



A Message From  
Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**

Dear Gardening Enthusiast,

Gardeners can make a profound difference in the ecological sustainability of our region by simply choosing to plant species that are native to Oyster Bay rather than exotic species. Just a few environmental benefits of planting native species in your garden are improved water and air quality, as well as the sustainability of our wildlife and biodiversity.

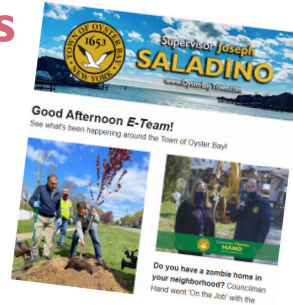
Native plants are traditionally found in a specific region and have not been introduced through recent horticultural activity. Native plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions where they naturally occur, making them hardy, more resistant to insects and disease, less likely to need pesticides, and therefore easier than exotics (non-natives) to maintain!

Help the Town of Oyster Bay in our efforts to create a more natural and sustainable landscape, plant native flora today!

**JOSEPH SALADINO**  
Town Supervisor

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Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**



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Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**

## NATIVE PLANTS IN THE TOWN OF OYSTER BAY



**The Department of  
Environmental Resources**  
**(516) 677-5943**

**www.OysterBayTown.com**





### Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)

This tall ornamental grass is widespread throughout the Town. Its upright growth and ability to cluster provides quality overhead cover, shelter, nesting sites, and food source for wildlife. Switchgrass also benefits the environment by sequestering large amounts of

carbon from the atmosphere into the soil and by providing excellent erosion control.



### Wild Indigo (*Baptisia tinctoria*)

There are many indigo species native to Long Island, but the Wild Indigo is one worth planting in your garden! These plants are known for being deer resistant, low maintenance, mitigate erosion, a home to butterflies and bees, and serve as an excellent nitrogen fixer. This means it has an enhanced ability to capture and utilize nitrogen from the atmosphere.



**PRO TIP:** Native plantings can be established from seed, young plants or plugs. Plants can be incorporated to an existing garden bed or a new bed can be made by removing sod and loosening the soil. Choose plants based on site considerations for light, moisture, and soil. Vary plant structure, height, bloom succession, and flower color for seasonal appeal and butterfly habitat.



Unlike other goldenrods that flower in the fall, the golden-yellow blossoms of this species begin blooming in early summer, when they became an attraction for the first butterflies and bees of the season. All goldenrod species are an important source of nectar and pollen to bees, butterflies and other insects. Eastern Goldfinch, Sparrows, and other birds are also attracted to this flower! Early goldenrods as well as other goldenrod species are resilient and adaptable to a variety of environments, tolerating salt, sand, and drought.

### Early Goldenrod (*Solidago juncea*)



### Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Why would you purposely plant something with the word “weed” in its name? Well if you’ve ever seen the beautiful monarch butterfly its existence depends on milkweed! Their caterpillars only eat milkweed plants, and monarch butterflies need milkweed to lay their eggs. This plant helps other pollinators too, as they provide valuable nectar resources to a diverse group of bees and butterflies, while also being deer resistant.

