

Species Name	Common Name	Shade Tolerance	Height	Water Tolerance	Salinity Tol. (ppt)	Attracts	Nesting	Cover	Food	Flowering Period	Color
Herbaceous Plants											
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	spike grass		8"-16"	above MHW	0-50	W				Aug. - Oct.	green
<i>Eleocharis obtusa</i>	blunt spikerush		0.5'-1'	RI (0"-6")	<0.5	S,M				May - July	green
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	soft rush		3'-4'	II	<0.5	S,M,W				June - Sept.	greenish brown
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	rice cutgrass		1'-3'	RI (0"-3")	<0.5	S,W				July - Oct.	lavender
<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	spatterdock		up to 16"	PI (0'-3')	<0.5	M,W				May - Oct.	yellow
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switch grass		2'-4'	MHW, U	0-10±	S,M,W				July - Oct.	green
<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	arrow arum		2'-3'	PI (0"-18")	0-1±	S,M,W				Apr. - July	green to white
<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	pickerelweed		1'-3.5'	PI (0"-12")	<0.5	W				June - Nov.	purple
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	duck potato		up to 4'	PI (0"-18")	<0.5	M,W				July - Sept.	white
<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	lizard's tail		up to 4'	PI (0"-12")	<0.5	W				June - Sept.	white
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	woolgrass		4'-5'	SI	<0.5	M,W				Aug. - Sept.	brown
<i>Scirpus fluviatilis</i>	river bulrush		2'-7'	RI (0"-6")	<0.5					June - Sept.	green
<i>Scirpus pungens</i>	common three-square		up to 4'	PI (0"-12")	0-15	S,M				June - Sept.	green
<i>Scirpus robustus</i>	saltmarsh bulrush		up to 4'	near MHW	0-30					July - Oct.	green
<i>Scirpus tabernaemontani</i>	soft stem bulrush		6'-10'	PI (0"-12")	0-5±					June - Sept.	green
<i>Sparganium americanum</i>	eastern bur-reed		up to 5'	PI (0"-6")	<0.5	M,W				May - Aug.	green
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	smooth cordgrass		4'-7'	midtide to MHW	0-35±	S,M,W				July - Sept.	green
<i>Spartina patens</i>	salt meadow hay		1'-3'	above MHW	0-35±	S,W				July - Sept.	green
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	narrow-leaved cattail		up to 6'	PI (0"-12")	0-15±	W				June - July	greenish brown
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	broad-leaved cattail		up to 6'	PI (0"-12")	<0.5					May - June	greenish brown
Shrubs											
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	buttonbush		6'-12'	PI (0"-12")	resistant	P,B,M,W				July - Aug.	white
<i>Morella pensylvanica</i>	bayberry		6'-15'	II	0-20	S,W				Mar. - Apr.	yellowish green

Native Plant Attractions Key

 B= Beneficial insects
 P= Pollinators

 H= Hummingbirds
 S= Songbirds

 M= Mammals
 W= Waterfowl

Shade Tolerance Key

 = Full Sun = Partial Shade
 = Full Shade

Water Tolerance Key

 SI= Season Inundation
 RI= Regular Inundation

(ppt = parts per thousand)

 II= Irregular Inundation
 PI= Permanent Inundation

 U= Upland
 MHW= Mean High Water

What are the essential elements of waterfowl habitat?

Waterfowl prefer several types of habitat: agricultural fields, submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), and herbaceous emergent plants. If your property includes either agricultural lands or waterfront, you can add these essential elements to attract a variety of waterfowl.

Why use native plants?

Native plants provide further benefits because they are adapted to local soil and climate conditions, create habitat for a variety of wildlife, and make up the beautiful, authentic landscape of the Chesapeake Bay region.

How to improve waterfowl habitat in your landscape:

Many waterfowl are looking for sheltered areas where they can rest and refuel during their cold weather flying. Planting a variety of herbaceous wetland species, as well as a variety of shoreline species, will help provide necessary food and shelter. These plants also will stabilize shoreline soils, reduce sediment flows, and filter water run-off. This, in turn, will help support SAV habitat, another important food source for waterfowl.

For More Information:

Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network
<http://www.baygateways.net/waterfowlposter.cfm>

USFWS
Chesapeake Bay Field Office
<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/Migbird.htm>

Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping
<http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/pdf/chesapeakenatives.pdf>

Wetland Planting Guide for the Northeastern United States
http://www.wetland.org/publications_home.htm



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