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Baton Rouge geography – You Are Here!

The city of Baton Rouge is located in the ecoregion simply called the Baton Rouge Terrace. ([Map of ecoregions of Louisiana](#)). The Baton Rouge Terrace is part of the [Mississippi Valley of the Loess Plains](#)

Most of East Baton Rouge Parish is in the USDA hardiness zone 8b, meaning that the average minimum winter temperature is 20 to 25 F.

Definitions

Annual - Plants that germinate, flower, set seed, and die all in one season. They must grow from seed each year. Some plants may be either annual or perennial depending on winter conditions.

Biennial - A flowering plant that takes two years to complete its biological life cycle.

EBR – abbreviation for East Baton Rouge parish

Emergent aquatic plant - Plants that are rooted in a lake bottom but that have leaves and stems that extend out of the water.

Forb - An herbaceous (non-woody) flowering plant that is not a graminoid (grass, sedge, or rush).

Perennial – Plants that either 1) die back in the fall and winter or 2) are evergreen; however, unlike annuals, they live for more than one growing season. Some plants may be either annual or perennial depending on winter conditions.

Spring ephemeral – Perennial plants that appear above ground in early spring, followed by a die-back of growth before summer. The roots stay alive in the ground for the rest of the year, even though the plant cannot be seen.

Native Plants - The “common names” listed in this document are just the most frequently-used Common names. Plants often have multiple common names. Also, many of these species have closely related relatives in other parts of Louisiana; those other species are not listed here. Many species also have foreign relatives that are now invasive. Some species have more than one scientific name because different sources had previously named them.

Small Plants

Full Sun

Amaranth – Amaranths generally need full sun and are typically annual, though some such as *Amaranthus palmeri* can be short-lived perennials. [Southern amaranth](#) (*Amaranthus australis*) can get up to 30 feet tall but more commonly grow to 10 feet. [Hybrid pigweed](#) (*Amaranthus hybridus*), [Carelessweed](#) (*Amaranthus palmeri*), and [rough-fruited waterhemp](#) (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*) get 10 feet or shorter. [Slender amaranth](#) (*Amaranthus viridis*) gets 3 feet tall. Amaranths are edible.

Asters (Yard Asters) - The family Asteraceae consists of over 32,000 known species of flowering plants and over 1,900 genera within the order Asterales; some species of asters are listed elsewhere in this document. The following asters are ones that are not sold and are commonly found in yards, thus I’ve labeled them “yard asters”. These asters usually produce numerous, small flowers. Some tolerate shade more than others, but they can generally tolerate full sun. The most commonly found one in Baton Rouge yards is [calico aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum lateriflorum*; perennial, 3 feet); it usually blooms in the late summer. Other native asters are the [southern annual saltmarsh aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum divaricatum*; annual, 6 feet but usually much shorter), [Drummond's aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum drummondii*; perennial, 4 feet), [rice button aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum dumosum*; perennial, 5 feet), [white panicked aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum lanceolatum*; perennial, 5 feet), [spreading aster or late purple aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum patens*; perennial, 4 feet), frost aster (*Symphiotrichum pilosum*; perennial, 4 feet), [willowleaf aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum praealtum*; perennial, 5 feet), small white aster or smooth white oldfield aster (*Symphiotrichum racemosum*; perennial, 3 feet), [eastern annual saltmarsh aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum subulatum*; annual or biennial, 4 feet), and a variation of eastern annual saltmarsh aster referred to as [lawn american-aster](#) (*Symphiotrichum subulatum* var. *ligulatum*).

Axil-flower and baby jump-up – Full sun. [Axil-flower](#) (*Mecardonia acuminata*) is a perennial that grows to about 2 feet tall. [Baby jump-up](#) (*Mecardonia procumbens*) can be either an annual or perennial ; it grows to 1 or 2 feet tall.

Beaked corn salad (*Valerianella radiata*) – Full sun. Annual. It grows 1 to 2 feet tall. As the common name suggests, this plant is edible ([additional information](#))

Beardtongue – Full to part sun. Perennial. [Foxglove beardtongue](#) (*Penstemon digitalis*) grows 3 to 5 feet tall. [Gulf beardtongue](#) (*Penstemon tenuis*) grows 1 to 2 feet tall. Sometimes, these plants are referred to by the genus name *Penstemon*.

Beebalm – [Spotted beebalm](#) (*Monarda punctata*) thrives in full sunlight, is a short lived perennial or biennial, and grows 1 to 3 feet tall. [Bergamot](#) (*Monarda fistulosa*) is a perennial that thrives in full sunlight and grows 2 to 4 feet tall. [Lemon beebalm](#) (*Monarda citriodora*) is a short lived perennial or biennial that can be grown in full sun or light shade and that grows 1 to 3 feet tall. Note: Scarlet beebalm (*Monarda didyma*), which is the beebalm usually sold in nurseries, is native to the US but not to Louisiana.

Beggarticks – Annual. Can grow 5 or 6 feet, but is frequently much shorter. [Spanish needles](#) (*Bidens bipinnata*), [small beggarticks](#) (*Bidens discolor*), and [devil's beggarticks](#) (*Bidens frondosa*) are native. [USGS lists](#) common beggarticks (*Bidens alba*) as native, but it does not show a map of the parishes in which it is native. *Bidens bipinnata* is more sensitive to sunlight than the other species in the genus *Bidens* and may need partial or dappled sunlight.

Black-eye susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows 2 to 3 feet in height. Also, [BONAP lists](#) giant brown-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia maxima*) as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#) ([additional information](#))

Blazing star (Appalachian blazing star) (*Liatris squarrosa*) – Full to part sun. Perennial. Grows 2 to 4 feet in height. Needs well-drained soil ([additional information](#))

Bluehearts (American bluehearts) (*Buchnera Americana*) – Full sun. Annual or perennial. 1 to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Blue mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall. Needs an area that will not dry out. May be found at local nurseries. Spreads easily through the seeds, but can also be easily removed ([additional information](#))

Blue star – Perennials that are named after the shape and color of their flowers. They can grow in shade but full sun is best. Grows up to 3 feet tall. The native varieties are [stiff bluestar](#) (*Amsonia rigida*) and [blue star](#) (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*).

Bluet – Full sun to part shade. Annual. May need afternoon shade during the summer. Native bluets are the [tiny bluet](#) (*Houstonia pusilla*), which grow to around 6 inches tall, and the [rose bluet](#) (*Houstonia rosea*), which only grows a couple of inches tall.

Boneset, aka Thoroughwort – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. The native varieties are [tall boneset](#) (*Eupatorium altissimum*; 5 feet), [common boneset](#) (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*; 5 feet), and [late boneset](#) (*Eupatorium serotinum*; 6 feet). [BONAP lists](#) roundleaf thoroughwort (*Eupatorium rotundifolium*; 5 feet) as native, but [USGS does not](#). Note: Bonesets are in the same genus as dogfennel under “Shade-Tolerant Plants”. “Ivyleaf thoroughwort” is under a different genus. “Pink thoroughwort” under “For Wet Areas” is also in a different genus.

Bristly Scaleseed (*Spermolepis echinata*) – Full sun to part sun. Annual. Grows up to 16 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Burnweed (American burnweed) (*Erechtites hieraciifolius* or *Senecio hieraciifolius*) – Full sun. Annual. Also known as “fireweed”. This plant gets its common name because it’s often the first plant to grow after a fire. However, it does not require fire to germinate and is often found in yards. It can grow 10 feet tall, but is typically shorter ([additional information](#))

Bushclover – Perennial. Not much information is available on the amount of sunlight required. [Trailing bush clover](#) (*Lespedeza procumbens*) has trailing stems that can get 6 feet long. [Creeping bushclove](#) (*Lespedeza repens*) can get 3 feet tall.

Buttercup, aka crowfoot – Low growing plants. Native buttercups tend to grow on boggy shores of lakes, in depressions, ditches, and marshes, muddy ground, shallow water, and seepage areas. However, they may be found in a variety of habitats. Native buttercups include [early buttercup](#) (*Ranunculus fascicularis*; perennial), [Mississippi buttercup](#) (*Ranunculus laxicaulis*; annual or perennial), [low spearwort or weak buttercup](#) (*Ranunculus pusillus*; annual), [hooked buttercup](#) (*Ranunculus recurvatus*; perennial), and [celery-leaved buttercup or cursed crowfoot](#) (*Ranunculus sceleratus*; annual or short-lived perennial). Hooked buttercup is the exception in this group as it does better in partial sun rather than full sun.

Butterweed (*Packera glabella*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual with yellow flowers that bloom in both sun and shade. It can frequently be found in unmowed fields in the spring. It is sometimes called “golden groundsel”, but it is not related to the groundsel bush ([additional information](#))

Camphorweed (*Heterotheca subaxillaris*) – Full sun. Annual. It can grow up to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Carolina clover (*Trifolium carolinianum*) – *Trifolium* is the genus of the clovers with which most people are familiar. The most familiar clovers, however, are invasive to the US. Carolina clover is the only clover in the genus *Trifolium* that is native to EBR. It grows up to a foot tall. Note: Woodsorrels tend to look similar to clovers and many woodsorrels are native; see woodsorrel under “Shade-Tolerant Plants” ([additional information](#))

Carolina dessert-chicory, aka false dandelion (*Pyrrhopappus carolinianus*) – Full sun. Annual or perennial. It can grow up to 3 feet in height but is typically shorter. [BONAP lists](#) it as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Carolina Leafflower (*Phyllanthus caroliniensis*) – Annual. It grows up to 1.5 feet tall. Related to the invasive chamberbitter weed (*Phyllanthus urinaria*) ([additional information](#))

Carolina Geranium, aka Carolina crane’s-bil (*Geranium carolinianum*) – Full sun to part sun. Annual. This plant is bushy but doesn’t get over 2 feet tall. It produces small white flowers in the spring and dies back at the beginning of summer. ([additional information](#))

Carolina ponysfoot (*Dichondra carolinensis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. 2 inches tall. Its leaves are shaped like horse footprints or tiny lily pads. This plant is commonly found in yards ([additional information](#))

Carpenter's square, aka Maryland Figwort (*Scrophularia marilandica*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 10 feet ([additional information](#))

Carolina thimble-weed (*Anemone caroliniana*) – Full sun. Perennial. 2 feet tall. [USGS does not](#) list this plant as native to EBR but [BONAP does](#).

Catchfly, aka sleepy catchfly (*Silene antirrhina*) – Full sun. Grows in dry conditions. Annual. It can grow to 2.5 feet tall. The common name comes from the plant's ability to trap insects. However, it is not carnivorous, since it doesn't derive nutrients from the insects it traps ([additional information](#))

Chervil, aka southern chervil (*Chaerophyllum tainturieri*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or biennial. Gets about 3 feet high. Note: Canadian honewort, aka wild chervil, (*Cryptotaenia canadensis*) is also native; see "Shade-Tolerant Plants" ([additional information](#))

Clasping coneflower (*Dracopis amplexicaulis* or *Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*) – Full sun. Annual. Grows from 1 to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Cleavers and/or bedstraw – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Appears in spring and dies back in summer. Native species include [catchweed bedstraw or cleavers](#) (*Galium aparine*), [bluntleaf bedstraw](#) (*Galium obtusum*), [hairy bedstraw](#) (*Galium pilosum*), [stiff marsh bedstraw](#) (*Galium tinctorium*), and [oneflower bedstraw](#) (*Galium uniflorum*). *Galium aparine* is edible, but is more palatable when cooked; the seeds can be made into a coffee substitute.

Clustered bushmint or musky mint (*Hyptis alata*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial with button-like inflorescence. Grows up to 4 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*) – Full sun. Annual. It can grow up to 4 feet in height. As the name suggests, it produces sticky burs. [Wikipedia states](#) there is some controversy regarding its origin ([additional information](#))

Cudweed – Not much information is available for the sunlight requirements of cudweed. Native species include the [delicate everlasting](#) (*Gamochaeta antillana*), [silvery cudweed](#) (*Gamochaeta argyrinea*), and [purple cudweed](#) (*Gamochaeta purpurea*). They generally can grow up to 1.5 feet tall.

Dandelion – Full sun. The native dandelions are the [weedy dwarf dandelion](#) (*Krigia caespitosa*), which is an annual that grows to 16 inches, and the [potato dwarf-dandelion](#) (*Krigia dandelion*), which is a perennial that grows to 20 inches.

Dayflowers – Full sun to part sun. Day flowers are related to spiderwort. Native dayflowers are [Virginia dayflower](#) (*Commelina virginica*), which is either an annual or perennial and typically grows 2 or 3 feet

tall, and climbing or spreading dayflower (*Commelina diffusa*), which is an annual that grows to around 3 feet tall.

Desert horse purslane (*Trianthema portulacastrum*) – Full sun to part sun. Annual or perennial. Despite its common name, this plant grows in moist or seasonally moist soil ([additional information](#))

Devil's-tongue, aka eastern prickly pear (*Opuntia humifusa*) – Full sun. Perennial. It can grow a little over a foot tall. As with other cacti, this plant needs little water ([additional information](#))

Dodder - Parasitic vines. They have no green parts because they have no chlorophyll. Native species include [common dodder, aka scaldweed](#), (*Cuscuta gronovii*), [Peruvian dodder](#) (*Cuscuta obtusiflora*), [field dodder, aka five-angled dodder](#) (*Cuscuta pentagona*), and [smartweed dodder](#) (*Cuscuta polygonorum*).

Doll's daisy – Full sun. Perennial. They can grow up to 6 feet tall but are often much shorter. So named because they produce flowers that appear to be like small daisies. [White doll's daisy](#) (*Boltonia asteroides*) is also known as false aster, because its flowers are also similar to aster flowers. Smallhead doll's daisy (*Boltonia diffusa*) is listed [by BONAP](#) to be native to EBR, but not [by USGS](#).

Echinacea – Full sun to part sun. Perennial. It grows 2 to 4 feet tall. The [eastern purple coneflower](#) (*Echinacea purpurea*) is what is usually referred to as simply “Echinacea” or “purple coneflower”. [BONAP lists](#) pale Echinacea (*Echinacea pallida*) as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Erect spiderling (*Boerhavia diffusa*) – Full sun. Annual. 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

False foxglove – Full sun to part shade. Native varieties are [beach false foxglove](#) (*Agalinis fasciculata*; perennial, 6 feet), [prairie false foxglove](#) (*Agalinis heterophylla*; annual, 3 feet), and [slenderleaf false foxglove](#) (*Agalinis tenuifolia*; annual, 2 feet).

False garlic aka crow poison (*Nothoscordum bivalve*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 20 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Fleabane – Full sun. Of the native species, [Philadelphia fleabane](#) (*Erigeron philadelphicus*; biennial or perennial) is probably most frequently seen. The other species of fleabane are [Robin's plantain](#) (*Erigeron pulchellus*; biennial or perennial), [daisy fleabane](#) (*Erigeron strigosus*; annual, biennial, or perennial), and [slenderleaf fleabane](#) (*Erigeron tenuis*; perennial). They generally range from 17 to 30 inches tall. Note: Other species with “fleabane” as part of their common names are listed under “For Wet Areas” under “Camphorweed and Fleabane”.

Forget-me-not - [Largeseed forget-me-not](#) (*Myosotis macrosperma*) is an annual that grows in full sun or part shade and grows up to 2 feet tall. [Spring forget-me-not](#) (*Myosotis verna*) can be either annual or biennial, grows in full sun, and gets up to 15 inches tall.

Fourspike Heliotrope (*Heliotropium procumbens*) – Full sun but may require protection from the afternoon sun. Annual or perennial. Stems prostrate to ascending, up to about 2 feet long ([additional information](#))

Frog Fruit – Two types of frog fruit are native to EBR. [Texas Frog Fruit or Common Frog Fruit or Turkey Tangle frogfruit](#) (*Phyla nodiflora*) needs full sun to part shade. It is a light-green trailing perennial that tends to form a mat and can be difficult to remove by pulling. It is a host plant for the phaeon crescent butterfly. Also see “Ground Cover” below. [Lanceleaf frogfruit](#) (*Phyla lanceolata*) is not as commonly found. It can get 2 or 3 feet tall.

Goldenrod – Perennial. Goldenrods are so called because each plant grows as a single stalk (though they tend to grow in clusters because they spread underground), which produces a rod of small, fuzzy yellow flowers in the fall. Native goldenrods are placed in two genera, *Solidago* and *Euthamia*. Species in the genus *Euthamia* are also often referred to as goldentops. The native *Solidago* are [Canada or tall goldenrod](#) (*Solidago altissima*; 6 feet), [blue-stemmed goldenrod](#) (*Solidago caesia*; 3 feet), [wrinkleleaf goldenrod](#) (*Solidago rugosa*; 3 feet), [seaside goldenrod](#) (*Solidago sempervirens*; 6 feet), and [wand goldenrod](#) (*Solidago virgata*). The only native *Euthamia* is [bushy goldentop](#) (*Euthamia leptoccephala*; 3 feet). (Note: There are also goldenrods under the genus *Bigelowia* that are native to other parts of the state.)

Green fly orchid (*Epidendrum conopseum* or *Epidendrum magnoliae*) – An epiphyte, i.e., it grows on other plants but it is not a parasite ([additional information](#))

Groundcherry – Full sun to part shade. [Cutleaf groundcherry](#) (*Physalis angulate*; 3 feet, annual). [Heartleaf groundcherry](#) (*Physalis cordata*; 3 feet, annual or perennial). [Downy groundcherry](#) (*Physalis pubescens*; 2 feet, annual).

