



LAKE HURON  
COASTAL CENTRE

# DUNE PLANTING GUIDE

Wise Stewardship of Lake Huron's Coastal Dunes



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Designed to help naturalize Lake Huron's coastal dunes, the information presented in this Dune Planting Guide provides the following benefits:

**Ease of maintenance:** healthy dunes prevent sand erosion and drifting.

**Shoreline protection:** the beach and dune system offers some protection from storm waves. Protective sand bars result from temporary erosion of sand dunes by wave action.

**Health benefits:** healthy dunes help prevent wind erosion, which can expose wet sands containing bacteria and other organisms.

**Extraordinary beauty:** dunes and their natural vegetation provide beauty unlike any other ecosystem in Ontario.

**Socio-economic benefits:** naturalization of the dunes can prevent the socio-economic loss that would result from the degradation of dunes and beaches.

**No vegetation = No dunes  
No dunes = No beach**

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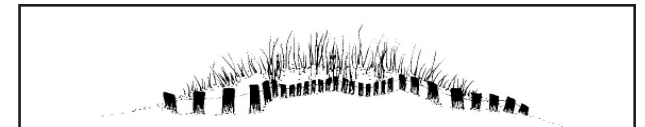
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## Introduction

Have you ever wondered if the beach that you enjoy so much is healthy?

The coastal dunes along Lake Huron's shoreline are considered one of the most fragile environments in Canada, and their rarity makes them even more special.

For example, did you know that sand dunes account for a mere 1.5% of Canada's Great Lakes' coastal areas?

This guide is designed to provide private landowners, municipalities and landscape professionals with guidelines and tools for naturalizing Lake Huron's coastal beaches and dunes, for everyone's benefit.

Figure 1



Darkened areas show coastal dune locations

### Did you know?

Dunes provide natural shore protection that responds to the dynamics of the lake.

Dunes are home to a wide array of rare species, sometimes including Species at Risk.

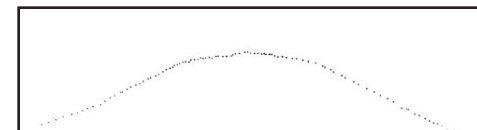
## About the Dunes

Lake Huron's sand dunes are part of a complex system combining sand, vegetation, and geography.

Formed over thousands of years as a result of the last ice age, beaches and dunes form what is called a dune system.

The dunes depend on the beaches for their ongoing supply of sand. During storms and when lake levels are high, beaches borrow sand from the dunes. This helps the beach protect itself from erosion.

Some dune systems along the lake contain sand supplies that are no longer being added to. It is therefore important not to remove any sand from the beaches or dunes, but protect the anchoring vegetation.



## Benefits

### Did you know?

Dunes support a wide range of natural plant biodiversity when properly maintained.

Many animals including birds, insects, and reptiles make the dunes their home.

Dunes provide natural shore protection from wave attack, reducing wind erosion and drifting of sand.

Dunes protect water quality.

Dunes provide aesthetic value and recreational enjoyment for tourists and landowners.

Sand dunes provide a number of benefits to you and your property.

The dunes are home to an unusually large number of rare, native species. A disproportionate number of rare plants exist here in relation to other natural areas.

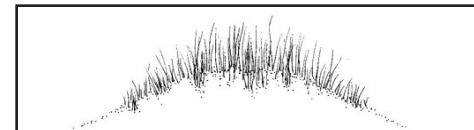
Dunes act as a reservoir of sand that protects the shoreline during storms and periods of high lake levels. Since healthy dune systems provide free shore protection, their stewardship is in everyone's best interest

Equally important is the role dunes play in ensuring water quality. Loss of sand dunes can cause 'lowering' of the beach profile. When sand dunes are destroyed or removed, wet beach sands are vulnerable to contamination by micro-organisms, including E. coli. Destruction of the dunes can have serious consequences for everyone along the lake.

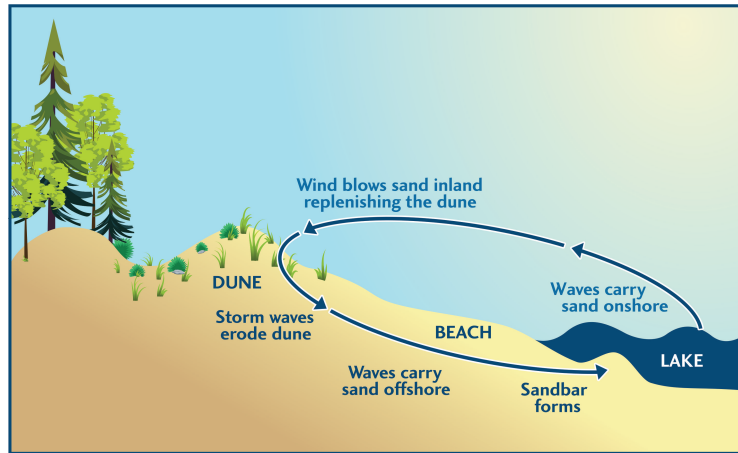
Dunes also provide natural protection from wind erosion and drifting sand. This can cause ongoing property maintenance challenges in the form of sand removal, which can create unnecessary costs.

Healthy dunes equal healthy beaches. Stewardship of our beaches and dunes is everybody's responsibility - maintaining their health will ensure a high quality lakeshore for enjoyment now, and for future generations.

**Anaturalizedlandscapehasmany benefits. From a practical point of view, it requires less work and fewer resources – so you have more time to enjoy it!**

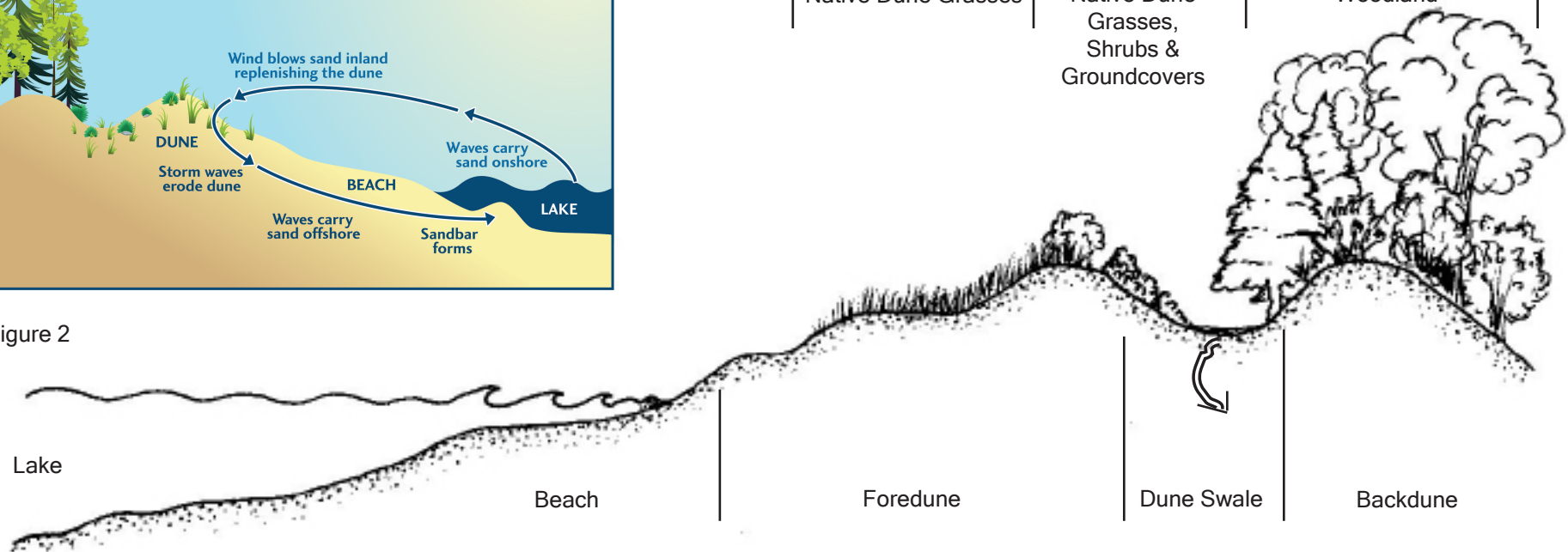


# Healthy Beach and Dune System



Primary Vegetation Zone	Secondary Vegetation Zone	Tertiary Vegetation Zone
Native Dune Grasses	Native Dune Grasses, Shrubs & Groundcovers	Woodland

Figure 2



The **foredune** area, which includes the *primary vegetation zone*, (see figure above) is where the native dune grasses grow. These plants have adapted to growing in bare sand and act as a trap for blowing sand.

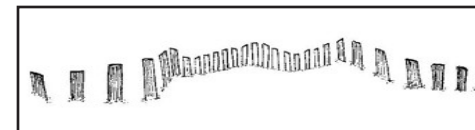
Once the beach grass has established, small shrubs and trees

are able to take root and grow in the *secondary vegetation zone*. The **dune swale** is a low spot that allows water to move quickly through sandy soils.

The **backdune** contains the *tertiary vegetation zone* where native trees and shrubs are able to grow and

protect the properties behind them from the wind.

