

Follow-along Handout to Accompany PPT presentation:

“(A Few) Native Shrubs and Trees of Virginia Beach”

by Nicole Knudson, owner/operator of Lady Fern’s Native Plants

Presentation to Virginia Beach Master Gardener Volunteers on January 26, 2026

Virginia’s Five Physiographic Provinces

Benefits of Natives

Intro to VDOF Throwing Shade VA discount incentive program

Species selection criteria for PPT presentation:

Native to Virginia Beach

Qualifies for Throwing Shade VA 2026

Generally available for purchase

Significant attributes (wildlife value, erosion control, fragrance/aesthetics, etc.)

Perhaps not yet in the home landscape but generally easy to add

Shrubs and Small Trees:

*Aronia arbutifolia*, *A. melanocarpa*

*Callicarpa americana*

*Ceanothus americanus*

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

*Clethra alnifolia*

*Cornus amomum*

*Hamamelis virginiana*

*Ilex glabra*, *I. verticillata*, *I. vomitoria*

*Itea virginica*

*Kalmia latifolia*

*Lindera benzoin*

*Morella caroliniensis*, *M. cerifera*, *M. pennsylvanica*

*Rhododendron atlanticum, R. periclymenoides, R. viscosum*

*Sambucus canadensis*

*Viburnum dentatum, V. nudum, V. prunifolium*

Medium and Large Trees:

*Amelanchier arborea, A. canadensis*

*Asimina triloba*

*Cercis canadensis*

*Chionanthus virginicus*

*Cornus florida*

*Ilex opaca*

*Liriodendron tulipifera*

*Magnolia virginiana*

*Nyssa sylvatica*

*Oxydendrum arboreum*

*Salix nigra*

*Sassafras albidum*

Resources to query for plants by selection criteria:

Virginia DCR-Natural Heritage (Plant Finder query tool)

Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora

Flora of Virginia smartphone app