Gaura – Full sun (*Oenothera lindheimeri* can take some shade). Perennial but may be killed off by cold. Native types are [velvetweed](#) (*Oenothera curtiflora*; 6 feet), [longflowered gaura](#) (*Oenothera filiformis*; 12 feet), and [lindheimer's butterfly-weed](#) (*Oenothera lindheimeri*; 5 feet). Linheimer's butterfly weed has flowers that look like butterflies suspended in the air; the name does not mean that the plant attracts butterflies. However, gaura generally easily attracts other pollinators. Gaura is in the same genus as primrose.

Hairy leafcup (*Smallanthus uvedalia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can grow to 10 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Heartleaf Four O'Clock, aka wild four o'clock (*Mirabilis nyctaginea*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Heartleaf nettle (*Urtica chamaedryoides*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows up to 5 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Heartwing sorrel (*Rumex hastatulus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 18 inches tall. In the same genus as “swamp dock” under “For Wet Areas” ([additional information](#))

Horseweed (Canadian horseweed) (*Conyza canadensis*) – Full sun. Annual or biennial. It can grow 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Indian Blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*) – Full sun. Annual. Grows 1 to 2 feet. The most common variety has red flowers with yellow tips, but other varieties exist. Both the plants and seeds are commonly sold by nurseries ([additional information](#))

Ironweed (tall or giant ironweed) (*Vernonia gigantea*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Typically grows 3 to 8 feet tall but can grow as tall as 10 to 12 feet. It produces frilly purple flowers ([additional information](#))

Ivyleaf thoroughwort (*Chromolaena ivifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Gets 3 to 5 feet tall. Note: “Boneset, aka Thoroughwort” is under a different genus. “Pink thoroughwort” under “For Wet Areas” is also in a different genus ([additional information](#))

Juniper leaf (*Polypremum procumbens*) – Full sun. Annual or perennial. Grows to 1 foot tall ([additional information](#))

Knotweed and smartweed – Full sun to part shade. [Denseflower knotweed](#) (*Persicaria glabra*; perennial, 6 feet), [swamp smartweed](#) (*Persicaria hydropiperoides*; perennial, 3 feet), [curlytop knotweed](#) (*Persicaria lapathifolia*; annual, 5 feet) (USGS lists it as “introduced”, but it’s native to both North America and Eurasia), [Pennsylvania smartweed](#) (*Persicaria pennsylvanica*; annual, 6 feet), [dotted smartweed](#) (*Persicaria punctata*; annual or short-lived perennial, 3 feet), [bog smartweed](#) (*Persicaria setacea*; perennial, 6 feet), and [jumpseed](#) (*Persicaria virginiana*; perennial, 4 feet).

Lady’s tresses – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Native species are [nodding lady’s tresses](#) (*Spiranthes cernua*; 2 feet), [marsh lady’s tresses](#) (*Spiranthes odorata*; 2 feet), [oval lady’s tresses](#) (*Spiranthes ovalis*; prefers shade, 16 inches), [Greenvein lady’s tresses](#) (*Spiranthes praecox*; needs a lot of sun, 30 inches), and [spring ladies'-tresses](#) (*Spiranthes vernalis*; 3 feet).

Lambquarters (*Chenopodium album*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. It can grow 6 to 9 feet ([additional information](#))

Lax hornpod, aka caribbean miterwort (*Mitreola petiolata*) – Full sun. Annual. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Loosestrife – Perennial , except for *Anagallis minima* which is an annual. Loosestrife is the common name for plants in the genera *Lysimachia* (which is in the primrose family *Primulaceae*) and *Lythrum* (loosestrife family *Lythraceae*). The natives in the genus *Lysimachia* are [chafweed](#) (*Lysimachia minima*, which is listed by USGS as *Anagallis minima*; 6 inches), [burgundy mist or lance-leaved loosestrife](#) (*Lysimachia lanceolata*; 3 feet), and [creeping loosestrife](#) (*Lysimachia radicans*). The native species under the genus *Lythrum* are [winged loosestrife](#) (*Lythrum alatum*; 4 feet) and [saltmarsh loosestrife](#) (*Lythrum lineare*; 5 feet). Winged loosestrife is probably the most common in Baton Rouge.

Lyreleaf sage (*Salvia lyrata*) – Full sun or shade. Perennial. The leaves grow low to the ground, but the flower spikes are 1 to 2 feet tall. Commonly found in yards. Also listed under “Ground Cover” below. It is the same genus as scarlet sage (*Salvia coccinea*) ([additional information](#))

Mallow .a.k.a. native Hibiscus – Full sun to part sun. Perennial. Flowers tend to be large. These plants are exceptionally beautiful in bloom. Plants and seeds may be purchased commercially. Natives include scarlet rosemallow (*Hibiscus coccineus*; despite the common name, some of the plants have white flowers; 8 feet), Halberd-leaf rosemallow (*Hibiscus laevis*; 8 feet), wooley rose-mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*; 6 feet), and swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*; 8 feet). Some sources don't consider *Hibiscus lasiocarpus* to be a separate species, but instead split *Hibiscus moscheutos* into subspecies. Note: The annual mallow under the genus *Lavatera* is not native to the America's. Also, Turk's cap, listed below under "Shade-Tolerant Plants", is a type of native mallow, even though it's under a different genus.

Meadow garlic or wild onion (*Allium canadense*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 1 to 3 feet in height. May be found in yards. It has a stalk that briefly produces a bunch of white flowers. This plant is edible, but it should not be eaten in large quantities because it contains sulfides, which can cause digestive upset ([additional information](#))

Milkweed – Full sun. Perennial. Grows to 2.5 feet high. Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) and green milk weed (*Asclepias viridis*) have low water requirements once established. Butterfly weed in particular likes dry conditions, and the leaves will die back if they stay wet for too long. Milkweeds are the host plants for the monarch butterfly. Note: There is another species, *Asclepias hirtella*, that is also called green milkweed that is native to Louisiana but is not native to East Baton Rouge. Also, see "Aquatic/Swamp Milkweeds" under "For Wet Areas" for other native plants under the same genus.

Milkwort (dwarf milkwort or candy root) (*Polygala nana*) – Full sun. Annual or biennial. Grows 4 to 6 inches ([additional information](#))

Mille grains – Information on light level is not available. Bosc's mille graines (*Oldenlandia boscii*) is a perennial that grows 8 inches tall. Clustered mille grains (*Oldenlandia uniflora*) is an annual that grows about 2 feet tall.

Mistletoe (American mistletoe or oak mistletoe) (*Phoradendron serotinum*, *Phoradendron leucarpum*, or *Phoradendron flavescens*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It is a parasite of whatever tree it grows on ([additional information](#))

Mock bishop-weed (Threadleaf mock bishop-weed) aka herbwilliam (*Ptilimnium capillaceum*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows to 2.5 feet in height. It is a host plant for the black swallowtail butterfly. Two other types of mock bishop-weed grow in other areas of Louisiana ([additional information](#))

Neckweed, aka purslane speedwell (*Veronica peregrine*) – Full sun. Annual. 1 foot tall ([additional information](#))

Nightshade – Full sun to part shade. **Nightshades tend to be toxic. Wear gloves if handling.**

Nightshades are either large forbs or small shrubs. Native species includes two species referred to as American black nightshade (*Solanum americanum*; annual, 4 feet; and *Solanum ptycanthum*; annual, 3

feet), Carolina nightshade (*Solanum carolinense*; perennial, 3 feet), green nightshade (*Solanum douglasii*; perennial, 6 feet), and silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*; perennial, 3 feet).

Obedient plan, aka false dragonhead (*Physostegia virginiana*) – Full sun to part shade, but full sun is best. Perennial. Grows 1 to 5 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Old field toadflax, aka Canada toadflax (*Nuttallanthus canadensis*) – Full sun. Annual or biennial. 1.5 feet high. Grows where there is little competition from other plants. It is the larval host plant of the common buckeye butterfly ([additional information](#))

Partridge Pea – Full sun. Two species of partridge pea are native to EBR. Both are simply called “partridge pea” or “sensitive plant”, but [one \(*Chamaecrista fasciculata*\)](#) is more common than the [other \(*Chamaecrista nictitans*\)](#). *Chamaecrista fasciculata* is an annual and grows to 3 feet. *Chamaecrista nictitans* is either an annual or perennial and only grows to around 1.5 feet in height. Partridge pea plants look like miniature versions of (non-native) mimosa trees and produce yellow flowers. They attract little yellow butterflies, cloudless sulphur butterflies, and gray hairstreak butterflies.

Palmetto (dwarf palmetto) (*Sabal minor*) – Full sun to part shade. Evergreen. Grows in moist soil and tolerates poor drainage. It can grow up to 10 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Pellitory – Full sun to part shade. Annual. [Florida pellitory](#) (*Parietaria floridana*) and [Pennsylvania pellitory](#) (*Parietaria pensylvanica*) grow to around 15 inches tall.

Petiteplant (*Lepuropetalon spathulatum*) – A diminutive winter annual. In favorable conditions, it forms a hemispherical tuft up to 2 cm tall ([additional information](#))

Plantain – Native species include [bracted plantain](#) (*Plantago aristata*; annual or perennial, 1 foot), [slender plantain](#) (*Plantago heterophylla*; annual, 0.5 feet), [blackseed plantain, aka Rugel's plantain](#) (*Plantago rugelii*, perennial, 2.5 feet), and [dwarf plantain](#) (*Plantago virginica*; annual or biennial, .5 foot).

Pokeweed (American pokeweed) (*Phytolacca americana*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 10 feet tall. The fruit that it produces is important for some wildlife; however, this plant should not be handled without gloves, as it is poisonous to humans ([additional information](#))

Prairie nymph (*Herbertia lahue*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows up to 1 foot tall. Spring ephemeral. [BONAP lists](#) this as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Primrose – The most easily recognizable primrose is [pink evening primrose or pinkladies](#) (*Oenothera speciosa*; perennial, 2 feet). It is called this because it makes a clusters of large, upward-pointing pink flowers in the spring. They can sometimes be seen growing next to the roadside in Baton Rouge. See “Ground Cover” below for more information on Pink Evening Primrose. The other native species of primrose are [common evening primrose](#) (*Oenothera biennis*; biennial, 5 feet), [showy evening-primrose](#) (*Oenothera grandis*; annual or biennial, 3 feet), and [cutleaf evening-primrose](#) (*Oenothera laciniata*; annual or biennial, 2 feet). Primrose is in the same genus as gaura. *Oenothera biennis* is edible, but

different sources vary as to how much it should be cooked prior to consumption. Common evening primrose oil is available as a supplement.

Pyramid flower (*Melochia pyramidata*) – Full sun. Annual. Grows up to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Rabbit-tobacco, aka sweet everlasting (*Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or biennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Ragweed – Full sun to part shade. Annual. [Common ragweed](#) (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) can get 5 or 6 feet tall but is often much shorter. [Giant ragweed](#) (*Ambrosia trifida*) can get up to 15 feet tall.

Rattlesnake-master – Full sun. Perennial. Rattlesnake-master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*; 5 feet) is sometimes sold by native plant nurseries. [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#). Its lesser known relative [creeping eryngo](#) (*Eryngium prostratum*) is native. Its stems are prostrate to ascending, up to about 16 inches long.

Rough false pennyroyal (*Hedeoma hispida*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Roughstem rosinweed (*Silphium radula*) – Perennial. Full sun. Grows up to 8 feet tall. It resembles sunflowers ([additional information](#))

River cane, aka giant cane or American bamboo (*Arundinaria gigantea*) – Full to part sun. It can grow as tall as 25 feet. It can survive brief periods of flooding but does not thrive in wet areas ([additional information](#))

Rose mock vervain, aka rose vervain and sweet william (*Glandularia canadensis*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or perennial. Grows 1.5 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Ruellia, a.k.a. Wild Petunia – Full sun or shade. Perennial. The [Caroline wild petunia](#) (*Ruellia caroliniensis*) is sometimes found in yards; it can grow up to 3 feet tall but is usually much shorter. The [prairie petunia](#) (*Ruellia humilis*) is native, though not as commonly seen in Baton Rouge. The stalked wild petunia (*Ruellia pedunculata*) is [listed by BONAP](#) as native to EBR but not [by USGS](#). Note: Wild petunias are NOT related to cultivated petunias. Also, any ruellia found at local nurseries will probably not be native.

Sacred datura (*Datura wrightii*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 4 to 5 feet tall. [BONAP lists](#) the [sacred datura \(aka jimson weed\)](#) as being native to EBR, though no other parishes are shown as having this plant.

Sampson's snakeroot (*Orbexilum pedunculatum*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Scarlet Sage (*Salvia coccinea*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or perennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. It produces spikes with rows of bright red flowers, can be found at local nurseries, and is in the same genus as lyreleaf sage ([additional information](#))

Sidebeak pencil-flower (*Stylosanthes biflora*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 or 3 feet in height. Drought tolerant ([additional information](#))

Silkgrass (narrowleaf silkgrass) (*Pityopsis graminifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial wildflower. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Smooth false buttonweed, aka buttonplant (*Spermacoce glabra*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Smooth joyweed, aka smooth chaff-flower (*Alternanthera paronychioides*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Can grow 2 to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Sneezeweed – Full sun to part shade, though color may not be as rich in part shade. Annual. The two sneezeweeds native to East Baton Rouge are [bitter sneezeweed](#) (*Helenium amarum*) and [longdisk sneezeweed](#) (*Helenium quadridentatum*). According to [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#), these plants are called sneezeweed because of “the former use of its dried leaves in making snuff, inhaled to cause sneezing that would supposedly rid the body of evil spirits”.

Smallflower fumewort, aka southern corydalis (*Corydalis micrantha*) – Full sun. Annual or biennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Southern twayblade (*Neottia bifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Prefers moist, well-drained soil. This plant is diminutive orchid and grows only about 1 foot in height at most ([additional information](#))

Spiderwort – Full sun or shade. Perennial. They produce bluish flowers in daily succession. The native species include [hairy spiderwort](#) (*Tradescantia hirsutiflora*; 1.5 feet), [smooth spiderwort/bluejacket/Ohio spiderwort](#) (*Tradescantia ohiensis*; 3 feet), [prairie spiderwort](#) (*Tradescantia occidentalis*; 3 feet), and [confederate spiderwort](#) (*Tradescantia paludosa*; 2 feet). Confederate spiderwort is found in few places beyond Louisiana.

Spiked Hoarypea (*Tephrosia spicata*) – Sun to part shade. Perennial. Stems are up to 2 feet long and can be either decumbent (lying down) or erect ([additional information](#))

Spotflower (Oppositeleaf Spotflower or Creeping Spotflower) (*Acmella repens* or *Acmella oppositifolia* var. *repens*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. A low growing plant that has abundant, cute, little yellow flowers. Prefers moist areas, such as pond areas and ditches, but it is also commonly found in yards. This plant makes a good alternative to (non-native) Wedelia (*Sphagneticola triloba*) ([additional information](#))

Springbeauty (narrow-leaf springbeauty) (*Claytonia virginica*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 1.5 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Spurge – [Wild poinsettia or fire-on-mountain](#) (*Euphorbia cyathophora*; annual, 2 to 3 feet). [Wild poinsettia or Mexican fireplant](#) (*Euphorbia heterophylla*; annual, 3 feet). [Asthma-plant](#) (*Euphorbia hirta*; annual, 1 foot). [Spreading broomsedge](#) (*Euphorbia humistrata*; annual, .5 feet). [Grace spurge, aka baby's breath Euphorbia](#) (*Euphorbia hypericifolia*; perennial, 2 feet). [Spotted spurge or lage spurge](#) (*Euphorbia maculata*; annual, 1.5 feet). [Spotted spurge or eyebane](#) (*Euphorbia nutans*; annual or perennial, 3 feet) (USGS says it's introduced, but [BONAP shows](#) it as native). [Prostrate spurge](#) (*Euphorbia prostrata*; annual; as the name implies, the stems lay on the ground). [Creeping spurge](#) (*Euphorbia serpens*; annual; creeps along the ground). [Warty spurge](#) (*Euphorbia spathulata*; annual or perennial, 2 feet). [Thyme-leaf spurge](#) (*Euphorbia thymifolia*; annual, prostrate) is native to Florida but has been [naturalized in EBR](#). Note: Taxonomically speaking, *Chamaesyce* is considered a synonym of *Euphorbia*. Also, there is a spurge family *Euphorbiaceae* that contains over 6,000 species worldwide.

St. Johnswort – Full sun to part shade. Native species small enough to be considered forbs include [Drummond's St. Johnswort aka nits-and-lice](#) (*Hypericum drummondii*; annual, 3 feet), [claspingleaf St. Johnswort](#) (*Hypericum gymnanthum*; perennial, 3 feet), [dwarf St. Johnswort](#) (*Hypericum mutilum*; annual, 2. feet), [lesser marsh St. Johnswort](#) (*Hypericum tubulosum*; perennial, 2.5 feet), [greater marsh St. John's wort](#) (*Hypericum walteri*; perennial, 3 feet) and [spotted St. Johnswort](#) (*Hypericum punctatum*; perennial, 3 feet). Note: [St. Andrew's cross](#) (*Hypericum hypericoides*) is considered a shrub; see "Bushes" below.

