

Bird- and Butterfly-Friendly Plants for Central Florida



Tufted Titmouse

Provided by



*"The Voice of Conservation
in Central Florida"*

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Planting Florida native plants such as those in the following lists can help provide vital food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other wildlife, as well as provide hours of enjoyment for wildlife watchers.

Large Trees

Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) – trees in the genus *Prunus* are top choices for attracting insect-eating birds; host for Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Cabbage Palm (*Sabal palmetto*) – Florida's State Tree; nectar for pollinators; fruit for birds; host for Monk

Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*) – oaks are top choices to support caterpillars and thus insect-eating birds; acorn is important food for larger songbirds and mammals; host for several hairstreaks and skippers

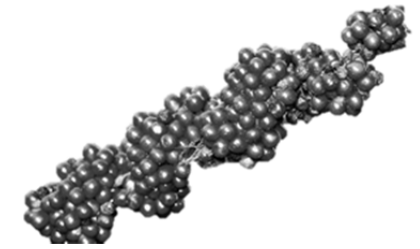
Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) – pines are important to support insect-eating birds; nut for birds and mammals; a nest site for many birds including hawks and woodpeckers

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) – maples support insect-eating birds; fruit for birds and mammals; early nectar for pollinators

Red-cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) – fruit and dense shelter for wildlife

Sugarberry or Hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) – fruit for birds, host for Hackberry Emperor and Tawny Emperor

Winged Elm (*Ulmus alata*) – supports insect-eating birds; seeds for birds and small mammals; host for Question Mark



American Beautyberry

Shrubs to Small Trees

American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) – fruit for birds

Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) – fruit for birds; *Vaccinium* species support insect-eating birds

Flatwoods Plum or Hog Plum (*Prunus umbellata*) – *Prunus* species are top choices for attracting insect-eating birds; fruit for wildlife

Myrtle Oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*) – native oaks are top choices to support caterpillars and thus insect-eating birds; acorn is important wildlife food source; host for several hairstreaks and skippers

Saw Palmetto (*Serenoa repens*) – fruit for birds and mammals; host for Palmetto Skipper; dense cover

Southern Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera* a.k.a. *Myrica cerifera*) – important fruit for winter birds such as Yellow-rumped Warblers and Tree Swallows

Walter's Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*) – early nectar for pollinators; fruit for wildlife

Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) – adaptable evergreen shrub to small tree; cover and red fruit for songbirds



Gulf Fritillary

Vines

- Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) – nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies
- Corkystem Passionvine (*Passiflora suberosa*) – host plant for Zebra Heliconian (a.k.a. Zebra Longwing) and Gulf Fritillary



Cloudless Sulphur Caterpillar

Flowers and Groundcovers

- Butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) – a milkweed host for Monarch and Queen
- Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*) – nectar for pollinators; sunflowers are important to insect-eating as well as seed-eating birds
- Partridge Pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*) – host for Cloudless Sulphur and Gray Hairstreak
- Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) – goldenrods are important to insect-eating and seed-eating birds
- Turkey Tangle Fog Fruit (*Phyla nodiflora*) – nectar for pollinators; host for White Peacock and Phaon Crescent

Avoid and Remove the following exotic, invasive plants that disrupt Florida ecosystems. For more information on exotic plants see: Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council:

www.fleppc.org/list/11list.html

- Air Potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)
- Brazilian Pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*)
- Cat Claw Vine (*Macfadyena unguis-cati*)
- Chinese Tallow (*Sapium sebiferum*)
- Mexican Petunia (*Ruellia brittoniana*)
- Skunk Vine (*Paederia foetida*)

Information Sources

- Center for Aquatic and Invasive Weeds, University of Florida, IFAS Extension. plants.ifas.ufl.edu
- Florida Association of Native Nurseries. www.afnn.org
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. *Planting a Refuge for Wildlife*. myfwc.com/viewing/adventures/wildlife-viewing-at-home/refuge
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