In a healthy dune system earlier plant groups, like beach grass, prepare the way for groups of plants, like those found in a woodland. This kind of growth over time is called **succession**.



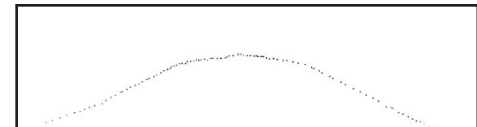
## How to Plan, Implement and Maintain Your Dune Property

This section provides important information on dune restoration, rehabilitation and naturalization.

**Dune Basics:** Restoration or Rehabilitation of a Foredune  
Planting Dune Vegetation  
Planning New Development along the Dune Shoreline

**Residential:** Planning and Maintaining a Residential Dune Property  
Phasing Plan for Naturalization

**Municipal:** Maintaining Dune Health on Public Property



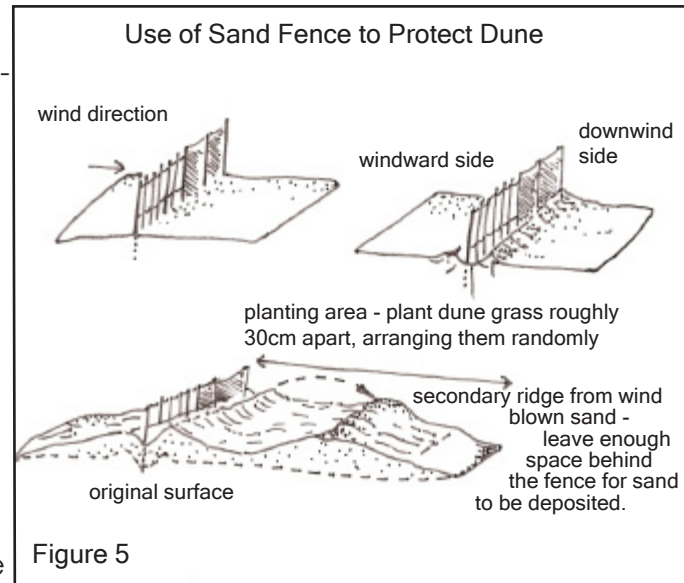
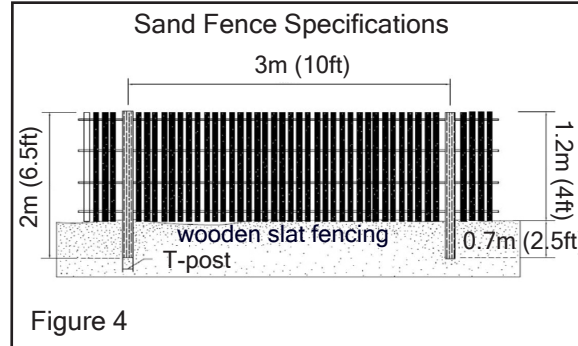
## Restoration or Rehabilitation of a Foredune

The following section explains where to locate a sand fence on your property, and how to construct and install it.

Without a vegetated foredune, sand will drift inland, farther and farther away from the beach. The best way to prevent the build up of sand on your property initially is to prevent sand drifting using a wooden sand fence. Dune vegetation can then be planted behind it to anchor the sand. Fencing is usually only necessary for the first 2 or 3 years until the dune vegetation is established.

A sand fence is the first line of defence for creating a base where dune vegetation can begin to grow. The fencing will slow the onshore wind causing the sand to fall on the downwind side of the fence. A fence made of wooden slats works best, and is often available at the local Co-op.

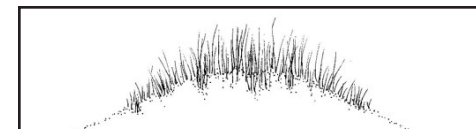
Proper placement of sand fencing is critical for collecting sand in the correct location. The fence should face perpendicular towards the



prevailing winds. Existing dunes in your area can be a good guide for where your dune should be developed. The deposition zone behind the fence (where you can expect sand to be deposited), should be about 8 m (26 ft) leeward of the fence. If you can line up with existing dunes on your beach, the fence should be installed about 3-4 m (10-13 ft) in front of the base of the dune. The fence may become buried, so repositioning the fence as sand accumulates should be considered.

Sand fencing should be composed of natural wood which has not been chemically treated and that breaks down over time. Materials can be found at your local hardware store. Wooden slat fencing can be bought in 18-30 m (60-100 ft) rolls and is 1 m (3 ft) in height, along with 2 m (7 ft) T-posts to anchor the fence. Alternately, 4x4 inch wooden posts available from the lumber yard could be used.

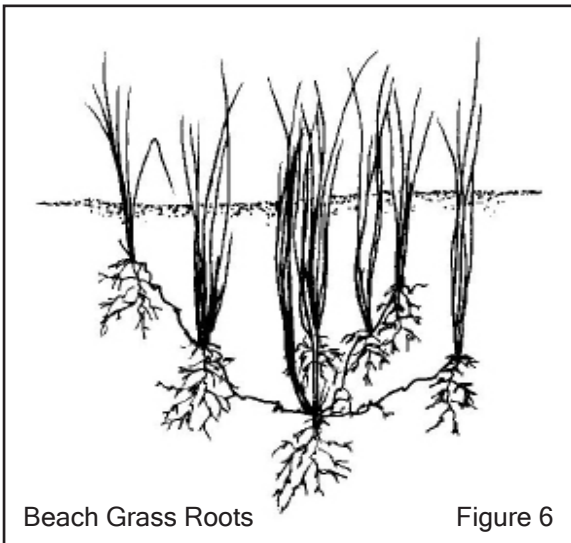
The posts should be pounded 3/4 m (2.5 ft) into the sand. To secure fence segments, attach the wooden slat fencing to the windward side of the posts.



## Planting Dune Vegetation

Like sand fencing, the role of vegetation is to slow onshore winds and trap sand, allowing it to gather and build up. Used together, sand fencing and dune vegetation is an extremely effective way to restore dunes.

Plant stems and leaves help protect the sand surface from wind erosion. The plant's root structure knits the dunes together to stabilize them. Dune vegetation renews itself naturally, providing permanent cover, and needs no ongoing



### Beach grass facts:

Beach grass will grow as more sand gathers around it, making it suited for the ever-changing dune system to which it has adapted itself.

Planting should occur in late autumn when plants are dormant. Autumn weather provides a cool and moist environment that reduces stress on new plantings. Fall planting also gives the grass a head start for growth in spring.

It is possible to plant beach grass in the spring, but the success rate drops by 25%. It takes about 3-4 years for beach grass to fully establish.

maintenance.

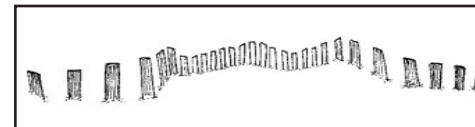
Beach grass, as it is referred to here, also goes by the name Marram or American Beachgrass (*Amphiphilia breviligulata*). It is perhaps the most successfully used species

in dune restoration along the Lake Huron coastline. Other important beach grasses like Long-Leaved Reedgrass and Great Lakes Wheatgrass are also important stabilizers.

Beach grass should be harvested locally. The closer to your property the better. Avoid plants from other dune systems in order to prevent the transfer of diseases and different plant genetics. Beach grass should be used in areas where sand drifting is a problem. (See Contact Information for specific suppliers)

Grasses should be planted 30 cm (1 ft) apart in an irregular pattern in order to slow wind speeds and prevent erosion. This will also help to achieve a more natural look.

Beach grass is different from the grass we associate with our lawn. Beach grass is a special coastal plant that capture wind blown sand – keeping it from continually blowing inland.



## Planning New Development along the Dune Shoreline

Beaches and dunes are dynamic coastal features. All construction in dynamic beach areas is subject to zoning bylaws, building codes and conservation authority regulations.

Seek input first before starting any construction, as these sensitive environments have natural hazard elements, pose unusual challenges and require special considerations.

### **Before you start:**

Contact your local municipality for information on building and construction regulations to find out what can and cannot be built.

Contact the local conservation authority for more information and regulations pertaining to private property. There are six conservation authorities along Lake Huron's coast. If there is no conservation authority in your area contact the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry.

Construction and alteration along beaches is restricted by law.

### **Keep the following points in mind when choosing a location for a cottage or other building. These suggestions represent best practices:**

- If you're planning a deck, check first with the local municipality or conservation authority to see if they are permitted. If they are, ask for advice on the best location.
- Keep a buffer of native vegetation between your cottage and the dune; the bigger the better! Wider buffers are more effective at water filtering, erosion protection and benefiting biodiversity. Restore a buffer if none exists.
- Locate septic fields as far away from the waterfront as possible, to avoid water quality problems. This is especially true in sandy soil areas where effluent can flow quickly to

the lake.

- To conserve existing natural areas, establish clearly marked construction boundaries to minimize disturbance of the existing site. Restore damaged areas to provide habitat and promote biodiversity.
- Locate new buildings close to existing roads and behind the back dune.
- It is important to keep turfgrass lawn out of the dunes.
- Drain impermeable surfaces away from the waterfront to avoid storm water contamination in the dunes and at shore.
- Properly dispose of construction waste at your municipal landfill site.

