Planning Guide

What are the objectives of the area to be managed?

e.g., songbirds, animals, winter visitors

What is the soil type? e.g., sand, loam clay

What is the pH? e.g., 6.5, 7.0

What are the moisture conditions?
e.g., dry, well drained, moist, poorly drained

What trees or shrubs are available for cover nearby? e.g., white pine, cedar, raspberries,

What trees or shrubs available on site as food? e.g., white ash, nannyberry, staghorn sumac, raspberries, hawthorn

Is it necessary to plant shrubs?
If yes, what shrubs would be suitable?

Selected References

McKeating, G.B., and W.A. Creighton. 1974. <u>Backyard Habitat</u>. *Ontario Naturalist*. 14(2):21–29.

Terres, J. K. 1968. Songbirds in Your Garden. T.Y. Crowell Co., N.Y., 256p.

Gill, J.D., and W. Healy. 1974 Shrubs and Vines for Northeastern Wildlife. N.E. Forest Exp. Sta. Upper Darby. Pa. 180p. illus.

Petrides, G.A. 1958. A Field Guide to Trees and Shrubs. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 431p.

Updated 2007 by Sheila Edwards 8–12–75–25M:75–41170

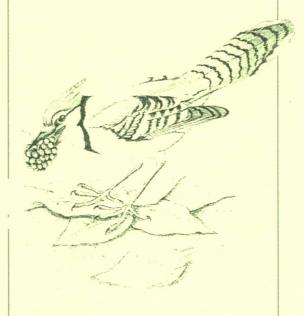


Ottawa Stewardship Counc Conseil de l'intendance environmentale d'Ottawa 3889 Rideau Valley Drive P.O. Box 599 Manotick, ON K4M 1A5

www.easternontariostewardship.org/ottawa

Shrubs for Wildlife

by David Euler/Wildlife Habitat Ecologist







Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Selected Ontario Shrubs: Site Requirements and Use by Wildlife

	Soil	Range	Moisture	Light	Growth Form	Use by Wildlife
Highbush Cranberry Viburnum trilobum	fertile soil, either acid or alkaline	north to James Bay and Sioux Lookout growth in moist sites	well drained to moist but not dry, greatest	does well in full sun, will grow in shade	tall shrub, 2 to 4 m	useful as a winter subsistance food, eaten primarily after berries have frozen and thawed
Red Osier Dogwood Cornus sericea L. ssp. sericea	fertile soils are best; optimum pH 5 to 6	north to James Bay and Sioux Lookout	best in moist to wet sites	full sun -	smail shrub, usually less than 3m	93 species of songbirds eat the berries; deer, moose, rabbits and hare browse twigs; good for stream bank planting; important cover plant for grouse and woodcock
Gray Dogwood Cornus racemosa	very wide range of soil; pH 4.6 to 7.8	generally south of the Laurentian shield	best in moist sites, will tolerate dry conditions	full sun is best, some shade is tolerated	small shrub, 1 to 2 m	
Nannyberry Viburnum lentagō	should be moderately fertile .	north to Cochrane and Sioux Lookout	does well in poorly drained sites	full sun is best, will grow in shade	tall shrub, 4 to 7 m	many birds eat the berries; browsed by rabbits and deer
Black Elderberry Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis	does best in well drained soil, sandy to loamy, pH5.5 6 is optimum	north to Sault Ste. Marie and North Bay	well drained is best, will grow in moist areas	full sun is best, will grow in shade	shrub, 1 to 4 m	50 species of songbirds feed on the berries; browsed by rabbits, deer, and moose; red squirrels, chipmunks and mice eat the berries
Hawthorns Crataegus spp.	best in deep fertile soil, will tolerate a wide range of soil types	will grow north to Sudbury but does best south of Parry Sound	best in dry to well drained areas	does poorly in shade, best in full sun	small tree, 6 to 9 m 5 to 8 cm thorns	favourite food for 25 species of birds including grosbeaks and grouse; provides excellent nesting sites; sometimes browsed by rabbits and deer
Sumac Rhus typhina	can grow in very poor soil, optimum pH 5–6	will grow north to Sudbury but does best south of Parry Sound	well drained to dry	full sun is best, will grow in shade	groups of small trees, 2 to 5 m	30 species of songbirds eat the fruit; winter food for deer and rabbits
Rasberry Rubus spp.	very wide variety of soil types, can grow almost anywhere	some varieties north to Cochrane and Sioux Lookout	well drained but needs adequate moisture to become established	full sun is best, will grow in shade	brambles, less than 1.6 m; thick clusters	excellent summer food for wildlife, many birds raccoons, chipmunks, and squirrels eat the fruit; rabbits and deer eat the stems, much value as cover for rabbits and birds
Chokecherry Prunus virginiana	best in rich, well drained, moist soil, optimum pH 6–8	north to Cochrane and Sioux Lookout	well drained to moist is best	full sun is best, will grow in open woods	small tree, 4 to 8 m	70 species of birds feed on the berries; small mammals eat berries and bark; browsed by rabbits
Pincherry Prunus pensylvanica	any soil, optimum pH 5–6	north to Cochrane and Sioux Lookout	well drained is best, will grow in moist sites	full sun, will persist in semi-shade	small tree, 6 to 11 m	25 species of birds feed on the berries; small mammals eat berries and bark