





Photo: NY Botanical Garden

Rhody Native mission: To support Rhode Island's native plant communities, wildlife, and pollinators by facilitating local nursery production of genetically diverse, locally-sourced native plants.

Rhody Native™ is a partnership

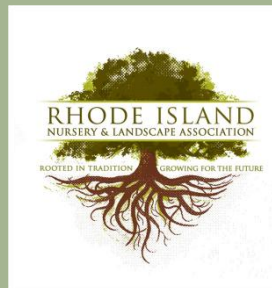
Rhode Island Natural History Survey



University of Rhode Island, Outreach Center



Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association



Working in Cooperation with

The URI Master Gardener's Association



The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society



RINLA's Role:

Facilitate Communication with the RI Nursery Industry
For Plant Propagation, Distribution, and Sales



**URI Outreach Center's Role:
Partner on USDA SARE Grant
For grower training and resources
Volunteer Coordination**



RINHS Coordinates the Rhody Native™ Initiative Works with Volunteers from the URI Master Gardener Association and Rhode Island Wild Plant Society



Seed Collection





Seed Cleaning and Plant Care

Our Efforts are supported by RIWPS Events

RI Flower and Garden Show
Native Plant Conference
Seed Starters East and West
Annual Plant Sale





Legal and Sustainable Collection

Genetically Diverse

20% of population
at time of harvest

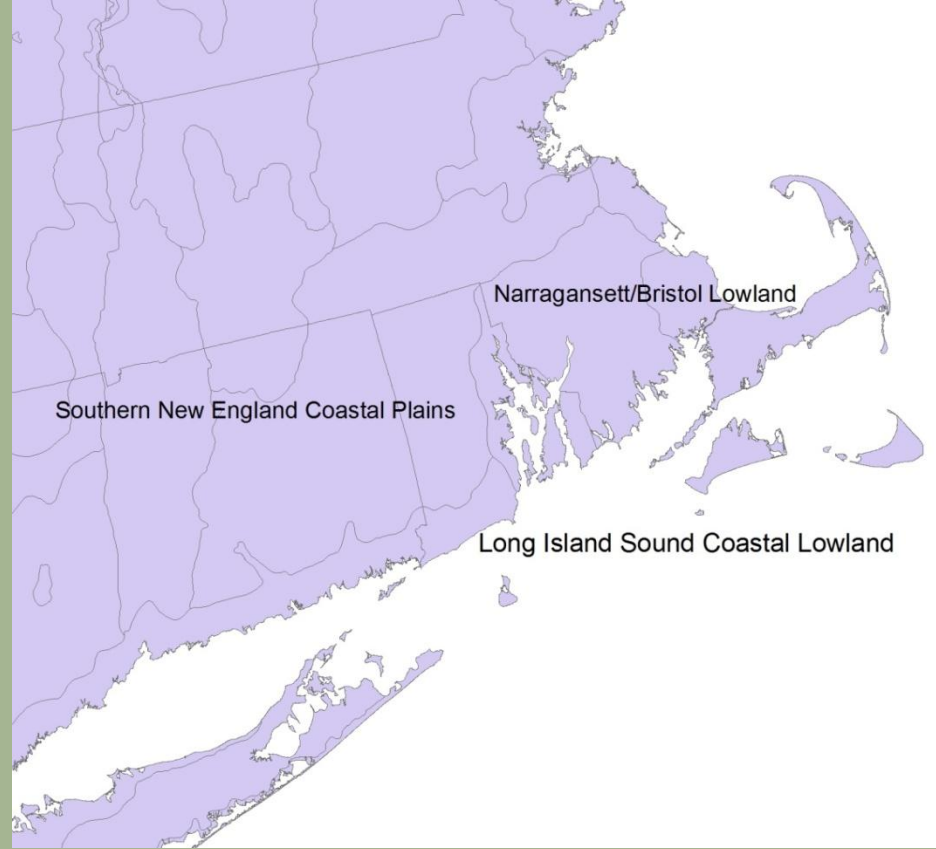
>50 individuals

Span of time

Several populations

Context:

Native Plants are largely sourced from out of state and outside of Southern New England

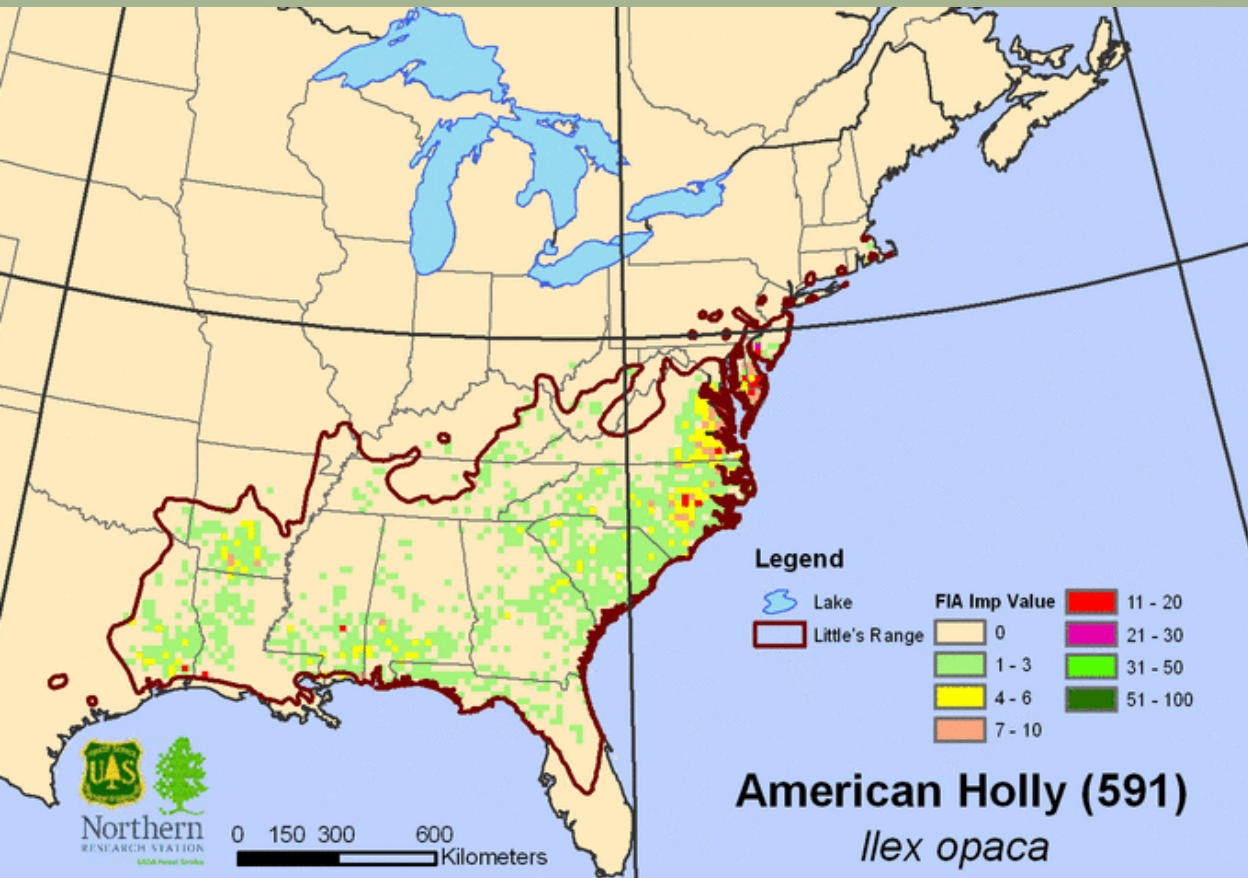


Traditional horticultural practices produce plants for aesthetic reasons

Value of local ecotypes

Need for genetic diversity

Goals: Make Available Plants that are Adapted to Local Climate and Environmental Conditions



Temperature
Rainfall
Day Length
Soil Type
Soil Nutrients
Insect Predators
Pathogens



