

Why Plant Native Plants?

- Inexpensive/ Self Sustaining
- Protects property during storms
- Reduces erosion
- Attracts wildlife
- Keeps animal migration patterns alive
- Conserves water and energy sources
- Aesthetically pleasing
- Easy to grow and maintain
- Plants are tolerant of our climate
- Better for our environment
- For the beauty



Monroe Youth Challenge Program

*A project of the Monroe County Education Foundation
to foster acceptance, respect, and success
for and among the youth of Monroe County*



Brochure created by the Montessori
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WHY PLANT NATIVE PLANTS IN SOUTH FLORIDA?



WHAT IS A NATIVE PLANT?

A plant that arrived naturally in a specific area and that has thrived for hundreds of years.

Some examples of Native plants are:

1. Spider Lily
2. Spanish Stopper
3. False Mint

WHAT IS A NON NATIVE PLANT?

A plant that is not grown naturally in a specific area. The plants were imported by various means.

Some examples of Exotic plants are:

1. Coconut Palm Tree
2. Australian Pine
3. Brazilian Pepper
4. Bougainvillea

HOW NATIVE PLANTS CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY

- NATIVE PLANTS REQUIRE LITTLE IF ANY FERTILIZERS, PESTICIDES, IRRIGATION OR EXPENSIVE MATERIALS
- CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE
- REDUCE WATER USAGE
- PROVIDES FOOD AND SHELTER FOR ANIMALS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S
NATIVE PLANT PAGE**

**THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY FACTSHEET
ON NATIVE PLANTS**

WWW.FNPS.ORG

CHALLENGES OF PLANTING NATIVE PLANTS

- WHEN A PLANT IS FIRST PLANTED IT MUST BE WATERED AT LEAST ONCE
- BEST TO PLANT IN THE SUMMER
- HAVE A RELIABLE REFERENCE TO IDENTIFY WHICH PLANTS ARE NATIVE AND WHICH ARE EXOTIC

WHERE CAN YOU GET NATIVE TREES?

- * FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
- * LOCAL NURSERIES