






	<p><b>Reems Creek Nursery</b> 76 Monticello Road, Weaverville NC 28787 828-645-3937. Reems Creek uses sustainable growing methods for trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables, avoiding pollinator-unfriendly pesticides. They grow a Monarch Waystation planting of milkweed and will adopt your monarch caterpillars if your supply runs short. See plant lists and other resources online. <a href="https://reemscreek.com/">https://reemscreek.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>Sassafras on Sutton</b> 108 Sutton Avenue Black Mountain NC 28711, 828-419-0677 One beautiful historic building nestled in a magical mountain town. Two floors brimming with books (including gardening books), toys, and gifts, and a full espresso café. Come shop, visit, sit a spell. <a href="mailto:susanne@sassafrasonsutton.com">susanne@sassafrasonsutton.com</a> <a href="https://www.sassafrasonsutton.com/">https://www.sassafrasonsutton.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>Ten Thousand Villages</b>, located in the Moore Center in Montreat near Lake Susan, offers thousands of beautiful handmade items from developing countries throughout the world, including jewelry, art, textiles, and exquisite gifts of all kinds. Look for hangers, baskets, and pots to complement your house and porch plants, and the occasional exquisite hammock. <a href="https://www.tenthousandvillages.com/montreat">https://www.tenthousandvillages.com/montreat</a></p>
	<p><b>Town Hardware and General Store</b> 103 W State St, Black Mountain, NC 28711, 828-669-7723. Full hardware store, plus toys, lawn and garden supplies and tools, birdhouses, garden stakes, bird baths, garden shoes, flower and vegetable seeds, and woodworking tools. <a href="https://townhardware.com/">https://townhardware.com/</a> <a href="mailto:townhdwe@bellsouth.net">townhdwe@bellsouth.net</a></p>
	<p><b>Urban Farmgirl Flowers</b> 19 Mountain view Avenue, Black Mountain, NC Freshly-cut flowers, locally grown. Elaine is a grower and floral arranger. Her flowers can be found at the Black Mountain Tailgate Market (Saturdays 9 AM – Noon, May 2 – November 21). <a href="https://www.urbanfarmgirlflowers.com/">https://www.urbanfarmgirlflowers.com/</a> 828-989-0824 <a href="mailto:elaine@urbanfarmgirlflower.com">elaine@urbanfarmgirlflower.com</a></p>
	<p><b>Useful Plants Nursery</b> 111 Another Way, Black Mountain, NC 28711 (828) 669-6517, at <b>Earthaven Ecovillage</b>, is a permaculture-based nursery specializing in perennial plants that produce useful foods and/or medicines which are well-adapted to our region (March 10 – June 5, summer &amp; fall by appointment). They consult on installation of edibles and medicinals, sacred spot development, and garden maintenance. <a href="https://www.usefulplants.org/">https://www.usefulplants.org/</a>.</p>
	<p><i>A Field Guide to Wildflowers of the Eastern United States (2014)</i>, by Tom Knight and Denise Anthes, is a beautifully illustrated book available from the Montreat Bookstore. The book includes a DVD and screensaver. Denise had a table at the last live Montreat Native Plant Sale, where she signed copies of the book and sold home-grown native wildflowers.</p>
	<p>This <b>North Carolina Extension Gardener</b> webpage gives links to reviews of popular online plant identification apps (possibly useful, but maybe inaccurate) and links to online plant identification keys for local trees, ferns, pitcher plants and winter twigs. <a href="https://extensiongardener.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/04/plant-identification-tools-and-resources/?src=rss">https://extensiongardener.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/04/plant-identification-tools-and-resources/?src=rss</a> The webpage also lists a few guidebooks for plant terminology, local native trees and flowers, including this one on natural plant communities of our mountain regions.</p>

# Gardening in Montreat? Start Here



To support native plant gardening, for a number of years Landcare has sponsored an annual Native Plant Sale and Arbor Day Celebration each spring at Montreat's Moore Center Field. In 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented gathering for a physical sale and educational meetings, but we can still garden!

Here is a list of resources for guidance, some of which are available in full on the Landcare website. Here also is a list of vendors of locally grown native plants and associated services, most of which are past participants in the Montreat Native Plant Sale, our helpful friends and neighbors.

In Montreat, we live in a temperate rain forest, with lots of deep shade and lovely little creeks. It has not always been this way. Research by the Presbyterian Heritage Center revealed that our forested valley has a history of two clear cuts, a sheep ranching operation, fires, floods and a railroad. Since then we preserved some wilderness on the ridgeline.

Our little cove has seen the die-off of American chestnuts due to blight, and now hemlocks, due to the woolly adelgid. A number of our oaks and tulip poplars are reaching the end of their natural lives. The Town of Montreat Tree Board identifies trees that need trimming or removal, potentially creating sun islands and replanting opportunities.