Block Island



Scituate

Tiverton



Preserve genetic diversity and integrity of native plant communities in Rhode Island

Reduce the Importation of Invasive Species



Mile-a-minute vine
(*Persicaria perfoliata*)





Increase Native
Plant Diversity
For Pollinator Species



Photo Credit: Richard Bravo

Marilyn Jordan, TNC
“Bug Splat Indicator of Biodiversity”

Oaks (*Quercus spp.*)

13 native (3 hybrids)

2 non-native

Acorns feed more than
100 birds and mammals



“96% of all terrestrial birds rear their
young on insects.

90% of all plant-eating insects
require native plants to
complete their development.”

Bringing Nature Home,
Doug Tallamy. 2007.
Timber Press.

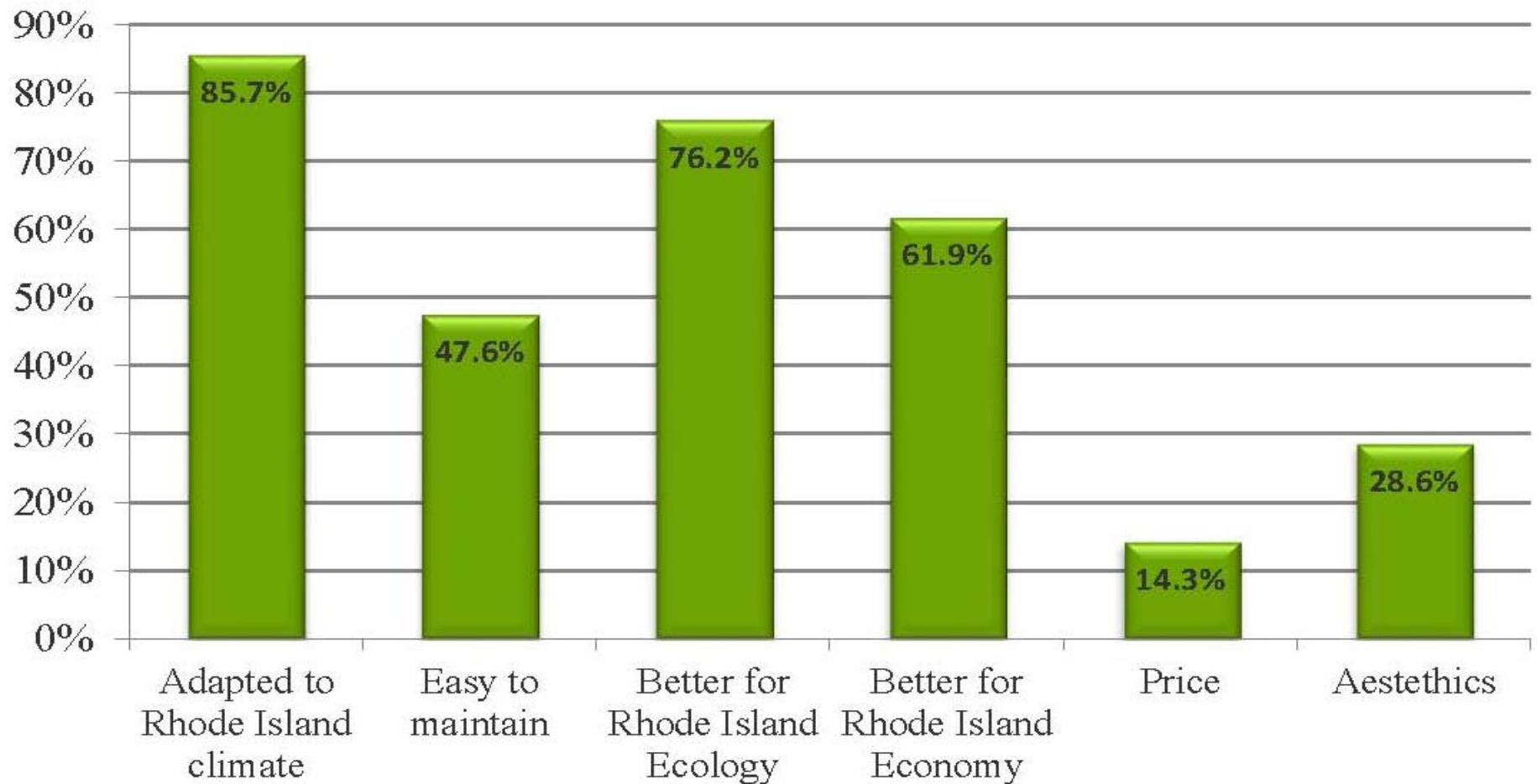
Make Rhode Island ecotypic plants available
For horticultural and restoration use



