



WIN Fast Forest Species list and rationale October 2023

Wright-Locke Farm Conservancy, 82 Ridge St. Winchester 01890

Species Match to the Site

Species were chosen based on current and historical data characterizing local wetlands. These NHESP Natural Community descriptions were a guideline for selecting species for this site.¹ The listed species are commonly found in local wetlands, corroborated by scientific surveys of 33 riverine sites on the Aberjona, Ipswich and Shawsheen Rivers and hundreds of red maple swamps in the Boston area (WK²). Two of the species, staghorn sumac and black walnut, already exist at the site periphery.

The site contains glacial outwash and sediments from surrounding hills. Its proximity to the Farm Pond is also an indication of possibly being an adjacent wetland forest prior to agricultural conversion.

Species Habitat Value and Diversity

Among native species matching the location and site parameters, we prioritized species with especially high habitat value, per Tallamy.³ Thirty-nine species were chosen, with an anticipated 1600 individuals.

Those species will increase the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) to a rich 29.9, indicating high diversity and ecological integrity. By comparison, the upslope adjacent wooded areas have FQI of just 12 and 14. High plant diversity increases the diversity of wildlife and invertebrate species that can be supported.

Sourcing

To maintain local genetic integrity and maximize survival, plant material is being sourced locally from commercial nurseries and private growers, as far as possible.

TAXON	COMMON NAME		
<i>Alnus incana ssp. rugosa</i>	Speckled Alder	FACW ⁴	SHRUB
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Canada Serviceberry	FAC	SHRUB
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry	FAC	SHRUB

¹ <https://www.mass.gov/doc/alluvial-red-maple-swamp/download>
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/high-terrace-floodplain-forest-0/download>
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/red-maple-swamp/download>
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/small-river-floodplain-forest/download>

² Walter Kittredge, Oakhaven Sanctuary; Harvard Herbarium (ret)
<https://harvard.academia.edu/WalterKittredge>;
<https://www.ecolandscaping.org/08/resources/an-interview-with-botanist-walter-kittredge/>

³ <http://www.ecosystemgardening.com/top-10-best-woody-plants-in-conservation-gardening.html>

⁴ Designations from National Wetland Plant List Indicator rating definition, US Army Corps of Engineers

Carpinus caroliniana	Ironwood	FAC	SHRUB
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Buttonbush	OBL	SHRUB
Clethra alnifolia	Sweet Pepperbush	FAC	SHRUB
Cornus amomum	Silky Dogwood	FACW	SHRUB
Cornus racemosa	Gray Dogwood	FAC	SHRUB
Corylus americana	American Hazelnut	FACU	SHRUB
Hamamelis virginiana	Witchhazel	FAC	SHRUB
Ilex verticillata	Winterberry	FACW	SHRUB
Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	FACW	SHRUB
Lyonia ligustrina	Maleberry	FACW	SHRUB
Rhododendron viscosum	Swamp Azalea	FACW	SHRUB
Rosa palustris	Swamp Rose	FAC	SHRUB
Salix sericea	Silky Willow	FACW	SHRUB
Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis	Black Elderberry	FACW	SHRUB
Spiraea latifolia	Meadowsweet	FACW	SHRUB
Vaccinium corymbosum	High-bush Blueberry	FACW	SHRUB
Viburnum dentatum var. lucidum	Arrow-wood	FAC	SHRUB
Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry	FACW	SHRUB
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	FAC	TREE
Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	FACW	TREE
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green Ash	FACW	TREE
Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum	FAC	TREE
Quercus bicolor	Swamp White Oak	FACW	TREE
Salix nigra	Black Willow	OBL	TREE
Ulmus americana	American Elm	FACW	TREE
Prunus serotina	Black Cherry	UPL	TREE
Acer negundo	Boxelder Maple	FAC	TREE
Betula alleghaniensis	Yellow Birch	FACW	TREE
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory	FACU	TREE
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut	FACU	TREE
Picea mariana	Black Spruce	FACU	TREE
Platanus occidentalis	American Sycamore	FACW	TREE
Populus tremuloides	Quaking Aspen	FAC	TREE
Quercus rubra	Red Oak	FACU	TREE