

Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants You May Find at Your Local Nursery

INVASIVE plant – Bradford Pear



Bradford or Callery Pear – *Pyrus calleryana*

Planted as a popular flowering urban and suburban landscape tree

Invasive throughout the US. Prevents colonization of native species. Most frequently found in disturbed woodlands, along roadsides and in old fields. Grows in a wide range of soil types

Native to Asia. Brought into the US in 1908 as ornamental tree and in 1918 as rootstock for domesticated pears

Control of Bradford Pear:

Seedlings can be hand pulled, saplings pulled out with tools, trees girdled or cut down.

Re-sprouts can be sprayed with glyphosate

Native Alternative



Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida

15-20' deciduous tree, single or multiple trunk, 15-30' spreading crown

White or pink flowers, March-May before leaves come out; followed by brilliant red fruit
Sun to shade, rich, well-drained, acid soil

Attracts pollinators and songbirds.
Larval host to 115 native caterpillar species

Native Alternative



Eastern Redbud
Cercis canadensis

15-35' deciduous tree, one to several trunks, 15-35' umbrella-like crown

Deep pink flowers April-May in tight clusters along the stems and branches

Part shade to shade, loose, moist, sandy fertile and well-drained soils; tolerates clay soil
Attracts native bees and tolerates deer browsing

Native Alternative



Common Persimmon
Diospyros virginiana

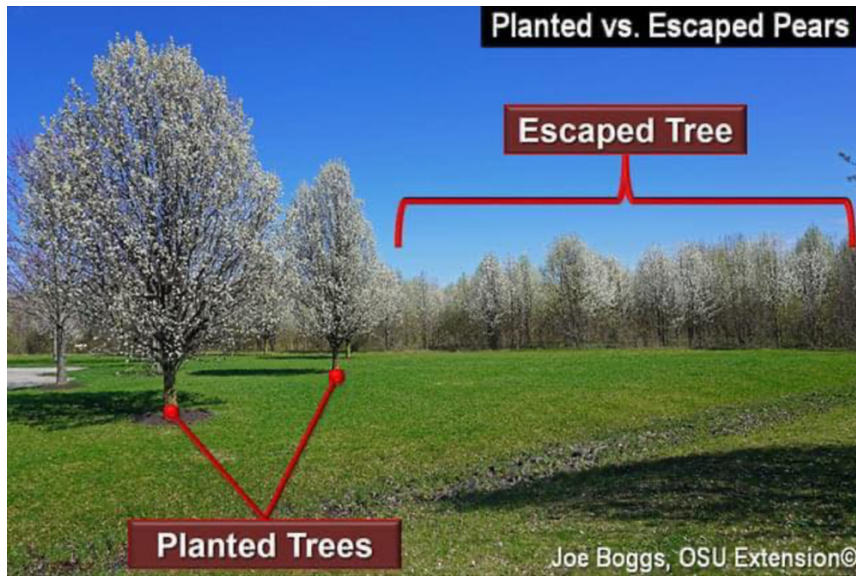
15-100' deciduous tree, 25-35' spreading crown, pendulous branches

Bell-shaped yellow flowers in April-June; large, sweet, orange fruits in fall and yellow-green leaves
Attracts wildlife and is larval host to the Luna Moth

Tree can be used as erosion control and is free of disease and insect problems

Photos borrowed from the North Carolina State University Extension Webpage – through the [CCPL](http://www.ccpl.org)

Prepared by Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Association



Other Suggested Natives:

- Fringetree - *Chionanthus virginicus*
- Downy Serviceberry - *Amelanchier arborea*

Photographs:

- Callery Pear – *Pyrus calleryana*: Country Boy 1949 – CC BY-SA 2.0
- Flowering Dogwood - *Cornus florida*: Jim Robbins – CC BY-NC-CD 4.0
- Eastern Redbud - *Cercis canadensis*: Dcrjrs – CC BY 3.0
- Common Persimmon - *Diospyros virginiana*: USGS Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab – CCO

Good sources for purchasing native plants:

Nurseries in Virginia

- Hill House Farm and Nursery – Castleton, VA
- Hummingbird Hill Native Plant Nursery, - Charlottesville, VA
- Reedy Creek Environmental – Richmond, VA

Virginia Native Plant Society chapter plant sales - See VNPS Webpage for links to chapters

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden - Spring and fall plant sales

And, if your favorite nursery does not have a large selection of native plants, ask them to get more.



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Goochland-Powhatan
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