

Conservation Landscape Certification Resource Guide
Maine Soil and Water Conservation Districts
ONLINE LINKS

CORE CRITERIA 1: PROVIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT

Online Resources and Organizations for Wildlife Habitat

National Audubon Native Plants for Birds Database <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

National Wildlife Federation <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Create> Many ideas and a step-by-step process for creating wildlife habitat.

Of Pools and People <http://www.vernalpools.me/> Lot of resources for learning about vernal pools, which are a very important habitat in our forests.

Xerces Society <https://xerces.org/> Lots of beautiful, useful books and publications on helping insects from bees, butterflies and other pollinators as well as other native beneficial insects.

Cornell University's All About Birds <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/> Lots of ways to learn about, help and enjoy birds on your landscape.

#BringBirdsBack <https://www.3billionbirds.org/> Strategies for stopping the steep decline in birds.

Bat Conservation International <https://www.batcon.org/> Build bat houses and other information on helping bats.

Maine Audubon <http://maineaudubon.org/publications-resources/> offers many relevant guides to managing land for habitat.

CORE CRITERIA 2: PRACTICE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Soil Resources

What type of soil do I have? Use one of the following online resources to get a soil map of your property.

Web Soil Survey <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>

Soil Web <https://casoilresource.lawr.ucdavis.edu/gmap/>

How can I improve my soil? Test it!

Testing your soil: <https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2286e/>

Interpreting your soil test results: <https://umaine.edu/soiltestinglab/>

Soil Best Management Practices

Maine DEP: <https://www.maine.gov/dep/land/erosion/escbmps/index.html>

Soil Health: <https://soilhealthinstitute.org/>

Composting

Umaine Cooperative Extension has abundant resources
<https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/manual/composting/>

Build your own compost bin or box:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/60161e28f0007e386c412da2/1612062248308/building-compost-bins_cornell.pdf

Erosion Control Mulch
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/5fd65724b1c3f31c7a7fb0fe/1607882532528/Erosion_Control_Mix.pdf

Comprehensive List of Erosion Control Practices and Resources

<https://www.knox-lincoln.org/conservation-practices>

Online Resources for Water Conservation

Buffer Plantings

Landscaping at the Water's Edge:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/601617fb31367d7eb9b23bdd/1612060675760/Resource004159_Rep5940.pdf

Buffer Handbook:
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/6016182d3bc1b048411e0192/1612060726740/buffhandbook.pdf>

Buffer Plant List:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/60161861264e0108022ce21f/1612060775280/buffer_plant_list.pdf

Planting and Maintaining Buffers:
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f29bae933f80a3131b6ba93/t/601618892d18b947f90a5004/1612060809320/PLANTING+and+MAINTAINING+BUFFERS.pdf>

Lake Water Quality

LakeSmart Program: <https://www.lakes.me/lakesmart>

Streams

Stream Crossings: StreamSmart Program: <https://maineaudubon.org/projects/stream-smart/>

Vernal Pools

Of Pools and People: A great place to start for vernal pools resources: <http://www.vernalpools.me/>

CORE CRITERIA 3: CONTROL INVASIVE SPECIES

Online Resources and Organizations for Invasive Species

The **Maine Forest Service** [link to <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/>] provides information and assistance with forest insect pests and other pathogens.

The **Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Horticulture Department** has much more information on invasive plants [here](#). [link to <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/horticulture/invasiveplants.shtml>]The site includes recommendation for plants to replace invasive plants. Maine's new rules regarding the sale of invasive plants are available on this website.

Invasive Plants in Maine - Maine Natural Areas Program Invasive and potentially invasive plants list for Maine, with fact sheets for each.

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/invsheets.htm

Invasive.org - A great starting place, with numerous images of each plant, and concise, thorough fact sheets on different species. The link [Species](#) is where you can find info pages on each plant and pictures as well as additional links. <http://www.invasive.org/index.cfm>

Invasipedia Excellent literature summary articles on most invasive plants, more in-depth than fact sheets.

<http://wiki.bugwood.org/Invasipedia>

USDA Forest Service FEIS Database This site provides an in-depth profile of each invasive species, with citations to assist further research.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/weed/index.html>

Imap Invasives - Maine Natural Areas Program IMap Invasives is an invasives tracking program now available in Maine, with many tools and data resources to help communities and land owners and managers plan for invasives control.

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/imap.htm

Vermont Invasives Resources Vermont has a well-developed invasives program which includes several excellent guides, available here.

<http://vtinvasives.org/land/management>

For aquatic invasive plants- Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program Many opportunities to volunteer, and they offer some excellent training workshops and materials on aquatic invasives.

<http://www.mainevlmp.org/>

CORE CRITERIA 4: PLAN AND PLANT FOR ECOSYSTEM SUPPORT

Native Plant Lists

Maine DACF Site <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/yardscaping/plants/index.htm>] or [umaine list] for plants that can be used.

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Native Plant Lists

<https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2500e/> and
<https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/manual/plants-for-the-maine-landscape/>

Wild Seed Project Comprehensive Plant List <https://wildseedproject.net/comprehensive-plant-list/>

National Audubon Native Plants for Birds Database <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

Online Resources and Organizations for Plants and Planting

Yardscaping We recommend the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's website on **Yardscaping** [link words to <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/yardscaping/index.htm>] for many helpful tips on healthy residential landscaping.

The Wild Seed Project <http://wildseedproject.net/> A wonderful resource on native plants, with many excellent articles. They also sell Maine native plant seeds.

UMaine Cooperative Extension A large library of short publications to help with many aspects of caring for land, including native plant lists and guides.

National Audubon Society Native Plant Database <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants> Just type in your zip code for a custom list of native plants that support birds and wildlife. The site also lists native plant nurseries and seed sources.

Eco Landscape Alliance <https://www.ecolandscaping.org/> A wealth of articles on ecological landscaping, as well as many online and in person educational workshops throughout New England.

Native Plant Trust <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/> A fantastic resource for learning about native plants and plant conservation, and their online key [Gobotany](#) is the best place to identify New England native plants for beginners and experts alike. Resources include lists of native plants to use for different purposes.

Landscape for Life <http://landscapeforlife.org/> This site offers excellent lessons on soil, water, plants and other topics, based on the Sustainable Sites Initiative. Teacher lesson modules are also available on these topics.

The Meadow Project <https://themeadowproject.com/> A resource site for meadowscaping.

CORE CRITERIA 5: IMPLEMENT ORGANIC AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners <https://www.mofga.org/>

Learn the basics of IPM

<https://www.epa.gov/ipm/introduction-integrated-pest-management>

<https://www.epa.gov/safepestcontrol/integrated-pest-management-ipm-principles>

OPTIONAL CRITERIA 6 AND 7: MISC. OPTIONAL PRACTICES, FORESTED LANDS: Harvest practices

#BringBirdsBack <https://www.3billionbirds.org/> Strategies for stopping the steep decline in birds.

<https://darksky.org/resources/what-is-light-pollution/effects/wildlife-ecosystems/>

Maine Forest Service Publications Resources for managing woodlands and harvesting sustainably:

<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/publications/index.html>

Focus Species Forestry guide <https://www.maineaudubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/MEAud-FocusSpeciesForestry.pdf>

Biodiversity in the Forests of Maine book <https://docslib.org/doc/12017014/biodiversity-in-the-forests-of-maine-guidelines-for-land-management>