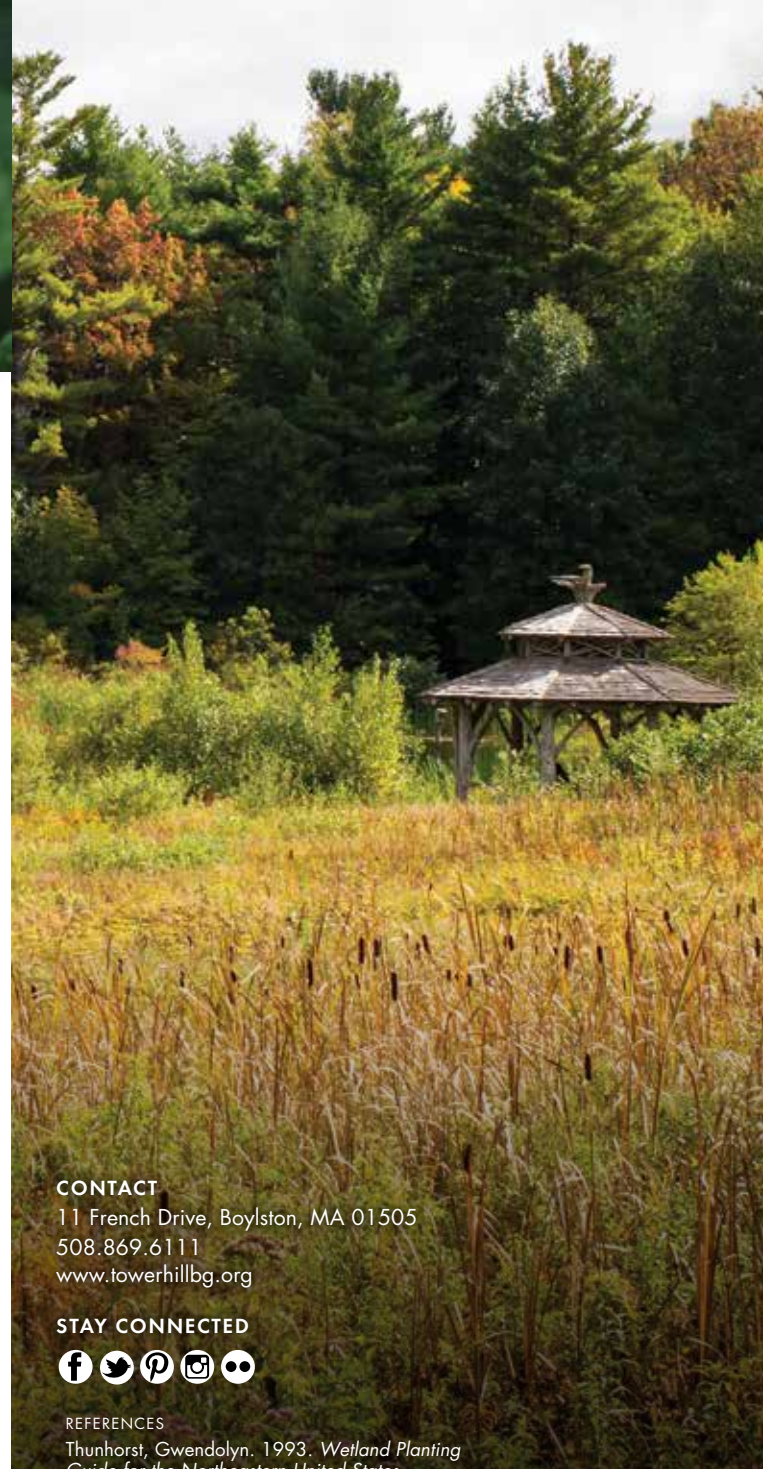




Spice Bush
(*Lindera benzoin*)



Virginia Rose
(*Rosa virginiana*)



THE HOPE H. SPEAR WILDLIFE REFUGE POND

GARDEN GUIDE

Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) This evergreen shrub bears black fruit from September to March, providing valuable winter food and cover for turkeys, Bobwhite, Northern Flickers, Eastern Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Eastern Towhees, Eastern Kingbirds, and Robins.

Shadbush (*Amelanchier canadensis*) Edible black berries follow white flowers in the spring. These berries attract woodpeckers, Ruffed Grouse, Eastern Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Mourning Doves, Flickers, Scarlet Tanagers, Cardinals, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.

Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) Flat clusters of white flowers in early summer give way to bluish fruit in August. Turkeys, Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhites, Ring-necked Pheasants, Flickers, woodpeckers, Eastern Kingbirds, Brown Thrashers, Robins, Eastern Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Purple Finches, Woodcocks, and others enjoy the fruits of this common shrub.

Smooth Azalea (*Rhododendron arborescens*) White flowers with red stamens in early summer. Bees and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds delight in nectar, while upland gamebirds, songbirds, and small mammals eat the seeds.

Smooth Withe-rod (*Viburnum nudum*) Beautiful fruits ripen to pink, blue, and nearly black.

Speckled Alder (*Alnus rugosa*) Early spring catkins give way to cone-like structures which persist through the winter.

Spice Bush (*Lindera benzoin*) Small yellow flowers in early spring give way to red fruit through September.

Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) Fragrant white spires in July and August.

Swamp Azalea (*Rhododendron viscosum*) Bears fragrant, sticky, white or pink flowers in spring. Seeds provide nourishment for waterfowl and small mammals.

