

Northern Neck Master Gardeners

Frequently Asked Questions

(April 2022)

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Abbreviations in this Document

VCE – Virginia Cooperative Extension (Website: <https://ext.vt.edu/>)

CCE – Clemson Cooperative Extension (Website: <https://hgic.clemson.edu/>)

NCCES – North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service (Website: <https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/>)

2022 PMG – the 2022 Pest Management Guide: Home Grounds and Animals, published by VCE

- Click on this link to open the [entire PMG](#) (a large file); the links below open *specific sections* only

Erosion

<p>What can I plant to stop erosion?</p>	<p>Reducing Erosion and Runoff (VCE pub. 426-722)</p> <p>Selecting Landscape Plants: Groundcovers (VCE pub. 426-609)</p>
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Fruit Trees

<p>What is wrong with this apple tree?</p>	<p>Home Fruit: Disease and Insects (2022 PMG – Sec. 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest and Disease Control General Info: pp. 3-1 through 3-6. • Apple Diseases and Insects: pp. 3-8 thru 3-11 and p. 3-13. • Spray Schedule for Apples: Table 3.5 on p. 3-12 <p>Apple & Crabapple Diseases – (CCE pub. 2000)</p> <p>Lack of soil fertility can also be the problem. Have the soil tested and review the following VCE publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Sampling For The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) • Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701)
<p>What is wrong with this peach tree?</p>	<p>Home Fruit: Disease and Insects (2022 PMG – Sec. 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest and Disease Control General Info: pp. 3-1 through 3-6. • Peach Diseases and Insects: pp. 3-14 through 3-15. • Peach Insects: p. 3-15 • Spray Schedule for Peaches: Table 3.7 on p. 3-16 <p>Peach Diseases – (CCE pub. 2209)</p> <p>Lack of soil fertility can also be the problem. Have the soil tested and review the following VCE publications:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Sampling for The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) • Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701)
Do fruit trees need annual pesticide spraying?	Home Fruit: Disease and Insects (2022 PMG – Sec. 3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Timing” under” When and How to Apply Home Fruit Pesticides” on p. 3-4

Ground-Covers

Why are the tips on my Carpet Juniper turning brown?	Juniper Tip Blights (VCE pub. 450-601) Juniper Diseases and Insect Pests (CCE pub. 2056)
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Identification

Can you ID this tree/shrub/plant/weed/insect?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best answer: “Could you bring us a sample?” or, “Could you bring or email us a picture”, (e.g. when sample would be too big) • See Appendix H below for information on submitting a sample
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Invasive Plants

How do I eradicate invasive plants?	Invasive Exotic Plant Species Identification and Management (VCE pub. 420-320)
How do I eradicate invasive plants near the shoreline/water?	Review the publication “ Common Reed (Phragmites australis) ” from Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences. Pesticides and Aquatic Animals: A Guide to Reducing Impacts on Aquatic Systems (VCE pub. 420-013): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Herbicides” – pp. 8-10 • “Toxicity Lists” – pp. 15-21.

Lawns

Click on the link below for a general reference publication for Virginia lawns:

- [A Virginian’s Year-Round Guide to Yard Care](#) (VA Department of Conservation and Recreation)

How do I get rid of weeds in my lawn?	Spring and Summer Lawn Management Considerations for Cool-Season Turfgrasses (VCE pub. 430-532): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See sections: “Soil Preparation” & “Weeds”
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	Lawn Diseases (2022 PMG – Sec. 5): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Lawn Weeds” – pp. 5-9 through 5-30
What type of lawn does well in the NN?	2020-2021 Virginia Turfgrass Variety Recommendations (VCE pub. SPES-301) Selecting Turfgrass (VCE pub. 426-719) Spring & Summer Lawn Management Recommendations for Warm-Season Turfgrasses (VCE pub. 430-533)
How do I renew an existing lawn?	Lawn Diseases (2022 PMG – Sec. 5): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Weeds” on pp. 5-9 thru 5-30
How do I prepare the soil for a new lawn?	Establishing Lawns (VCE pub. 426-718)
What are these brown spots in my lawn?	Spring & Summer Lawn Management Recommendations for Warm-Season Turfgrasses (VCE pub. 430-533): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See p. 10: “Rhizoctonia Incited Diseases”

Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck

The appendices below are lists of recommended plants for the Northern Neck have been excerpted from [Gardening in the Northern Neck of Virginia: A Handbook for Responsible Gardeners](#), published by the Northern Neck Master Gardeners and available for review at the [Northumberland](#), [Lancaster](#) or [Westmoreland](#) County Cooperative Extension offices.

