

## **Declining Habitats – Eastern Shore Shrub Plantings**

Suitable Area – Northampton County

The lower portion of the Eastern Shore of Virginia is a world class funnel for 6-7 million fall migrating birds, consisting primarily of songbirds and birds of prey. The convergence of the vast Atlantic flyway and the Mid-Atlantic/Southern New England Flyways through the narrow lower Del Mar Va peninsula provides a rest and re-fueling site before crossing the Chesapeake Bay for points south.

Research has indicated that when birds hit Wise Point at the southern tip of Northampton County, they spread out north to Plantation Creek, and beyond....where they look for the proper vegetation to provide food and protective cover during their resting period. Specifically, they look for relatively thin native forests with a dense understory of shrubs and vines that produce high energy fruit and associated insects.

To meet these requirements, a special planting mix of fruit and nut producing native trees and shrubs has been developed for use primarily in crop fields. This planting consists of 110 trees (20' X 20' spacing) and several clumps of 50 mixed shrubs (10' X 5' spacing) per acre. Mats and tree tubes are also used to provide protection from deer and competition from other vegetation.

## Potential species include:

Plant species	Species name	Type	Hydrologic regime*	Mast (hard/soft)	Light	Growth Rate	Height	Width
<b>Trees - Select minimum of 4 species from this list (minimum of 2 oaks)</b>								
Bitternut hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun/shade	slow	80 ft.	50 ft.
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	canopy tree	U	S	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	canopy tree	U	H	shade/sun	slow	80 ft.	50 ft.
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	mod-rapid	70 ft.	45 ft.
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	canopy tree	W/U	S	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
Willow oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	rapid	70 ft.	60 ft.
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	90 ft.	60 ft.
Southern red oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	90 ft.	60 ft.
Swamp chestnut oak	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	moderate	100 ft.	65 ft.
Water oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	canopy tree	W/U	H	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	80 ft.	50 ft.
Black oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	70 ft.	60 ft.
<b>Midstory Shrubs - Select minimum of 5 species from this list</b>								
Downy serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	shade/sun	moderate	40 ft.	20 ft.
Shadbush serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	shade/sun	moderate	25 ft.	15 ft.
Indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	H	shade/sun	moderate	12 ft.	5 ft.
Silky dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	rapid	10 ft.	5 ft.
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	moderate	30 ft.	25 ft.
Washington hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun	moderate	20 ft.	20 ft.
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun	moderate	50 ft.	25 ft.
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	slow	8 ft.	10 ft.
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	moderate	40 ft.	20 ft.
Common winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	moderate	25 ft.	10 ft.
Yaupon holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	slow	25 ft.	15 ft.
Wax myrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	rapid	15 ft.	10 ft.
Northern bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	moderate	30 ft.	15 ft.
Red Bay	<i>Persea borbonia</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	moderate	50 ft.	20 ft.
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	moderate	40 ft.	25 ft.
Highbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	slow	12 ft.	12 ft.
Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	moderate	10 ft.	10 ft.