Stokes Aster (*Stokesia laevis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall. It has frilly blooms that are 2 to 4 inches across. [BONAP shows](#) it as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Sunflowers – Can tolerate some shade but work best in full sun. [Common sunflowers](#) (*Helianthus annuus*) are the annual sunflowers with which most people are familiar. Perennial sunflowers have smaller flowers and tend to make a bed. Species of perennial sunflowers native to the area are: [swamp sunflower](#) (*Helianthus angustifolius*; 6 feet), [Florida sunflower](#) (*Helianthus floridanus*; 6 feet), [hairy sunflower](#) (*Helianthus hirsutus*; 6 feet), [muck sunflower](#) (*Helianthus simulans*; 8 feet), and the [Jerusalem artichoke](#) (*Helianthus tuberosus*; 10 feet). The tubers of *Helianthus tuberosus* are edible.

Tickseed, a.k.a. Coreopsis (*Coreopsis* is the name of the genus also) – Full sun. The native species of tickseed are [lance-leaf coreopsis](#) (*Coreopsis lanceolata*; annual or perennial, 2 feet), which has plain yellow flowers, and [plains coreopsis](#) (*Coreopsis tinctoria*; annual, 4 feet), which has showier flowers and is a more delicate-looking plant. Both the plants and the seeds are commercially available. Also, [BONAP lists greater tickseed](#) (*Coreopsis major*; perennial, 3 feet) as native, and [BONAP lists crown tickseed](#) (*Coreopsis nuecensis*; annual, 1.5 feet) as rarely occurring in EBR.

Tiny mouseltail (*Myosurus minimus*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows 5 to 6 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Thistle – [Bristle thistle](#) (*Cirsium horridulum*) can be either an annual or short-lived perennial; it grows up to 5 feet in height. It's commonly found in unmowed areas and attracts small butterflies. [Tall thistle](#) (*Cirsium altissimum*) and [Nuttall's thistle](#) (*Cirsium nuttallii*) are also native, but not as commonly found;

they are biennials that can grow over 10 feet in height. Thistles are host plants to the painted lady butterfly.

Vervain, aka verbena – Full sun to part shade. [Texas vervain](#) (*Verbena halei*; 3 feet) and [white vervain](#) (*Verbena urticifolia*; 6 feet) are perennials. [Gulf vervain](#) (*Verbena xutha*; 3 feet) is an annual.

Virginia pepperweed (*Lepidium virginicum*) – Full sun. Annual, biennial, or perennial. It grows up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Virginia rockcress (*Planodes virginicum*) – Annual. 1 foot tall ([additional information](#))

Wild Job's tears, aka Virginia Marbleseed (*Lithospermum virginianum*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. In the same genus as “tuberous stonecrop” under “Shade-Tolerant Plants” ([additional information](#))

Shade-Tolerant Plants – The following plants either do better with some shade or require shade to some degree.

Beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*) – A parasite of the American beech tree ([additional information](#))

Black snakeroot (*Sanicula canadensis*) – Part shade to full shade. Biennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. Note: This plant is in a *different* genus than white snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima*) and Virginia snakeroot (*Aristolochia serpentaria* or *Endodeca serpentaria*) ([additional information](#))

Canadian clearweed (*Pilea pumila*) – Part shade to full shade. Annual. Grows to around 2 feet tall. It usually grows in soil that is moist to wet ([additional information](#))

Canadian honewort, aka wild chervil (*Cryptotaenia canadensis*) – Part shade. Perennial. Grows to 3 feet tall. Note: Chervil, aka southern chervil (*Chaerophyllum tainturieri*), is also native; see “Full Sun” ([additional information](#))

Canadian woodnettle (*Laportea canadensis*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. It thrives in rich, moist soil. It grows 2 to 4 feet high ([additional information](#))

Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) – So called because of its scarlet red flowers. It does best with afternoon shade. Perennial. It usually grows 2 to 4 feet tall, but can grow up to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#)). Also, [BONAP lists](#) Indian tobacco (*Lobelia inflata*) as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Clasping Venus's looking glass (*Triodanis perfoliata*) – Annual. Slender plants that produce small purple flowers. Sometimes found in yards. It usually grows 1 foot tall, but can get as tall as 3 feet ([additional information](#))

Comfrey (wild comfrey) aka blue houndstongue (*Cynoglossum virginianum*) – Partial shade to full shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2.5 feet tall. While this plant has been historically used for medical purposes, it is actually toxic ([additional information](#))

Copperleaf or three-seed mercury – Part shade. Annual. [Common three-seed mercury \(*Acalypha rhomboidea*; 2 feet\)](#) is the species most likely to be found in yards. One of the other common names for this plant is Virginia threeseed mercury. There is another species referred to as [Virginia threeseed mercury \(*Acalypha virginica*; 3 feet\)](#) that is very similar, but it has a more restricted habitat. [This page](#) explains the differences in appearance and habitat. Also native to the area are [slender three-seed mercury \(*Acalypha gracilens*; 3 feet\)](#) and [hophornbeam copperleaf or pineland three-seed mercury \(*Acalypha ostryifolia*; 2.5 feet\)](#).

Crippled crane-fly, aka crane-fly orchid (*Tipularia discolor*) – Part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall. It grows in moist, well-drained soil ([additional information](#))

Crownbeard – Perennial. [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#) lists the [Virginia Crownbeard or Frostweed \(*Verbesina virginica*; 10 feet\)](#) as needing shade or part shade, but other sources state it can take full sun. [Carolina crownbeard \(*Verbesina walteri*; 6 feet\)](#) has been observed growing in part shade in Baton Rouge. Despite its common name, Carolina crownbeard is [not frequently found](#) beyond Louisiana and Mississippi.

Dogfennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*) – It can be grown in full sun, but does best with afternoon shade. Annual or perennial. Grows to 6 feet in height. Similar in appearance to fennel. Dogfennel is in the same genus as bonesets under “Full Sun” ([additional information](#))

Elephant’s foot – Perennial. [Carolina elephantsfoot \(*Elephantopus carolinianus*; 4 feet\)](#) need shade during the hottest part of the day. [Devil’s grandmother, aka common elephant’s foot, \(*Elephantopus tomentosus*; 2 feet\)](#) can grow in full sun or part shade.

False nettle (small-spike false nettle) (*Boehmeria cylindrica*) – it can grow in full sun, but does better in part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. It is a host plant for the red admiral butterfly ([additional information](#))

Hedge nettle – [Smooth hedge nettle \(*Stachys tenuifolia*; 3 feet\)](#) is a perennial that prefers part shade. [Mouse’s-ear \(*Stachys crenata*; 1 foot\)](#) is usually an annual and does best with shade. [Florida hedge nettle \(*Stachys floridana*\)](#) is found in Louisiana, but its true native range may not extend far beyond Florida.

Hoary bowlesia (*Bowlesia incana*) – Part shade to full shade. Annual. Grows 1 to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Indian pink (*Spigelia marilandica*) – Part shade. Perennial. Produces red flowers. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Jack-in-the-pulpit and green dragon – Part shade to full shade. [Jack-in-the-pulpit](#) (*Arisaema triphyllum*; 1 to 2 feet) is a spring ephemeral named after the shape of its unusual flower. It may have either 3 leaves or 5 leaves. The [green dragon](#) (*Arisaema dracontium*; 1 to 3 feet) is similar to jack-in-the-pulpit, but typically has more leaves; it is also a spring ephemeral.

Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*) – Perennial that may burn if exposed to full Louisiana afternoon sun. It can grow up to 12 feet tall, but is usually much shorter. [BONAP lists it](#) as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Jug orchid, aka low ground orchid (*Aspidogyne querceticola* or *Platythelys querceticola*) – Dappled sunlight. Perennial. This is an understory plant that grows in swamps, shaded floodplains, and hardwood forests ([additional information](#)). Note: [BONAP shows](#) *Platythelys latifolia* as rarely occurring in EBR; this may be another name for the jug orchid.

Lettuce – Part shade. Annual or biennial. This type of lettuce is a stalk that can grow up to 9 feet tall, though it is usually much shorter. The native species are [Canada lettuce or wild lettuce](#) (*Lactuca canadensis*) and [Florida lettuce or woodland lettuce](#) (*Lactuca floridana*). These lettuces may appear in yards.

May Apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) – Partial shade to full shade. It is a perennial that has umbrella-shaped leaves about 1.5 feet above the ground. It produces edible fruit, but you have to make sure that the fruit is ripe before eating it ([additional information](#))

Meadow spikemoss (*Selaginella apoda*) – Bright indirect light is best, but it can grow in low light. It is intolerant of direct light. Grows in moist but not overly wet environment. It can create a ground cover ([additional information](#))

Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) – Dappled sunlight to shade. Evergreen perennial. This is a slow growing trailing type of plant very similar looking to Asiatic jasmine but shorter. It makes white flowers most of the year, which produce red berries. It seems to like rich soil. It's only a couple of inches tall (Katie Kogler). Also under "Ground Cover" below. ([additional information](#))

Phlox (Louisiana Phlox) (*Phlox divaricata*) – Partial shade. Perennial. This is woodland plant that forms a mat and is the only phlox native to the area ([additional information](#))

Skullcap – Perennial. [Helmet skullcap](#) (*Scutellaria integrifolia*) needs part shade and can grow to 2.5 feet tall. [Small skullcap](#) (*Scutellaria parvula*) can have full sun or part shade and grows to 1 foot tall.

Spanish moss and small ballmoss – Despite its name, [Spanish moss](#) (*Tillandsia usneoides*) is not from Spain, and it is not a moss. It prefers indirect sunlight. It is not a parasite and will not harm the trees it grows on. [Small ballmoss](#) (*Tillandsia recurvate*) is also native to EBR and is not a true moss either.

Spring coralroot orchid (*Corallorhiza wisteriana*) – Shade. This plant has no chlorophyll and is mycoheterotrophic (it utilizes fungi to parasitize the roots of other plants). It can grow a little over a foot tall ([additional information](#))

Ticktrefoil – Some shade or dappled sunlight. Perennial. Native to this area are [panickedleaf ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium paniculatum*; 3 feet), [hoary ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium canescens*; 5 feet), [hairy small-leaf ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium ciliare*; 3 feet), [smooth ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium laevigatum*; up to about 3 feet long), [few-flower ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium pauciflorum* or *Hylodesmum pauciflorum*) and [prostrate ticktrefoil or round-leaved trailing ticktrefoil](#) (*Desmodium rotundifolium*). The Alabama Butterfly Atlas and Moths and Butterflies of North America list the long-tailed skipper as using any type of ticktrefoil plant.

Trillium (stinking trillium) (*Trillium foetidissimum*) – Part shade. Perennial. It grows at most a foot tall. This spring ephemeral is common in the wooded areas of parks in Baton Rouge ([additional information](#))

Tuberous stoneseed (*Lithospermum tuberosum*) – Perennial. It grows in woodlands, so presumably it grows in part shade to full shade. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall. In the same genus as “Wild Job’s tears” (*Lithospermum virginianum*) under “Full Sun”. ([additional information](#))

Turk’s Cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii*) – May be able to grow in full sun, but is best in part to full shade. Grows 2 to 3 feet tall. This is a type of mallow (native hibiscus) with bright red flowers that never fully open. See “mallow” above under “Full Sun” for other types of mallow ([additional information](#))

Virginia pennywort (*Obolaria virginica*) – Shade. Perennial. It has some chlorophyll, but for the most part, it parasitizes fungus. It only grows up to 6 inches high ([additional information](#))

Virginia snakeroot, aka Virginia dutchman’s pipe (*Aristolochia serpentaria* or *Endodeca serpentaria*) – Shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet high. This is the local ecotype host plant for pipevine swallowtail butterflies. Note: This plant is in a *different* genus than white snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima*) and black snakeroot (*Sanicula canadensis*). *Aristolochia* is one of the genera given to Woolly dutchman’s pipe; see under “Vines” ([additional information](#))

Violets – They either prefer some shade or can tolerate part shade. The species of violets native to this area are: [Sand violet](#) (*Viola affinis*; perennial, 10 inches). [Field pansy](#) (*Viola bicolor*; annual, 1 foot). [Langlois’ violet](#) (*Viola langloisii*; perennial, 1.5 feet). [Missouri violet](#) (*Viola missouriensis*; annual or perennial, .5 feet). [Wood violet](#) (*Viola palmate*; perennial). [Birdfoot violet](#) (*Viola pedata*; perennial, 4 to 8 inches). [Primrose-leaved violet](#) (*Viola primulifolia*; perennial, 2 to 6 inches). [Common blue violet](#) (*Viola primulifolia*; annual, biennial, or perennial, 3 to 8 inches tall); common blue violet is also listed below under ground cover. [Walter’s violet](#) (*Viola walteri*; perennial, 3 to 5 inches). [BONAP also lists Lovell’s](#) hybrid violet (*Viola X lovelliana*) as native.

White snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. Note: This plant is in a *different* genus than black snakeroot (*Sanicula canadensis*) and Virginia snake root (*Aristolochia serpentaria* or *Endodeca serpentaria*) ([additional information](#))

Woodsorrel – Partial shade. The native species are [slender yellow woodsorrel](#) (*Oxalis dillenii*) and [yellow woodsorrel](#) (*Oxalis stricta*), which are perennial and grow up to 1.5 feet tall. [USGS lists](#) creeping

woodsorrel (*Oxalis corniculata*) as native, but [BONAP lists](#) it as adventive. [BONAP lists](#) small's woodsorrel (*Oxalis coloreae*) as rarely occurring in EBR. [BONAP lists](#) broadleaf woodsorrel (*Oxalis intermedia*) as being native to EBR, even though the next closest area that the plant occurs is in Alabama.

Ground Cover (small plants continued)

Basket Grass – see under “Grasses”

Browne's savory (*Clinopodium brownei*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 1.5 feet tall. Groundcover for moist to wet sites ([additional information](#))

Frog fruit – Also under “Full Sun” above. It is mowable and can get 3 feet high without mowing. (Katie Kogler)

Lyreleaf sage – Also under “Full Sun” above. This plant is almost as good at keeping weeds out as the green and golds (see under “Non-Native Plants That Are Still Useful”), but propagates faster with its numerous seeds. The downside with this one is the constant tall seed stalks it produces, sometimes without a noticeable flower. It is pretty tough and can take some mowing. (Katie Kogler)

Partridgeberry – Also under “Shade-Tolerant Plants” above. It would probably not take mowing well. (Katie Kogler)

Pink Evening Primrose – Also under “Full Sun” above. It is excellent planted in tough areas surrounded by concrete or grass, but can be aggressive and hard to remove. It is mowable. (Katie Kogler)

Powderpuff mimosa, aka sunshine mimosa, aka sensitive plant (*Mimosa strigillosa*) – Best in full sun but will tolerate some shade. Perennial. This plant produces pink “powderpuff” flowers and tends to form a mat. The height ranges from low to the ground to a foot when flowering. It tolerates mowing, so it can be grown as a ground cover. It may be difficult to eliminate once it's established. It's also known as “sensitive plant” because the leaflets fold when touched ([additional information](#))

Selfheal, aka Heal-All (*Prunella vulgaris*) – Shade. Perennial. It can grow a foot or two high. It spreads quickly and has a cute light purple flower. It needs to be dead-headed to re-flower. Mowing is good way to dead-head (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#))

Spotflower – see above under “Full Sun”

Virginia buttonweed (*Diodia virginiana*) – Full sun. Annual or perennial. Forms a mat and produces small white flowers. It can get up to 2 feet tall but can also be mowed. It's commonly found in yards. ([additional information](#)). Its relative rough buttonweed (*Diodella teres*, *Diodella teres*, or *Hexasepalum teres*) tends to be an annual. Rough buttonweed is not a ground cover, grows more upright than Virginia buttonweed does, and can grow 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Virginia snakeroot - see above under “Shade-Tolerant Plants”

Violet (Common blue violet) (*Viola sororia*) – Shade. This broadleaf plant spreads quickly but is easy to remove. It can look a little weedy, but when transplanted all together, they look very good as a short green carpet with bright purple flowers. It is mowable, but mowing will remove the flowers, if mowed in spring. They get to half a foot tall. (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#)). Other species of native violets are listed above under “Shade-Tolerant Plant”.

White avens (*Geum canadense*) – Prefers shade but can tolerate full sun. Perennial. It could be used as a lawn alternative in an area with low foot traffic as it can be mowed to 4 inches. It is not a dense plant. It grows 1 to 3 feet high ([additional information](#))

For Wet Areas (small plants continued)

American germander, aka wood sage (*Teucrium canadense*) – Full to part sun. Perennial. It grows in water, mud, and wet soil, but can also be found in meadows. It can grow 3 feet tall or higher. It is a mint, but it is NOT edible ([additional information](#))

Annual marsh-elder (*Iva annua*) – Full sun. As its name implies, this plant is an annual that usually grows in moist soil. It grows to about 5 feet high ([additional information](#))

Aquatic/Swamp Milkweeds – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. The common names for these milkweeds are somewhat confusing because the label “swamp milkweed” is applied to two different species. The East Baton Rouge native is [Asclepias perennis](#). It gets 2 to 3 feet tall, produces white flowers, and is referred to as either “aquatic milkweed” or “swamp milkweed”. The species [Asclepias incarnata](#) is native to Louisiana but not the Baton Rouge area. It gets 3 to 5 feet tall, produces flowers that are light pink or purple, and is referred to as “swamp milkweed” only. *Asclepias perennis* does best in consistently moist soil, can tolerate temporary standing water, but can tolerate temporarily dry soil once established.