**dune planting guide**

**dune basics**



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## Planning and Maintaining a Residential Dune Property

Beach access can subject dunes to foot traffic, trampling and potential tearing of the dune fabric. If your property is located in or near the foredune, the special care in the design of your beach access pathway. Consider sharing beach access with neighbors, and try to maintain a single lane path. Minimizing the number of beach access points is critical to maintaining healthy, well-vegetated dunes.

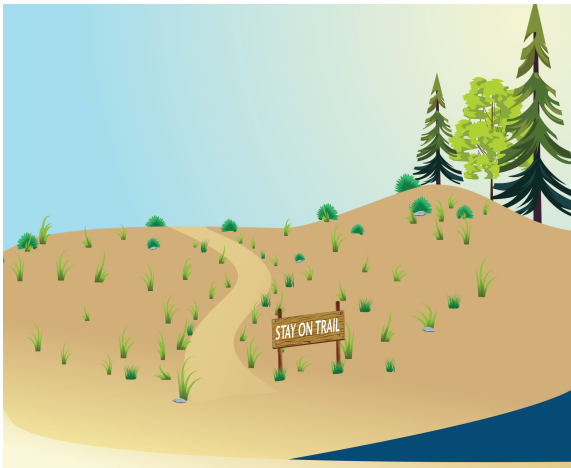
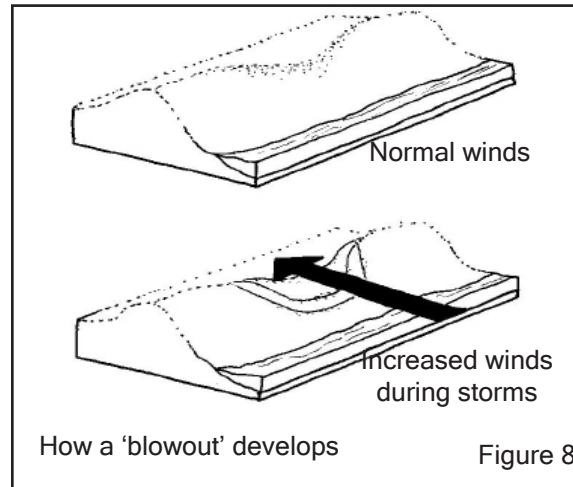


Figure 7 Make beach access pathways as narrow as possible.

Create an 'S' curve design for your path, as straight pathways tend to promote sand drifting.

With fencing, you can line both sides of the path to reduce erosion effects from the wind and sand movement across pathways, and help define where people should walk through the dune.

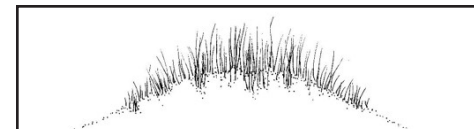
If your property is located farther back in the dune, it is best to design a natural landscape that fits in with the dunes and doesn't compete with existing vegetation. The benefits of naturalized landscapes are described on page 9, under "Phasing Plan for Naturalization".



There will be less erosion and loss of sand by wind if an 'S' shaped path is made.

Figure 9

It is important to cordon off newly planted areas while plants are first establishing to protect them from foot trampling. This will help to create beautiful landscaping using native plants.



## Phasing Plan for Naturalization

Lawns don't belong on the coastline. Native coastal plants help protect the natural resiliency of our lakeshore.

When landscaping, the preferred approach is to naturalize. Properties that are planted with turfgrass lawn, can be re-planted with native grasses and shrubs in patches. This will result in a more natural landscape and also reduce maintenance requirements. (See Appendix for a list of native plants you can use to naturalize your property.) Use a local contractor to remove turfgrass using a sod cutter or rent the equipment to do it yourself. (See Contact Information for help in contacting the right people.)

**Alternative:** If turfgrass is planted on the foredune, it is best to remove the turfgrass by digging it up until the bare sand is exposed. It is important to plant dune grass immediately to prevent the wind from blowing the sand away.

If turfgrass is located on the backdune, place newspaper over the grass to smother it. Use a thickness of 10-15 sheets along with mulch over top to hold the newspaper in place. It takes about 1 year for the turfgrass to die and hand weeding may be required in the following year to remove stubborn plants. Turfgrass can also be dug up, but, again, you will want to plant right away to prevent loss of precious soil and sand.

Geotextiles can also be used, and these can be obtained from a local landscape company or hardware store. They need to be anchored properly, usually with a sandbag (staples tend to pull out with the strong lake winds) to hold down the ends. It stays until the turfgrass is killed, then it can be removed.

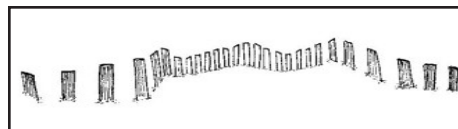
Try to limit turfgrass as much as possible. It is especially important to keep it away from the special dune system on the waterfront. Reduce irrigation and fertilizing to a minimum

Native plant restoration means freedom from that noisy mower.

to avoid negative impacts on the dune. Ideally, in dune areas the foredune should be covered with native dune vegetation. Then where the cottages are (usually, but not always, on the second dune ridge) it is a good idea to have a naturalized buffer between the foredune and the front of the cottage.

A naturalized buffer will promote good water quality, inhibit the introduction of invasive plants and prevent sand drifting.

Many native dune plants can take more than one year to mature; it is important to give them the time they need. Plants that are native to dune systems are especially suited to hot and dry conditions. No irrigation systems are required as plants do not need watering to ensure successful establishment.



## Maintaining Dune Health on Public Property

Along the Lake Huron shoreline, there have been coastal dunes that have been severely damaged and displaced through the construction of buildings, parking lots, boat houses, and other structures.

Development can impact dunes either through their direct removal or by blocking the movement of sand between the dunes, lake and beach.

Vehicles can quickly destroy dune vegetation with one crossing. Information and awareness signs can be useful in keeping vehicles off the beach. The only access that is permissible on the beach should be for emergency, patrol and maintenance vehicles.

In these situations, have a limited number of gated access points, with entry strictly for these vehicles. It is important to minimize their contact time on the beach, so their time and location on the beach should be well planned.

The area of the dune that is protected from wind effects at beach entry points can be extended by adding a short segment of sand fencing to either side of the beachside gate. (See Figure 7)

**Effects of vehicle tires can extend 20 cm (7 in) deep. The turning wheels disturb sand and break plant roots.**

For maintenance, such as after a storm, it may be necessary to remove extensive amounts of driftwood - but important to leave the strand line untouched.

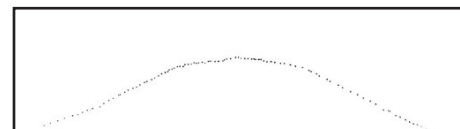
During the off-season, the placement of a sand fence across the width of the gated access opening will protect against erosion and wind scouring. This fence can be installed on Thanksgiving weekend and left over the winter until the May 24 weekend, when it can be removed again.

It is important to keep public access to designated pathways. For example, clearly marked pathways from the parking lot to the beach directs pedestrian traffic to specific pathways. This reduces the number of pathways people create from their cars over the dunes.

If there is on-road parking, use signs to direct pedestrian traffic to main pathways and use rope barriers along the dune to direct access to designated paths.

Having a pathway between the rope barrier and the front of the cars would help direct people to the designated crossings without forcing them to walk behind parked cars.

When implemented, these measures will reduce damaging effects to the dunes and dune habitat from pedestrians and vehicles.



## Maintaining Dune Health on Public Property

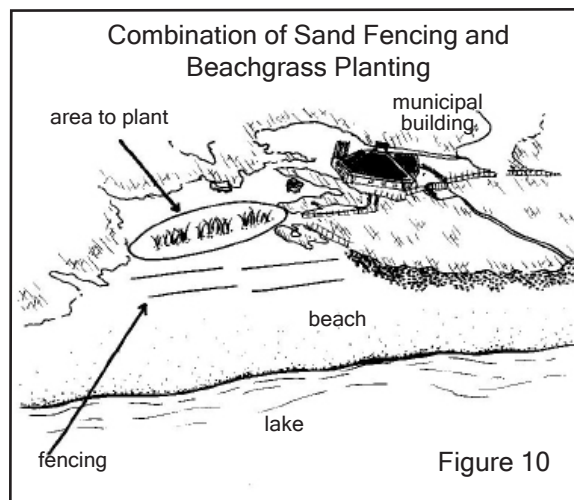
### Raking

The practice of mechanical beach raking is not recommended, as it is very disruptive to the dune system and the processes that maintain them.

Mechanical raking of the beach often removes the strand line debris, which is an important nutrient source for organisms living in the dunes. Raking also dries the top layers of sand making that sand more vulnerable to wind erosion, causing more inland drifting. Nuisance algae and other noxious debris can be raked by hand, causing much less disturbance.

### Pathways and Boardwalks

Appropriate planning of pathways and boardwalks plays a key role in dune health. The following guidelines can assist in planning pathways and boardwalks across dunes. A qualified coastal professional should also be consulted as to the best design and



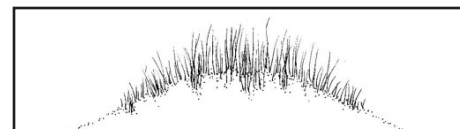
placement of a boardwalk.

