# Michelle’s Top Picks for Native Plants

## Plants for seeds

**Flowering**
- *Coneflowers*
- *Coreopsis*
- *Rudbeckias*
- *Blazing-stars*
- *Vervains*
- *Asters*
- *Wild Geranium*
- *Goldenrods (all except Canada)*

**Grasses and Sedges**
- *Indian Grass*
- *Prairie Dropseed*
- *Pen sedge and other Carex spp.*
- *Big Bluestem*
- *Canada & Virginia Wild Rye*
- *Switchgrass*

**Shrubs and Trees**
- *Hazelnut*
- *Beech*
- *Maple*
- *Oak (mast for turkeys, jays, woodpeckers)*
- *Hickory (mast for turkeys, jays, woodpeckers)*

* personal favorites

** can become aggressive/be a spreader

## Plants for Fruits

**Flowering Plants**
- *Wild Strawberry*
- *Baneberry*
- *False & True Solomon’s-seals*
- **Pokeweed**

**Vines**
- **Wild Grape**
- **Virginia Creeper**

**Shrubs**
- *Elderberry*
- *Dogwoods*
- *Viburnums*
- *Chokeberry*
- *Wild Rose*
- *Spicebush (need male and female to get berries)*
- *Winterberry (need male and female to get berries)*
- *Sumac (other than Staghorn) (choose a)-berry (natives)*

**Small Trees**
- *Serviceberry*
- *Flowering Dogwood*
- *Hawthorns*
- *Crabapples*
- *Mountain Ash*
- *White Cedar/Arborvitae*
- **Staghorn Sumac**

## Nectar

*Cardinal Flower*
*Wild Columbine*
*Wild Bergamot*
*Woodland Phlox*
*Blazing-stars*
*Penstemons*
**Jewelweed**
*Great Blue Lobelia*
*Vervains*

**Swamp Milkweed**
**Wild Petunia**
**Obedient Plant**

## Insect Attracting

All of the above plus these small shrubs:
*New Jersey Tea*
*Buttonbush*

## Nest Materials

*Thimbleweed*
*Milkweeds (**Common)**
**Thistles**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plants for Sun</th>
<th>Grasses and Sedges</th>
<th>Shrubs and Trees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flowering</td>
<td>*Indian Grass</td>
<td>*Hazelnut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Coneflowers &amp; Rudbeckias</td>
<td>*Prairie Dropseed</td>
<td>Chokeberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Coreopsis</td>
<td>*Various sedges</td>
<td>Viburnums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Blazing-stars</td>
<td>Big Bluestem</td>
<td>Beech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Bergamot</td>
<td>Canada &amp; Virginia Wild Rye</td>
<td>Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vervains</td>
<td>Switchgrass</td>
<td>Oak (mast for turkeys, jays, woodpeckers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penstemons</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hickory (mast for turkeys, jays, woodpeckers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prairie Phlox</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Silphiums</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Sunflowers</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England Aster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stiff Goldenrod</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Plants for Full to Partial Shade</th>
<th>Shrubs</th>
<th>Small Trees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flowering Plants</td>
<td>Alternate-leaf Dogwood</td>
<td>*Serviceberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Columbine</td>
<td>Spicebush (need male and female to get berries)</td>
<td>Flowering Dogwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Geranium</td>
<td>Winterberry (need male and female to get berries)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodland Phlox</td>
<td>Arrowwood Viburnum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baneberry</td>
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<td>**Wild Grape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bunchberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>False &amp; True Solomon’s-seals</td>
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<td>**Virginia Creeper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania sedge</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Woodland Sunflower</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Zig-zag Goldenrod</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plants for Moist areas</th>
<th>Plants for Dry areas</th>
<th>Plants for a range of conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Cardinal Flower</td>
<td>Most of the sunny plants and specifically:</td>
<td>Asters (conditions vary by species)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Marsh Blazing-star</td>
<td>Hoary Vervain</td>
<td>Goldenrods (conditions vary by species; avoid **Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* **Jewelweed</td>
<td>Blazing-stars other than marsh</td>
<td>Milkweeds (conditions vary by species)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Vervain</td>
<td>Wild Petunia</td>
<td>Sedges (conditions vary by species)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp Milkweed</td>
<td>New Jersey Tea</td>
<td>Great Blue Lobelia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** Red-twig Dogwood</td>
<td>Thimbleweed</td>
<td>Wild Geranium</td>
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<td>Winterberry (need male and female to get berries)</td>
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<td>Wild Columbine</td>
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<td>Buttonbush</td>
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Groundcover for a variety of conditions
Wild Strawberry
**Winter Shelter**
*Cedars
Spruce
Juniper
Pine

**Nesting sites**
Above woody plants plus:
Ninebark

**More Native Plant Resources**

**Books**

*Birdscaping in the Midwest: A Guide to Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds*
By Mariette Nowak

*Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants, Updated and Expanded*
By Douglas W. Tallamy

*Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan*
By Lynn M. Steiner

**Nurseries**

*Potager Garden Design LLC (local Detroit nursery)*
[https://potagerdetroit.com/](https://potagerdetroit.com/)

*Keep Growing Detroit (local Detroit nursery)*
[https://keep-growing-detroit.square.site/shop/native-plants/7](https://keep-growing-detroit.square.site/shop/native-plants/7)

*Detroit Abloom (local Detroit nursery)*

*Michigan Wildflower Farm (seed order catalog):*
[www.michiganwildflowerfarm.com](http://www.michiganwildflowerfarm.com) or (517) 647-6010

*Wildtype Native Plants (plants, design and consulting):*
[www.wildtypeplants.com](http://www.wildtypeplants.com) or (517) 244-1140

*Native Plant Nursery (plants, design and consulting):*
[www.nativeplant.com](http://www.nativeplant.com) or (734) 677-3260
Prairie Moon Nursery (plants and seed catalog):
https://www.prairiemoon.com/

**Websites for Native Plant Information**

National Audubon Plants for Birds Program
https://www.audubon.org/native-plants

Michigan Native Plant Producers Association
http://www.mnppa.org/

Native Plants Nursery database
http://www.nativeplant.com/plants/search/input

Michigan Botanical Club
http://www.michbotclub.org/

**Websites for Seedling Identification**

Native Plant Seedling ID

Common Weed Seedling ID