February, 2012 URI MBA Survey

Survey Audience:

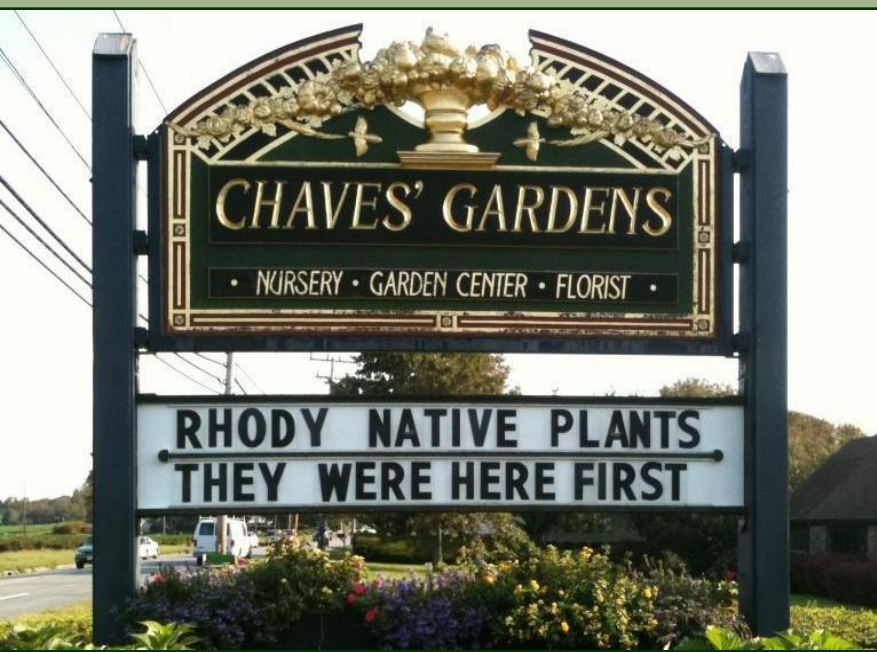
Green Industry Professionals





Harry Chase of Chase Farms in Portsmouth has a sophisticated system for propagating perennials. Plants along the right side of the greenhouse are all Native Rhody. Harry is assisted by intern Kelly Ainsworth, who is also a master gardener at URI, and beekeeper Jeff Mello.

Working with Local Growers

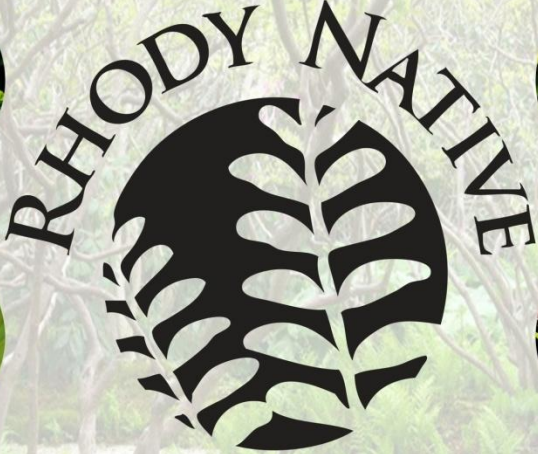



Available at
Garden Centers in 2012

12 in Rhode Island
3 in Massachusetts




Developing Brand Recognition







MEADOWSWEET
(STIRAEA ALBA)



