

Pohatcong Creek Watershed Native Plant Arboretum

The Pohatcong Creek Watershed Native Plant Arboretum has displays of the principal native trees and shrubs of the Pohatcong Creek Watershed. A *watershed* is the land area that drains into a common body of water such as a river, stream, lake, or bay. Watershed boundaries are defined by high points such as the tops of mountains. The Pohatcong Watershed drains an area of 58 square miles in 11 municipalities. The Pohatcong Creek begins in Independence Township and flows 20 miles to the Delaware River south of Phillipsburg. Pohatcong is a Native American word meaning "beautiful place between hills".

The Native Plant Arboretum was planted by students from Warren Hills Regional High School in November, 2002. *Native plants* are those which have evolved naturally in the area which they are found. Trees and shrubs are organized by plant family in raised beds (refer to diagram). Planting native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants is a great way to restore the natural environment. Forest buffers along waterways help to reduce erosion, create wildlife habitat, and improve water quality by filtering pollution from storm water run-off.

Local governments, community groups, private landowners, landscape professionals, transportation planners, and developers can all help to 'bring back nature' and protect our rivers by implementing projects using native trees and shrubs. Anyone interested in landscaping with native plants or planting a forest buffer along the Pohatcong Creek, please consult the Rutgers Cooperative Extension website at www.rce.rutgers.edu/njriparianforestbuffers or contact the Pohatcong Creek Watershed Association at www.pcwa.org.

Pohatcong Creek Watershed Native Plant Arboretum

Pohatcong Creek Natural Area
Washington Township Park



A project of
Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Warren Hills Environmental Club (S.A.V.E.)
Warren Hills Future Farmers of America
Pohatcong Creek Watershed Association
Washington Township Recreation Commission

A. Rose Family

- 1) *Staphylea trifolia* - Ninebark
- 2) *Rosa carolina* - Pasture rose
- 3) *Spirea tomentosa* - Steeplebush
- 4) *Rosa palustris* - Swamp rose
- 5) *Aronia melanocarpa* - Black chokeberry
- 6) *Amelanchier aborea* - Downy juneberry
- 7) *Amelanchier laevis* - Smooth juneberry

B. Rose Family

- 1) *Spirea latifolia* - Meadowsweet
- 2) *Aronia floribunda* - Purple chokeberry
- 3) *Aronia arbutifolia* - Red chokeberry
- 4) *Amelanchier canadensis* - Shadbush

C. Dogwoods

- 1) *Cornus sericea* - Redosier dogwood
- 2) *Cornus amomum* - Silky dogwood
- 3) *Cornus racemosa* - Gray dogwood
- 4) *Cornus alternifolia* - Pagoda dogwood
- 5) *Cornus florida* - Flowering dogwood

D. Hydrangeas

- 1) *Hydrangea quercifolia* - Oakleaf hydrangea
- 2) *Hydrangea aborescens* - Wild hydrangea
- 3) *Itea virginica* - Virginia sweetspire
- 4) *Hamamelis virginiana* - Witch hazel

E. Birches

- 1) *Betula lenta* - Sweet birch
- 2) *Betula populifolia* - Gray birch
- 3) *Betula papyrifera* - Paper birch
- 4) *Betula nigra* - River birch
- 5) *Betula alleghaniensis* - Yellow birch

F. Laurel and Rue Family

- 1) *Lindera benzoin* - Spicebush
- 2) *Rhus aromatica* - Fragrant sumac
- 3) *Ptelea trifoliata* - Hop tree

G. Maples

- 1) *Acer pennsylvanicum* - Striped maple
- 2) *Euonymus americanus* - Strawberry bush
- 3) *Ilex verticillata* - Winterberry
- 4) *Acer spicatum* - Mountain maple
- 5) *Acer saccharum* - Sugar maple

H. Heath Family

- 1) *Rhododendron periclymenoides* - Pinxterbloom azalea
- 2) *Rhododendron viscosum* - Swamp azalea
- 3) *Kalmia latifolia* - Mountain laurel
- 4) *Chamaedaphne calyculata* - Leatherleaf
- 5) *Vaccinium fuscum* - Black highbush blueberry
- 6) *Vaccinium corymbosum* - Highbush blueberry

I. Hazelnut Family

- 1) *Alnus incana* - Rough alder
- 2) *Alnus serrulata* - Smooth alder
- 3) *Corylus americana* - American hazelnut
- 4) *Carpinus caroliniana* - Ironwood
- 5) *Ostrya virginiana* - Hophornbeam

J. Ashes

- 1) *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* - Green ash
- 2) *Nyssa sylvatica* - Black gum
- 3) *Fraxinus americana* - White ash

K. Viburnums

- 1) *Viburnum nudum* - Possum haw
- 2) *Viburnum trilobum* - Cranberry viburnum
- 3) *Viburnum dentatum* - Arrowwood
- 4) *Viburnum cassinoides* - Withered
- 5) *Viburnum lentago* - Nannyberry
- 6) *Viburnum prunifolium* - Black haw
- 7) *Viburnum acerifolium* - Maple-leaved viburnum

