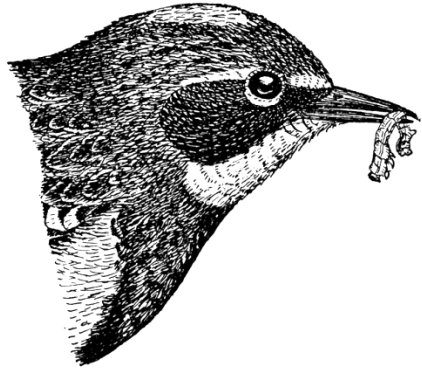


Bird- and Butterfly-Friendly Plants for Central Florida



Yellow-rumped Warbler, ClipArt ETC, FCIT, USF

Provided by



*"The Voice of Conservation
in Central Florida"*

P.O. Box 941142
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Using Florida native plants in your landscape can provide vital food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other wildlife, as well as provide hours of enjoyment for wildlife watchers.

Large Trees

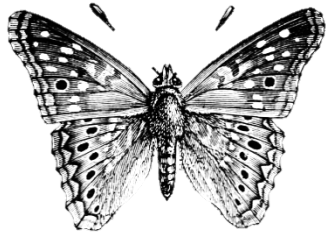
- Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) – trees in the genus *Prunus* are top choices for attracting fruit- and insect-eating birds; host for Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- Cabbage Palm (*Sabal palmetto*) – Florida's State Tree; nectar for pollinators; fruit for birds; host for Monk Skipper
- Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) – fruit and dense shelter for wildlife
- 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; nuts 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
- Sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*) – fruit for birds; host for Hackberry Emperor and Tawny Emperor and microlepidoptera
- Winged Elm (*Ulmus alata*) – supports insect-eating birds; seeds for birds and small mammals; host for Question Mark



Southern Wax Myrtle, ClipArt ETC, FCIT, USF

Shrubs to Small Trees

- American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) – fruit for birds
- Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*) – fruit for birds and mammals; *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; dense cover; host for Palmetto Skipper
- 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



Hackberry Emperor, ClipArt ETC, FCIT, USF

Vines

Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

– nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies

Corkystem Passionvine (*Passiflora suberosa*) – host plant for Zebra

Heliconian (*Florida's State Butterfly*, a.k.a. Zebra Longwing) and Gulf Fritillary



Monarch Caterpillar, ClipArt ETC, FCIT, USF

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 or Frog Fruit (*Phyla nodiflora*) – nectar; host for White Peacock and Phaon Crescent

Avoid and Remove the following non-native, invasive plants that disrupt Florida ecosystems. For more information on non-native plants see: Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC): floridainvasivespecies.org/

- Air Potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)
- Brazilian Pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*)
- Cat's Claw Vine (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)
- Chinese Tallow (*Sapium sebiferum*)
- Mexican Petunia (*Ruellia brittoniana*)
- Rosary Pea (*Abrus precatorius*)
- Skunk Vine (*Paederia foetida*)

Information Sources

Center for Aquatic and Invasive Weeds, University of Florida, IFAS Extension. <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Florida Association of Native Nurseries. <https://www.fann.org/>

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Note: Dr. Tallamy and students have documented how nesting songbirds need small caterpillars to feed their young, and only native plants host these caterpillars.

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Distribution code: Butterfly

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