Raised wooden structures need to be considered with great care, and are only appropriate for intensively-used access corridors.

Angle beachside path entries or boardwalk stairs away from prevailing winds to minimize the funneling effect of the wind. Design wooden boardwalks or other moveable materials that can be lifted or cleaned off if sand starts to deposit.

Avoid permanent structures, such as asphalt and concrete, as they do not flex and move with the ever-changing dunes.

Choose convenient locations for paths. Avoid areas with rare plants. Limiting access by using well-marked pathways reduces the number of off-track crossings and unauthorized paths.



## Planting Tips

The goal when planting is to achieve a naturalized landscape that will help the dunes.

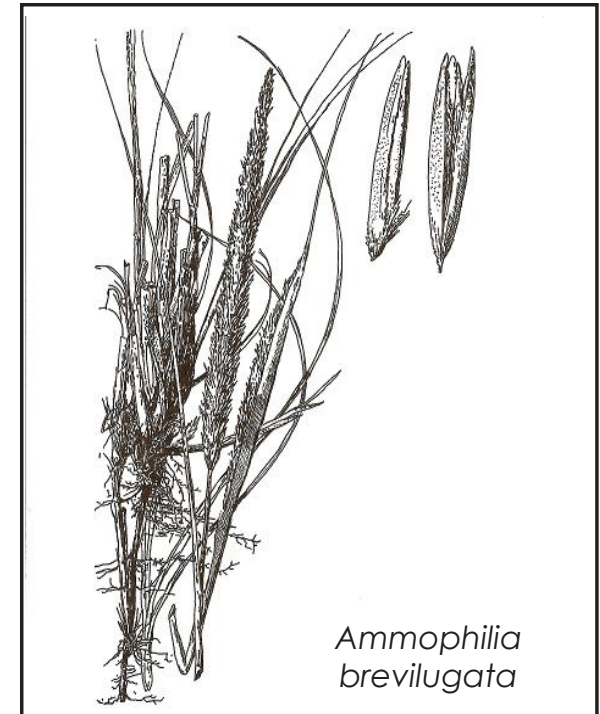
Native dune vegetation is easy to maintain and a **cheaper alternative** since the plants live for a long time and are lower maintenance. Native dune plants are also your ally in protection from sand drifting and erosion. Healthy vegetated dunes makes the

beach more **resilient** to the effects of storms and high lake levels. Plant dune grasses in a **natural random order** for a natural look.

Plant **different species** of native plants to maximize biodiversity. If you wish to have a more formalized garden using ornamental plants, limit this type of gardening to areas around the cottage building, away from the delicate dune system.

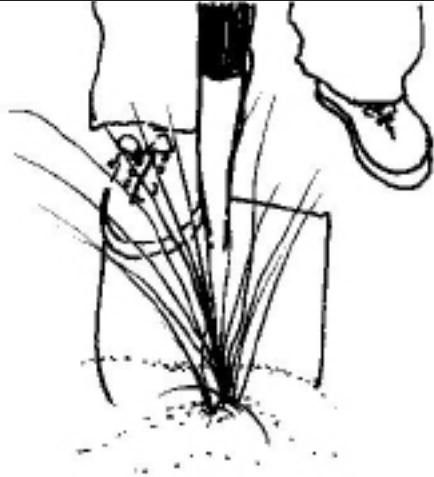
Do not use **armour stone** (quarry stone or rocks) as it interrupts the changing nature of the dune landscape.

### Marram or American Beachgrass



## The Nitty Gritty: Beach Grass Harvesting Basics

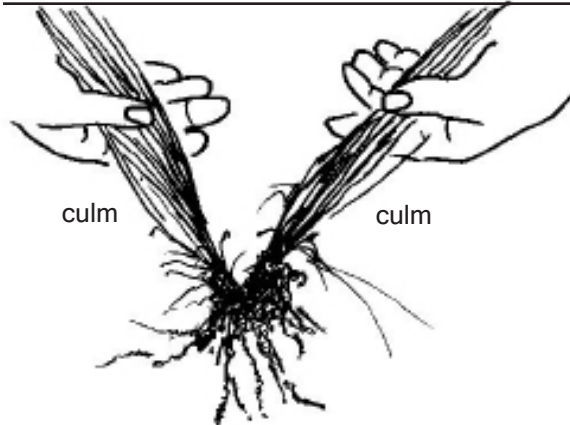
**Step 1:** Cut plants with a spade and make sure to cut the underground roots, in order to get the whole plant.



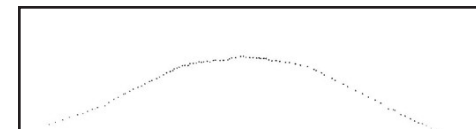
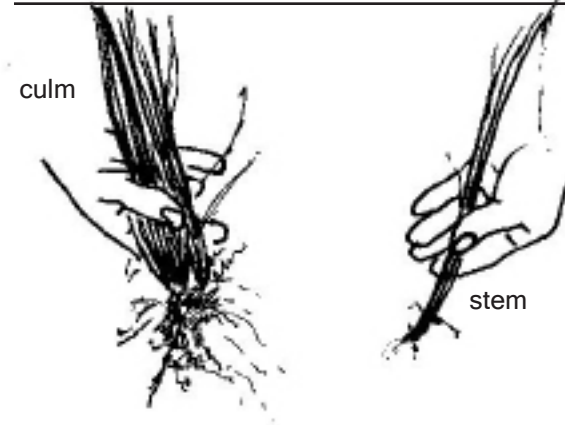
**Step 2:** Grab leaves of the plant and pull, shaking off sand.



**Step 3:** Separate the plant into single culms.

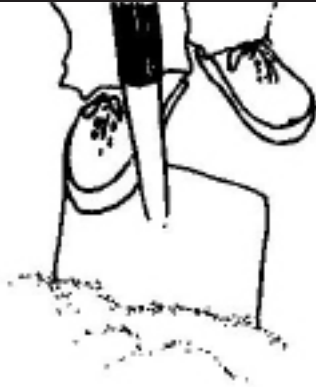


**Step 4:** Each stem will not typically have much of a root system.



## The Nitty Gritty: Basics for Transplanting Beach Grass

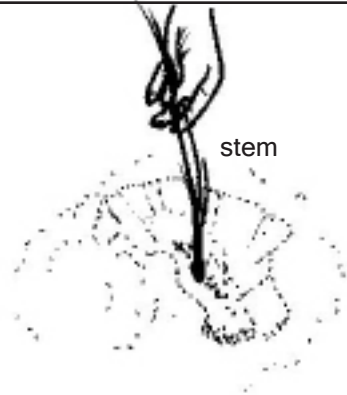
**Step 5:** To plant the grass, push the spade's blade 20-30 cm into the sand.



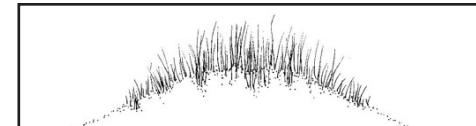
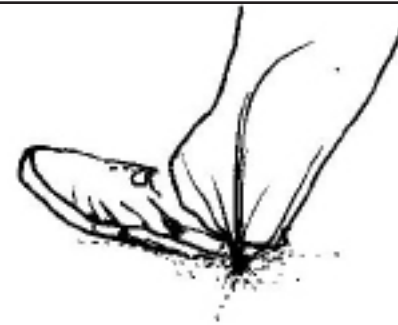
**Step 6:** Move the spade's handle forward, creating a hole in the sand.



**Step 7:** Place the grass stem into the hole. The grass should be planted 15-20 cm into the sand. The stem tolerates being buried.



**Step 8:** Take the heel of your foot and pack the sand around the plant to eliminate any air pockets around the roots. Do not water.



## Living Fences

Use a living fence made up of medium to large shrubs as a privacy screen. This will also help keep the sand off your deck, if you have one.

Planting can follow a naturalized or more formal design, depending on the look you want. Living fences can also help direct where people should cross the dunes.