SEASIDE GOLDENROD
(SOLIDAGO SEMPERVIRENS)



NEW YORK IRONWEED
(VERNONIA NOVEBORACENSIS)



JOE PYE WEED
(EUPATORIUM PURPUREUM)

LOCALLY SOURCED, LOCALLY GROWN

ALL RHODY NATIVE PLANTS ARE SUSTAINABLY SOURCED FROM RHODE ISLAND NATIVE PLANTS, AND GROWN IN LOCAL NURSERIES. EACH PLANT IS ACCUSTOMED TO RHODE ISLAND'S CLIMATE AND SOIL CONDITIONS AND REQUIRES LESS FERTILIZER AND WATER THAN MOST NON-NATIVE PLANTS. RHODY NATIVE PLANTS ARE SYNCHRONIZED WITH THE LIFE CYCLES OF LOCAL WILDLIFE. THEY PROVIDE FOOD AND HABITAT FOR BIRDS, BENEFICIAL INSECTS, POLLINATORS, AND SMALL MAMMALS.



A Year in the Life of a Meadow

Early Spring



Dry Meadows
Low Growing Shrubs
and sedges



Low-bush Blueberry
and Pennsylvania Sedge

Dry ledges



Birds Foot Violet
and Wild Columbine



Dry Sandy Meadows



Native Lupine

Wet Meadows



Wild Geranium and
Yellow-Star-Grass





Fringed Sedge and Heart-Leaved Groundsel

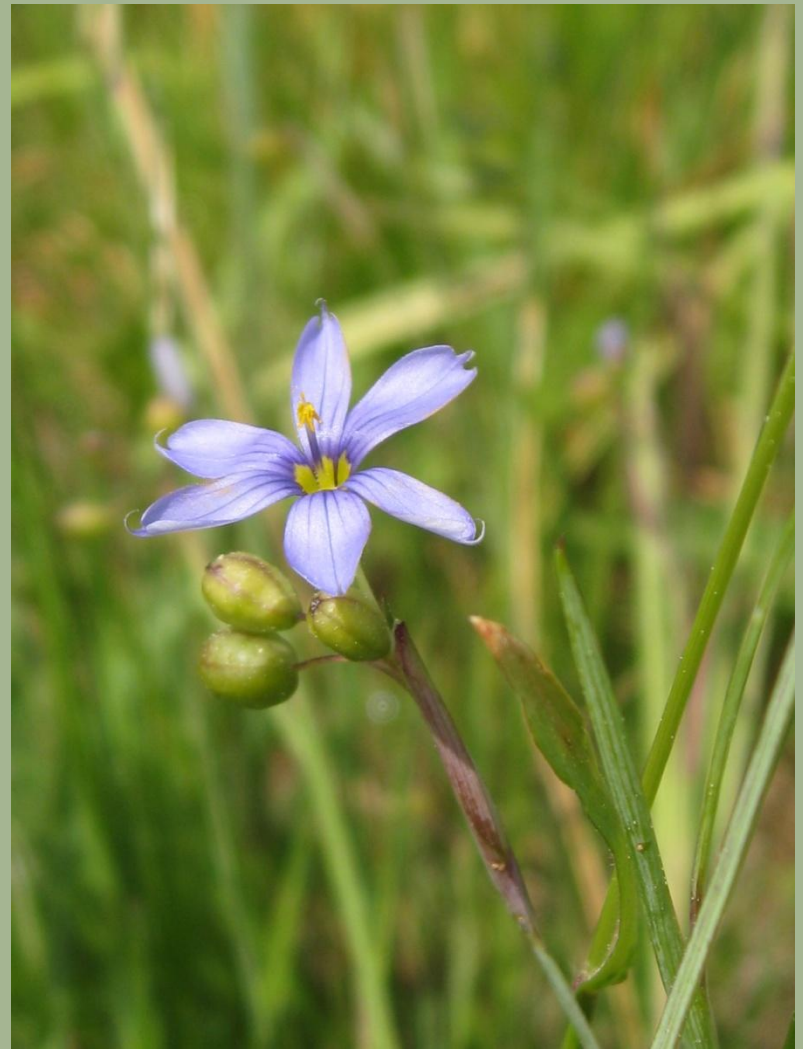
Warm Season Grassland at the Carter Preserve Early Summer



