

Edible Landscape Plants for the NC Piedmont

Practical, reliable plants that fit into real landscapes.

How to Use This Guide

- Choose **1–2** plants and place them where you already walk
- Place them where you already **walk, see, or use**
- Keep plants within the same **soil group**
- Look for ★ to find the **most reliable, high-value choices**

Soil Preference (Keep Plants in the Same Group Together)

- [A] Acid-loving (fungal-leaning soils)
- [N] Neutral / adaptable (balanced soils)
- [C] Calcareous-tolerant (higher pH, less common)

Plant Attribute Cross-Reference

Use this table to quickly find plants that match your space and goals.

Start Here (Easiest, Most Reliable) <i>If you are unsure, choose from this list first.</i> • ★ 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 17, 25, 31 Use in Your Landscape • Foundation plants: 1, 2, 8 • Containers: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 • Edges and walkways: 10, 11, 17 Food Type • Fruits: 1, 2, 3, 4, 25–30, 31–33 • Herbs: 9–16, 23 • Greens: 21, 24 • Perennial vegetables: 18–22 Light Conditions • Full sun: 2, 4, 9–12, 17, 25–28, 31 • Partial shade: 1, 3, 5, 21, 24, 29 • Shade-tolerant: 29	Wildlife Value • Pollinators: 10, 11, 12, 24, 32 • Birds (fruit/seed): 2, 5, 8, 28, 30 • Beneficial insects: 11, 12, 24 Challenges • Deer resistant (relative): 9, 10, 11, 12 • Spreads aggressively: 15, 20 • Requires pruning/training: 2, 31, 33 If You Plant Only 5 Things, Start Here • ★ Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.) • ★ Fig (<i>Ficus carica</i>) • ★ Rosemary (<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i>) • ★ Strawberry (<i>Fragaria</i> × <i>ananassa</i>) • ★ Muscadine grape (<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>)
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Note: *Mixing plants across soil groups can reduce performance.*

Plant List

Shrubs ★ Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>) (shrub) [A] ★ Blackberry (<i>Rubus spp.</i>) (shrub) [N] - Raspberry (<i>Rubus idaeus</i>) (shrub) [N] ★ Fig (<i>Ficus carica</i>) (small tree/shrub) [N] - Elderberry (<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>) (shrub) [N] - Gooseberry (<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>) (shrub) [N] - Currant (<i>Ribes spp.</i>) (shrub) [N] - Aronia (<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>) (shrub) [A]	Herbs ★ Rosemary (<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i>) (evergreen herb) [N] ★ Thyme (<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>) (groundcover herb) [N] ★ Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>) (herb) [N] - Sage (<i>Salvia officinalis</i>) (herb) [N] - Chives (<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>) (herb) [N] - Garlic (<i>Allium sativum</i>) (bulb) [N] - Mint (<i>Mentha spp.</i>) (spreading herb) [N] - Lemon balm (<i>Melissa officinalis</i>) (herb) [N]
Perennials ★ Strawberry (<i>Fragaria × ananassa</i>) (groundcover) [N] - Asparagus (<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>) (perennial vegetable) [N] - Rhubarb (<i>Rheum rhabarbarum</i>) (perennial vegetable) [N] - Jerusalem artichoke (<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>) (tuber) [N] - Sorrel (<i>Rumex acetosa</i>) (leafy perennial) [N] - Walking onion (<i>Allium × proliferum</i>) (perennial onion) [N] - Fennel (<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>) (perennial herb) [N] - Bee balm (<i>Monarda didyma</i>) (pollinator herb) [N]	Trees ★ Apple (<i>Malus domestica</i>) (tree) [N] - Peach (<i>Prunus persica</i>) (tree) [N] - Pear (<i>Pyrus communis</i>) (tree) [N] - Persimmon (<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>) (tree) [N] - Pawpaw (<i>Asimina triloba</i>) (understory tree) [A] - Mulberry (<i>Morus rubra</i>) (tree) [N] Vines ★ Muscadine grape (<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>) (vine) [N] - Passionfruit (<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>) (vine) [N] - Hardy kiwi (<i>Actinidia arguta</i>) (vine) [A] - Hops (<i>Humulus lupulus</i>) (vine) [N]

★ = Especially reliable, high-value plants for most home landscapes

Key idea: Start with one plant in the right place, and let the landscape grow from there.