[Redring milkweed \(*Asclepias variegata*\)](#) is also native to EBR and can grow over 3 feet tall. From what has been observed, it tends to prefer moist, wooded (shaded) areas. Milkweeds are the host plants for the monarch butterfly. Note: See “milkweeds” above under “Full sun” for other species under the same genus that have lower water requirements.

Arrowhead – Part shade. Perennial. Named after its arrowhead-shaped leaves. Some varieties are also referred to as “duck-potato”. These plants grow in wet soil and shallow water. The native species are [hooded arrowhead \(*Sagittaria calycina*; 3 feet\)](#), [grass-leaf arrowhead \(*Sagittaria graminea*; 2 feet\)](#), [lanceleaf arrowhead \(*Sagittaria lancifolia*; 6 feet\)](#), [broadleaf arrowhead \(*Sagittaria latifolia*; 4 feet\)](#), and [delta arrowhead \(*Sagittaria platyphylla*; 3 feet\)](#). Delta arrowhead is a good native alternative to taro.

Bandanna of the everglades, aka golden canna (*Canna flaccida*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows 3 to 6 feet tall. Grows best in moist soil and can tolerate standing water. Somewhat drought tolerant ([additional information](#))

Bigfoot waterclover (*Marsilea macropoda*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 1 foot tall and shorter. It grows in moist soil and shallow water ([additional information](#))

Bittercress – [Bulbous bittercress or spring cress](#) (*Cardamine bulbosa*) is a perennial that needs wet to moist soil; it grows up to 2 feet tall. [Sand bittercress](#) (*Cardamine parviflora*) is an annual that can grow in moist or dry conditions; [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Blackfoot quillwort (*Isoetes melanopoda*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial, but often short-lived. It is functionally amphibious, though generally classified as terrestrial ([additional information](#))

Blue mudplantain, aka ducksalad (*Heteranthera limosa*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows up to 10 inches tall. It grows in shallow water and in mud ([additional information](#))

Bogmat – Perennial. [Sword bogmat, aka Florida mudmidget](#), (*Wolffiella gladiata*) is an aquatic plant that is less than half an inch tall. It is one of the smallest flowering plants known. [Saber bogmat](#) (*Wolffiella oblonga*) is an aquatic plant that is less than one-third of an inch long. For both of these plants, the fronds are usually connected to form starlike colonies, submerged or floating. These plants are types of duckweed.

Branched foldwing, aka false mint and wild mudwort (*Dicliptera brachiata*) – Grows in shady, moist areas. Annual or perennial. It grows in partial sun and needs protection during the hottest part of the day. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Burhead – [Upright burhead](#) (*Echinodorus berteroi*; 2 feet) [and creeping burhead, aka radican sword "giant mother plant"](#), (*Echinodorus cordifolius*; 4 feet) are emergent aquatic plants that need full sun and full to part sun, respectively. They can be either annuals or short-lived perennials.

Camphorweed and Fleabane – Full sun to part shade. These plants prefer moist soils. [Salt-marsh camphorweed](#) (*Pluchea camphorata*) is an annual or perennial that can grow 6 feet tall. [Stinking camphorweed, aka stinking fleabane](#), (*Pluchea foetida*) is a perennial that grows 3 feet tall or higher. [Sweetscent, aka saltmarsh fleabane](#) (*Pluchea odorata*) is an annual or perennial that can grow 6 feet tall. Note: Other species with “fleabane” as part of their common names are listed under “Full Sun” under “Fleabane”.

Carolina grasswort (*Lilaeopsis carolinensis*) – Evergreen that grows in wet soil and water. Grows up to a 1 foot tall. It can form a dense mat ([additional information](#))

Cattail – Needs consistently wet soil and can grow in standing water. [Broadleaf or common cattail](#) (*Typha latifolia*) is the species native to the area; it can grow up to 10 feet tall. [BONAP lists](#) southern cattail (*Typha domingensis*) as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#); it can grow over 10 feet tall.

Columbian watermeal (*Wolffia columbiana*) – Perennial. Tiny floating plant. [BONAP shows](#) it as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#) show it as being native to the parish.

Coontail, aka common hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) – Perennial. Free floating aquatic. It is native to all continents except Antarctica. Sometimes used as an aquarium plant ([additional information](#))

Ditch stonecrop (*Penthorum sedoides*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Can grow 2 or 3 feet tall. Needs wet soil ([additional information](#))

Duckweed – Perennial. Free-floating aquatic plant. [Little duckweed](#) (*Lemna obscura*) and [common duckweed or greater duckweed](#) (*Spirodela polyrrhiza*) are both native. (Despite the impression that the common names may give, other types of duckweed exist.)

False daisy (*Eclipta prostrate*) – Full to part sun. Annual or perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall. It favors wet soil and is not drought tolerant ([additional information](#))

False fiddleleaf - Sun to part shade. Perennial. [Ovate false fiddleleaf](#) (*Hydrolea ovate*; 3 feet) and [oneflower false fiddleleaf](#) (*Hydrolea uniflora*; 2 feet) grow at ditches and at the edge of water. Ovate false fiddleleaf may need protection from the sun during the hottest part of the day.

Finger dogshade (*Cynoscadium digitatum*) – Annual. Grows to 1.5 feet high. Its habitat is wet places and roadside ditches ([additional information](#))

Frogbit (American Frogbit) (*Limnobium spongia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Heart-shaped leaves that float on the water ([additional information](#))

Gulf swampweed (*Hygrophila lacustris*) – Perennial. Usually grows to 3 feet tall, but can get up to 5 feet. Sometimes used as an aquarium plant ([additional information](#))

Hale's Pentodon (*Pentodon pentandrus*) – Annual. Stems are up to 3 feet long. Grows in muddy soil ([additional information](#))

Hedgehyssop – [Clammy hedgehyssop](#) (*Gratiola neglecta*) is an annual that grows in full sun to light shade and wet conditions, including exposed muddy soil; it grows to around a 1 foot tall. [Roundfruit hedgehyssop](#) (*Gratiola virginiana*) can be an annual, biennial, or perennial; it inhabits shorelines and the edges of pools, and grows to around 1.5 feet tall.

Horehound – Part shade. Perennial. Wet to moist soil. [Taperleaf water horehound](#) (*Lycopus rubellus*) grows 2 or 3 feet in height. [Virginia water horehound](#) (*Lycopus virginicus*) grows to around 3 feet tall.

Humped bladderwort, aka conespur bladderwort (*Utricularia gibba*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or perennial. It grows in shallow water. [BONAP shows](#) it as being native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#) show it as being native to the parish.

Iris – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. The native species of iris are the [copper iris](#) (*Iris fulva*; 3 feet), [giant blue iris](#) (*Iris giganticaerulea*; 6 feet), [Virginia iris](#) (*Iris virginica*; 3 feet), and [zigzag iris](#) (*Iris brevicaulis*; 2 feet) . They need soaking occasionally, but consistently wet soil may cause rot.

Jewelweed, aka spotted touch-me-not (*Impatiens capensis*) – Full sun to shade. Annual. Grows up to 5 feet tall. Does best in dappled sunlight in moist areas ([additional information](#))

Lizard's Tail (*Saururus cernuus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. Grows in moist soil and shallow water. After maturity, the flowers become a string of nutlets that resemble a lizard's tail ([additional information](#))

Looseflower water-willow (*Justicia ovata* or *Justicia ovata* var. *lanceolata*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall. It grows in wet soil and in water ([additional information](#))

Marsh mermaidweed (*Proserpinaca palustris*) – Perennial. It can grow as either a submerged aquatic or emergent aquatic. Grows up to 2 feet high ([additional information](#))

Maryland senna (*Senna marilandica*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It grows in average to moist soil and can withstand occasional flooding. It can grow to 6 feet high ([additional information](#))

Meadowbeauty – Maryland meadowbeauty (*Rhexia mariana*) needs full sun and is found in wet sandy soil that is usually acidic and nutrient-poor. Common meadowbeauty, aka handsome harry, (*Rhexia virginica*) needs full sun to part shade and prefers wet peat or sandy acidic soil. They both have a max height of 3 feet tall.

Monkeyflower – Perennial. Moist to wet soil. Sharpwing monkeyflower (*Mimulus alatus*) does best in part shade; it grows 1 to 3 feet tall. Allegheny monkeyflower (*Mimulus ringens*) needs full sun to part shade and grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

Pale green orchid, aka northern tubercled bog orchid or southern rein-orchid (*Platanthera flava*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall. It grows in wet soil, including standing water and sandy or sandy-peaty soil ([additional information](#))

Pennywort, aka dollar weed – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Low growing. All pennyworts have high water needs, some growing at shore edges or in water. The name “whorled marsh pennywort” is applied to both Hydrocotyle prolifera and Hydrocotyle verticillata. They are similar to each other and both species are native. Also native are floating marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*) and manyflower marshpennywort (*Hydrocotyle umbellata*).

Pickerweed (*Pontederia cordata*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows in water up to a depth of 12 inches and grows up to 3 feet tall. The plant produces spike of lavender-blue flowers ([additional information](#))

Pink thoroughwort (*Fleischmannia incarnate*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It grows in moist woodlands, thickets, marshes, and along streambanks. It can grow up to 6 feet tall. Note: “Boneset, aka Thoroughwort” is under a different genus. Also “Ivyleaf thoroughwort” is in a different genus. ([additional information](#))

Powdery alligator-flag (*Thalia dealbata*) - Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It grows in shallow water or poorly drained wet soil. It can grow up to 8 feet tall. [BONAP shows](#) it as rarely occurring in EBR, but [USGS does not](#) show it as native to the parish.

Primrose-willow – [Seedbox](#) (*Ludwigia alternifolia*; perennial, 4 feet), [wing-leaf primrose-willow](#) (*Ludwigia decurrens*; annual or perennial, 6 feet), [false loosestrife](#) (*Ludwigia leptocarpa*; annual or perennial, 6 feet), [Mexican primrose-willow](#) (*Ludwigia octovalvis*; annual or perennial, 3 feet), [marsh primrose-willow](#) (*Ludwigia palustris*; perennial, 2 feet), [floating primrose-willow](#) (*Ludwigia peploides*; perennial, 1 foot). [BONAP lists](#) the cylindric-fruit seedbox (*Ludwigia glandulosa*) as native, but [USGS does not](#).

Pygmyweed – Annual. Succulents. [Aquatic pygmyweed](#) (*Crassula aquatica*) is usually found on open shorelines; it grows up to 5 inches tall. [Smallseed pygmyweed](#) (*Crassula longipes*) can be aquatic or terrestrial.

Riverhemp – Full sun to part shade. 10 to 12 feet tall. Grows best in moist to wet soil. These tend to look like a small mimosa. [Rattlebox](#) (*Sesbania drummondii*; perennial). [Coffeeweed](#) (*Sesbania herbacea*; annual). [Bagpod or bladder pod](#) (*Sesbania vesicaria*; annual)

Rose gentian – Full sun to part shade. [Coastal rose gentian](#) (*Sabatia calycina*) is a perennial that grows in moist to wet soil and can grow a little over a foot high. [Rosepink](#) (*Sabatia angularis*) is an annual that grows in moist, sandy or peaty soils and grows up to 2.5 high; [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR but [USGS does not](#).

Seaside brookweed (*Samolus parviflorus* or *Samolus valerandi* ssp. *parviflorus*) – Part shade. Biennial or perennial. It needs moist or wet soil and can grow in water. Grows up to 2 feet ([additional information](#))

Shade mudflower (*Micranthemum umbrosum*) – Annual or perennial. Low growing. It grows in wet shaded soils or shallow water of streams or pools ([additional information](#))

Shyleaf aka american joint vetch or deer vetch (*Aeschynomene americana*) – Grows best in full sun, but can tolerate shade. It gets up to 6 feet tall. It tolerates flooding and waterlogging and does not tolerate drought. It is a legume, but it is not known to be edible for humans; it is eaten by deer. The name “shyleaf” is due to how the leaves fold up when touched. ([additional information](#)). [Indian jointvetch](#) (*Aeschynomene indica*) is related to this plant; the native range of Indian jointvetch is uncertain and it may or may not be native to EBR (it is present in EBR). Note: The “vetch” under “Vines” is in a different genus.

Southern waternymph (*Najas guadalupensis*) – Annual. Aquatic. [USGS does not](#) list it as native to EBR, but [BONAP does](#).

Spatter dock, aka yellow pond-lily and cow lily (*Nuphar lutea* ssp. *advena*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. The shiny, heart-shaped leaves either rest on the water or emerge from the water. Grows up to 1 foot tall. *Nuphar lutea* ssp. *advena* is the US native subspecies of *Nuphar lutea* that exists in Eurasia ([additional information](#))

Swamp dock (*Rumex verticillatus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 4 feet tall. It needs moist to wet soil. In the same genus as “heartleaf sorrel” under “Full Sun” ([additional information](#))

Swamp spider lily – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Needs consistently moist to wet soil. The two native species are the [Louisiana marsh spider-lily, aka spring spider-lily](#) (*Hymenocallis liriosme*) and the [Hammock Spiderlily](#) (*Hymenocallis occidentalis*). Note: The Southern swamp lily (*Crinum americanum*) is native to Louisiana but not the Baton Rouge area. The Southern swamp lily is similar to giant crinum (*Crinum asiaticum*), which is NOT native to the U.S.

Swamp Leatherflower (*Clematis crispa*) – Partial shade to full shade. Perennial. Needs moist to wet conditions. This plant is in the same genus as devil’s darning needles (*Clematis virginiana*) (see below under “Vines”). ([additional information](#))

Toothcup (*Rotala ramosior*) – Annual. Aquatic. Grows up to 3 feet tall. It sometimes has red or purple leaves ([additional information](#))

Valley redstem (*Ammannia coccinea*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. Grows up to 3 feet tall. Its natural habitats are places where its roots stay moist. It tolerates occasional flooding ([additional information](#))

Waterhyssop – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. [Blue waterhyssop](#) (*Bacopa caroliniana*) grows in soil that is wet to moist and can grow to around a foot tall. [Coastal waterhyssop](#) (*Bacopa monnieri*) is an aquatic plant that forms dense mats and can grow to around 1 foot tall; [USGS does not](#) list it as native but [BONAP does](#). [Disk waterhyssop](#) (*Bacopa rotundifolia*) is an aquatic plant.

Waterlily – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Floating aquatic. The native species are [yellow waterlily, aka banana waterlily](#), (*Nymphaea mexicana*) and [white waterlily, aka american waterlily](#) (*Nymphaea odorata*).

Water milfoil – Submersed aquatics. The native species are [variable-leaved water-milfoil](#) (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) and [cut-leaved water milfoil](#) (*Myriophyllum pinnatum*).

Watershield (*Brasenia schreberi*) – Full sun. Perennial. Floating aquatic plant that looks like shields on the water surface ([additional information](#))

Water-starwort – [Larger water-starwort](#) (*Callitriche heterophylla*) is an emergent aquatic plant; it is either an annual or perennial. [Nuttall's water-starwort](#) (*Callitriche pedunculosa*) is an annual that grows in wet ground or in water; its stems are up to 6 inches long.

Yellowcress – Full sun to part shade. Moist to wet soil. [Marsh yellowcress](#) (*Rorippa palustris*) may be annual, biennial, or perennial and can grow up to about 4 feet high. [Stalkless yellowcress](#) (*Rorippa sessiliflora*) can be either an annual or biennial that can grow to about 2 feet high. [Southern yellowcrest](#) (*Rorippa teres*) is an annual; the stems are usually prostrate and can grow up to 16 inches long.

Yellowseed false pimpernel (*Lindernia dubia*) – Annual or biennial. Full sun to part shade. Grows up to 1 foot tall. It grows in wet to moist conditions in soil that is muddy, sandy, or gravelly ([additional information](#))

Vines

Alabama supplejack, aka rattan-vine (*Berchemia scandens*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Stems are strong and used for wickerwork ([additional information](#))

American buckwheat vine (*Brunnichia ovata*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows to 40 to 60 feet in length ([additional information](#))

American Trumpet Vine, aka Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can grow over 30 feet long and has red, trumpet-shaped flowers that hummingbirds feed from. It can be an aggressive spreader and can cause mild skin irritation ([additional information](#))

Blackberry – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Several species of blackberry are native, including garden dewberry (*Rubus aboriginum*), [sawtooth blackberry](#) (*Rubus argutus*; 6 feet), [northern dewberry](#) (*Rubus flagellaris*; 15 feet), New Orleans dewberry (*Rubus sons*), which has a [very limited range](#), and [southern dewberry](#) (*Rubus trivialis*). All are confirmed to have edible fruit, except for the New Orleans dewberry for which no information is available.

