

## Why Native Plants?



Over thousands of years, wild plants have grown naturally, adapting to each region's unique environmental conditions. When grown in your garden, native plants bring beauty and excitement to your yard, creating a welcoming sanctuary for that can be enjoyed at home along with many other benefits:

- **Biodiversity and Habitat:** Landscaping with native plants restores a healthy, natural environment, increases biodiversity and creates wildlife habitat. Native plants provide quality food and shelter for birds and other wildlife and invite butterflies and other pollinators with pollen and nectar rewards.
- **Economical and Low Maintenance:** Native plants are sustainable, economical and lower maintenance long term; they're adapted to thrive in your region's soils and weather conditions. They do not need fertilizer or extra watering once established and many also are deer resistant. Native plants also attract natural pest controls which can reduce and often eliminate the need for pesticides bringing both economic and ecological benefits.
- **Ecological:** Many natives are deep-rooted and help to retain soil which reduces erosion and the release of additional carbon dioxide. Deep roots also improve drought resistance and improve water quality by slowing down storm water and other runoff which often is the primary source of excess nutrients and other pollutants in our local ponds, lakes, and water supply.

You can read more here about [Natives](#) and buzzwords related to them.

## When looking for Native plants, ask "Native to where?"

Here on Cape Cod we are part of a unique region called The Atlantic Coastal Pine Barrens, or **EcoRegion 84**. Plants native to our EcoRegion or even more specifically, Barnstable County, are much more likely to be well adapted to the climate, light, and soil conditions that characterize our region. Look for information on the plant tag at our sale indicating where your plant is native to - Barnstable County, EcoRegion 84, or another (generally adjacent) EcoRegion.

Caring for your new native plants - [Information](#)

MGACC Plant Sale: May 16, 2026 - [Available Native Plant List](#)