Little Bluestem
and Tall Bush Clover



Mountain Mint and Blue-Eyed Grass





Low Growing Shrubs



Carolina Rose and
Sheep Laurel

Damp areas



Blue-Flag Iris and Swamp Milkweed

Native Grasses



Switch Grass and
Prairie Cord Grass

Warm Season Grassland at the Carter Preserve in Late Summer





Butterfly Weed

Wet areas



Virginia Meadow Beauty and Joe-Pye-Weed

Cardinal Flower with
Climbing Hemp-Vine
and Turtle Head



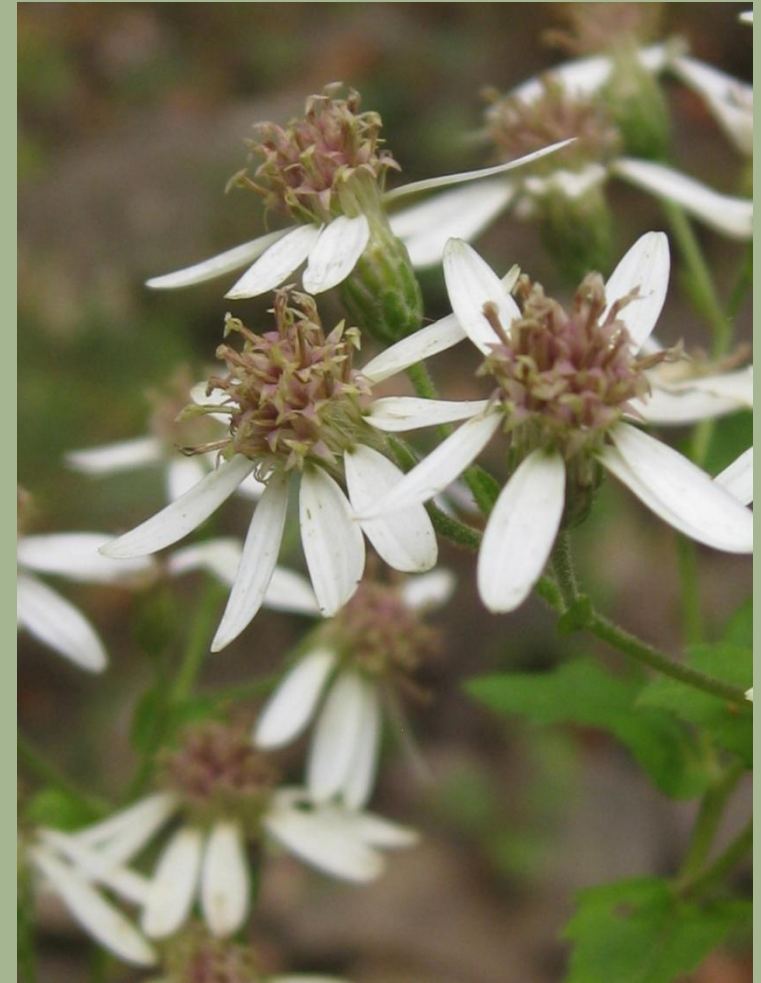
Warm Season Grassland at the Carter Preserve in Fall





Purple Love-Grass and Broom Sedge

Partial Shade



Steeple Bush and White Wood Aster

Meadow Edges



Virginia Creeper and
Virginia Rose





Last Bloomers



Blue-Stem and Grey Goldenrods



New York Aster and Groundsel Tree

Warm Season Grassland at the Carter Preserve in Winter





Broom sedge

Hair-cap moss and
reindeer moss





Switch Grass

Little Bluestem



High bush blueberry





Sweet fern, with male catkins ready for spring



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<http://www.facebook.com/RhodyNativePlants>