Bur cucumber (One-seed bur cucumber) (*Sicyos angulatus*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual. It can grow to about 20 feet in length ([additional information](#))

Butterfly pea (spurred butterfly pea) (*Centrosema virginianum*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can grow 5 or 6 feet and sometimes longer. Note: *Clitoria mariana* is also called butterfly pea; it is native to Louisiana but not EBR ([additional information](#))

Carolina coralbead, aka redberry moonseed (*Cocculus carolinus*) – Full sun to part shade. Annual or perennial. Grows to 16 feet in length ([additional information](#))

Carolina Jasmine or Jessamine, aka yellow Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) – Sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows to 20 feet in length. Produces yellow flowers ([additional information](#))

Climbing dogbane (*Trachelospermum difforme* or *Thyrsanthella difformis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Similar to Carolina jasmine. It can grow 50 feet long ([additional information](#))

Climbing Hempvine (*Mikania scandens*) – Full sun. Perennial. It has spade shaped leaves and produces bushy white flowers. Often found in yards. In the same genus as Florida key hempvine (*Mikania cordifolia*) ([additional information](#))

Climbing hydrangea, aka woodvamp (*Decumaria barbara*) – Part shade. Afternoon sun may burn this plant. Perennial. Climbs to 25 feet or more ([additional information](#))

Coral Honeysuckle, aka Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows to 20 feet in length. This plant makes a good alternative to Japanese Honeysuckle. ([additional information](#))

Creeping cucumber (*Melothria pendula*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 6 feet long. The unripe light green fruit is edible, but ripe dark fruit tends to have a laxative effect ([additional information](#))

Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows to 50 feet in length. A simple looking vine that produces yellow and red trumpet-shaped flowers. ([additional information](#))

Cupseed (*Calyocarpum lyonii*) – Perennial. Grows up to 30 feet and longer ([additional information](#))

Deer pea (*Vigna luteola*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grow up to 10 feet in length ([additional information](#))

Devil's Darning Needles (*Clematis virginiana*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It is sometimes called “woodbine”, which is also a name applied to Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*). It's one of the few vines that will bloom in the shade. It needs well-drained soil. This plant makes a good alternative to (non-native) sweet autumn clematis (*Clematis terniflora*). It is in the same genus as swamp leatherflower (*Clematis crispa*; see above under “For Wet Areas”) ([additional information](#))

Downy milkpea, aka hairy milkpea (*Galactia volubilis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 4 to 5 feet long ([additional information](#))

Five-angled shiny-pod, aka angularfruit milkvine, and anglepod (*Gonolobus suberosus* var. *suberosus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can grow to around 10 feet long ([additional information](#))

Florida Key hempvine (*Mikania cordifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 50 feet in length. This is the host plant for the scarlet-bodied wasp moth in Baton Rouge. It is in the same genus as climbing hempvine (*Mikania scandens*). ([additional information](#))

Grapes – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. They generally can grow up to 80 feet in length. These are not the grapes you'd find at the supermarket, but you may find muscadine grapes for sale at a farmer's market. [Muscadine](#) (*Vitis rotundifolia*) is the most well-known of the native grapes. [Summer grape](#) (*Vitis aestivalis*), [graybark grape](#) (*Vitis cinerea*), [riverbank grape](#) (*Vitis riparia*), and [frost grape](#) (*Vitis vulpina*) are also native and edible. **HOWEVER, other native vines, such as the heartleaf peppervine (*Ampelopsis cordata*), look similar and produce similar looking fruit that is NOT edible.**

Greenbrier – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. They are also known by their genus name *Smilax*. Native greenbrier include [saw greenbrier](#) (*Smilax bona-nox*), [cat greenbrier](#) (*Smilax glauca*), [bristly greenbrier](#) (*Smilax hispida* or *Smilax tamnoides*), [laurel greenbrier](#) (*Smilax laurifolia*), [sarsparilla vine](#) (*Smilax pumila*), [common greenbrier](#) (*Smilax rotundifolia*), and [lanceleaf greenbrier](#) (*Smilax smallii*). They can all grow 25 feet or longer, except for *Smilax pumila* which does not grow longer than 3 feet.

Groundnut aka potatobean (*Apios americana*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can get 10 to 15 feet long. The tubers can be cooked and eaten like potatoes. The beans are also edible once cooked ([additional information](#))

Heart-leaf cynanchum, aka honeyvine milkweed (*Cynanchum laeve*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 10 feet in length ([additional information](#))

Morning glory – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Native morning glories include [tieveine](#) (*Ipomoea cordatotriloba*), [white star](#) (*Ipomoea lacunosa*), and [man of the earth](#) (*Ipomoea pandurata*). [BONAP lists](#) salt-marsh morning-glory (*Ipomoea sagittata*) as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Maypop, a.k.a Purple Passion-Flower (*Passiflora incarnata*) – Full sun. Perennial. It can grow to 25 feet in length. This is a vine that produces elaborate, beautiful flower and is the host plant for the Gulf Coast Fritillary butterfly. When the vines are growing high enough (such as on a trellis), the flowers may attract hummingbirds. The fruit is edible, though not every variety of maypop produces fruit. Dead vines may be cut back in winter; the plant regrows easily from roots left in the soil. ([additional information](#))

Peppervines – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. The peppervine simply known as [peppervine](#) (*Ampelopsis arborea*) is often mistaken for poison ivy, though it is also easily distinguishable once you learn what poison ivy actually looks like. The [heart-leaf peppervine](#) (*Ampelopsis cordata*) looks very similar to our native grape vines, but the fruit of both types of peppervine is not edible.

Poison Ivy (Eastern Poison Ivy) (*Toxicodendron radicans*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. You probably don't want this in your yard, but be aware that it is native and beneficial to birds, as well as other wildlife ([additional information](#))

Snoutbean – Full sun. Perennial. [Least snoutbean](#) (*Rhynchosia minima*) grows up to 5 feet long. [Twining snoutbean](#) (*Rhynchosia tomentosa*) is also native.

Trailing fuzzy-bean (*Strophostyles helvola*) – Full sun. Annual. Grows 3 to 9 feet ([additional information](#))

Vetch (Louisiana or deer pea vetch) (*Vicia ludoviciana*) – Full sunlight. Annual. Grows to 3 feet in length. It is a slender vine with small flowers. Though its defense can't be seen, the edges of the leaves are rough enough to scratch the skin; use gloves when handling. It is a legume, but it does not produce beans edible for humans; the plant is edible for some wildlife ([additional information](#))

Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It is sometimes confused with poison ivy, but its leaves have 5 leaflets (not 3 like poison ivy). It can climb trees up to 60 feet. This plant is very beneficial to birds and other wildlife. It is sometimes called "woodbine", which is a common name also applied to the devil's darning needles vine (*Clematis virginiana*) ([additional information](#))

Wisteria (American wisteria) (*Wisteria frutescens*) – Full sun for the most blooms. Perennial. It gets up to 30 feet long. Information on how to distinguish American wisteria from Asian wisteria species can be found [here](#) ([additional information](#))

Woolly dutchman's pipevine (*Aristolochia tomentosa* or *Isotrema tomentosum*) – Part shade. Perennial. Grows to 80 feet in length. Its natural habitats are wet areas, such as stream banks, flood plains, and bottomland ([additional information](#)). Note: *Aristolochia* is one of the genera given to Virginia snakeroot, aka Virginia dutchman's pipe; see "Shade-Tolerant Plants".

Yellow Passionflower, aka Yellow Passion Vine (*Passiflora lutea*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can grow to around 15 or 20 feet in length. The only species of native passion vine besides Maypop ([additional information](#))

Wild yam (*Dioscorea villosa*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows 15 feet long. The tubers are not edible ([additional information](#))

Grasses

American cupscale (*Sacciolepis striata*) – Full sun (intolerant of shade). Perennial. Aquatic, often floating aquatic. It grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Arkansas mannagrass (*Glyceria septentrionalis* var. *arkansana*) – Perennial. It grows in very wet soil or shallow water and can grow 5 to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Basket Grass (*Oplismenus hirtellus*) - Shade-tolerant. Perennial. Tends to be low-growing, but may get up to 18 inches tall. It can create a dense ground cover ([additional information](#))

Barnyard grass – Full sun to part shade. Annual. [Rough barnyard grass, aka American barnyard grass](#), (*Echinochloa muricata*) needs moist to wet conditions; it grows 2 to 5 feet tall. [Coast cockspur, aka Walter's barnyard grass](#), (*Echinochloa walteri*) grows in wet places, such as shallow waters and brackish marshes. It can grow up to 6 feet tall.

Bentgrass – Full sun to part shade. [Elliott's bentgrass](#) (*Agrostis elliottiana*) is an annual that gets a little over a foot tall. [Winter bentgrass](#) (*Agrostis hyemalis*) is either an annual or perennial, depending on growing conditions. It gets up to 3 feet tall.

Blue-Eyed Grass – Full sun to part shade. So called because it produces small, blue flowers. [Common blue eyed grass](#) (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) is a perennial that doesn't get taller than 8 inches. The other native varieties of blue-eyed grasses are [Eastern blue-eyed grass](#) (*Sisyrinchium atlanticum*; perennial, 2 feet), [dwarf blue-eyed grass](#) (*Sisyrinchium minus*; annual, 9 inches), and [annual or yellow blue-eyed grass](#) (*Sisyrinchium rosulatum*; annual or perennial, 1 foot).

Bluegrass – [Autumn bluegrass](#) (*Poa autumnalis*) is a perennial that can grow up to 3 feet tall. [Kentucky blue grass](#) (*Poa pratensis*), according to [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#), "includes subspecies that

are North American natives. However, it also includes subspecies that are not native to North America”; it is a perennial that grows 2 to 3 feet tall.

Bluestem (not including Little Bluestem) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Max height ranges from 3 feet to 5 feet. The native species are [bushy bluestem](#) (*Andropogon glomeratus*), [elliott's bluestem](#) (*Andropogon gyrans*), and [broomsedge bluestem](#) (*Andropogon virginicus*). Note: “Little bluestem” is listed below.

Bristlegrass – [Giant foxtail, aka giant bristle grass](#), (*Setaria magna*) is an annual that grows best in moist to wet soil and can get 12 feet tall. [Marsh bristlegrass, knotroot bristlegrass](#), (*Setaria parviflora*) is a perennial that grows best in moist to wet soil and can get 4 feet tall.

Bulrush – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Moist to wet soil. [Cottongrass bulrush, aka woolgrass](#), (*Scirpus cyperinus*) can grow in standing watering (it is emergent aquatic) and grows to 6 feet in height. [Rufous bulrush](#) (*Scirpus pendulus*) grows to 5 feet in height.

Canarygrass – Annual. [Timothy canarygrass](#) (*Phalaris angusta*) can grow 6 to 8 feet tall. [Carolina canary grass](#) (*Phalaris caroliniana*) can grow 4 to 5 feet tall.

Carpet grass – Perennial. Native species include [tropical carpet grass or blanket grass](#) (*Axonopus compressus*), [common carpetgrass](#) (*Axonopus fissifolius*), and big carpet grass (*Axonopus furcatus*), which grows in damp areas.

Coastal salt grass (*Distichlis spicata*) – Full sun. Perennial. Can grow to around 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Cottonmouth grass, aka savannah-panicgrass (*Phanopyrum gymnocarpon*) – Perennial. Grows in moist to wet soil and can grow in shallow water. Note: Other panic grasses in the genera *Coleataenia* and *Panicum* are under “Panicgrass”. Panicgrasses in the genus *Dichanthelium* are under the “rosette grass and panicgrass” ([additional information](#))

Cutgrass – Perennial. Generally does not grow above 5 feet in height. Southern cutgrass (*Leersia hexandra*) is listed [by BONAP](#) as native to EBR but not [by USGS](#); it grows in shallow freshwater habitat and on wet and moist land. [Catchfly grass](#) (*Leersia lenticularis*) grows in semi-shaded river bottoms and moist forests that are seasonally flooded and on slopes with groundwater seepage. [Rice cutgrass](#) (*Leersia oryzoides*) prefers full sun and wet conditions with silty soil. [White grass](#) (*Leersia virginica*) grows in moist, shady areas in wooded sites of fertile loamy soil with abundant organic matter, typically along water bodies.

Fimbry – [Slender fimbry](#) (*Fimbristylis autumnalis*) is an annual that needs sun to part shade and grows to around 1 foot tall. [Southern fimbry](#) (*Fimbristylis decipiens*) is an annual that gets 1 foot tall. [Forked fimbry](#) (*Fimbristylis dichotoma*) can be either an annual or perennial and prefers full sunlight. [Vahl's fimbry](#) (*Fimbristylis vahlii*) is a perennial and gets about 6 inches tall.

Foxtail (Carolina foxtail) (*Alopecurus carolinianus*) – Full sun. Annual. It gets 4 to 20 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Gamagrass (eastern gamagrass) (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It can get to about 9 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Gaping grass, aka gaping panicum (*Steinchisma hians*) – Perennial. Grows up to 30 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Giant cane aka American bamboo (*Arundinaria gigantea*) – Part shade. Perennial. Tends to occur along or in the floodplains of moving bodies of water such as streams or rivers ([additional information](#))

Indian wild rice, aka annual wildrice (*Zizania aquatic*) – Annual. Full sun. Grows in wet soil and can grow in water ([additional information](#))

Laxleaf yelloweyed grass (*Xyris laxifolia*) – Perennial. Grows in wet areas. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Little barley (*Hordeum pusillum*) – Annual. Full sun. It can grow up to 2 feet tall and was traditionally used by Native Americans as a source of food ([additional information](#))

Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) – Full sun. Perennial. Max height is 6 feet, which is taller than the native bluestems under the genus *Andropogon* ([additional information](#))

Littlehead nutrush (*Scleria oligantha*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows to 30 inches tall ([additional information](#))

Longspike silver beardgrass (*Bothriochloa longipaniculata*) – Shade-tolerant. Perennial. 2 to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Lovegrass – [Elliott's lovegrass \(*Eragrostis elliottii*\)](#) is perennial that grows 1 to 3 feet tall and does best in full sun. [Teal lovegrass \(*Eragrostis hypnoides*\)](#) is an annual that doesn't get much more than half-a-foot tall. [Tufted lovegrass \(*Eragrostis pectinacea*\)](#) is an annual that grows up to 32 inches tall. [Coastal lovegrass \(*Eragrostis refracta*\)](#) is a perennial. [Creeping lovegrass \(*Eragrostis hypnoides*\)](#) is annual and mat-forming. [Red lovegrass \(*Eragrostis secundiflora*\)](#) is a perennial that grows up to 30 inches tall. [Purple lovegrass \(*Eragrostis spectabilis*\)](#) is a perennial that does best in full sun and well-drained soil and grows up to 2 feet tall.

Marsh-millet, aka giant cutgrass (*Zizaniopsis miliacea*) – Full sun. Perennial. Grows in wet soil and in water. It can grow up to 10 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Muhly Grass – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows in clumps. The best known is [pink muhly grass \(*Muhlenbergia capillaris*\)](#); it is low-maintenance, gets 2 to 3 feet tall, and produces a "cloud" of pink flowers in the fall. [Nimblewill \(*Muhlenbergia schreberi*\)](#) and [cutover muhly \(*Muhlenbergia expansa*\)](#) are also native.

Panicgrass (in the genera *Coleataenia* and *Panicum*) – Generally best with full sun. Beaked panicgrass (*Coleataenia anceps*) is a perennial that gets up to 4 feet high and redtop panicgrass (*Coleataenia longifolia* ssp. *rigidula*) is a perennial that get up to 3 feet high. Panicgrass or witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*) and fall panicgrass (*Panicum dichotomiflorum*) are annuals that can get up to about 3 feet. Redtop panicgrass (*Panicum rigidulum* var. *rigidulum*), which gets up to 3 feet, and switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), which gets up to 8 feet, are perennials. Switchgrass is a native alternative to silvergrass (*Miscanthus sinensis*). Note: Other grasses called panicgrass in the genus *Dichanthelium* are under the “rosette grass and panicgrass”. Savannah-panicgrass (*Phanopyrum gymnocarpon*) is listed under “cottonmouth grass, aka savannah-panicgrass”.

Paspalum (sometimes known as crowgrass) – Generally needs full sun and is mildly tolerant of shade. Brook crown grass (*Paspalum acuminatum*) is a perennial with decumbent stems that get 3 feet long. Bull crowngrass (*Paspalum boscianum*) is an annual that grows 3 feet tall. Rusty-seed crowgrass (*Paspalum botteri*) (information lacking). Carabao grass or buffalo grass (*Paspalum conjugatum*) is an annual that grows up to 32 inches tall. Longtom (*Paspalum denticulatum*) (listed by BONAP as native but not by USGS) is a perennial that grows up to 3 feet tall. Mudbank crowngrass (*Paspalum dissectum*) is a perennial with decumbent stems that are 20 inches long. Knotgrass (*Paspalum distichum*) is a perennial that grows up to 1 foot tall. Field beadgrass (*Paspalum laeve*) is a perennial that grows up to 4 feet tall. Rustyseed paspalum (*Paspalum langei*) is a perennial that grows up to 4 feet tall. Early paspalum (*Paspalum praecox*) is a perennial that grows up to 5 feet tall. Hairyseed paspalum (*Paspalum pubiflorum*) is a perennial that grows up to 4 feet tall. Horsetail paspalum or water paspalum (*Paspalum repens*) (information lacking). Thin paspalum (*Paspalum setaceum*) is a perennial that grows up to 3.5 feet tall. Seashore paspalum (*Paspalum vaginatum*) (listed by BONAP as native but not by USGS) is a perennial.

