

Trees for Bees

This is not an exhaustive list of native trees and shrubs that support our native bees, but these are some of the most recommended. This list was shared with me by Dr. Sam Droege of the USGS Bee Lab.

Salicaceae¹	Willow family
Salix nigra	Black Willow
Salix sericea	Silky Willow
Salix caroliniana	Coastal Plain Willow
Ericaceae¹	Heath Family
Oxydendrum arboreum	Sourwood
Eubotrys racemosa	Fetterbush
Vaccinium arboreum	Farkleberry
Vaccinium stamineum ¹	Deerberry
Vaccinium spp ¹ .	Blueberries
Gaylussacia spp. ¹	Huckleberries
Eubotrys racemosa	Sweetbells
Rhododendron ¹	Native Azaleas
Lyonia spp. ¹	Maleberry/ Staggerbush/ Fetterbush
Cornaceae²	Dogwood Family
Cornus spp.	Dogwoods
Cornus racemosa ¹	Gray Dogwood
Cornus amomum ¹	Silky Dogwood
Cornus rugosa ¹	Roundleaf Dogwood
Cornus stricta ¹	Stiff Dogwood
Fabaceae or Leguminosae	Pea Family
Cercis canadensis ¹	Redbud, Eastern
Gleditsia triacanthos	Honeylocust
Rosaceae	Rose Family
Prunus serotina	Black Cherry
Prunus pensylvanica	Fire Cherry
Malus coronaria	Sweet Crab Apple
Malus angustifolia	Southern Crab Apple
Amelanchier canadensis	Canadian Serviceberry
Amelanchier arborea	Common Serviceberry
Amelanchier obovalis	Coastal Serviceberry
Amelanchier laevis	Allegheny Serviceberry
Acer rubrum	Red Maple
Aesculus flava	Yellow Buckeye

<i>Aesculus sylvatica</i>	Painted Buckeye
<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	Devil's Walking Stick
<i>Castanea dentata</i> ¹	American Chestnut
<i>Castanea pumila</i> ¹	Chinkapin
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Summersweet
<i>Frangula caroliniana</i>	Carolina Buckthorn
<i>Halesia tetraptera</i> (or Carolina)	Little Silverbells
<i>Hypericum</i>	St. John's-wort
<i>Ilex</i> spp.	Hollies
<i>Itea virginiana</i>	Sweet Pepperbush
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar
<i>Nyssa aquatica</i>	Water Tupelo
<i>Nyssa biflora</i>	Swamp Tupelo
<i>Nyssa silvatica</i>	Black Gum
<i>Rhus</i>	Sumac
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	American Bladdernut
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood

¹ These families genera or species support specialist bees

² Large bract dogwoods support generalist bees, but there are bees that specialize on small bract dogwoods.

Specialist Bees: https://jarrodflower.com/specialist_bees.html

It is locally native?

<http://www.vaplantatlas.org/index.php?do=start&search=Search>

<https://www.plantvirginianatives.org/>

Natural Plant Communities: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/>

Hiring a certified arborist: <https://goodtreecare.com/>

Tree Care information:

<https://www.treesaregood.org/>

<https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/index.shtml>

Report your tree and shrub planting: <https://arcg.is/WryDG>

Tips on cultivars:

1. Read the plant patent if there is one.
2. Beware the "x" in scientific names (e.g *Cupressus x leylandii*), it usually denotes a hybrid like Leyland cypress
3. Avoid cultivars that change shape or color of flower, leaf or fruit. These changes may make the part unrecognizable as a resource, or may also change chemistry to make it inedible. Many insects cannot see red.

