

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

<p>INVASIVE plant – Butterfly Bush</p>  <p>Butterfly Bush <i>Buddleja davidii</i></p>	<p>Popular landscape plant to attract butterflies and bees -- but does not provide habitat for them</p> <p>Commonly escapes cultivated areas and becomes invasive in a variety of habitats, displacing native plants</p> <p>Native to China Brought to the U.S. in the early 1900s as an ornamental shrub</p> <p>Control of Butterfly Bush Manual: Hand pick seedlings or dig out larger bushes whenever possible Chemical: cut plants and treat stumps with a systemic herbicide. Be sure to follow instructions on the herbicide label.</p>	
<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 6' Blooms: white to pink June – September Part shade – shade Attracts butterflies, bees and other insects Fruit attract birds Deer Resistant</p>	<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>Beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 3' - 6' Blooms: white to pink May-July Part shade, heat tolerant Good understory shrub Requires little maintenance Valuable as wildlife food plant Unusually brilliant berries</p>	<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>Virginia Sweetspire <i>Itea virginica</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 6-8' Blooms: white April – June Part Shade Attracts insects and birds Can form dense colonies Great fall foliage color</p>

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Prepared by Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Association

Other suggested alternatives:

Summersweet, Sweet Pepperbush - *Clethra alnifolia*
New York ironweed - *Vernonia noveboracensis*

Photographs:

Butterfly Bush - *Buddleja davidii*: Gonmi – CC BY 2.0
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Beautyberry - *Callicarpa americana*: Forest and Kim Starr – CC BY 2.0
Virginia Sweetspire - *Itea virginica*: Cathy DeWitt – CC BY 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.



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