

# Landscape Plants for Wildlife

**Ron J. Johnson, Extension Wildlife Specialist; Christine M. Meyer, Communication Specialist, Forestry and Wildlife;  
and Kim A. Todd, Extension Horticulture Specialist**

This NebGuide lists some of the plants that benefit songbirds and other wildlife in Nebraska. It includes information about plants, their wildlife benefits, and where they grow best.

Several plants in this list have a variety of cultivars with features that may differ from those indicated. Also, there may be good plant selections for your area that are not included.

Consult NebGuide G05-1571, *Backyard Wildlife, Planting for Habitat* for additional guidelines on plant selection, including: 1) where you live and what is nearby, 2) food and cover, 3) plants for all seasons, 4) plant diversity, and 5) advantages of native species.

We have tried to include the more important landscape plants to consider for wildlife benefits around homes or for planting on acreages or farms. The larger areas of acreages









‡*ponderosa pine ( <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> )	★★★★	★★	F	SFW	○	☾	50 / 35	ALL	3-8	1, 3
eastern white pine ( <i>Pinus strobus</i> )	★★★★	★★	F	SFW	○	☾	60 / 45	ALL	3-7	1, 3, 5
Douglas-fr ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> )	★★★★	★	F	SFW	○	☾☾	80 / 35	ALL	4-6	1




### DECIDUOUS TREES (Nesting and foraging sites, food, canopy and habitat structure)

Common Name <sup>a</sup> (Scientific Name)	Landscape Value <sup>b</sup>	Nest	Food	Cover	Sun Exposure <sup>c</sup>	Moisture Preference <sup>d</sup>	Height/ Spread (feet)	NE <sup>e</sup>	Zone	Comments
*Rocky Mountain Maple ( <i>Acer glabrum</i> )	★★★★	★★	S	SF	○	☾	30 / 20	W	3-8	6
*sugar maple ( <i>Acer saccharum</i> )	★★★★	★★	S	SF	○	☾	60 / 40	E	4-8	6, 7
*Saskatoon serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> )	★★	★	S	SF	○	☾	12 / 10	ALL	4-5	7, 8, 9
‡*shadblow serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> )	★★★★	★	S	SF	○	☾☾	18 / 15	E	3-7	7, 8, 9
hickory ( <i>Carya</i> spp.)	★★	★	FW	SF	○	☾☾	60 / 40	E	4-9	10
*hackberry ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> )	★★	★★	FW	SF	○	☾	70 / 55	ALL	2-9	11
‡hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus</i> spp.)	★★	★★	FW	SF	○	☾	20 / 20	ALL	3-8	9, 12
persimmon ( <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> )	★★		FW	SF	○	☾☾				



Virginia rose ( <i>Rosa virginiana</i> )	★★		W	SF	○		5 / 5	ALL	3-7	7, 8, 9
*Woods rose ( <i>Rosa woodsii</i> )	★		W	SF	○		5 / 5	ALL	3-6	7, 8, 9
‡*American elder ( <i>Sambucus canadensis</i> )	★	★★	S	SF	○ ◐		10 / 8	ALL	3-9	9, 17, 24
*common snowberry ( <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i> )	★★★	★	FW	SF	○ ●		4 / 4	ALL	3-7	9
*western snowberry ( <i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i> )	★	★	FW	SF	○		4 / 5	ALL	2-5	9, 20
*coralberry ( <i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> )	★★		FW	SF	○ ●		3 / 5	ALL	2-7	9, 20

### VINES AND VINE-LIKE PLANTS

Common Name <sup>a</sup> (Scientific Name)	Landscape Value <sup>b</sup>	Nest	Food	Cover	Sun Exposure <sup>c</sup>	Moisture Preference <sup>d</sup>	Size (feet)	NE <sup>e</sup>	Zone	Comments
*American bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus scandens</i> )	★★	★	FW	SF	○		30†	ALL	4-8	9, 25
*trumpet honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> )	★★		SF	SF			15	ALL	5-8	8, 26
*limber honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera dioica</i> )	★★		S	SF	○		10	ALL	2-4	9, 26
‡*Virginia creeper ( <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> )										