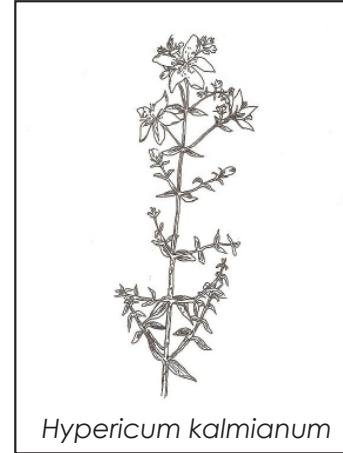
### Plant Suggestions: Less than 1.5 m

Note: These are example drawings



*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*

Bearberry



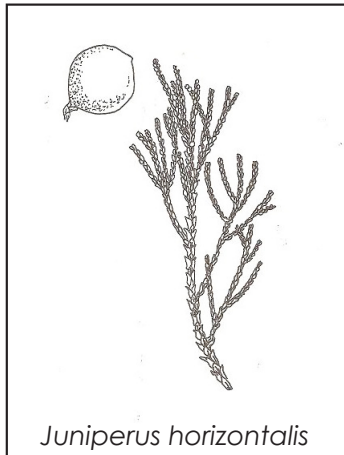
*Hypericum kalmianum*

Kalm's St. John's Wort



*Juniperus communis*

Common Juniper



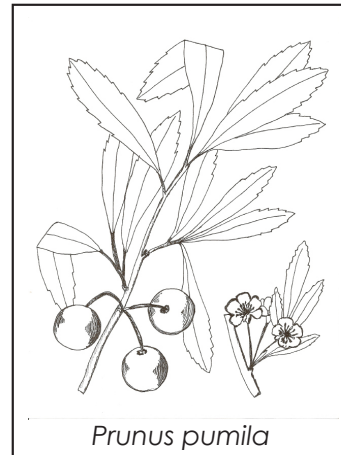
*Juniperus horizontalis*

Creeping Juniper



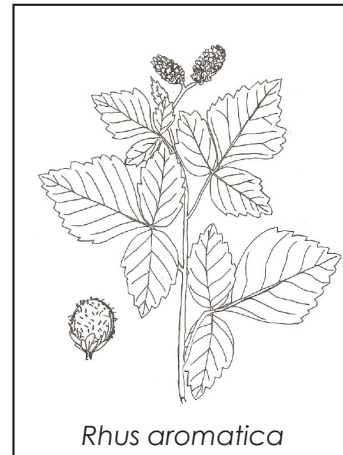
*Potentilla fruticosa*

Shrubby Cinquefoil



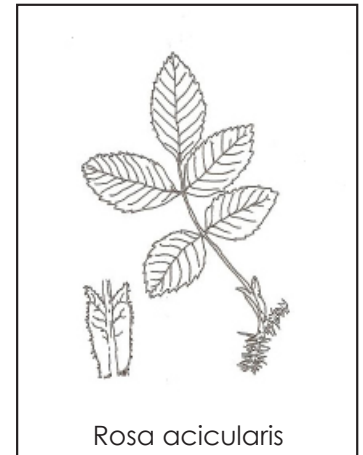
*Prunus pumila*

Sand Cherry



*Rhus aromatica*

Fragrant Sumac

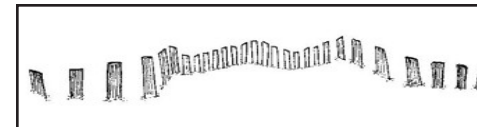


*Rosa acicularis*

Prickly Wildrose

dune planting guide

plant information



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## Living Fences

Between 1.5 to 2.5 m:

Note: These are example drawings



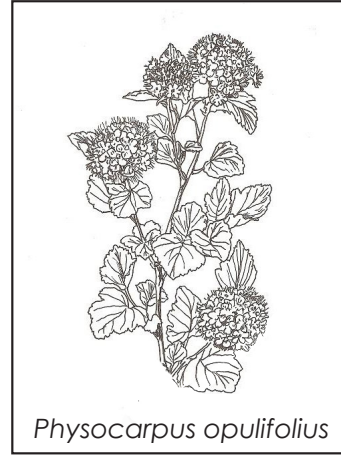
*Cornus foemina*

Grey Dogwood  
(wet areas)



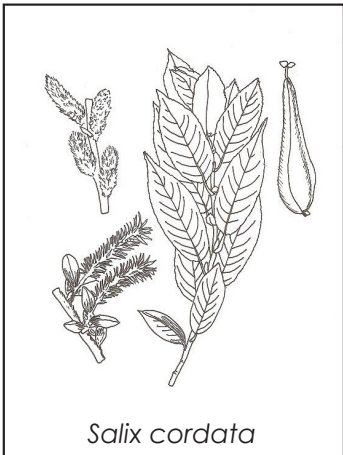
*Cornus stolonifera*

Red-Osier Dogwood



*Physocarpus opulifolius*

Ninebark



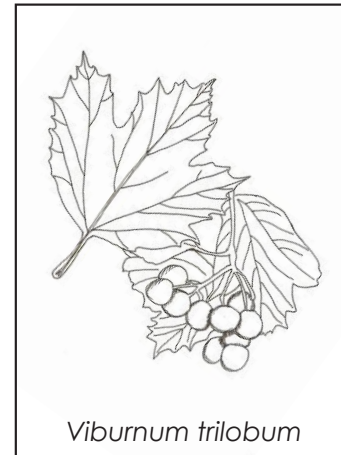
*Salix cordata*

Sand Dune Willow



*Salix discolor*

Pussy Willow



*Viburnum trilobum*

Highbush Cranberry  
(wet areas)

dune planting guide

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## Living Fences

Between 3 to 8 m:

Note: These are example drawings



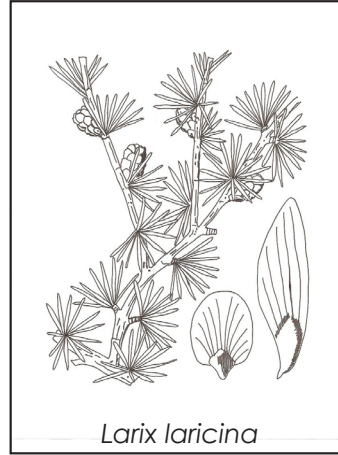
*Acer spicatum*

Moose Maple  
(rocky places, slopes)



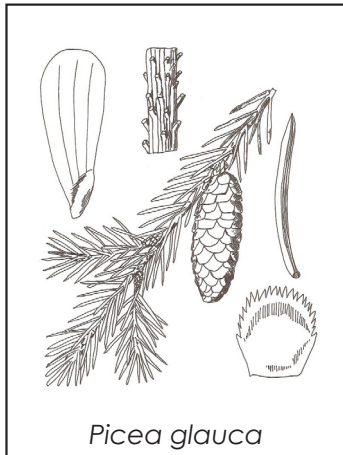
*Betula papyrifera*

Paper Birch



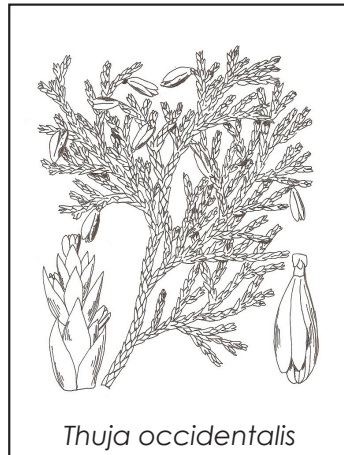
*Larix laricina*

Tamarack



*Picea glauca*

White Spruce

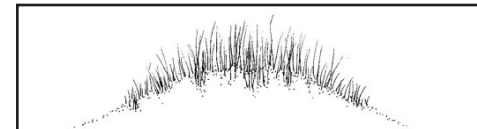


*Thuja occidentalis*

White Cedar

dune planting guide

plant information



## Passive Solar Energy

Consider planting one or several large deciduous trees on the south side of the cottage. This will help to reduce heat gain during the summer months, while maximizing sun exposure in the winter.

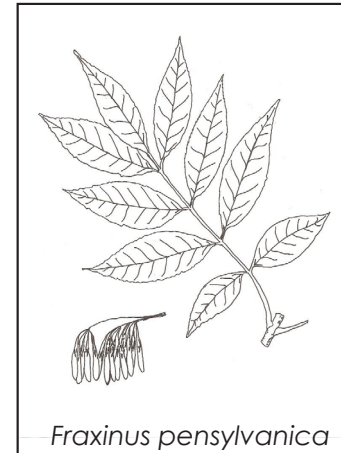
### Deciduous Trees:

Note: These are example drawings



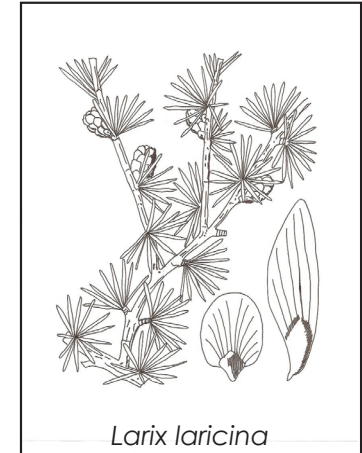
*Betula papyrifera*

Paper Birch



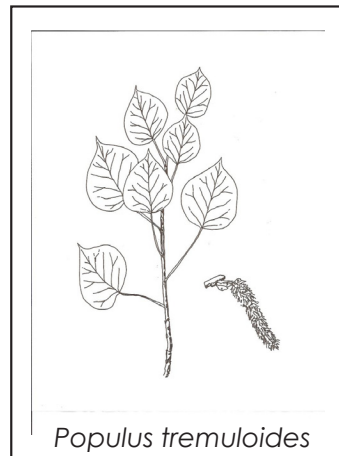
*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*