Type of Recommended Plant:	Click Below to go to the Appendix:
Small Tree and Shrub Favorites	Appendix A
Larger Tree Favorites	Appendix B
Perennials	Appendix C
Annuals	Appendix D
Ground Covers	Appendix E
Vegetables	Appendix F

What fruit trees grow well in the NN?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Fruit in the Home Garden (VCE pub. 426-840) • Tree Fruit in the Home Garden (VCE pub. 426-841) • Gardening in the Northern Neck Handbook, p. 51
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Where can I buy plants that do well in the NN?	See Appendix G for a recent listing of retailers.
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Ornamentals

What is wrong with this Japanese Holly?	<p>Holly Diseases & Insect Pests (CCE pub. 2055)</p> <p>Holly Diseases (psu.edu) (Penn State University)</p> <p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 4-5: see “Ilex (Holly)” for a listing of common diseases. • Table 4.1 on pp. 4-7 through 4-10 lists recommended control treatments.
What are these spots on the leaves of this Photinia (Red Tip)?	<p>Photinia (Red Tip) – CCE pub. 1081</p> <p>Entomosporium Leaf Spot on Photinia (Publication 450-609)</p> <p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 4-5 of the 2022 PMG cites Entomosporium Leaf Spot as a common disease of Photinia. • Table 4.1 (p. 4-7) lists recommended controls. • Consider the General Cultural and Biological Controls on p. 4-1 as well.
What is this white cottony stuff on my camellia leaves?	<p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Table 4.5 – Timing for Scale Insect Treatment – on p. 4-35.
Why are the leaves on this gardenia turning yellow?	<p>Gardenia Diseases & Other Problems (CCE pub. 2058):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardenias are susceptible to winter injury, which may turn leaves yellow. <p>Lack of soil fertility can also be the problem. Have the soil tested and review the following VCE publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Sampling for The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) • Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701) <p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See p. 4-5 for gardenia diseases • Table 4.1 on p. 4-8 lists disease control recommendations. • Page 4-33 lists gardenia insects and mites
<p>Why are my boxwoods dying?</p>	<p>Submit a sample to the local VCE office. When submitting a sample, refer to Appendix H below.</p> <p>Refer to Boxwood Handbook: A Practical Guide to Knowing and Growing Boxwood, by Lynn Batdorf, in the Help Desk Library.</p> <p>Publications on Boxwood Diseases & Pests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VT boxwood blight pest alert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See specifically: “Tactics to Avoid Introduction of the Disease” • Insect and Mite Pests of Boxwood (VCE pub. ENTO-42) • Boxwood Diseases & Insect Pests (CCE pub. 2052) • Best Management Practices for Boxwood Blight in the Virginia Home Landscape (VCE pub. PPWS-29NP) • If lack of soil fertility is suspected, have the soil tested and review the following VCE publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Soil Sampling For The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) ○ Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701)
<p>How do I prepare the soil for planting shrubs and plants?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “How To Plant a Tree”, a VCE video demonstrating how to properly plant a tree. • Have the soil tested and review the following VCE publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Soil Sampling For The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) ○ Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701)
<p>What is the best time to divide/transplant perennials?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dividing Perennials (CCE pub. 1150) • Perennials: Culture, Maintenance and Propagation (VCE pub. 426-203)
<p>What can I do about black root rot?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Root Rot of Ornamentals (Kentucky

	<p>Cooperative Extension)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Root Rot: <i>Thielaviopsis basicola</i> (Cornell University) • See also: “What is wrong with this Japanese Holly?” in this document
How do I get rid of mildew on my ornamental plants?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powdery Mildew of Ornamental Plants (VCE pub. 450-603) • Powdery Mildew (CCE pub. 2049)

Pests

What can I do about Tent Caterpillars and Fall Webworm and when?	<p>Fall Webworm (VCE pub. 2808-1013)</p> <p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Table 4.6 on p. 4-45 for Fall Webworm <p>Fall Webworm (Penn State Department of Entomology's Cooperative Extension)</p>
How do I get rid of moles and voles?	<p>Managing Wildlife Damage: Moles (VCE pub. 420-201).</p> <p>Moles and Voles – VCE Podcast at Moles and Voles Virginia Cooperative Extension Virginia Tech (vt.edu)</p> <p>Voles – Penn State University</p> <p>How to Manage Vole Damage – Minnesota Extension</p> <p>Other Animals (2022 PMG – Section 8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Table 8.1
What can I do about ground-nesting wasps/hornets, carpenter bees and yellow jackets?	<p>The first question to ask should be: “Are you allergic to bee stings?” If the answer is yes, recommend that a professional exterminator be contacted.</p> <p>Also, provide client with a copy of “Protecting Honey Bees”, see link below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 PMG – Regulations & Basic Info (Section 1), pp. 1-29 thru 1-34

