

# Why Going Native Is Good For Nature And You!

[PlantItWild.net](http://PlantItWild.net)

Facebook page, PIW-Plant It Wild

Updated 2023



## Use Michigan Native Plants To:

- **Support** entire communities of life by providing food and shelter for birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and all wildlife. A native plant is a bird feeder you don't have to fill.
- **Preserve** the natural diversity in the landscape.
- **Create** wildlife corridors by connecting one native planting to the next.
- **Thrive** in local soil types and weather conditions.
- **Reduce** runoff and erosion by efficiently soaking up rain water with their deep roots. Eliminate the need for irrigation after establishment
- **Provide** natural mosquito repellent. Dragonflies and other invertebrate predators will flock to your yard in search of a meal.
- **Offer** natural resistance to many diseases and pests.
- **Provide** a dynamic show year-round due to the variety of their flowers, shapes, colors, and textures.
- **Reduce** the size of your lawn. Stop mowing and relax.

## Where To Purchase Michigan Native Plants

### Misty Ridge

Jody and Paul Zemsta  
6171 N. 11 Mile Road  
Mesick, MI 49668  
(231) 885-2290  
Facebook - Misty Ridge  
Greenhouse

### Four Season Nursery

Brian Zimmerman  
7557 E. Harry's Road  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
(231) 932-7400  
[fourseasonnursery.biz](http://fourseasonnursery.biz)

### Greystone Gardens

Tom Brodhagen  
9875 Manning Road  
Honor, MI 49640  
Just south of Empire  
(231) 326-5855  
Facebook - Greystone  
Gardens

### Black Cap Farm

Matt LaMore  
5265 Crescent Beach Rd.  
Onokama, MI 49675  
(231) 398-5972  
[blackcapplants.com](http://blackcapplants.com)

### Designs By Nature

Vern Stephens  
9874 Chadwick  
Laingsburg, MI 48848  
(517) 651-6502  
<https://designsbynaturellc.com>

### Wildtype

Bill Schneider  
900 N. Every Rd.  
Mason, MI 48854  
(517) 244-1140  
[wildtypeplants.com](http://wildtypeplants.com)

### Birdsfoot Native Nursery

Garrette Noyes and  
Blythe Webster  
4276 Woodman Road  
South Boardman, MI  
49680  
(231) 313-6749  
(248) 202-4953  
[birdsfootnativenursery.com](http://birdsfootnativenursery.com)

### Prairie Moon Nursery

Winona, MN 55987  
(866) 417-8156 or  
[prairiemoon.com](http://prairiemoon.com)

### Prairie Nursery, Inc.

Westfield, WI 53964  
1-800-476-9453  
[prairienursery.com](http://prairienursery.com)

### Go Beyond Beauty

[habitatmatters.org/go-beyond-beauty.html](http://habitatmatters.org/go-beyond-beauty.html)

## What Are Michigan Native Plants?

### Herbarium University of Michigan

This is a searchable and browsable site about basic information on all vascular plants known to occur outside of cultivation in Michigan.  
[michiganflora.net](http://michiganflora.net)

### Michigan Natural Features Inventory

There is a wealth of plant inventory information and data at this web site!  
[mnfi.anr.msu.edu/](http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/)

Vegetation circa 1800 map: [mnfi.anr.msu.edu/resources/vegetation-circa-1800](http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/resources/vegetation-circa-1800)  
Michigan's Natural Plant Communities: [mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/list](http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/list)

## Books On Native Plants

*Bringing Nature Home – How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens*,  
By: Douglas W. Tallamy. A must read! [homegrownnationalpark.org/](http://homegrownnationalpark.org/)

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

*Wildflowers of Michigan Field Guide*, By: Stan Tekiela

## Web Sites

Plant It Wild

[plantitwild.net](http://plantitwild.net)

Benzie Conservation District

[benziecd.org](http://benziecd.org)

Manistee Conservation District

[manisteeed2.org](http://manisteeed2.org)

Grand Traverse Conservation District

[natureiscalling.org](http://natureiscalling.org)

Leelanau Conservation District

[leelanaucd.org/](http://leelanaucd.org/)

Michigan Wildflower Association

[wildflowersmich.org](http://wildflowersmich.org)

Northwest Michigan Invasive Species  
Network (ISN) & Go Beyond Beauty

[habitatmatters.org](http://habitatmatters.org)

Saving Birds Thru Habitat

[savingbirds.org](http://savingbirds.org)

Pollinator Partnership

[pollinator.org](http://pollinator.org)

Pollinators by Heather Holm

[pollinatorsnativeplants.com](http://pollinatorsnativeplants.com)

Xerces Society

[xerces.org](http://xerces.org)

Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership

[shorelinepartnership.org](http://shorelinepartnership.org)

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

[watershedcouncil.org](http://watershedcouncil.org)

Rain Gardens of West Michigan

[raingardens.org](http://raingardens.org)

USDA Plants Data Base

[plants.usda.gov/java](http://plants.usda.gov/java)

Wisconsin Vascular Plants

[botany.wisc.edu/wisflora](http://botany.wisc.edu/wisflora)

Nature Change

[naturechange.org/](http://naturechange.org/)

Wild Ones

[wildones.org/chapters/michigan](http://wildones.org/chapters/michigan)