

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

<p>INVASIVE plant – <i>Berberis bealei</i></p>  <p>Leatherleaf Mahonia - <i>Berberis bealei</i></p>	<p>Leathery, spiny leaves which look like giant holly leaves Seeds are spread by birds. Can colonize, forming dense thickets; can take over large area</p> <p>Native to China Planted as an ornamental shrub and is now invading woodlands in Southern US</p> <p>Control of Leatherleaf Mahonia Remove the berries before they are ripe and dispose of them. Manually pull all seedlings Be careful of the spiny leaves when removing mature bushes</p>	
<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>American Beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i></p> <p>Understory deciduous shrub Height: 3-6' Blooms: white to pink May – July Fragrant foliage Part shade – moist soil Attracts butterflies, birds Nectar source, food for wildlife Not deer Resistant</p>	<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>Southern Wax Myrtle Eastern Bayberry <i>Morella cerifera</i></p> <p>Evergreen shrub – popular screening shrub Height: 6-12' Blooms: green March - April Sun - part shade Berries eaten by many species of birds Both drought and flood Tolerant</p>	<p>Native Alternative</p>  <p>Black Chokeberry <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i></p> <p>Deciduous shrub Height: 6-12' Blooms: white May Blackish purple berries Part shade Attracts insects and birds Can form small colonies Crimson-red foliage in fall</p>

Photos borrowed from the North Carolina State University Extension Webpage - through the [CCPL](#)
Prepared by Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Association

Other suggested alternatives:

Inkberry – *Ilex glabra*
Allegheny Barberry - *Berberis canadensis*
Yaupon Holly – *Ilex vomitoria*

Photographs:

Leatherleaf Mahonia - *Berberis bealei*: Jim the Photographer – CC BY 2.0
American Beautyberry - *Callicarpa americana*: Forest and Kim Starr – CC BY 2.0
Southern Wax Myrtle, Eastern Bayberry - *Morella cerifera*: mystuart – CC BY-NC-ND 4.0
Black Chokeberry - *Aronia melanocarpa*: Randy Harter – 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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