	<p>For treatment, see the link below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insects in Recreational Areas (2022 PMG – Section 6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Table 6.1 (Yellow Jackets) ○ Table 6.2 (Carpenter Bees) ○ Table 6.3 (Wasps/hornets) <p>Yellowjackets (VCE pub. ENTO-49)</p>
What can I do about pine borers?	<p>Pine Sawyers (VCE pub. 2907-1399)</p> <p>Longhorned Beetles/Roundheaded Borers (VCE pub. 444-215)</p>
What can I do about bagworms?	<p>Bagworm (VCE pub. 2808-1008)</p> <p>For treatment, click on the link below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4), Table 4.6 on p. 4-38
How do I get mice out of my house?	<p>Is There a Mouse in the House? Eliminate Mice with IPM (Penn State Extension)</p> <p>House Mouse Management (University of California Cooperative Extension)</p>
How do I get snakes out of my house?	<p>Other Animals: Conflicts with Vertebrates (2022 PMG, Section 8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 8-1: See “Vertebrates as Pests” • Page 8-2: See second bullet point (law in Virginia regarding snakes) • Table 8.1 on p. 8-6: “Snakes” <p>Managing Wildlife Damage – Snakes (VCE pub. 420-021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Management Strategies” beginning on page 4
What can I do about these unwanted caterpillars in my trees?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove manually if practical. • For identification of Fall Webworm, Tent Caterpillars etc. see the publication below: Bagworms, Webworms and Tent Caterpillars (University of Nebraska) • Tent Caterpillars (VCE pub. 444-274)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Webworm (VCE pub. 2808-1013) • For Gypsy Moths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Gypsy Moth Management for Homeowners on Small Properties (VCE pub. 2811-1021) • Insect Pests of Ornamental Plants in the Home Landscape (msstate.edu) • A VCE slide show that includes caterpillar photographs is at Insect Pests of Ornamental Plants.
How can I treat for squash-bugs on squash and zucchini?	<p>Integrated Pest Management for Home Vegetable Gardens (VCE pub. 426-708)</p> <p>Squash Vine Borer (VCE pub. 3104-1566)</p>
How do I get rid of a woodpecker pecking holes in my siding/outside steps?	<p>Woodpeckers, Control Damage (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)</p> <p>Other Animals: Conflicts with Vertebrates (2022 PMG – Section 8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 8-4, see “Decision Making” • Table 8.1: “Woodpeckers”
Should I have an annual termite inspection?	<p>Termite Control (NC Cooperative Extension):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scroll down to “Annual Contracts”
How do I prevent deer from eating my plants?	<p>Other Animals: Conflicts with Vertebrates (2022 PMG – Section 8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pages 8-7 & 8-8: Selective Planting Recommendations for Deer Management <p>Part III, “Garden Care”, p. 59 of Gardening in The Northern Neck Handbook</p> <p>Deer-Resistant Native Plants for the Northern Neck, (Northern Neck Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society)</p>

Pruning

How and when do I prune?	<p>VCE has a number of publications on pruning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pruning Basics and Tools (VCE pub. 430-455)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evergreen Trees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pruning Evergreen Trees (VCE pub. 430-457) ○ Evergreen Tree Pruning Calendar (VCE pub. 430-461) • Deciduous Trees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pruning Deciduous Trees (VCE pub. 430-456) ○ Deciduous Tree Pruning Calendar (VCE pub. 430-460) • Shrubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pruning Shrubs (VCE pub. 430-459) ○ Shrub Pruning Calendar (VCE pub. 430-462) • Pruning Crepe Myrtles (VCE pub. 430-451) • Stop Topping Trees (VCE pub. 430-458)
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Resources