We are in a time of transition for the makeup of the forest. Landcare, the Tree Board of Montreat, Firewise Initiative, and the town ordinances all have an interest in promoting native plants, preventing forest fires, and maintaining viable forest habitat and clear-running streams.

## PLANT GUIDES & GUIDANCE (May 3, 2021)

**Montreat Landcare Committee** website (<http://www.montreatlandcare.org/projects/>), **Native & Invasive Species**, has information on native plants recommended in the town ordinances, as well as invasive plant species to avoid.

**Landscaping with Native Plants in Western North Carolina**, a brochure including extensive plant lists, is available in the Town Hall lobby, and on the Landcare website (<http://www.montreatlandcare.org/projects/>). These documents include links to additional sources of information. The link **Wildfire Safety: Firewise** has pruning tips for rhodys and laurel.

On **Town of Montreat Tree Board** website **Firewise Planting** link find **Firewise Landscaping in North Carolina** (<http://townofmontreat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Firewise-1.pdf>), with extensive plant lists and information on flammability. The **Tree Management Guide** includes right-of-way tree inventory results. Landcare and the Tree Board work with **American Chestnut Foundation** (<https://acf.org/>) to restore the American chestnut tree and the **Hemlock Restoration Initiative** (<https://savehemlocksnc.org/>) to stop the hemlock decline.

**How to Make a Rain Garden** brochure, available in the Montreat Town Hall lobby and the Landcare website (<http://www.montreatlandcare.org/project/water-garden-brochure/>), promotes catchments for stormwater rainfall run-off to protect the soil and creeks. **Riverlink Waterrich** (<https://riverlink.org/work/waterrich/>) has additional information on raingardens and watershed protection.






**National Wildlife Federation** ([nwf.org/garden](http://nwf.org/garden) and [nwf.org/nativeplants](http://nwf.org/nativeplants)) provides tips and plant lists for attracting butterflies and other pollinators and ways your yard can become a **Certified Wildlife Habitat** (<http://www.montreatlandcare.org/project/certified-wildlife-habitat/>). If you have a sunny spot, you might plant enough milkweed to join the **Monarch Waystation Program** (<https://monarchwatch.org/waystations/>).

**Extension Master Gardeners of Buncombe County** website gives advice and lists classes on gardening (<https://www.buncombemastergardener.org/>). You can often find volunteers at a table in local farmers markets.



**NURSERIES, LANDSCAPERS, GARDENING SUPPLIES, & PLANT IDENTIFICATION** to help you plan, dig and plant

The places, persons and resources listed here have helped with past Landcare programs and events, or are simply vital resources for Western North Carolina native plant gardening. As you evolve into a native plantsperson, you will no doubt collect contact information for seed catalogs and other online sources for native or locally-adapted plants. We wish you good luck in your gardening adventures!

	<p>Searchable plant databases. Use the <b>North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox</b> filters to narrow the list of plants to those likely to thrive in your growing conditions and that will provide the critter-specific habitats you want to create <a href="https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/">https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/</a>. <b>USDA Plants Database</b> <a href="https://plants.usda.gov/java/">https://plants.usda.gov/java/</a> is harder to use, but even more extensive in its coverage. The website includes fact sheets for plant species, hardiness zone maps, and many other things.</p>
	<p><b>The Botanical Gardens at Asheville</b> 151 W.T. Weaver Blvd. Asheville NC 28804-3414 828-252-5190 mission is to encourage and support restoration of regional habitats and native plants. Open daily 7 AM - 7:30 PM, admission and parking are free, donations and membership are encouraged. The website lists classes and two native plant sales each year, and resources, including native plant nurseries. <a href="https://ashevillebotanicalgardens.org/">https://ashevillebotanicalgardens.org/</a></p>
	<p><b>The North Carolina Arboretum</b> 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way Asheville, NC 28806-9315 828-665-2492 Part of the UNC system, the Arboretum is a 434 acre public garden within the Pisgah National Forest. Its mission, connecting people and plants, includes exhibits, lay and professional education programs, and native plant sales. Become a member and save the \$16 parking fee. <a href="https://www.ncarboretum.org/">https://www.ncarboretum.org/</a></p>
	<p><b>North Carolina Native Plant Society</b> <a href="https://ncwildflower.org/native-plant-nurseries/">https://ncwildflower.org/native-plant-nurseries/</a> has a list of native plant nurseries in North Carolina. They include links to the websites of the <b>Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center</b> and the <b>North Carolina Botanical Garden</b> for additional lists of native plant nurseries.</p>
	<p><b>Appalachian Creek Garden Center</b> 8 Mimidis Lane, Swannanoa, NC 28778, garden and landscaping business offers tried and true garden performers, as well as many new varieties that excel for easy care, long blooming periods, and year-round interest. The website offers lots of plant fact sheets and other helpful info. 828-296-7396 <a href="http://www.appalachiancreek.com/">http://www.appalachiancreek.com/</a> Black Mountain Tailgate Market</p>
	<p><b>B. B. Barnes Garden Center &amp; Landscaping Services</b> 3377 Sweeten Creek Road, Arden NC 28704, has a vast selection of plants, products, and gifts at their four and a half acre destination Garden Center. The staff are professionals who can offer landscaping advice and services. They may have unusual specimen shrubs and trees well worth a look. <a href="https://bbbarns.com/">https://bbbarns.com/</a> 828-650-7300</p>
	<p><b>Black Mountain Blooms</b> 3154 US-70, Black Mountain NC 2871, (828) 777-1627, a botanical boutique for home and garden gifts, event design and floral arranging by April Carder of <b>In-Site Out Design</b> (landscape design, installation, and maintenance). The store is open Wednesday - Saturday in the off season, plus Tuesday in tourist season. When April is in the shop, she gladly answers native planting questions. At the last MNPS, April sold native plants from Gardens of the Blue Ridge (see below). <a href="https://blackmountainblooms.com/">https://blackmountainblooms.com/</a> <a href="mailto:info@blackmountainblooms.com">info@blackmountainblooms.com</a></p>

