

## PLANT NATIVE!

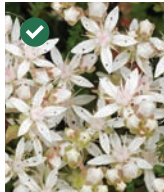
There are plenty of native alternatives that are both beautiful and beneficial.



### ✓ CREEPING PHLOX

*Phlox stononifera*

- Sun, Part Shade, Shade
- Moist soil
- Attracts pollinators



### ✓ WOODLAND STONECROP

*Sedum ternatum*

- Part Shade, Shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Likes rocky areas



### ✓ WILD GINGER

*Asarum canadense*

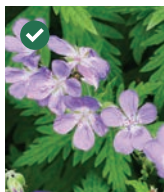
- Sun, Part Shade
- Average to moist soil
- Deer & rabbit resistant



### ✓ GOLDEN GROUNDSEL

*Packera aurea*

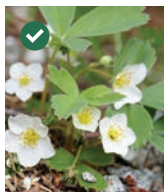
- Sun, Part Shade, Shade
- Moist soil
- Larval host plant for 17 species



### ✓ WILD GERANIUM

*Geranium maculatum*

- Part Shade, Shade
- Medium moisture soil
- Variety of conditions



### ✓ WILD STRAWBERRY

*Fragaria virginiana*

- Sun, Part Shade
- Dry soil
- Edible strawberries

## HIGH QUALITY HABITATS START WITH NATIVE PLANTS

You can make a difference for the environment and wildlife through your gardening choices. The first step? Avoid adding invasive species to your yard.

With over 2,000 species native to Pennsylvania, there are many options to replace any invasive species.

Contact Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania for more information and resources.

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*Native Marsh Marigold (Caltha palustris) is an attractive groundcover plant for wet areas that supports native pollinators, newts, and frogs.*

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### HEADQUARTERS:

**BEECHWOOD FARMS NATURE RESERVE**

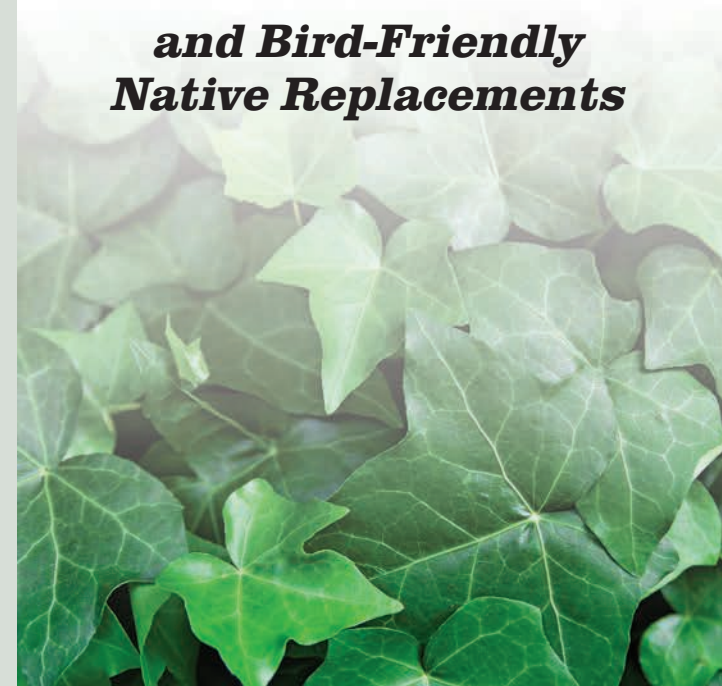
614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238  
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# COMMON BACKYARD INVASIVE GROUND COVERS

## *and Bird-Friendly Native Replacements*



Did you know that English Ivy is an invasive species? Replacing it with a native plant supports and attracts beneficial wildlife.



## WHY ARE INVASIVE GROUNDCOVER PLANTS SUCH A BIG PROBLEM?

- Spread easily into natural areas.
- Form thick, dense mats that block valuable native plants from growing, creating an ecological dead-zone.
- Many invasive groundcover species are also vines, which can blanket trees and structures.
- Most species produce berries or seeds that are dispersed by birds into delicate ecosystems.

## BENEFITS OF NATIVE GROUNDCOVER

- Good for the environment.
- Provide erosion control.
- Attract pollinators and birds.
- Provide food, shelter, and nesting opportunities for local wildlife.
- Aesthetically pleasing.
- Protects local ecosystems.

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*Native Woodland Stonecrop is a host plant for the Common Buckeye Butterfly and Variegated Fritillary.*

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## GROUNDCOVER SPECIES TO AVOID

In the past, these species were chosen because of their good looks—but looks can be deceiving. These invasive plants damage ecosystems. Avoid planting them and replace any that you already have with native plants that attract and benefit birds, butterflies, beneficial insects.

**PERIWINKLE** *Vinca minor*



**ENGLISH IVY** *Hedera helix*



**MONEYWORT** *Lysimachia nummularia*



**BUGLEWEED** *Ajuga reptans*



**GOUTWEED** *Aegopodium podagraria*



**PACHYSANDRA** *Pachysandra terminalis*



## MANAGING INVASIVE GROUNDCOVER

In addition to the resources found at [aswp.org](http://aswp.org), these organizations provide effective and environmentally-friendly ways to manage invasives and transition to native plants:

- PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources: [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov) / (717) 787-2703
- Penn State Extension: [www.extension.psu.edu](http://www.extension.psu.edu) / (877) 345-0691