Where can I get information on rain-barrels?	Stormwater Management for Homeowners Fact Sheet 2 – Rain Barrels (VCE pub. SPES-10P)
How do I perform a soil test?	Soil Sampling For The Home Gardener (VCE pub. 452-129) Explanation of Soil Tests (VCE pub. 452-701)
Where can I get a soil test kit?	<p>At any local Extension office. The following offices are in or near the Northern Neck (all telephone numbers are in area code 804):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lancaster Ext. Office: (Lancaster Court House – 462-5780) • Northumberland Ext. Office: (Heathsville – 580-5694) • Westmoreland Ext. Office: (Montross – 493-8924) • Richmond Ext. Office: (Warsaw – 333-3420) • Essex Ext. Office: (Tappahannock – 443-3551)
Where can I find information on bee keeping?	The Northern Neck Beekeepers website: Northern Neck Beekeepers

<p>Where can I find a local arborist?</p>	<p>See Appendix I for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A VCE publication on hiring an arborist; • Links to the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) website, which provides a listing of certified arborists working in the Northern Neck.
<p>What are the frost dates in eastern Virginia?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 15 – 21, and • Last week of October. <p>Remember: Actual frost dates vary from year to year.</p> <p>See also: Vegetable Planting Guide and Recommended Planting Dates (VCE pub. 426-331)</p>

Soil

<p>What can I do about high sodium content in the soil?</p>	<p>Trees and Shrubs that Tolerate Saline Soils and Salt Spray Drift (VCE pub. 430-031):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Paragraph: “Reducing Soil Salinity or Soil Salt Damage” <p>Salt-Tolerant Northern Neck Native Plants (Northern Neck Chapter of Virginia Native Plant Society)</p>
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Septic Field

<p>What can I plant near my septic field?</p>	<p>Planting on Your Septic Drain Field (VCE pub. 426-617)</p>
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Trees

<p>Why are the leaves on this oak/maple turning brown and falling off?</p>	<p>Oak Leaves: Leaf edges brown, center of leaf green (University of Minnesota Extension)</p> <p>Drought, nearby construction and lack of soil fertility can cause same symptoms.</p>
<p>Why is there sap oozing from the bark of this oak?</p>	<p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See: “Bacterial Wetwood/Slime Flux on Dogwood” (Table 4.2 on p. 4-18), and find reference to oaks.
<p>Why are the branches on this Leyland Cypress turning brown?</p>	<p>Home Ornamentals (2022 PMG – Section 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Table 4.2 on p. 4-18 for “Leyland

	Cypress/Cankers”
What is this greyish-green substance growing on my trees?	Lichens on Woody Shrubs and Trees (Alabama Cooperative Extension)
What is this blackish substance on the leaves of these trees?	Sooty Molds (NCCES ENT/ort-41) Sooty Molds: Various (Cornell University)

Vegetables

What are these spots on my tomatoes?	<p>Tomatoes (VCE pub. 426-418):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Common Problems” <p>Tomato (CCE pub. 1323):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Common Problems” on p. 4 <p>Tomato Diseases & Disorders (CCE pub. 2217 – includes information on many tomato diseases and disorders)</p> <p>Disorders of Ripe Tomato Fruits (Texas A&M: click on menu to see pictures)</p>
How do I prepare the soil for a vegetable garden?	<p>Integrated Pest Management Ideas for Vegetable Gardens (VCE pub. 426-708):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See “Soil Preparation” • Consider a soil test <p>Vegetable Gardening: A Beginner's Guide (NCCES)</p>

Appendices

Appendix A – Small Tree and Shrub Favorites for the Northern Neck

NATIVE:
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> – Juneberry, shadbush
<i>Calycanthus floridus</i> – Carolina allspice
<i>Cercis Canadensis</i> – Redbud
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> – Fringetree
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> – Sweet pepperbush
<i>Cornus florida</i> – Flowering dogwood
<i>Cornus sericea</i> – Redosier dogwood
<i>Fothergilla gardenia</i> – Dwarf fothergilla
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> – Common witch hazel
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> – Oakleaf hydrangea
<i>Ilex glabra</i> – Inkberry holly
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> – Winterberry holly
<i>Illicium floridanum</i> – Florida anise-tree
<i>Itea virginica</i> – 'Henry's Garnet' Virginia Sweetspire
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i> – Mountain Laurel
<i>Leucothoe axillaris</i> – Coastal leucothoe
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> – Sweetbay magnolia
<i>Myrica cerifera</i> – Southern wax myrtle
<i>Vaccinium ssp</i> – Blueberry, deer berry, etc.
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> – Arrowwood viburnum
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> – Blackhaw viburnum
<i>Yucca 'Gold Garland'</i> – Yucca

