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge through education and support.

BayScapes Native Plant Garden

This garden was planned and installed by the Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends to demonstrate the use of native plants in landscaping.

About the project

Project of the Eastern Virginia Rivers NWR Complex and Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends with assistance from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay under a grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program.

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- Hyla Brook Farms
- Ingleside Plantation Nurseries
- Wood Preservers
- Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

The BayScapes Wilna House Project

- Select representative native plants for low maintenance and appropriateness for the formal architecture of the house in a very natural setting.
- Design a transition to natural meadow beyond. Enhance wildlife habitat by using natives that attract butterflies, birds and beneficial insects, but do not attract deer.
- Draw up garden plan, including removal of non-native plants at site (boxwood, crepe myrtle and turf).
- Prepare planting areas, tilling in aged compost as needed.
- Procure and install plants with no more than 1–2" of mulch.
- Provide supplemental watering for the first year until plants are established.



Wilna House before the garden renovations in 2006. Volunteers install native plants while learning more about BayScapes and the Refuge. Rappahannock Wildlife refuge Friends celebrate the successful 2nd year of supporting the Refuge while enjoying lunch and making new friends. Background art: New England Aster, *Symphyotrichum (Aster) novae-angliae*.

Sample plant list for a BayScapes garden local to the Northern Neck of Virginia.

COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	SEASON OF BLOOM	HEIGHT	BLOOM/FRUIT	VALUE
Blue-eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Spring	8 – 10"	blue	Great for edging. Deer resistant.
Lyre-leaved Sage	<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Spring	1 – 2'	blue/purple	Attracts butterflies.
Wild Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Spring	0.5 – 3'	red/yellow	Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, beneficial insects. Deer resistant.
River Oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Spring	2 – 5'	green/brown	Deer resistant.
Wild Petunia	<i>Ruellia car.</i>	Summer	8 – 12"	blue	
Wild Ageratum	<i>Conoclinium (Eupatorium) coelestinum</i>	Summer Can be aggressive. May be hard to locate in trade.	1 – 3'	blue/purple	Attracts butterflies, songbirds, beneficial insects.
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Summer Plant where you want it. Doesn't like to be transplanted.	1 – 2'	orange	Attracts butterflies, beneficial insects.
Brown-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Summer	1 – 3'	yellow	Attracts butterflies, songbirds, beneficial insects.
Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda bradburiana (fistulosa)</i>	Summer	Up to 3'	pink/purple	Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds. Deer resistant.
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Summer Can be aggressive. Likes moist to wet soils.	2 – 5'	red	Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, beneficial insects. Deer resistant.
Horse Mint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>				
Threadleaf Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Summer	18 – 24"	yellow	Attracts butterflies.
Spiked blazingstar	<i>Liatris spicata</i> <i>Trilobo</i>	Summer	3 – 5'	purple	Attracts butterflies, songbirds, beneficial insects. Deer resistant.
Maryland Golden Aster	<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i>	Fall	8" – 2.5'	yellow	Groundcover.
Showy Aster	<i>Eurybia (Aster) spectabilis</i>	Fall	1 – 1.5'	pink/purple	Attracts butterflies. Deer resistant.
Rough-stemmed Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rugosa</i> or "Fireworks"	Fall	2.5 – 3'	yellow	Attracts butterflies. Deer resistant.
New England Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum (Aster) novae-angliae</i>	Fall	3 – 4'	purple	Attracts butterflies, small mammals. Deer resistant.
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Fall	Up to 4'	burgundy red	Winter interest, wildlife cover. Deer resistant.
Wild blue indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	May – June Shrublike perennial. Vertical habit.	3 – 5'	blue/purple	Attracts butterflies, beneficial insects. Deer resistant.