Plumegrass – Perennial. Narrow plumegrass (*Saccharum baldwinii*) can get up to about 6 feet tall and grows in sandy, shaded river and stream bottoms. Sugarcane plumegrass, aka giant plumgrass (*Saccharum giganteum*), can get to about 12 feet tall and grows in moist areas and in full sun.

Poverty dropseed (*Sporobolus vaginiflorus*) – Annual. Grows up to 2 feet tall. BONAP lists EBR as on the very edge of this dropseed’s range (additional information)

Pullout grass, aka sixweeks grass (*Vulpia octoflora*) – Annual. Full sun. Grow up to 2 feet in height (additional information)

Rosette grass and panicgrass – Perennial. They generally can grow 2 to 3 feet tall, except for *Dichanthelium scoparium* which can grow up to 5 feet tall. Native varieties are needleleaf rosette grass (*Dichanthelium aciculare*), tapered rosette grass (*Dichanthelium acuminatum*), bosc's panicgrass (*Dichanthelium boscii*), variable panicgrass (*Dichanthelium commutatum*), Kunth’s panicgrass or blood panicgrass (*Dichanthelium consanguineum*), cypress panicgrass (*Dichanthelium dichotomum*), openflower rosette grass (*Dichanthelium laxiflorum*), velvet panicum (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), and roundseed panicgrass (*Dichanthelium sphaerocarpon*). Note: Other grasses called panicgrass in the

genus *Panicum* are under the “Panicgrass (in the genus *Panicum*)” above. Savannah-panicgrass (*Phanopyrum gymnocarpon*) is listed under “cottonmouth grass, aka savannah-panicgrass”.

Sandbur – [Southern sandbur](#) (*Cenchrus echinatus*) is an annual that needs full sunlight; it gets 30 to 40 inches tall. [Coastal sandbur or field sandbur](#) (*Cenchrus spinifex*) can either be an annual or perennial. It needs full sun to part shade and has a max height of 30 inches. It may be the same as *Cenchrus incertus* (which [BONAP lists](#) as native).

Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 2 to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Signal grass – [Broadleaf signal grass](#) (*Urochloa platyphylla*) is an annual that grows up to 3 feet tall. [Texas signal grass](#) (*Urochloa texana*) is an annual that grows up to 6 feet tall.

Slender crabgrass, aka shaggy crabgrass (*Digitaria filiformis*) – Annual or short lived perennial. Full sun ([additional information](#))

Sprangletop – [Malabar sprangletop](#) (*Diplachne fusca* or *Leptochloa fusca*) is either annual or perennial, can get up to 5.5 feet tall, and thrives in moist, sunny conditions. [Amazon sprangletop](#) (*Leptochloa panicoides*) is an annual, can get up to 4 feet tall, and grows in moist soil.

Three-awn grass – [Churchmouse three-awn](#) (*Aristida dichotoma*), [slimspike threeawn](#) (*Aristida longespica*), and [prairie three-awn grass](#) (*Aristida oligantha*) are annuals that get about 2 feet tall.

Tridens – Perennial. [Purpletop tridens](#) (*Tridens flavus*) gets up to about 4 or 5 feet tall. [Longspike tridens](#) (*Tridens strictus*) gets up to about 5 or 6 feet tall.

Twoflower melicgrass (*Melica mutica*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Virginia wild-rye (*Elymus virginicus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Southern watergrass (*Luziola fluitans*) – Perennial. It can be either an emergent aquatic or floating aquatic ([additional information](#))

Wedgescale or wedgegrass – Three to four feet in height. Native varieties include [slender wedgescale](#) (*Sphenopholis intermedia*; perennial, 3 feet), [prairie wedgescale](#) (*Sphenopholis obtusata*; annual or perennial, 4 feet), [shiny wedgescale](#) (*Sphenopholis nitida*; perennial, 32 inches), and [swamp wedgescale](#) (*Sphenopholis pensylvanica*; perennial, 4 feet). All of these except shiny wedgescale are adapted for growing in moist soil.

Woodoats – Perennial. They can grow about 4 or 5 feet tall. [Inland sea oats](#) (*Chasmanthium latifolium*), [slender woodoats](#) (*Chasmanthium laxum*), and [longleaf woodoats](#) (*Chasmanthium laxum* ssp. *sessiliflorum*).

Rushes - These are in alphabetical order by scientific name

Tapertip rush, sharp-fruit rush (*Juncus acuminatus*) – [additional information](#)

Whiteroot rush (*Juncus brachycarpus*) – [additional information](#)

Toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR but [USGS does not](#).

Leathery rush (*Juncus coriaceus*) – [additional information](#)

Forked rush (*Juncus dichotomus*) – [additional information](#)

Common Rush (*Juncus effusus*) – This plant is so old and widespread that it's considered native to most parts of the world ([additional information](#))

Bog rush (*Juncus elliotii*) – [additional information](#)

Grassleaf rush (*Juncus marginatus*) – [additional information](#)

Stout rush (*Juncus nodatus*) – [additional information](#)

Lesser creeping rush (*Juncus repens*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR but [USGS does not](#).

Poverty rush, aka field rush (*Juncus tenuis*) – [additional information](#)

Torrey's rush (*Juncus torreyi*) – [additional information](#)

Round-head rush (*Juncus validus*) – [additional information](#)

Horsetail (tall scouring rush) (*Equisetum hyemale*) – A distinctive-looking plant that grows as segmented slender stalks up to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Sedges – These are in alphabetical order by scientific name

Thicket sedge (*Carex abscondita*) - [BONAP lists](#) it as native, but [USGS does not](#).

White tinted sedge (*Carex albicans*) - [BONAP lists](#) it as native

Greewhite sedge (*Carex albolutescens*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native, but [USGS does not](#).

Eastern narrowleaf sedge (*Carex amphibola*) - [additional information](#)

Yellowfruit Sedge (*Carex annectens*) - [additional information](#)

Eastern woodland sedge (*Carex blanda*) - [additional information](#)

Brome-like sedge (*Carex bromoides*) - [additional sedge](#)

Carolina sedge (*Carex caroliniana*) - [additional information](#)

Cherokee sedge (*Carex cherokeensis*) - [additional information](#)

Hirsute Sedge (*Carex complanata*) - [additional information](#)

Prune-fruit sedge (*Carex corrugata*) - [additional information](#)

Ravenfoot sedge (*Carex crus-corvi*) - [additional information](#)

White edge sedge (*Carex debilis*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native, but [USGS does not](#).

Fescue sedge (*Carex festucacea*) - [additional information](#)

Thinfruit sedge (*Carex flaccosperma*) - [additional information](#)

Frank's sedge (*Carex frankii*) - [additional information](#)

Southern waxy sedge (*Carex glaucescens*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native, but [USGS does not](#).

Blue sedge (*Carex glaucoidea*) - [additional information](#)

Shoreline sedge (*Carex hyalinolepis*) - [additional information](#)

Greater bladder sedge (*Carex intumescens*) - [additional information](#)

Leavenworth's Sedge (*Carex leavenworthii*) - [additional information](#)

Long's sedge (*Carex longii*) - [additional information](#)

Louisiana sedge (*Carex louisianica*) - [additional information](#)

False hop sedge (*Carex lupuliformis*) - [additional information](#)

Hop sedge (*Carex lupulina*) - [additional information](#)

Shallow sedge (*Carex lurida*) - [additional information](#)

Muhlenberg's sedge or sand sedge (*Carex muehlenbergii*) - [additional information](#)

Sharpscale sedge (*Carex oxylepis*) - [additional information](#)

Kidneyshape sedge (*Carex reniformis*) – [BONAP lists](#) it as native, but [USGS does not](#).

Reflexed sedge (*Carex retroflexa*) - [additional information](#)

Pointed broom sedge (*Carex scoparia*) - [additional information](#)

Bent sedge (*Carex styloflexa*) - [additional information](#)

Texas sedge (*Carex texensis*) - [additional information](#)

Eastern fox sedge (*Carex triangularis*) - [additional information](#)

Blunt broom sedge (*Carex tribuloides*) - [additional information](#)

Fox sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*) - [additional information](#)

Poorland flatsedge (*Cyperus compressus*) - [additional information](#)

Baldwin's flatsedge (*Cyperus croceus*) - [additional information](#)

Globe flatsedge (*Cyperus echinatus*) - [additional information](#)

Redroot flatsedge (*Cyperus erythrorhizos*) - [additional information](#)

Yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*) - [additional information](#)

Fern flatsedge (*Cyperus filicinus*) - [additional information](#)

Great plains flatsedge (*Cyperus lupulinus*) - [additional information](#)

Fragrant flatsedge (*Cyperus odoratus*) - [additional information](#)

Manyspiked flatsedge (*Cyperus polystachyos*) - [additional information](#)

Marsh flatsedge (*Cyperus pseudovegetus*) - [additional information](#)

Pine barren flatsedge (*Cyperus retrorsus*) - [additional information](#)

Bearded flatsedge (*Cyperus squarrosus*) - [additional information](#)

Strawcolored flatsedge (*Cyperus strigosus*) - [additional information](#)

Southern flatsedge (*Cyperus thrysiflorus*) - [additional information](#)

Green flatsedge (*Cyperus virens*) - [additional information](#)

(Note: The genus *Eleocharis* is in the sedge family, even though the plants in this genus appear to resemble rushes more than other sedges and are often referred to as “spikerush”. Most species in this genus are either aquatic or grow in moist soil.)

White spikerush (*Eleocharis albida*) - [additional information](#)

Small-fruit spikerush (*Eleocharis microcarpa*) - [additional information](#)

Mountain spikerush (*Eleocharis montana*) - [additional information](#)

Sand spikerush (*Eleocharis montevidensis*) - [additional information](#)

Blunt spikerush (*Eleocharis obtusa*) - [additional information](#)

Common spike rush (*Eleocharis palustris*) - [additional information](#)

Little-head spikerush (*Eleocharis parvula*) – [BONAP lists](#) this as native, but [USGS does not](#)

Twisted spikerush (*Eleocharis tortilis*) – [BONAP lists](#) this as native, but [USGS does not](#)

Keeled bulrush (*Isolepis carinata*) -[additional information](#)

Cone-cup spikerush, aka tubercled spikerush (*Eleocharis tuberculosa*) - [additional information](#)

Wolf's spikerush (*Eleocharis wolfii*) - [additional information](#)

Shortleaf spikesedge (*Kyllinga brevifolia*) - [additional information](#)

Fragrant spikesedge (*Kyllinga odorata*) - [additional information](#)

Anglestem beaksedge (*Rhynchospora caduca*) - [additional information](#)

Shortbristle horned beaksedge (*Rhynchospora corniculata*) - [additional information](#)

Globe beaksedge (*Rhynchospora globularis*) - [additional information](#)

Clustered beaksedge (*Rhynchospora glomerata*) - [additional information](#)

Nodding beaksedge (*Rhynchospora inexpansa*) - [additional information](#)

Mingled beaksedge (*Rhynchospora mixta*) - [additional information](#)

Ferns

Adderstongue – These do not have the appearance of typical ferns. [Bulbous adderstongue](#) (*Ophioglossum crotalophoroides*) is a perennial that only gets a few inches tall. [Longstem adder's-tongue](#) (*Ophioglossum petiolatum*) is a perennial, grows only a few inches tall, and does best in part-shade. [Southern adder's-tongue](#) (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) is a perennial that grows 8 to 12 inches tall and needs full sun to part shade.

Bluntlobe cliff fern (*Woodsia obtusa*) – Sun or shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*) – Full sun to part shade. Needs consistently moist soil. Can grow up to 6 feet tall, but is usually 1 to 4 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Broad beech fern (*Phegopteris hexagonoptera*) – Part sun to full shade. Perennial. Fronds grow up to 30 inches long ([additional information](#))

Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. Medium moisture. Can grow 2 to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomea*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. Medium to wet soil. Grows up to 5 feet tall. The common name of this plant is in reference to the cinnamon-colored fibers found near the frond bases ([additional information](#))

[Cyclosorus hispidulus](#) and [Cyclosorus kunthii](#) are native but little information is available on them.

Dwarf bristle fern (*Didymoglossum petersii*) – This fern is [very rare wherever](#) it's found ([additional information](#))

Ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) – Part shade. Tolerates full shade. Perennial. Grows up to 2 feet tall. Drought-tolerant ([additional information](#))

Eastern marsh fern (*Thelypteris palustris*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Not only is this plant native to much of the eastern half of the US, its natural range includes parts of Eurasia. It can grow up to 4 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Grapefern – [Southern grapefern, aka sparse-lobed grape fern](#), (*Botrychium biternatum* or *Sceptridium biternatum*) is a perennial that needs full sun to part shade and grows to 1 foot high. [Cut-leaf grape fern](#) (*Botrychium dissectum* or *Sceptridium dissectum*) is a perennial that grows in part shade to full shade and grows up to about 15 inches tall.

Lady fern – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. [Common lady fern](#) (*Athyrium filix-femina*) and [southern lady fern](#) (*Athyrium asplenoides*) grow up to 3 feet tall.

Maidenhair fern – [BONAP lists](#) both the [southern maidenhair fern](#) (*Adiantum capillus-veneris*) and the [northern maidenhair fern](#) (*Adiantum pedatum*) as native. They are perennials that need part shade to full shade.

Mexican mosquito fern (*Azolla microphylla*) – A diminutive fern that grows on the surface of water. ([additional information](#))

Netted chain fern (*Woodwardia areolata*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. Grow up to 2 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Rattlesnake fern (*Botrypus virginianus*) – Part shade to full shade. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*) – Partial shade. Perennial. The leaves of this fern curl up and look dead when the plant doesn't have much moisture, but it "resurrects" once moisture is regained. It grows on other plants, but it is not a parasite. ([additional information](#))

Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis* or *Osmunda regalis* var. *spectabilis*) – Part shade to shade. Medium to wet soil ([additional information](#))

Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) – Perennial. Part shade to full shade. Grows up to 3 feet tall. It needs constant moisture ([additional information](#))

Southern woodfern (*Dryopteris ludoviciana*) – Part sun to full shade. [BONAP lists](#) it as rarely occurring in EBR ([additional information](#))

Trailing pearlwort (*Sagina decumbens*) – Annual. This is a fern-like or moss-like plant. Stems are ascending or decumbent, up to about 6 inches long ([additional information](#))

Bushes – some get to the height of small trees but keep a bushy appearance

Anise tree (Florida anise or purple anise) (*Illicium floridanum*) – Leaves may scorch in full sun. Perennial. Evergreen. Gets 6 to 10 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Arrowwood (southern arrowwood) and related shrubs – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. [Southern arrowwood](#) (*Viburnum dentatum*) usually gets 6 to 10 feet but can get larger. [Possumhaw](#) (*Viburnum nudum*) grows 5 to 15 feet. [Rusty blackhaw](#) (*Viburnum rufidulum*) can grow up to 30 feet.

Beauty berry (American beauty berry) (*Callicarpa americana*) – Full to part sun. Perennial. Grows from 3 to 9 feet. The berries are edible raw and are also used to make drinks and jam. The crushed leaves are also traditionally used as a bug repellent ([additional information](#))

Blueberries and related bushes – Perennial. Blueberry bushes are native to North America. There are also other bushes closely related to blueberries. [Farkleberry aka sparkleberry](#) (*Vaccinium arboreum*) grows in full sun to partial shade. It usually grows 10 to 20 feet tall but can get up to 30 feet. Its berries are edible but dry and mealy. [Elliott's blueberry](#) (*Vaccinium elliotii*) grows in full sun to partial. Its berries are edible and palatable. It gets 6 to 13 feet tall. [Deerberry or gooseberry](#) (*Vaccinium stamineum*) grows best in dappled sunlight but can tolerate full sun. It gets 5 to 15 feet. The berries are edible, but the taste varies depending on the bush and may be sour or tart. (Note: Gooseberry is also a name used for other plants not native to EBR.) Also, [BONAP lists](#) the highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Buckthorn – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. [Carolina buckthorn](#) (*Frangula caroliniana*, formerly *Rhamnus caroliniana*) usually grows 12 to 15 feet high but can get taller. [Lanceleaf buckthorn](#) (*Rhamnus lanceolata*) usually grows 3 to 6 feet tall but can get taller.

Bursting heart, aka American strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*) – Sun to part shade. Perennial. Its fruit are NOT edible for humans; however, the fruit is eaten by some wildlife. It can grow up to 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It grows up to around 12 feet in height and has spherical flowers. It needs very wet conditions and can even grow in standing water ([additional information](#))

Carolina rose (*Rosa carolina*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. [Listed by BONAP](#) as native to EBR but not [by USGS](#). It gets 3 feet high. The flower petals and rose hips are edible, but the inside of the rose hips should not be eaten.

Chokeberry (red chokeberry) (*Aronia arbutifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. 6 to 12 feet tall. The berries are edible. They are called chokeberries because they are bitter (though edible) when eaten raw. They are turned palatable by being made into jam ([additional information](#))

Coral bean (Eastern coral bean) (*Erythrina herbacea*) – Full to part sun. Perennial. The leaves are similar to the leaves of the invasive tallow tree. It can grow to about 25 feet high ([additional information](#))

Cuban jute (*Sida rhombifolia*) – Full sun. Perennial or annual. It can get up to 6 feet high and produces yellow flowers throughout the year ([additional information](#)). [Prickly fanpetals](#), aka false mallow (*Sida spinosa*), is also native. The fanpetal (*Sida* spp.) is the primary host plant for the tropical checkered skipper butterfly.