Green Ash



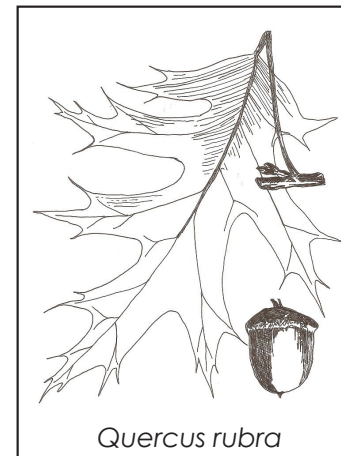
*Larix laricina*

Tamarack



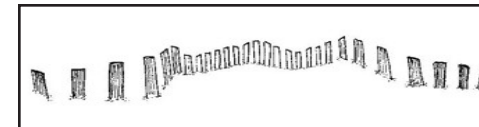
*Populus tremuloides*

Trembling Aspen or  
Big-toothed Aspen



*Quercus rubra*

Red Oak

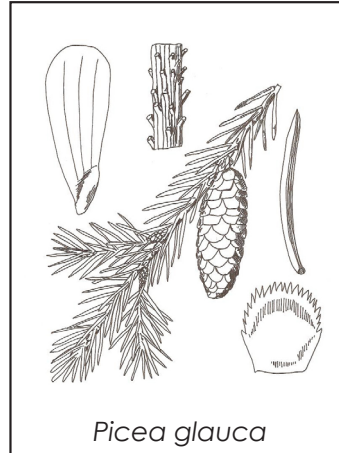


## Windbreaks

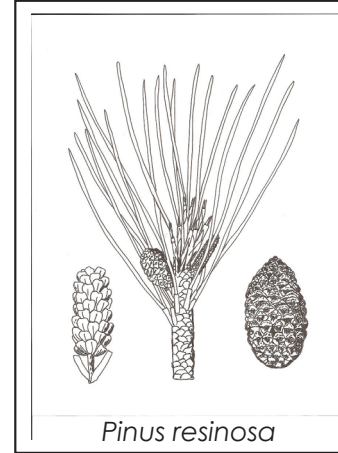
If you have room and require a winter windbreak, plant evergreen trees on the north or northwest side of your cottage to act as a natural windbreak. The windbreak will provide privacy to adjacent properties, while also reducing cooling winds in the winter.

### Evergreen Trees:

Note: These are example drawings



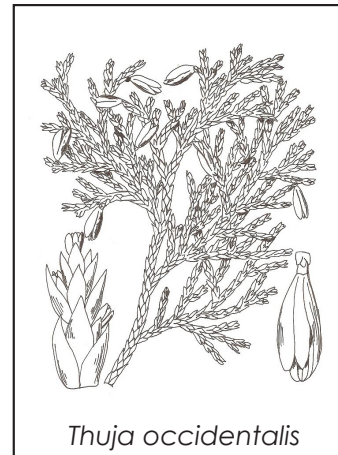
White Spruce



Red Pine



White Pine



White Cedar



## Septic Fields

Septic systems do not belong on the beach and in dune areas, and if you have one, consider relocating it. When upgrading the system, consider these options:

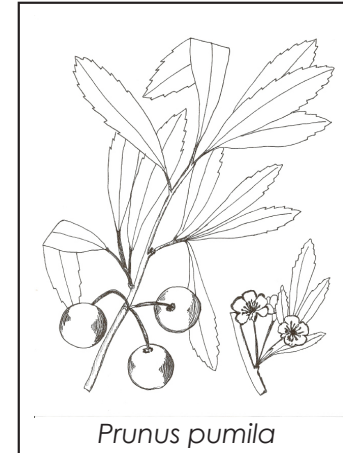
- Place the septic field as far away from surface water as possible. Septic systems must comply with Public Health regulations. Please contact your Public Health Unit.
- The septic system must be located on the downwind side of the dune.
- When maintaining your system, carefully dig up plants and set them aside to be placed back on top of the system after maintenance is complete.
- Be careful that plant roots do not clog the septic system.
- Avoid parking on a septic field turfgrass lawn.

### Plant Suggestions:

Note: These are example drawings



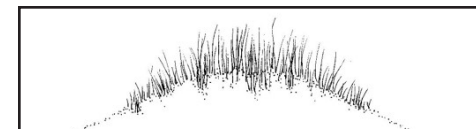
Bearberry



Sand Cherry



Little Bluestem



# Planting for Beauty

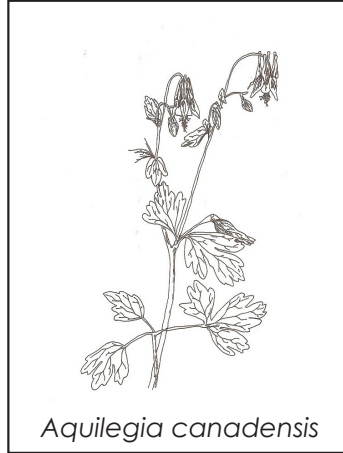
## Spring Flowering:

Note: These are example drawings



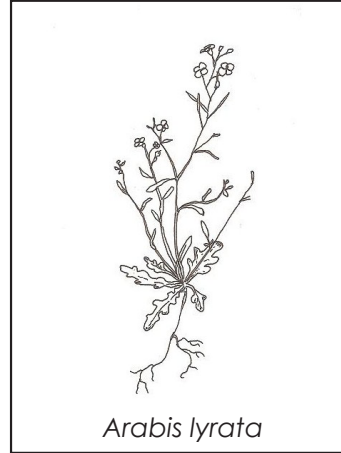
*Anemone multifida*

Cutleaf Anemone



*Aquilegia canadensis*

Columbine



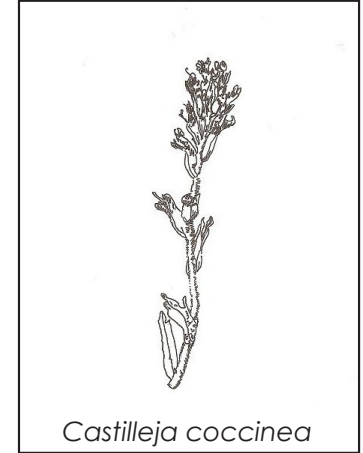
*Arabis lyrata*

Lyre-leaf Rock Cress



*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*

Bearberry



*Castilleja coccinea*

Indian Paintbrush



*Iris versicolor*

Blueflag Iris



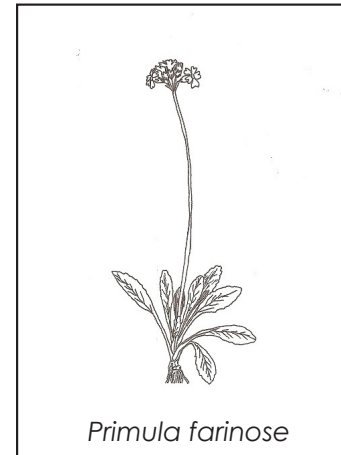
*Koeleria macrantha*

June Grass



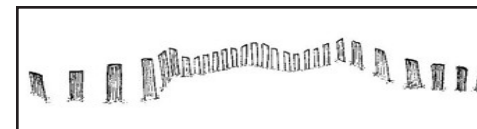
*Maianthemum stellatum*

Starry False Solomon Seal



*Primula farinose*

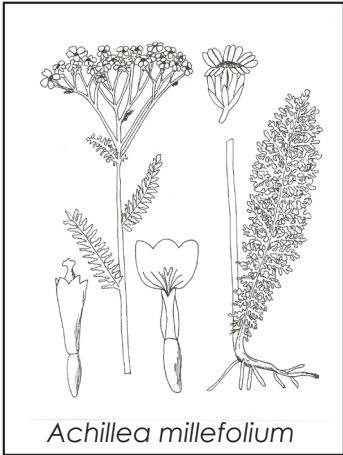
Bird's Eye Primrose  
(wet areas)



# Planting for Beauty

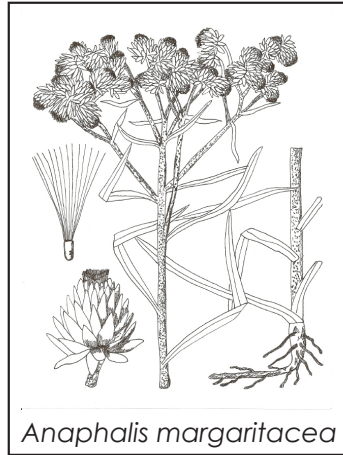
## Summer Flowering:

Note: These are example drawings



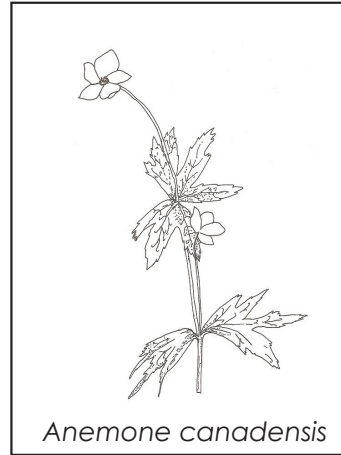
*Achillea millefolium*

Common Yarrow



*Anaphalis margaritacea*

Pearly-Everlasting



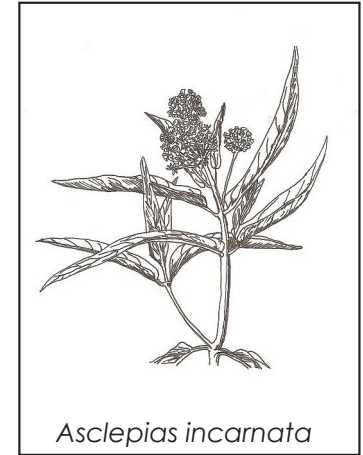
*Anemone canadensis*

Canada Anemone  
(wet areas)



