

NATIVE VEGETATION



Natural Landscaping



Native Species



Native Plantings



Native Species



Invasive Species

PURPOSE & HIGHLIGHTS OF ORDINANCE

- The purpose of the ordinance is to encourage the use of desirable native species of plants for all landscaping and to maximize the use of native plant species in landscaping all areas of a site, including but not limited to; foundation plantings, lawn areas, screening and greenbelt areas, and surface storm water conveyance features. Preservation of existing native plant species should be strongly encouraged through the ordinance and landscaping standards.
- **Native plants** are well adapted to local conditions, therefore requiring little maintenance once established. They eliminate or significantly reduce the need for fertilizers, pesticides, and water. They also often attract beneficial insects, which prey upon pests, decreasing the need for pesticides. Native plants are less expensive to maintain, most species are perennial or self-seeding biennial plants, they promote biodiversity, and maintain our natural heritage and our community's character. Additionally, they improve water quality by filtering contaminated stormwater, performing stormwater infiltration, and reduce soil erosion by stabilizing soils with their deep root systems.
- **Invasive plants** are not native to the area, have no natural controls and are able to out-compete and gradually displace native plants. Not all non-native plants are harmful. An important rule of thumb is to “do no harm”. Non-native, non-invasive species are the second best choice.
- The native plants that grow in a community are crucial because they uniquely perform environmental functions that keep our natural environment healthy.



For additional information contact The Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development
586-469-5285