NON-NATIVE:
<i>Abelia 'Edwin Goucher'</i> – Abelia
<i>Aucuba japonica 'Variegata'</i> – Aucuba
<i>Camellia sasanqua 'Setsugeka'</i> – Camellia
<i>Caryopteris 'Worcester Gold'</i> – Caryopteris
<i>Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'</i> – Smoketree
<i>Daphne 'Carol Mackie'</i> – Daphne
<i>Hamamelis 'Jelena'</i> – Hybrid Witchhazel
<i>Hibiscus syriacus 'Aphrodite'</i> – Rose of Sharon
<i>Hydrangea macrophylla 'Mariesii Variegata'</i> – Bigleaf Hydrangea
<i>Hydrangea paniculata 'Tardiva'</i> – Panicle Hydrangea
<i>Hypericum patulum 'Hidcote'</i> – St. John's Wort
<i>Lagerstroemia 'Natchez'</i> – Crape Myrtle
<i>Magnolia stellate</i> – Star Magnolia
<i>Rhododendron hybrid 'Treasure'</i> – Hybrid Azalea
<i>Spiraea thunbergii 'Ogon'</i> – Thunberg Spiraea
<i>Spiraea x bumalda 'Goldflame'</i> – Bumald Spiraea
<i>Viburnum carlesii</i> – Korean Spice Viburnum
<i>Viburnum plicatum var. tomentosum 'Mariesii'</i> – Doublefile Viburnum
<i>Viburnum utile 'Chesapeake'</i> – Service Viburnum
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> – Chaste Tree

[\(Return to “Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”\)](#)

Appendix B – Larger Native Tree Favorites for the Northern Neck

- Eastern Hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)
- White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
- Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*)
- Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*)
- Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*)
- Common Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)

[\(Return to “Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”\)](#)

Appendix C – Suitable Perennials for the Northern Neck

(Excerpt from Gardening in the Northern Neck handbook)

The following list offers a selection of plants, arranged by season of bloom. Consult any good garden book for pictures and detailed descriptions. When specific cultivars are mentioned, these are the varieties which local experience has demonstrated generally perform best in our conditions. Species native to our region tend to be the most care free as they are adapted to our climate and environment. An asterisk next to the plant indicates that it is native to our area.

Late Winter/Early Spring

- Hellebores (*Helleborus spp.*)
- Lungwort (*Pulmonaria spp.*)

Spring

- Catmint (*Nepeta* 'Six Hills Giant', 'Walkers Blue')
- Daffodils (*Narcissus spp.*)
- Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*):
 - varieties include early, middle and late bloomers;
 - 'Stella D'Oro' and 'Happy Returns' will continue blooming until frost.
- Irises (*Iris germanica*, *I siberica*, *I versicolor**, *I cristata**, 'double bloomers' – two flowering periods)
- Spiderwort (*Tradescantia**)

Late Spring – Early Summer

- Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma**)
 - 'Fireball' and 'Joseph Kline' are mildew resistant
- Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia grandiflora** 'Burgundy', 'Goblin', 'Tokajer')
- Meadow Sage (*Salvia guaranitica*, *S. greggii*)
- Purple Cone Flower (*Echinacea** 'Maxima', 'Bravado')
- Shasta daisy (*Leucanthemum maximum* 'Becky')
- Summer Phlox (*Phlox paniculata**)
 - 'David', 'Franz Schubert', 'Nicky', and 'Robert Poore' are all mildew resistant)
- Tickseed (*Coreopsis auriculata** 'Nana', *C. verticillata** 'Zagreb').
 - Some recent introductions are not reliably hardy.
- Vervain (*Verbena canadensis** 'Homestead Purple', *V. bonariensis*)
- Wandflower (*Gaura lindheimeri** 'Siskiyou Pink', 'Whirling Butterflies')

Late Summer

- Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia fitlgida** 'Goldsturm', *R. maxima** and *R. nitida** 'Herbstonne' are very tall, showy varieties.)
- Obedient Plan (*Physostegia virginiana**) – Spreads rapidly
- Speedwell (*Veronica spicata* 'Goodness Grows', 'Sunny Border Blue')
- Stonecrop (*Sedum spectabile* 'Autumn Joy', 'Rosy Glow').

