

A cypress cottage shaded by live oaks with Spanish moss...

A sprinkling of *filé*, made from the leaves of the sassafras tree, to thicken the gumbo...

A parish called *Plaquemines*, the French word for persimmon, which used to grow in abundance there...

natives

LOUISIANA

The native plants around us define our "sense of place." They are the backdrop to our unique yet diverse cultural identity.

But Louisiana's native habitats, once vast, are disappearing from the effects of land loss, urban and industrial development, and invasive species like the Chinese tallow tree. How will our "sense of place" be affected if our coastal marshes vanish, or if our cypress forests turn to Chinese tallow?

Even in urban settings, you can help maintain Louisiana's ecological integrity and cultural heritage by planting native plants when gardening or landscaping.

Compared to exotic plants, natives are better adapted to our local climate, require less maintenance, are more likely to survive storms and seasonal extremes in temperature or rainfall, and make superior wildlife habitat.

Louisiana is home to roughly 2,400 indigenous plant species. There is a beautiful native plant for just about every landscaping or gardening use.

Suggested natives:

Large Trees

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bald Cypress | Red Bay |
| Red Mulberry | Sassafras |
| Southern Magnolia | Sugarberry |
| Persimmon | Catalpa |
| Live Oak | Eastern Red Cedar |
| Tulip Poplar | Green Ash |

Small Trees and Shrubs

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Roughleaf Dogwood | Yaupon Holly |
| Mayhaw | Parsley Hawthorn |
| Turk's Cap | Cherry Laurel |
| Red Buckeye | Florida Anise |
| Buttonbush | Spicebush |
| American Beautyberry | Wahoo |
| Pawpaw | Wax Myrtle |

Flowers and Vines

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Cardinal Flower | Blazing Star |
| Goldenrod | Indian Blanket |
| Pickernelweed | Purple Coneflower |
| Rose Mallow | Wild Petunia |
| Horsemint | Coral Honeysuckle |
| Black-eyed Susan | Maypop Vine |
| Louisiana Iris | Trumpet Creeper |

For more information, contact:

The Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
1-800-259-0869
www.btnep.org or invasive.btnep.org

The Louisiana Native Plant Initiative
Acadiana RC&D Council 1-337-896-0362, Ext 3

Natural Heritage Program,
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
<http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/experience/naturalheritage/>

The Louisiana Native Plant Society
www.lnps.org

The LSU AgCenter
www.lsuagcenter.com



Wahoo

Wax Myrtle

Turk's Cap

Maypop

Indian Blanket

Louisiana Blue Flag Iris

Buttonbush

Black-eyed Susan

Pickernelweed

Trumpet Creeper

Purple Coneflower

Rose Mallow

Stoke's Aster

Sustain Louisiana.
Plant natives.