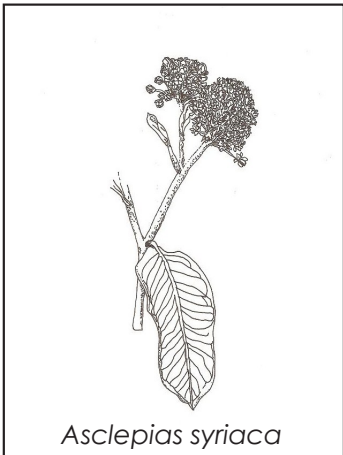
*Artemisia campestris*

Wormwood



*Asclepias incarnata*

Swamp Milkweed



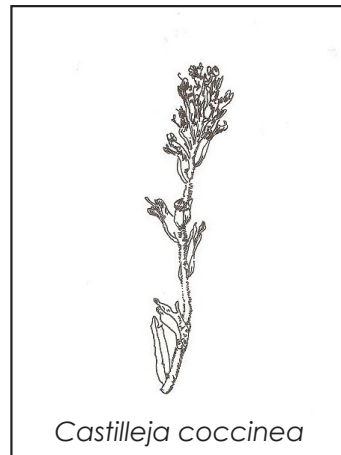
*Asclepias syriaca*

Common Milkweed



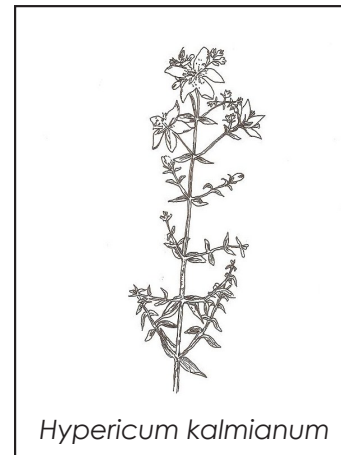
*Campanula rotundifolia*

Harebell



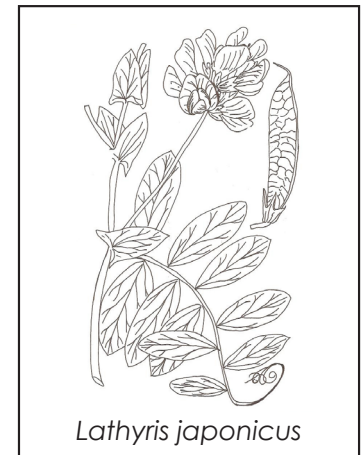
*Castilleja coccinea*

Indian Paintbrush



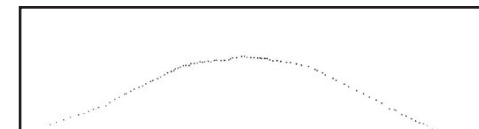
*Hypericum kalmianum*

Kalm's St. John's Wort



*Lathyrus japonicus*

Beach Pea



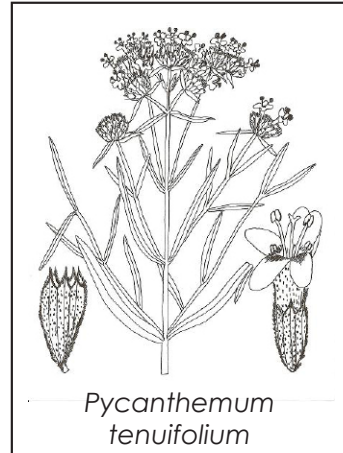
## Planting for Beauty

### Summer Flowering:

Note: These are example drawings



Wood Lily



Slender  
Mountain-Mint



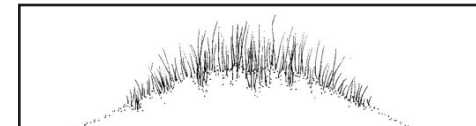
Evening Primrose



Balsam Ragwort

**dune planting guide**

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## Planting for Beauty

### Fall Flowering:

Note: These are example drawings



*Andropogon gerardii*  
Big Bluestem



*Camassia esculenta*  
Camas Lily



*Gentiana procera*  
Fringed Gentian



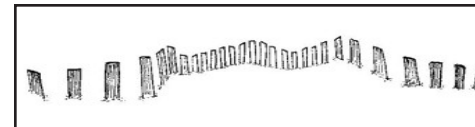
*Oligoneuron ohioense*  
Ohio Goldenrod  
(wet areas)



*Schizachyrium scoparium*  
Little Bluestem

dune planting guide

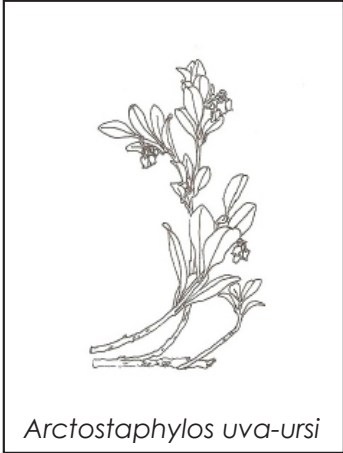
plant information



## Planting for Beauty

### Winter Interest:

Note: These are example drawings



*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*

Bearberry



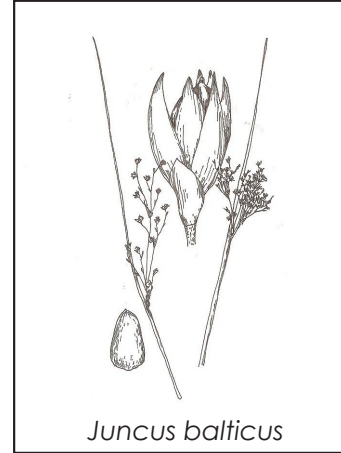
*Juniperus communis*

Common Juniper



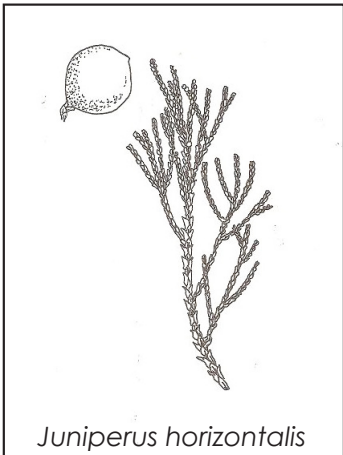
*Cornus stolonifera*

Red-Osier Dogwood



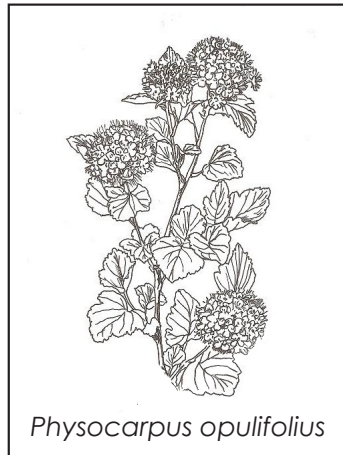
*Juncus balticus*

Baltic Rush



*Juniperus horizontalis*

Creeping Juniper



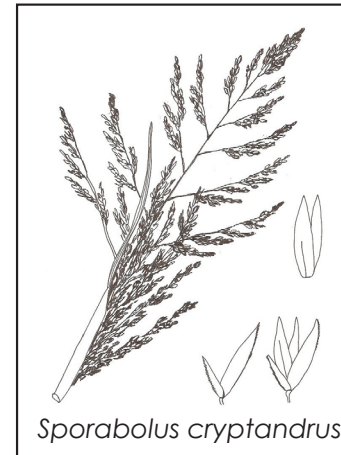
*Physocarpus opulifolius*

Ninebark



*Potentilla fruticosa*

Shrubby Cinquefoil

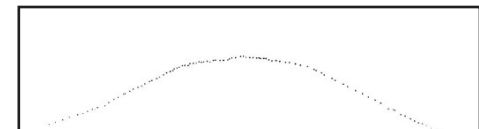


*Sporobolus cryptandrus*

Sand Dropseed

dune planting guide

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## **The Trouble with Invasive Species**

Invasive plants can entirely overrun an area, choking out native species and completely changing the shoreline's appearance. Invasive plants often have no natural predators and are a serious threat to the health of the dune systems along Lake Huron's coast.

Get to know the plant community in which you live and select plants with the help of your local Conservation Authority, Naturalist Club, or a nursery specializing in native non-invasive species.

Never plant invasive plants on your property and understand which invasive species already exist in your area.

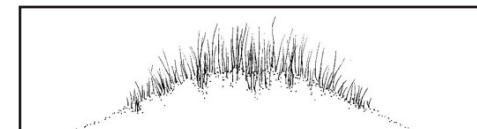
Alien invasive plants (non-native) typically spread quickly and may be difficult to control or eradicate. These plants are of concern because they can be detrimental to other plants and threaten entire ecosystems.

Invasive plants should be completely eradicated from your property and disposed of carefully.