* Native to the Northern Neck

Appendix C (continued)

Late Summer – Fall

- Asters. (*Aster** 'Monch', 'Alma Potschke', 'Lady in Black' - and many others.)
- Chrysanthemum (*Dendranthemum* 'Clara Curtis', 'Cambodian Queen' 'Sheffield Pink'; *Ajania pacifica* 'Gold and Silver')
- Hardy Ageratum (*Eupatorium coelestinum**) – Spreads rapidly.
- Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius** 'Gold Lace', 'Lemon Queen'; *H. microcephala** 'Flore Pleno')

Useful Foliage Plants

- Bugleweed (*Ajuga reptans*) – Interesting leaf colors and some new large leafed and miniature varieties – a good ground cover.
- Lambs Ear (*Stachys byzantina*) – Try 'Big Ears' because it's non-flowering and has larger leaves than the other species.
- Wormwood (*Artemisia*) – Many species, but be careful - some are garden thugs and can take over quickly.
 - 'Silver Mound' is normally a disappointment in this area, dying out and leaving an ugly hole in the middle.
 - 'Powis Castle' and 'Valerie Finnis' do very well.

[\(Return to “Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”\)](#)

* Native to the Northern Neck

Appendix D – Suitable Annuals for the Northern Neck

(Excerpt from Gardening in the Northern Neck handbook)

The following plants grow well in our region and many are well suited to container gardening:

- Black-Eyed Susan/Gloriosa Daisies (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Calibrachoa (*Calibrachoa hybrida*)
- Coleus (*Solenostemon scutellaroides*)
- Hollyhocks (*Alcea rosea*). Biennials; most will self-seed.
- Impatiens (*Impatiens walleriana*). 'Sunny Lady' hybrids are heat tolerant.
- Marigold (*Calendula officinalis*). Many varieties/sizes/shades.
- Moonvine (*Ipomoea alba*). Blooms in the evening.
- Morning Glory (*Ipomoea spp.*)
- Ornamental Millet (*Pennisetum glaucum* 'Purple Majesty')
- Summer Snapdragon (*Angelonia angustifolia*)
- Sunflower (*Helianthus spp.*). Lots of sizes/colors/forms.
- Zinnia (*Zinnia angustifolia*, *Z. elegans*). 'Profusion' is mildew resistant.

Good self-seeding annuals

- Bachelor's Buttons (*Centaurea cyanus*)
- Cosmos Daisy (*Cosmos bipinnatus*)
- Lobelia (*Lobelia cardinalis*, *L. siphilitica*)
- Spider Flower (*Cleome hasslerana*)
- Castor Bean (*Ricinus communis*). The giant of annuals! Over 10 feet, showy, orange seed heads – but seeds are poisonous.

Tender perennials/tropicals

Tender perennials and tropicals are plants that can be grown as annuals on the Northern Neck. Some can be wintered over.

- Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*)
- Mexican Petunia (*Ruellia brittoniana*). May over winter in sheltered spot. Can be kept in garage and set out in spring.
- Purple Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum setaceum* 'Rubrum')
- Lantana 'Miss Huff' is hardy to Zone 7.

[\(Return to “Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”\)](#)

Appendix E – Ground Covers Suitable for the Northern Neck

(Excerpt from Gardening in the Northern Neck handbook)

For dry sites:

- Creeping cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster adpressus*)

For wet sites:

- Ajuga (*Ajuga reptans*) – may be invasive
- Ferns
- Liriope (*Liriope* spp.) – may be invasive
- Common periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) – may be invasive
- Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) - may be invasive
- Winter creeper (*Euonymus fortunei*) – may be invasive
- Hostas (*Hosta* spp.)

To stabilize slopes:

- Ajuga (*Ajuga reptans*) – may be invasive
- Creeping cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster adpressus*)
- Wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*) – may be invasive
- Creeping junipers (*Juniperus* spp.)
- Pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*) – for shade
- Ground cover roses (*Rosa* spp.)
- Common periwinkle (*Vinca minor*)

For deep shade:

- Japanese painted fern (*Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum')
- Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*)
- Sweet woodruff (*Galium odoratum*)
- Black mondo grass (*Ophiopogon planiscapus* 'Arabicus')
- Pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*)
- Wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*)
- Partridge berry (*Mitchella repens*)

For light shade:

- Hostas (*Hosta* spp.)
- Liriope (*Liriope* spp.) – may be invasive
- Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) – may be invasive
- Mondo grass (*Ophiopogon planiscapus*:::)
- Pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*)
- Ajuga (*Ajuga reptans*)
- Greater periwinkle (*Vinca major*) – may be invasive
- Common periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) – may be invasive
- Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*)

Appendix E (continued)

For full sun:

- Ajuga (*Ajuga reptans*)
- Barberry cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster dammeri*)
- Dianthus (*Dianthus* spp.)
- Winter creeper (*Euonymus fortunei*) – may be invasive
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum calycinum*)
- Shore junipers (*Juniperus conferta* 'Blue Pacific', 'Emerald Sea')
- Creeping junipers (*J. horizontalis* 'Bar Harbor', 'Blue Rug')
- Fountain grass (*Pennisetum* spp.)
- Phlox (*Phlox subulata*)
- Potentilla (*Potentilla fruticosa*)
- Sedum (*Sedum* spp.)

