




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

<p>INVASIVE plant – Heavenly Bamboo</p>  <p>Heavenly Bamboo - <i>Nandina domestica</i></p>	<p>Native to Japan and China - brought to the US sometime in the early 1800s as an ornamental plant, popular for long-lasting berries and evergreen leaves.</p> <p>Commonly escapes cultivated areas and forms dense thickets that can crowd out native plants. Classified as invasive in many states, but can still be found for sale in nurseries.</p> <p>Berries remain for long time because birds avoid them until all other sources are exhausted Berries contain cyanide and are toxic to birds and other animals.</p> <p>Ecosystem detriment: does not serve as host plant</p>
--	--

Native Alternative	Native Alternative	Native Alternative
 <p>Strawberry Bush <i>Euonymus americanus</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 6-12' Blooms: green May - June Part shade – ridged twigs turn purple in the sun Red-orange foliage in fall Seeds attract birds and wild turkeys Not deer resistant</p>	 <p>Red Chokeberry <i>Aronia arbutifolia</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 6-12' Blooms: white – May Full sun – moist soil Red-orange foliage in the fall Fruit is edible- makes good jam Fruit attracts mammals & birds No serious disease/insect problems Not deer resistant</p>	 <p>Yaupon holly <i>Ilex vomitoria</i></p> <p>Evergreen shrub - dioecious Height: 12-36' Blooms: white April – May Sun -Part Shade Birds eat berries in late winter after freezes and thaws. No serious disease/insect problems Deer resistant</p>

Photos borrowed from the North Carolina State University Extension Webpage - through the [CCPL](#)

Prepared by Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Association

Other suggested Alternatives:

- Winterberry - *Ilex verticillate*
- Beautyberry - *Callicarpa americana*

Photographs:

- Heavenly Bamboo - *Nandina domestica*: Cathy DeWitt – CC BY 4.0
- Strawberry Bush - *Euonymus americanus*: Jim Robbins – CC BY-NC-ND 4.0
- Red Chokeberry - *Aronia arbutifolia*: Mr. T in DC – CC BY-ND 2.0
- Yaupon holly - *Ilex vomitoria*: Jim Robbins – CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

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

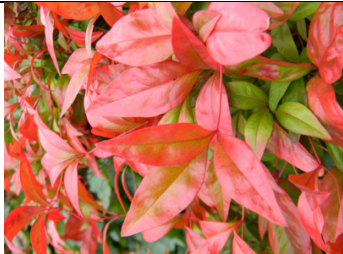
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden - Spring and fall plant sales

Online Resources:

- Prairie Moon Nursery
- Gardens of the Blueridge
- Prairie Nursery
- Direct Native Plants
- Mid- Atlantic Natives

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

Addendum:

	<p><i>Nandina domestica</i> 'Fire Power'</p> <p>Dwarf varieties rarely produce flowers and berries, reducing their threat as invasive plants. Rather than red berries, they produce brilliant red fall foliage that lasts throughout the winter.</p> <p>Grows 1-2' tall and 1-2' wide.</p>
---	--



Helping Our Planet Endure

Goochland-Powhatan
Master Gardener Association

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the US. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

