

Alter”natives” Plant this not that

Lisa Ferrano

Why plant Florida native plants? They require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides. Natives support healthy ecosystems, attract beneficial insects, their deep roots filter pollutants from storm runoff and natives support wildlife because the plants and animals have evolved together, they need each other.

The following are suggestions for including Florida native plants into your landscape by replacing common exotics with natives. All the plants listed support butterflies, either larval food or nectar.

Large Trees

Wild Tamarind not Royal Poinciana



not



Paradise Tree not Schefflera/Queensland Umbrella*



not



Small Trees

Bahama Strong bark not Carrotwood*



not



Orange Geiger not Yellow Tabebuia



not



Satin leaf or Lignum Vitae not Japanese Fern



or



not



Simpson Stopper not Cattley Guava*



not



Walters Viburnum not Brazilian Pepper*



not



Shrubs

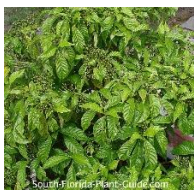
Firebush not Ixora



not



Wild Coffee not Chinese Privet*



not



Jamaica Caper not Surinam Cherry*



not



Dwarf Yaupon Holly not Dwarf Schefflera



not



Bay Cedar not Podocarpus



not



Marlberry not Clusia



not



Bahama Cassia not Thryallis



not



Vines

Coral Honeysuckle not Cape or Japanese Honeysuckle*



not



or



Wild Allamanda not Yellow Allamanda



not



Blue Jacquemontia not Skyvine



not



Pineland Snowberry not Confederate Jasmine



not



Groundcover

Coontie not Cardboard Palm*



not



Quailberry not Arborvitae



not



Blue-eyed Grass not Oyster Plant*



not



Spiderwort not Purple Queen*



not



Cinnamon or Royal fern not Asian Sword fern*



not



or



Pine Pink not Spathoglottis (More than 60 native orchid species are listed as threatened or endangered)



Not



Frogfruit, Sunshine Mimosa, Lyreleaf Sage or Violets not lawn grass



or



or



or



Incorporating natives into your landscape is good for the environment, they support wildlife and there are many to choose from so plant some natives.

*** Category 1 Invasive Plant**