	<p><b>Black Mountain Blooms Seed Lending Library</b> Black Mountain Library 105 N Dougherty St., Black Mountain, NC 28711 (828) 250-4756 Join the library, join the seed bank, check out 2-3 seeds per variety of many fruits and vegetables for free, attend Sowing Circle classes. This is one of the many projects of the Friends of the Black Mountain Library. <a href="https://folblackmountain.org/seed-library-2/">https://folblackmountain.org/seed-library-2/</a> <a href="mailto:blackmountainblooms@gmail.com">blackmountainblooms@gmail.com</a></p>
	<p><b>Blue Ridge Waterscapes</b> is a full service outdoor-scape company providing services to create, complement, or repair your outdoor space. Services include design-build, maintenance, hardscapes, landscapes, outdoor fireplaces, rustic furniture and, particularly, water features. <a href="https://blueridgewaterscapes.com/">https://blueridgewaterscapes.com/</a> 828-713-8188 <a href="mailto:ben@blueridgewaterscapes.com">ben@blueridgewaterscapes.com</a></p>
	<p><b>Carolina Native Nursery</b> 1639 Prices Creek Rd, Burnsville, NC 28714, (828) 682-1471, grows nearly 200 species of eastern U.S. native shrubs, perennials, ferns, and grasses. They specialize in seed-grown rhododendrons, azaleas, and mountain laurels indigenous to the Southern Appalachian mountains. <a href="https://www.carolinanativenursery.com/">https://www.carolinanativenursery.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>Gardens of the Blue Ridge</b> offers a wide variety of native wildflowers, perennials, and ferns, grasses, native trees, and shrubs, which are also available by special order. Their website has a section on plants that thrive in shade. <a href="https://gardensoftheblueridge.com/">https://gardensoftheblueridge.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>High Country Nursery</b> 16 Rock Branch Rd, Fairview, NC 28730 (appointment only) 828-779-1981, specializes in fine and unusual landscape plants and uncommon specimen trees. These include Japanese maples, conifers, roses, cherries, blueberries, gardenias, paw paws, figs and other edible fruits, cold-hardy tropicals, select indoor and outdoor plants. High Country is usually at the Black Mountain Tailgate Market. <a href="http://japmaple.com/">http://japmaple.com/</a> <a href="mailto:wnchighcountry@gmail.com">wnchighcountry@gmail.com</a></p>
	<p><b>Mellie Mac's Garden Shack</b> 204 Black Mountain Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711. Mellie is passionate about gardening with truly native plants, as cultivars may not work well for wildlife. She is a font of helpful advice, and her garden field store is an inspiration. <a href="http://melliemacsgardenshack.com">melliemacsgardenshack.com</a> 828-669-5727 <a href="mailto:melliemacsgardenshack@gmail.com">melliemacsgardenshack@gmail.com</a></p>
	<p><b>Painters Greenhouse</b> 734 Roy Moore Road, Old Fort, NC 28762, is a source for vegetables, flowers, herbs and native shrubs and trees (open March 1 to end of June, Wednesday – Sunday), as well as garden decor. Their seasonal sales are not to be missed. <a href="https://www.paintersgreenhouse.com/">https://www.paintersgreenhouse.com/</a> 828-668-7225</p>
	<p><b>Professional Landscape Solutions</b> 3122 US-70 #9108, Black Mountain, NC 28711, (828) 357-8222, is a good source of soil amendments (including pine fines), fertilizers, compost tea, fungicides, organic solutions and testing solutions and testing services, as well as erosion control products, garden supplies, equipment and equipment repairs. <a href="https://www.proscapingsolutions.com/">https://www.proscapingsolutions.com/</a></p>