Virginia Rose (*Rosa virginiana*) Bright pink flowers from June to October. Turkeys, Eastern Kingbirds, Gray Catbirds, Brown Thrashers, Robins, Eastern Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Ring-necked Pheasants, Cardinals, and Dark-eyed Juncos enjoy the vibrant red rosehips.

Wild Raisin (*Viburnum cassinoides*) Bears flat clusters of off-white flowers in late spring and early summer, followed by bluish-black fruit.

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) Brilliant red fruit from August to February provides late winter food for wildlife.

TREES

Atlantic White Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) This 20-40' evergreen provides food and cover for many animals including Pine Siskin, deer, rabbits, and mice.

Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*) Fragrant flowers open in early summer, followed by clusters of red fruit. Eastern Towhees, Vireos, deer, and squirrel seek the fruit.



Smooth Azalea
(*Rhododendron arborescens*)



Winterberry
(*Ilex verticillata*)

CONTACT

11 French Drive, Boylston, MA 01505
508.869.6111
www.towerhillbg.org

STAY CONNECTED

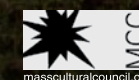


REFERENCES

Thunhorst, Gwendolyn. 1993. *Wetland Planting Guide for the Northeastern United States*.

Blodget, Bradford G. 1998. *Checklist of the Birds of Massachusetts*.

Plants for the Wildlife Refuge Pond generously provided by Bigelow Nurseries, Inc., Northborough, MA
www.bigelownurseries.com



COVER PHOTO: © ADAM ROSE
TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN 12.2016 / 2.5K / PRINTED ON 100% FSC® CERTIFIED RECYCLED PAPER

TOWER HILL
BOTANIC GARDEN

Plants that naturally occur in moist soils throughout the northeast surround the Hope H. Spear Wildlife Refuge Pond. Many of the varieties of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants seen here provide nourishment, cover, and nesting material for wildlife. Tower Hill selected these plants for their adaptability to such sites, as well as for their value to wildlife, such as birds, insects, mammals, fish, and frogs.



New England Aster
(*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)



American Elder
(*Sambucus canadensis*)



Blue Flag
(*Iris versicolor*)

HERBACEOUS PLANTS

Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*) Ducks, muskrat, and beaver seek the leaves and fruit of this common pond-side plant. White flowers rise over the arrow-shaped leaves from July to September.

Blue Flag (*Iris versicolor*) Blue flowers in summer rise over blue-green, sword-shaped leaves. 30" tall.

Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*) Purple flowers on 5-6' stems in mid-late summer. Seeds are a favorite of songbirds.

Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana clausa*) Blooms in late summer to the delight of bumblebees. The closed blue-purple flowers never fully open, but still admit pollinators.

Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) Vibrant red flowers in late summer. Hummingbirds pollinate this flower while feeding on nectar.

Cattail (*Typha latifolia*) These familiar wetland plants provide cover and food for Wood Ducks, Marsh Wrens, Red-winged Blackbirds, muskrats, beavers, and fish. Broad, iris-like leaves topped by dense brown flowering stalks to 8' tall.

Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*) Large clusters of rosy flowers on 8-10' stems.

Marsh Hibiscus (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) Large pink or white flowers top stems up to 7' tall in July and September. Attractive to Ruby-throated Hummingbirds.

New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) A brilliant fall native of fields and meadows. Pink, purple, or white flowers on 6' stems from August to October. Provides nectar for bees and butterflies.

New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*) Magenta flowers on 7' stems illuminate the late summer shore.

Pickeralweed (*Pontederia cordata*) Bold leaves emerge from shallow waters, topped by spikes of purple flowers from June-November.

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) A 4-6' perennial bearing fragrant pink flowers from June-August.

Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*) Unusual white or pink flowers on 3' stems in August. Attractive to bees and butterflies.

SHRUBS

American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) Clusters of flowers in early summer. Purple-black fruits ripen in August and September and birds including the Veery, Mourning Doves, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Eastern Kingbirds, flycatchers, Eastern Bluebirds, and Cardinals devour them.

Bayberry (*Myrica pensylvanica*) White-gray fruit provides repast for Eastern Meadowlark, Vireo, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Tree Swallow, Red-winged Blackbird, and more.

Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*) Red fruits ripen and persist from September to December, consumed by Northern Bobwhites, Brown Thrashers, Cedar Waxwings, Eastern Meadowlarks, and many mammals.

Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) The fruit delights Black-capped Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Brown Thrashers, Eastern Bluebirds, Orchard Orioles, Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanager, Ruffed Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants, Gray Catbird, American Robins, Eastern Towhees, and people too.

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) Lightly fragrant balls of flowers occur in July and August. Provides forage for ducks and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, and nesting sites for Red-winged Blackbirds.

Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*) Red fruits ripen and persist from September to December, consumed by Northern Bobwhites, Brown Thrashers, Cedar Waxwings, Eastern Meadowlarks, and many mammals.

Graystem Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*) White fruits on red stalks ripen in August. Attractive to turkeys, Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhites, Ring-necked Pheasants, Flickers, woodpeckers, Eastern Kingbirds, Brown Thrashers, Robins, Eastern Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Purple Finches, deer, rabbits, woodchucks, raccoons, squirrels, and many mammals.



Red-winged Blackbird



Blueberry
(*Vaccinium corymbosum*)



Swamp Milkweed
(*Asclepias incarnata*)



Graystem Dogwood
(*Cornus racemosa*)