Doveweed – Annual. Full sun. [Doveweed](#) (*Croton capitatus*) can grow to about 5 feet. [Lindheimer's doveweed](#) is either a variant (*Croton capitatus* var. *lindheimeri*) or a separate species (*Croton lindheimeri*). [Michaux's croton](#) (*Croton michauxii*) is also native.

Eastern sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. 3 to 9 feet high and sometimes taller. [USGS does not](#) list this plant as native to EBR, but [BONAP does](#).

Elderberry (American Elderberry) (*Sambucus Canadensis* or *Sambucus nigra* ssp. *canadensis*) – Full sun to part shade, but needs full sun for good berry production. This often appears as a “weed” in yards. It gets 7 to 13 feet tall. Its berries are edible. Traditionally, the berries have been used to make syrup; the rest of the plant is poisonous. ([additional information](#))

Fetterbush Iyonia (*Lyonia lucida*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It grows 3 to 6 feet high ([additional information](#))

Groundsel, a.k.a Eastern Baccharis (*Baccharis halimifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It gets up to 15 feet tall. Fast growing and weak-wooded. Often shows up as “weeds” in yards ([additional information](#))

Gulf sebastian-bush (*Ditrysinia fruticosa*) – Shade. Perennial. Found in both wetland habitats and non-wetland habitats. It can grow up to 10 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Holly – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Native hollies include [dahoon holly](#) (*Ilex cassine*; 30 feet), [possumhaw](#) (*Ilex decidua*; 30 feet), [georgia holly](#) (*Ilex longipes*; 20 feet), [american holly](#) (*Ilex opaca*; 50 feet), and [yaupon holly](#) (*Ilex vomitoria*; 25 feet). Note: Yaupon holly and Chinese privet are similar, but yaupon holly has alternating leaves whereas Chinese privet has leaves that are opposite.

Huckleberry – Perennial. [Woolly or hirsute huckleberry](#) (*Gaylussacia mosieri*) is listed [by BONAP](#) as native to EBR, but not [by USGS](#). This bush gets 3 to 5 feet tall. Its berries are edible and look like black blueberries; they are seedy and considered to be poor quality. [BONAP also lists](#) the [dwarf huckleberry](#) (*Gaylussacia dumosa*) as native. It gets 1 or 2 feet tall. Its berries are edible; they look like blueberries but are not as sweet.

Hydrangea – Perennial. [Wild hydrangea](#) (*Hydrangea arborescens*) needs partial shade and gets about 6 feet tall. [Oakleaf hydrangea](#) (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) need full sun to part shade and gets about 6 feet tall.

Illinois bundleflower (*Desmanthus illinoensis*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It is winter hardy, drought resistant, and widely adapted to many soil types, although it is generally found in moist sites. Can get up to 5 feet or higher ([additional information](#))

Indigo – Full sun. Perennial. [Anil de pasto, aka bush indigo](#), (*Indigofera suffruticosa*) can grow to 6 feet high. Coastal indigo (*Indigofera miniata*) is a low growing trailing plant; [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR but [USGS doesn't not](#).

Jerusalem thorn, aka Mexican palo verde (*Parkinsonia aculeata*) – Full sun. Perennial. It can range in height from 15 to 30 feet ([additional information](#))

Judas bush (*Iresine rhizomatosa*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Grows up to 3 feet in height ([additional information](#)). Its relative [Juba's bush](#) (*Iresine diffusa*) is also native. Juba's bush is best known through its cultivar [Linden's bloodleaf](#) (*Iresine diffusa f. lindenbergii*); so called because of its red leaves.

Lead plant aka false indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Gets 4 to 12 feet high ([additional information](#))

Mountain azalea, aka piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*) – Part sun. Perennial. It usually gets 6 to 8 feet tall, but can get up to 15 high. It is EBR's only native azalea ([additional information](#))

New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Formally called “red root tea”, this bush was renamed when it became a substitute source for tea when tea was no longer available from overseas after the Boston Tea Party. It grows 2 or 3 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) – It can grow in sun or shade, but will be more shrubby in shade. Perennial. Usually gets 15 to 20 feet, but can vary in height from 3 to 30 feet ([additional information](#))

Spicebush (northern spicebush) (*Lindera benzoin*) – Part shade. Perennial. It grows up to 15 feet high and is a host plant for the spicebush swallowtail butterfly ([additional information](#))

St. Andrew's cross (*Hypericum hypericoides*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It gets up to 5 feet. It is the same genus as St. Johnswort (under “Full Sun”) and may be considered a type of St. Johnswort ([additional information](#))

Sweet acacia, aka huisache (*Vachellia farnesiana*) – Full sun. Perennial. High drought tolerance. It grows 15 to 20 feet in height ([additional information](#))

Titi (swamp titi) (*Cyrilla racemiflora*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. It usually gets 10 to 30 feet tall but can get taller. It is highly tolerant of (freshwater) flooding ([additional information](#))

Two-wing silverbell (*Halesia diptera*) – Full sun to part shade, as well as full shade according to some sources. Perennial. It gets 20 to 30 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Upland cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) – Full sun. Annual or perennial. It can grow to 5 or 6 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) – Grows in both sun and shade. Perennial. It usually gets 3 to 6 feet tall but can reach 10 feet ([additional information](#))

Waxmyrtle aka southern bayberry (*Morella cerifera*) – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. An evergreen that varies between 3 and 16 feet in height ([additional information](#))

Witch hazel (American witch hazel) (*Hamamelis virginiana*) – Full sun to part shade, but flowers best in full sun. Perennial. It can grow up to 25 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Yucca – Full sun to part shade. Perennial. Adam's needle (*Yucca filamentosa*), which can get up to 3 feet in height, is described as both a forb and a shrub. [BONAP lists](#) *Yucca flaccida* as native. The common name for it is also Adam's needle, but *Yucca filamentosa* and *Yucca flaccida* have only minor differences ([described here](#)) and may not be different species. [BONAP also lists](#) the Spanish bayonet or aloe yucca (*Yucca aloifolia*) as native; it is an evergreen tree that gets 6 to 12 feet in height.

Small Trees (generally 40 feet and under)

Buckthorn bully (*Sideroxylon lycioides*) – Full sun to part shade. Grows up to 30 feet in height. A less frequently used common name for this plant is ironwood, which is also a common name for two other trees (see “ironwood” below) ([additional information](#))

Buckwheat tree (*Cliftonia monophylla*) – Full sun to part shade. It can grow to 45 feet tall. [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR but [USGS does not](#).

Carolina water ash (*Fraxinus caroliniana*) – Full sun to part shade. Described as either a shrub or tree, it gets 30 to 60 feet tall, but frequently stays below 45 feet. Its natural habitat is moist to wet soil. Note: Other ashes are listed below under “Large Trees” ([additional information](#))

Cherries and Plums – Full sun to part shade. [American plum](#) (*Prunus americana*) usually grows 15 to 25 feet tall and produces edible fruit. [Chicksaw Plum](#) (*Prunus angustifolia*) grows up to 25 feet and produces edible fruit (do not eat the pit). [Cherry laurel](#) (*Prunus caroliniana*) grows 15 to 20 feet tall; the fruit is NOT edible. [Mexican plum](#) (*Prunus mexicana*) grows 15 to 25 feet tall and produces edible fruit (do not eat the pit). Note: Black cherry is also in the genus of *Prunus*; see below under “Large Trees”.

Chinkapin, aka dwarf chestnut (*Castanea pumila*) – Full sun. Drought tolerant. Maximum height is 30 feet. The nuts are edible ([additional information](#))

Crab-apple (southern crabapple) (*Malus angustifolia*) – Full sun is best for fruit production, but the tree can tolerate part shade. Grows 25 to 35 feet tall. The fruit is edible, but it is too tart to eat raw and is usually used in preserves. Do NOT eat the seeds or core of the fruit, as these contain cyanide ([additional information](#))

Devil's Walking Stick (*Aralia spinosa*) – Grows best in part shade but can tolerate full sun. Grows up to 40 feet tall. So named because of the spikes on its trunk. This tree makes berries in the fall that feeds migrating birds ([additional information](#))

Devilwood, aka American olive (*Cayaponia quinqueloba*, formerly *Osmanthus americanus*) – Full sun to part shade. It can grow to be 40 or 50 feet tall, but more typically grows to 15 to 25 feet ([additional information](#))

Dogwood – Dogwoods are described as either large shrubs or small trees. [Rough dogwood](#) (*Cornus drummondii*) ranges from 6 to 40 feet and grows in sun to part shade. [Flowering dogwood](#) (*Cornus florida*) typically gets 15 to 30 feet tall, but can get up to 50 feet; it grows in sun to part shade. [Stiff dogwood or swamp dogwood](#) (*Cornus foemina*) grows 10 to 25 feet and does best in moist to wet soil and with part shade.

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) – Full to partial sun. Gets 15 to 40 feet tall. This is a native alternative to crape myrtle ([additional information](#))

Hawthorn, including mayhaw – Hawthorns are described as either large shrubs or small trees. [Cockspur hawthorn](#) (*Crataegus crus-galli*) grows 15 to 35 feet and does best in full sun. [Parsley hawthorn](#) (*Crataegus marshallii*) gets up to 25 feet tall and grows in full sun to part shade. [Riverflat hawthorn or mayhaw](#) (*Crataegus opaca*) can range in height from 12 to 35 feet, grows in full sun to part shade, and can tolerate both standing water and drought. [Green hawthorn](#) (*Crataegus viridis*) varies in height from 15 to 35 feet and grows in full sun to part shade. The berries of these trees are edible, but vary in quality depending on species. *Crataegus opaca* berries are the source for the well-known mayhaw jelly. Do NOT eat the seeds of any hawthorn plant.

Hop tree, aka water ash or skunk-bush (*Ptelea trifoliata*) – Full sun to partial shade. It usually grows 10 to 20 feet tall and is a host plant for the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail and the Giant Swallowtail ([additional information](#))

Ironwood – Two trees in different genera have “ironwood” in their common name. One species, *Carpinus caroliniana*, is known as the [American hornbeam](#); it is also known as blue beech. It gets 20 to 35 feet tall and can be grown in full sun to part shade. The other species, *Ostrya virginiana*, is known as the [American hop-hornbeam](#) (or just hophornbeam). It usually gets 20 to 35 feet tall but can reach 50 to 60 feet. It grows in full sun to part shade. [This link](#) explains a little about how to tell the difference between the two trees. (Note: Buckthorn bully (*Sideroxylon lycioides*) is also less frequently known as ironwood.)

Pawpaw tree (common pawpaw) (*Asimina triloba*) – Full sun to shade. Grows to 15 to 25 feet. The fruit is edible and the flavor is described as being similar to banana, mango, or pineapple. Only eat fully ripe fruit, and do NOT eat the skin or seeds of the fruit. The pawpaw tree is the sole host plant to the zebra swallowtail butterfly ([additional information](#))

Pyramid magnolia (*Magnolia pyramidata*) – Shade only. Grows up to 30 feet tall. Note: There are four other species of native magnolia listed under “Large Trees” below ([additional information](#))

Swamp privet (*Forestiera acuminata*) – Full sun to part shade. It prefers moist soil and can grow up to 30 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Water elm, aka planertree (*Planera aquatica*) – Full sun to part shade. It grows in moist, seasonally wet soils of floodplains and swampy areas. It gets 25 to 40 feet tall. Note: Elms in the genus *Ulmus* are listed under “Large Trees” ([additional information](#))

White fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) – Sun to part shade. Usually gets 12 to 20 feet but can reach 35 feet ([additional information](#))

Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallinum*) – Full sun (not shade tolerant). Gets to about 30 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Silky camellia (*Stewartia malacodendron*) – Morning sun only. It needs protection during the hottest part of the day. It usually grows 10 to 20 feet, but may get taller. [BONAP shows](#) it as being rarely found in EBR; [USGS does not](#) list it as native to EBR.

Snowbell – [American snowbell](#), aka [mock orange](#), (*Styrax americanus*) grows in full sun to part shade and in moist soil; it gets 10 to 20 feet tall. [Bigleaf snowbell](#) (*Styrax grandifolius*) grows in part shade in moist soil; it gets up to 30 feet tall.

Sourwood, aka sorrel tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) – Full sun to part shade. It usually grows to 20 to 30 feet tall but can get up to 50 or 60 feet ([additional information](#))

Swamp bay (*Persea palustris*) – Full sun to part shade. Moist soil. It usually grows 40 feet tall but can get up to 50 feet. [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#).

Sweetleaf, aka horsesugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*) – Part shade. Moist soil. The leaves are edible and have a sweet taste. It can grow up to 20 feet or taller ([additional information](#))

Toothache tree aka hercules' club (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*) – Full sun to part shade. It can get up to 50 feet, but usually matures at a much shorter height. The bark is covered in distinctive pointed (but not sharp) bumps. The bark was traditionally used for certain ailments, but there is no scientific support for its use ([additional information](#))

Large Trees

American basswood, aka American linden (*Tilia americana*) – Full sun to shade. It is more shade tolerant than other large trees. It can grow over 100 feet tall ([additional information](#))

Ash – Full sun to part shade. White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) usually grows 60 to 80 feet tall but can reach 120 feet. Green ash, aka red ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), gets 40 to 80 feet tall and sometimes taller. Pumpkin ash (*Fraxinus profunda*) gets 60 to 80 feet tall. Note: Carolina water ash is listed above under “Small trees”.

Beechnut (American beech) (*Fagus grandifolia*) – Full sun to part shade. It can grow over 100 feet tall. The nuts are edible, though they have a high tannin content and a slightly bitter taste ([additional information](#))

Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) – Full sun for the most fruit production, but it can tolerate part shade. Grows up to 100 feet. Produces edible fruit; however, the pits should not be eaten. It attracts the eastern tiger swallowtail, red spotted purple butterfly, and striped hairstreak butterfly. Note: It is in the same genus as American plum, chickasaw plum, and cherry laurel, and Mexican plum (under “Small Trees”) ([additional information](#))

Catalpa – Full sun to part shade. Southern catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*) can grow to 60 feet and most often occurs in moist soils along streams and river banks. Northern catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*) can grow to 100 feet and taller and does best in moist, well-drained soils, but tolerates wet, dry and alkaline sites: USGS lists it as native, but [BONAP shows](#) it as adventive.

Cedar (eastern red cedar) (*Juniperus virginiana*) – Full sun to part shade. It usually grows 30 to 40 feet, so may remain a small tree, but can reach a height of 90 feet. The berries are considered edible, but may be toxic in a large amount. Note that the berries of some other junipers are toxic (including that of invasive junipers) and may be easily confused with this tree ([additional information](#))

Cypress (bald cypress) (*Taxodium distichum*) – Full sun to part shade. This iconic swamp tree typically grows 50 to 70 feet tall but can reach well over 100 feet. It needs moist soil and commonly grows in water, but can also withstand occasional drought once established ([additional information](#))

Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoids*) – Full sun. It can grow 100 feet and taller ([additional information](#))

Elm – Full sun to part shade. Winged elm (*Ulmus alata*) is one of the smaller of the large trees, since it gets 30 to 50 feet tall at maturity. American elm (*Ulmus americana*) typically gets 60 to 80 feet tall, but

can reach over 100 feet. [Slippery elm or red elm](#) (*Ulmus rubra*) commonly gets 40 to 60 feet tall but can reach to 100 feet. Note: Water elm (*Planera aquatica*) is under “Small Trees”.

Hackberry tree (*Celtis laevigata*) – Full sun to part shade. Grows up to 100 feet tall. Attracts the American snout butterfly, hackberry emperor butterfly, and tawny emperor butterfly. Hackberries themselves are edible ([additional information](#))

Hickory and/or pecan tree – Full sun to part shade. [Water hickory or bitter pecan](#) (*Carya aquatica*) can grow up to 100 feet. Its nuts are not edible for humans. [Bitternut hickory or swamp hickory](#) (*Carya cordiformis*) typically gets 60 to 80 feet but can reach 100 feet. Its nuts are edible but not palatable. [Pignut hickory](#) (*Carya glabra*) typically grows 50 to 70 feet but can reach over 100 feet. Its nuts are edible but vary in taste. The [pecan tree](#) (*Carya illinoensis*) produces the famous nuts of the south. At maturity, it varies in height from 50 to 150 feet. [Black hickory](#) (*Carya texana*) can reach 100 feet and higher. Its nuts are edible but can vary highly in taste. [Mockernut hickory](#) (*Carya tomentosa*) grows to 100 feet and higher. Its nuts are edible and palatable, but they also have a thick shell. BONAP also lists the hybrid *Carya X leconte* as native; it’s a cross between water hickory and the pecan tree.

Locust – [Swamp locust](#) (*Gleditsia aquatica*) grows in the wet soils of riverbanks, flood plains, and swamps, gets around 60 feet tall, and does best in part sun. [Honeylocust](#) (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) has average water requirements and grows 65 to 100 feet or taller. [Black locust](#) (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), aka honey locust, belongs to a different genus, can grow up to 80 tall, and needs full sun.

