

Native Shrubs for Birds and Butterflies in West Central Florida

Native Plant	Color	Growth	Birds/Butterflies	Other
Beautyberry <i>(Callicarpa americana)</i>	Light green foliage White/pink flowers Purple or white berries on branches	Deciduous Zone: 8A-10B 4-8 ft h X 3-6 ft w	<u>Host plant:</u> Spring azure butterfly, Snowberry clearwing moth Birds eat berries in winter Variety of pollinators, especially bees	Specimen plant, good as mass planting and casual shrub screen Sand, loam soils, moderate-dry water, sun to partial shade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiny-leaf wild coffee <i>(Psychotria nervosa)</i> • Shortleaf <i>(Psychotria sulzneri)</i> • Dwarf: 'Little Psycho' <i>(Psychotria nervosa 'Little Psycho')</i> 	Green foliage White flowers Red, green, brown fruits Dark green leaf Red fruit Like shiny-leaf	Evergreen Zones: 9A-11 2-6 ft h X 1.5-3.0 ft w 3-4 ft X 1.5-3.0 ft w 2 ft h X 2 ft w	Nectar source for butterflies Pollinators attracted to flowers Birds eat fruits	Sandy soil, moderate water, shade/partial shade (leaves turn yellow and may drop if too much sun)
Walter's Viburnum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwarf: 'Densa' <i>(Viburnum obovatum 'Densa')</i> 	Green foliage Fragrant white flowers	Evergreen Zones: 8A-10A Fast growing 4-5 ft h X 4-5 ft w	<u>Host plant:</u> Spring azure butterfly Pollen for bees, black fruits, and nesting site for birds	Little or no pruning needed, oval shaped, sandy soils, moderate-dry
Simpson Stopper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwarf <i>(Myrcianthes fragrans 'Dwarf')</i> 	Dark green foliage Fragrant white flowers Orange berries	Evergreen Zones: 9A-11 Slow growing 5 ft h X 5 ft w	Butterflies and pollinators attracted to flowers Birds and small mammals eat fruits	Little or no pruning needed, Moderate-dry moisture
Firebush <i>(Hamelia patens)</i>	Greenish red foliage Tubular flowers are red-orange Black fruit	Evergreen Zones: 9A-11 10 ft h X 10 ft w Dwarf/compact cultivars usually 5 ft h X 5 ft w	<u>Host plant:</u> Pluto sphinx moth Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and long-tongued bees Birds and small mammals eat black fruits	Foundation or specimen, variety of soils, winter die-back if frost in Zone 9A, moderate-dry moisture, species sold in Big Box stores not native, dwarf variety not native
Coontie <i>(Zamia pumila)</i>	Green Cones, not flowers	Slow Zones: 8A-11 2-3 ft h X 3-5 ft w	<u>Host plant:</u> Atala butterfly (southern Florida) & Echo moth	Foundation or specimen plant, variety of soils, light, and moisture conditions, not a palm but a cycad