

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

<p><b>INVASIVE plant – Rose of Sharon</b></p>  <p>Rose of Sharon or Althea - <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i></p>	<p>8-12' high deciduous shrub, erect, spreading habit with upright branches. Late to leaf, prefers hot weather. Showy flowers in summer, range from white to reddish-purple.</p> <p>Native to Eastern Asia</p> <p>Aggressively self-seeds and spreads by rhizomes around old homesites.</p> <p>Has escaped intended plantings to invade, crowd out, and displace more desirable natives.</p> <p>Invades waste areas, disturbed ground, forest and forest edges.</p>	
<p><b>Native Alternative</b></p>  <p>Rose-mallow <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i></p> <p>5-7' tall herbaceous perennial Blooms: showy white to pink with burgundy center in June to Sep. Attractive to hummingbirds and pollinators Full sun to partial shade. Tolerates moist to occasionally wet soil.</p>	<p><b>Native Alternative</b></p>  <p>Scarlet Rose-mallow Red Hibiscus <i>Hibiscus coccineus</i></p> <p>6-8' tall herbaceous perennial Blooms: very large showy red flower in late summer Attractive to hummingbirds and pollinators Full sun to partial shade. Tolerates moist to occasionally wet soil.</p>	<p><b>Native alternative</b></p>  <p>Swamp Rose-mallow <i>Hibiscus grandiflorus</i></p> <p>5-15" tall herbaceous perennial Blooms: fragrant flowers, up to 10' across open at night and last for a day. Full sun to partial shade Frequent standing water, occasion flooding and wet. Suitable for rain gardens.</p>

Native Hibiscus support the specialized bee *Ptilothrix bombiformis*

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Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Association

**Photographs:**

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**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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