Magnolia – Full sun to part shade. [Bigleaf magnolia, aka umbrella-tree](#) (*Magnolia macrophylla*) grows up to 50 feet. [Mountain magnolia, aka cucumber-tree](#) (*Magnolia acuminata*) grows up to 80 feet. [Southern magnolia](#) (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is the tree most people think of when they think of a magnolia. It gets up to 100 feet. [Sweetbay magnolia](#) (*Magnolia virginiana*) gets up to 65 feet. [BONAP lists](#) it as native to EBR, but [USGS does not](#). Note: Pyramid magnolia (*Magnolia pyramidata*) is listed under “Small Trees” above.

Maple – Full sun to part shade. [Southern sugar maple or Florida maple](#) (*Acer floridanum*) grows anywhere from 20 to 75 feet tall. [Boxelder or ashleaf maple](#) (*Acer negundo*) usually gets around 50 feet tall but can get as high as 80 feet. [Red maple](#) (*Acer rubrum*) usually gets 40 to 60 feet tall but can get over 100 feet tall. [Silver maple](#) (*Acer saccharinum*) tends to mature at 50 to 80 feet tall but can get over 100 feet tall.

Oak – Full sun to part shade. [White oak](#) (*Quercus alba*) gets 60 to 100 feet at maturity. [Southern red oak](#) (*Quercus falcata*) gets 60 to 100 feet tall at maturity. [Laurel oak](#) (*Quercus laurifolia*) typically grows 40 to 60 feet tall, but can get as tall as 100 feet. Overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*) is listed [by BONAP](#) as native, but not [by USGS](#); it often gets to only 30 or 40 feet tall, but can grow up taller than 100 feet. [Swamp chestnut oak, aka cow oak](#), (*Quercus michauxii*) typically gets to 60 or 80 feet tall, but can reach up to 130 feet. [Water oak](#) (*Quercus nigra*) gets 50 to 80 feet tall. [Cherrybark oak](#) (*Quercus pagoda*) gets to 110 to 130 tall. [Willow oak](#) (*Quercus phellos*) gets to 80 to 120 feet tall. [Shumard's oak, aka swamp red oak](#), (*Quercus shumardii*), gets 60 to 80 feet tall. [Bottomland post oak](#) (*Quercus similis*) gets up to 80 feet tall. [Post oak](#) (*Quercus stellata*) gets 40 to 50 feet tall. [Nuttall oak, aka Texas red oak](#) (*Quercus texana*)

grows 60 to 80 feet tall. [Live oak](#) (*Quercus virginiana*), which is the iconic oak of Baton Rouge, gets 40 to 60 feet tall. BONAP also lists several hybrid species as native: [Quercus X cocksii](#) (laurel oak x black oak [*Quercus velutina*]), [Quercus X comptoniae](#) (overcut oak x live oak), [Quercus X filialis](#) (willow oak x black oak [*Quercus velutina*]), [Quercus X ludoviciana](#) (willow oak x cherrybark oak), and [Quercus X moultonensis](#) (Shumard oak and willow oak).

[Osage orange](#) (*Maclura pomifera*) – Full sun to part shade. It grows 40 to 65 feet tall ([additional information](#))

[Pecan](#) – see above under “Hickory and/or peacn tree”.

[Persimmon \(common persimmon or eastern persimmon\)](#) (*Diospyros virginiana*) – Full sun to part shade. It can get up to 100 feet tall but is usually much shorter. The fruit is edible but is astringent if eaten when not fully ripe ([additional information](#))

[Pine](#) – Full sun to part shade. [Shortleaf pine](#) (*Pinus echinata*) typically grows to 50 to 60 feet tall in cultivation but can grow to over a 100 feet tall in the wild. [Slash pine](#) (*Pinus elliottii*) reaches around 100 at maturity. [Spruce pine](#) (*Pinus glabra*) reaches 70 to 130 feet at maturity. Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) reaches 60 to 120 feet at maturity. [Loblolly pine](#) (*Pinus taeda*) can get over 100 feet tall.

[Red mulberry, aka moral](#) (*Morus rubra*) – Full to part shade. Height at maturity ranges from 30 to 80 feet. The fruits are edible. Note: Black mulberry (*Morus nigra*) grows here; it is not native, but it is non-invasive. White mulberry (*Morus alba*) is invasive ([additional information](#))

[River Birch](#) (*Betula nigra*) – Full sun to part shade. Needs to be in moist soil. 60 to 80 feet at maturity ([additional information](#))

[Sassafras](#) (*Sassafras albidum*) – Full sun to part shade. It usually gets 30 to 60 feet tall but can get up to 100 feet. The roots used to be used to make root beer, but the roots are no longer used due to serious health concerns ([additional information](#))

[Sweetgum \(American sweetgum\)](#) (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) – Full sun to part shade. Produces spikey brown balls. It typically grows to 60 or 80 feet tall, but it can get as tall as 120 feet ([additional information](#))

[Sycamore \(American sycamore\)](#) (*Platanus occidentalis*) – Full sun to part shade. This tree typically grows 75 to 100 feet tall, but can get as high as 150 feet ([additional information](#))

[Tuliptree aka tulip poplar](#) (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – Full sun to part shade. It ranges from 80 to 150 feet at maturity and can get even larger ([additional information](#))

[Tupelo, aka blackgum](#) – Each of these can get up to 100 feet tall. They need average to above average watering and can grow in standing water. The native varieties are [water tupelo](#) (*Nyssa aquatica*), [swamp tupelo or swamp blackgum](#) (*Nyssa biflora*), and [blackgum](#) (*Nyssa sylvatica*). The common names for these 3 sometimes overlap.

Walnut (black walnut aka eastern black walnut) (*Juglans nigra*) – Full sun to part shade. It usually gets 75 to 100 feet high but can get taller. The nuts are edible ([additional information](#))

Willow – Full sun to part shade. Two willow species are native to the parish. Sandbar willow (*Salix interior*) is so named because its natural habitat is sand bars. It can be described as either a large shrub or a small tree. It grows to between 20 and 70 feet. Black willow (*Salix nigra*) can grow to over 100 feet and needs consistently moist soil. It can tolerate part-shade. It is a host plant for the Viceroy butterfly.

A note on “No-Fail” Plants – All plants need appropriate sun, soil, and water. However, the following plants are particularly easy to grow: common blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*), blue mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*), Texas frog fruit (*Phyla nodiflora*), panicled leaf ticktrefoil (*Desmodium paniculatum*), partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), maypop, a.k.a purple passion-flower (*Passiflora incarnata*), sunflowers, including annuals (*Helianthus annuus*), swamp sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*) and muck sunflower (*Helianthus simulans*), lance-leaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) and plains coreopsis (*Coreopsis tinctoria*).

Food Producing – always look up information for yourself before eating anything

Amaranth – under “Full Sun”

American plum (*Prunus americana*)- see “Cherries and Plums” under “Small Trees – Full Sun”

Beaked corn salad (*Valerianella radiata*) – under “Full sun”

Beauty berry (*Callicarpa americana*) – under “Bushes”

Beechnut (*Fagus grandifolia*) – under “Large Trees”

Blackberries – under “Vines”

Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) – see under “Large Trees”

Blueberries and related berries – see “Blueberries and related bushes” under “Bushes”

Carolina rose (*Rosa carolina*) – under “Bushes”

Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*) – under “Bushes”

Chicksaw Plum (*Prunus angustifolia*) – see “Cherries and Plums” under “Small Trees – Full Sun”

Chinkapin (*Castanea pumila*) – under “Small Trees”

Cleavers (*Galium aparine*) – see “Cleavers and/or bedstraw” under “Full Sun”

Common evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) – see “Primrose” under “Full Sun”

Crab-apple (*Malus angustifolia*) – under “Small Trees”

Elderberry (*Sambucus Canadensis* or *Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis*) – under “Bushes”

Grapes – under “Vines”

Groundnut (*Apios americana*) – see “Groundnut aka potato bean” under “Vines”

Hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) – under “Large Trees”

Hawthorn, including mayhaw – under “Small Trees”

Hickory – some hickory nuts are edible. See “Hickory and/or pecan tree” under “Large Trees”

Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia mosieri*) – under “Bushes”

Jerusalem Artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*) – see sunflowers under “Full-Sun”

Little barley (*Hordeum pusillum*) – under “Grasses”

May Apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) – under “Shade-Tolerant Plants”.

Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*) – under “Vines”

Meadow garlic or wild onion (*Allium canadense*)- under “Full Sun”

Mexican plum (*Prunus mexicana*) – see “Cherries and Plums” under “Small Trees – Full Sun”

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) – under “Small Trees – Full Sun”

Pecans – see “Hickory and/or pecan tree” under “Large Trees”

Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) – under “Large Trees”

Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*) – under “Large Trees”

Strawberries – see *Fragaria virginiana* under “Non-Native Plants That Are Still Useful”. Note: This only refers to the strawberries of *Fragaria virginiana*. The fruit of bursting heart, aka American strawberry bush, (*Euonymus americanus*) under “Bushes” is NOT edible.

Sweetleaf (*Symplocos tinctoria*) – under “Small Trees”

Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) – see “Walnut (black walnut aka eastern black walnut)” under “Large Tree”

Butterflies and Moths – Not a complete list of local butterflies and moths or of host plants

[American snout butterfly](#), [hackberry emperor butterfly](#), and [tawny emperor butterfly](#) are attracted to the hackberry tree (*Celtis laevigata*).

[Black swallowtails](#) use mock bishop's weed (*Ptilimnium capillaceum*) as a larval host plant.

[Common buckeye](#) uses old field toadflax (*Nuttallanthus canadensis*) as a larval host plant.

[Gulf Fritillary](#) and [Variegated Fritillary](#) – Golden orange butterflies. They both use the maypop vine (*Passiflora incarnata*) as their larval host plant. The caterpillars of these butterflies are spikey-looking but are not a danger to humans.

[Eastern tiger swallowtail](#), [red-spotted purple butterfly](#), and [striped hairstreak butterfly](#) are attracted to the black cherry tree (*Prunus serotina*).

[Eastern tiger swallowtail](#) and the [giant swallowtail](#) use the hop tree (*Ptelea trifoliata*) as a larval host plant (see under "Small trees")

[Little metalmarks](#) are attracted to bristle thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*).

[Little yellow butterflies](#), [cloudless sulphur butterflies](#), and [gray hairstreak butterflies](#) are attracted to the partridge pea plants (see under "Full Sun")

[Long-tailed skippers](#) have been observed to use the panicledleaf ticktrefoil (*Desmodium paniculatum*) as a host plant in Baton Rouge. The Alabama Butterfly Atlas and Butterflies and Moths of North America list it as using any type of ticktrefoil (*Desmodium*) plant (as well as other plants).

[Monarchs](#) use milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) as larval host plants. The butterflies eat nectar from milkweed flowers and other flowers. [This article](#) explains why tropical milkweed should *not* be grown.

[Painted ladies](#) use thistles as a host plants.

[Pipevine swallowtails](#) use Virginia snakeroot as its local host plant (*Aristolochia serpentaria* or *Endodeca serpentaria*). It can also use the non-native white-veined Dutchman's pipe (*Aristolochia fimbriata*) as a host plant (see below under "Non-Native Plants That Are Still Useful").

[Scarlet-bodied wasp moth](#) are moths that look like red wasps. In Baton Rouge, they use the Florida Keys hempvine (*Mikania cordifolia*) as a host plant. They supposedly also use climbing hempvine (*Mikania scandens*); however, they have not been observed actually using that vine here.

[Spicebush swallowtail butterflies](#) use northern spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) as a host plant.

[Tropical Checkered-Skipper](#) uses the fanpetal (*Sida* spp.) is the primary host plant.

[Viceroy butterfly](#) used the black willow (*Salix nigra*) as a host plant.

[Zebra swallowtail butterflies](#) use pawpaw trees as its host plant. Baton Rouge is at the very south end of the the zebra swallowtail butterfly range.

More information on Louisiana native pollinators:

https://www.lsu.edu/botanic-gardens/research/Burden-Pollinator-Trees.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3yEA38dT8cWe_gJVzLnLaL7bQyd4EMRxHFekHkINiL8F9xJw2eeJ_k_xg

Non-Native Plants That Are Still Useful – These plants are native to North America, but not Louisiana. They are used ornamentally, are useful to local insects, and not invasive.

Coral Porterweed (*Stachytarpheta mutabilis*) – Native to the tropical Americas. Can grow up to 7 ft tall. (Its relative the Blue porterweed is not recommended due to being invasive.)

Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*) is a host plant for the Black Swallowtail.

Green and Gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*) – Shade-tolerant ground cover. Native to Alabama and states along the east coast; it is rarely found in Mississippi and West Feliciana parish. It is a ground cover that is particularly good for squeezing out weeds. It has short leaves and large yellow flowers with a short bloom time. The plant gets at most half a foot tall. It propagates via rhizomes that grow close to the original plant. It is probably not mow-able (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#))

Green and Gold – southern variation (*Chrysogonum virginianum* var. *australe*) – Shade-tolerant ground cover. This southern variation of Green and Gold adds something different to the garden with its bluish, fuzzy leaves. It propagates itself with rhizomes that grow a few inches out from the plant. It is probably not mowable. (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#))

Lantana (*Lantana* is also the genus name) – Commonly sold in nurseries. It has abundant blooms that look like little firework explosions and is attractive to butterflies. ([Example of lantana flower](#))

Mountain Mint – Native to Louisiana but not East Baton Rouge parish. Attractive to pollinators. [White mountain mint](#) (*Pycnanthemum albescens*) and [slender mountain mint](#) (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*) are the species native to near-by parishes.

Oval-Leaf Sedge (*Carex cephalophora*) – Ground cover. Needs shade. Native to other parts of Louisiana. About 1 foot tall. The weeds don't encroach into it. It is mowable, but doesn't need to be mowed. It spreads slowly but can be divided and encouraged to spread faster with rich soil. (Katie Kogler). ([additional information](#))

Pineapple Sage (*Salvia elegans*) – Native to Mexico. Maybe found at local nurseries.

Prairie Sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*) – Native to central and western United States. This is a sun-loving light greenish blue plant. It can get 3 feet tall but tends to flop when it gets to that height. It's great at keeping weeds out. Because it is soft and smells good, animals like to lay on it. (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#))

Strawberry (Wild Strawberry or Virginia Strawberry) (*Fragaria virginiana*) – Full sun. Native to other parts of the state. Produces edible berries for wildlife and people (however, wilted leaves, including partially wilted leaves, contain toxins). It gets a foot tall. It can be used as ground cover but it is probably not mowable. The plants do not grow as tightly together as cultivated strawberries. Note: Wild strawberry is different from mock strawberry (*Duchesnea indica*), which is an invasive species commonly found in lawns. Wild strawberries have white flowers; mock strawberries have yellow flowers. Wild strawberry is also different from American strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*), which is native to EBR and the fruits of which are NOT safe to eat. ([additional information](#))

White-Veined Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia fimbriata*) – Shade. This plant can make a lovely ground cover and is a good host plant for the pipevine swallowtail. It grows at a medium to slow speed. It gets to half a foot tall.

Woodland Poppymallow (*Callirhoe papaver*) – Full sun. Native to other parts of the state. This species of winecup can grow thickly enough that it can push out some weeds. With its large, hot-pink flowers, it makes a pretty groundcover in the spring that gets a half foot tall. It can take a tough drought but may not be able to handle extreme sun. It is not mowable. (Katie Kogler) ([additional information](#))

Zinnia (*Zinnia* is also the genus name) – Native to southwestern United States, Mexico, and Central America. Very easy to grow from seeds (no cold stratification required). Packets of zinnia seeds are often found wherever flower seeds are sold. The flowers are attractive to butterflies.

A note about camphor trees: Camphor trees (*Cinnamomum camphora*) are invasive to the US and can grow to 70 feet tall. However, spicebush butterflies use them as a host plant. Despite being a native plant, spicebush (northern spicebush, *Lindera benzoin*) can be difficult to grow in Baton Rouge. Camphor trees may be grown in containers in order to keep them small and manageable, while still being of benefit to spicebush butterflies.

Additional Resources

Audubon Native Plant Database – Gives a list of native plants based on zip code that are useful to specific birds: <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

Biota of North America Program – List every Genus of plant in the United States and shows where it's located and whether the plant is native or exotic. <http://bonap.org/>

Capital Area Native Plant Society – CANPS is now defunct, but their list of native plants is still available: <http://canps.weebly.com/plant-selection.html>

Local Nurseries with Native Plants – not ALL plants at all of these local nurseries will be native: <http://braudubon.org/education/native-plant-guide?fbclid=IwAR3O96t3sVxG47WiLYb3oqoemsFRoq9cih4DNAyt5IHmkAWQ7phOfb00TX0>

Native Plant Finder – Native plants and local butterflies based on zip code: <http://nwf.org/NativePlantFinder>

USGS Guide to Plants of Louisiana – List of most plants found in Louisiana, both native and introduced. Displays the parishes in which each plant is found: <https://warcapps.usgs.gov/PlantID/>

Recommended Reading – The following books are available at the East Baton Rouge Library

“Bringing Nature Home” by Doug Tallamy

“Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard” by Doug Tallamy

“Gardening with Native Plants of the South” by Sally Wasowski and Andy Wasowski

“Native Plants of the Southeast” by Larry Mellichamp

“Planting in a post-wild world: designing plant communities for resilient landscapes” by Thomas Rainer