[\(Return to “Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”\)](#)

Appendix F – Vegetables

- The VCE publication [Vegetable Planting Guide](#) (426-331 (SPES-170P)) offers valuable growing tips.
- The following table is excerpted from p. 54 of [Gardening in the Northern Neck \(2007\)](#):

VEGETABLE	SPRING		FALL	
	Planting Out	Direct Sow	Planting Out	Direct Sow
<i>Artichoke</i>	15-Apr			
<i>Arugula</i>		30-Mar		15-Sep
<i>Asparagus</i>	15-Apr		7-Sep	
<i>Basil</i>	30 May-30 Jun		1-Sep	
<i>Bean (fava)</i>		1-Mar		
<i>Bean (bush)</i>		10 Apr - 10 Jun		7 Aug- 7 Sep
<i>Beet</i>		1 Mar- 21 Apr		1 Aug - 7 Sep
<i>Broccoli</i>	15 Mar - 21	Apr 14 Jul - 1 Aug	7 Aug - 1 Sep	
<i>Brussel Sprouts</i>	7 Mar- 15 Apr	7 Jun - 15 Jul	15 Jul - 21 Aug	
<i>Cabbage bok choy</i>	1-Apr		1-Sep	
<i>Cabbage head</i>	1 Mar-21 Apr		7 Jul - 15 Sep	
<i>Carrot</i>		27 Feb - 7 Apr		21 Jul - 21 Aug
<i>Cauliflower</i>	21 Mar - 21 Apr	7 Jul -21 Jul	7 Aug - 21 Aug	
<i>Celery</i>	15-May		15-Aug	
<i>Chard (Swiss)</i>		1 Mar- 7 May		
<i>Chives</i>	1 Mar - 30 Sep	20 Mar - 30 Aug		
<i>Collards</i>	30-Mar		15-Aug	7 Aug- 21 Sep
<i>Corn</i>		15 Apr - 21 Jun		
<i>Cow Pea</i>		20 May - 30 Jul		
<i>Cucumber</i>		21 Apr - 15 May		21 Jul - 21 Aug
<i>Eggplant</i>	15 Apr - 21 May			
<i>Endive</i>	1-Apr	7 Mar- 15 Apr	15-Sep	21Aug-21 Sep
<i>Garlic (clove)</i>				21 Sep- 21 Nov
<i>Kale</i>	1 Mar-21 Apr		5-Sep	7 Jul - 1 Sep
<i>Kohlrabi</i>	1-Apr		1-Aug	
<i>Leek</i>	30-Mar		15-Aug	
<i>Lettuce</i>	7 Mar- 1 Apr	1 Apr - 15 Jun	30-Aug	15 Aug- 1 Nov
<i>Melons</i>		21Apr-21 May		
<i>Mustard</i>		7 Mar - 15 Apr		5 Sep - 21 Nov
<i>Okra</i>		1 May-10 Jun		
<i>Onion (seeds)</i>		15 Feb- 21 Apr		1 Sep - 21 Oct
<i>Onion (sets)</i>		7 Feb- 7 Mar		7 Sep – 7 Dec
<i>Parsley</i>	1-Apr		15-Aug	
<i>Pea</i>		15 Feb - 15 Apr		
<i>Peppers</i>	15 May-21 Jun			
<i>Potato</i>		15 Feb- 15 April		7 Aug- 1 Sep
<i>Pumpkin</i>		21 Apr - 1 Jul		
<i>Radish</i>		21 Feb - 7 May		21Aug-15 Nov
<i>Scallions</i>				1 Oct - 30 Oct
<i>Spinach</i>		15 Feb - 15 Apr		1 Sep - 15 Nov
<i>Spinach</i>		15-May		
<i>Squash</i>		21 Apr - 7 Jun		
<i>Tomatillo</i>	15 Apr - 7 Jul			
<i>Tomato</i>	15 Apr - 7 Jul			
<i>Turnip</i>		21 Feb- 21 Mar		15 Aug -15 Oct

(Return to [“Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck”](#))

Appendix G
Northern Neck Master Gardeners
Where to Buy Plants in the Northern Neck

NOTES:

- Inclusion on the lists below is not an endorsement by the Northern Neck Master Gardeners or Virginia Cooperative Extension.
- If you are a retailer and would like to be included on the following lists, please email us at helpdeskNNMG@google.com.

The following plant vendors have been exhibitors at the NNMG's previous "Gardening in the Northern Neck" seminars:

- **Allison's Ace Hardware**, 3010 Northumberland Highway, Lottsburg VA. 1-800-457-7578 or (804) 529-7578. Contact: <https://www.allisonsacehardware.com/>.
- **Dug In Farms**, 155 Fleets Bay Rd., White Stone, VA 22578. (804) 580-1567 (text preferred). Website: <https://www.duginfarms.com/>.
- **Forest Lane Botanicals**, 104 Forest Lane, Williamsburg, VA. (757) 291-4899. Website: <http://forestlanebotanicals.com/index.html>.
- **Miller's Greenhouses, Inc.**, 403 Church Lane, Tappahannock, VA. (804) 366-4162. Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Miller-Greenhouse-207118525967859/>.

The following retailers are located in the Northern Neck and have in the past been sellers of plants suitable for this area:

- **Booth's Landscaping**, 85 N. Main St., Kilmarnock, VA. (804) 435-2800 or (804) 435-6416. Website: <https://www.boothslandscapingcompany.com/>.
- **Edwards Produce**, Route 200, Wicomico Church, VA. (540) 226-4382. Spring & summer seasons only. Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EdwardsProduceWicomicoChurch/>.
- **Farm & Home Supply of Kilmarnock**, 469 N. Main St, Kilmarnock, VA. (804) 435-3177. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/farmandhomekilmarnock/>.
- **Garner's Produce**, 22645 Kings Highway, Warsaw, VA. (804) 761-2412. Website: <https://www.garnersproduce.com/>.
- **Ransone's Nursery and Maintenance Inc.**, 141 White Pine Drive, Weems, VA. (804) 435-3788. Website: <https://www.ransonelandscape.com/>.
- **Murphy's Hardware & Garden**, 5005 Cople Hwy, Mount Holly, VA. (804) 472-3712. Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Murphys.hardware>.

The Annual Native Plant Sale held by the [Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society](#), usually on the second Saturday of September.

Farmers' Markets: plant vendors also participate in the following farmer's markets:

- **Heathsville**: Every third Saturday from April through October, 9 am – 1 pm.
- **Irvington**: Every first Saturday from May through November, 9 am – 1 pm.
- **Tappahannock**: Every third Saturday from April through November, 9 am – 1 pm.

[\(Return to "Recommended Plants for the Northern Neck"\)](#)

Appendix H
Northern Neck Master Gardeners
Submitting a Sample

Some recommendations for submitting a plant sample:

- Collect a fresh sample. Collect a sample on the day you are bringing it to the Help Desk. Don't leave samples in vehicles overnight. Intense heat or cold will destroy the sample.
- Bring in samples that are *in transition*; that is, showing symptoms but is not yet dead. Diagnosis is difficult to impossible with dead or dried plants.
- Bring in a *sufficient* sample. Whole plants, including roots, are more desirable than individual leaves or branches, whenever possible.
- If the client can only submit a portion of the plant:
 - On trees and shrubs, collect a 12 – 24-inch-long branch with leaves attached. Samples should show transition from healthy to affected foliage.
 - For weed/plant identification, submit as many parts of the plant as possible – entire plant, twigs, flowers, leaves, fruits and roots. A single leaf or grass blade is not sufficient.
- Turf samples: dig a 2 to 3-inch-deep shoebox-sized rectangular sample (including roots) which shows transition from healthy to affected turf. Wrap the roots with aluminum foil to keep soil intact and prevent contaminating blades.

[\(Return to “Identification” on page 3\)](#)

[\(Return to “boxwoods” on page 6\)](#)

Appendix I
NORTHERN NECK MASTER GARDENERS
ISA Certified Arborists and Virginia Department of Forestry

- Before hiring an arborist, you may wish to review the VCE publication “[Hiring an Arborist to Care for your Landscape Trees](#)” (VCE pub. ANR-131)
- **Find an ISA Certified Arborist working in the Northern Neck:**
 - The [International Society of Arboriculture](#) (ISA) website contains a “[Find an Arborist](#)” feature that displays all ISA Certified Arborists® working within a radius of up to 100 miles of a zip code entered by the user.

[\(Return to “Arborist”\)](#)