NEVER compost invasive plants.

Refer to the invasive plant list on the next page for help in identifying some of the plants you may see on your property or in your area.

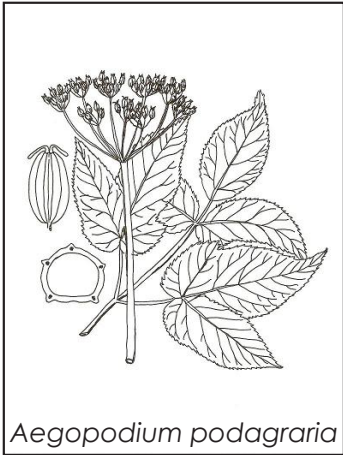
For more information visit the Lake Huron Coastal Centre website at [www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca).



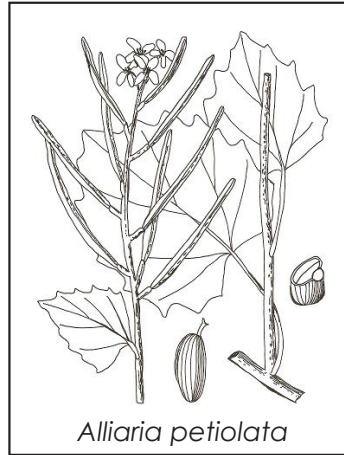
# Invasive Plants List

## Perennials:

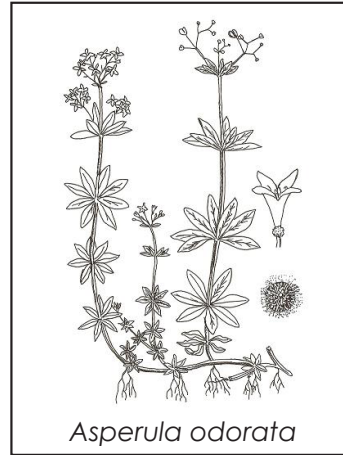
Note: These are example drawings



*Aegopodium podagraria*  
Goutweed



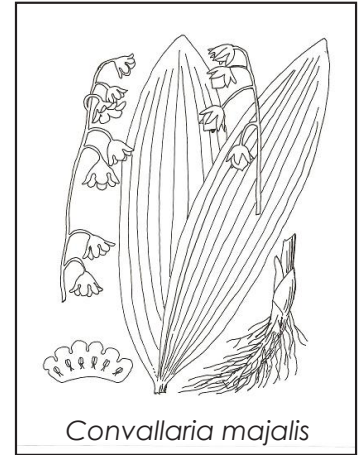
*Alliaria petiolata*  
Garlic Mustard



*Asperula odorata*  
Sweet Woodruff



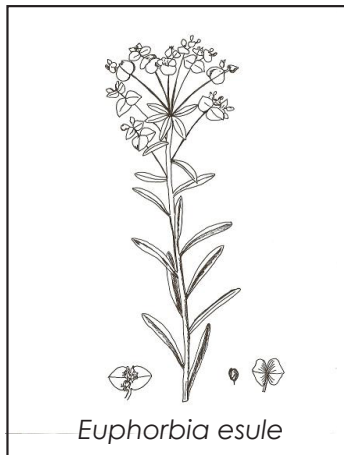
*Campanula glomerata*  
Creeping Bellflower



*Convallaria majalis*  
Lily of the Valley



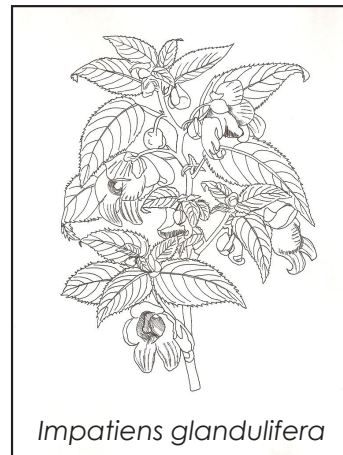
*Coronilla varia*  
Crown Vetch



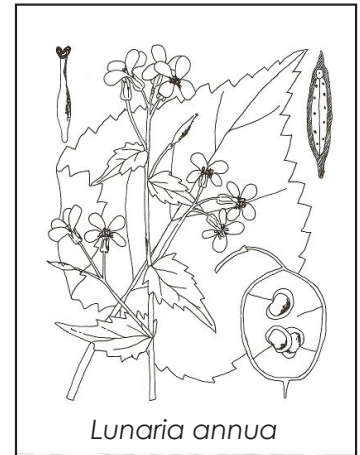
*Euphorbia esule*  
Leafy Spurge



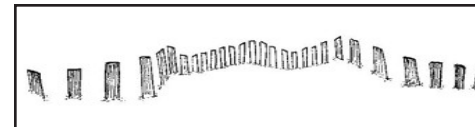
*Gypsophilla paniculata*  
Baby's Breath



*Impatiens glandulifera*  
Himalayan Balsam  
(annual)

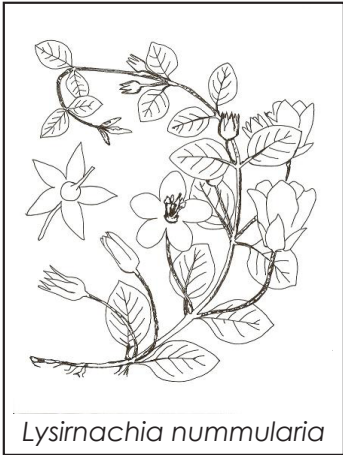


*Lunaria annua*  
Silver Dollar



# Invasive Plants List

## Perennials:



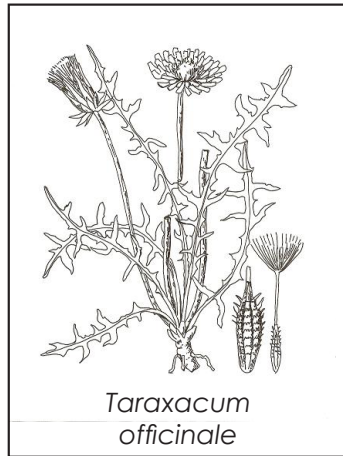
Moneywort



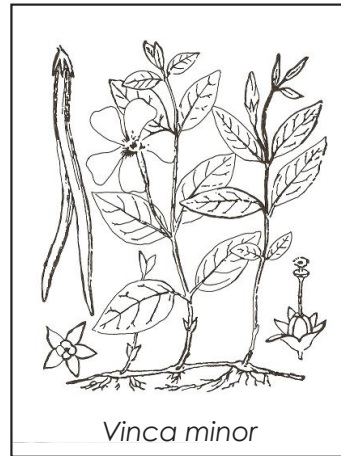
Purple Loosestrife



Common Reed



Common Dandelion

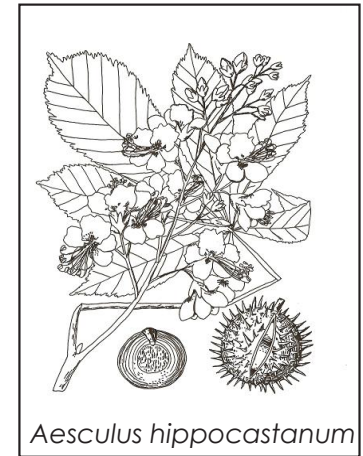


Periwinkle

## Trees:



Norway Maple

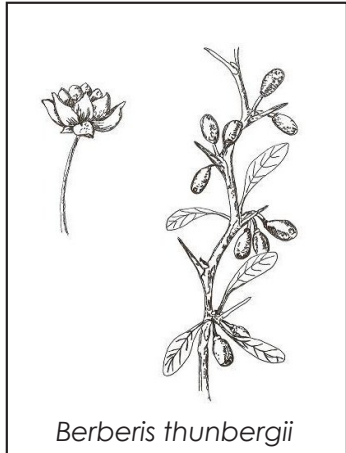


Horse Chestnut

## Invasive Plants List

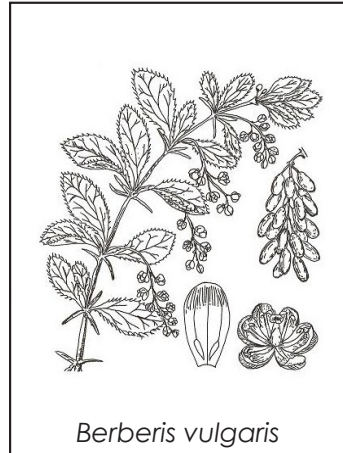
### Trees:

Note: These are example drawings



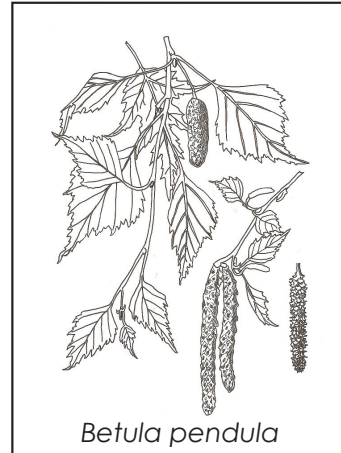
*Berberis thunbergii*

Japanese Barberry



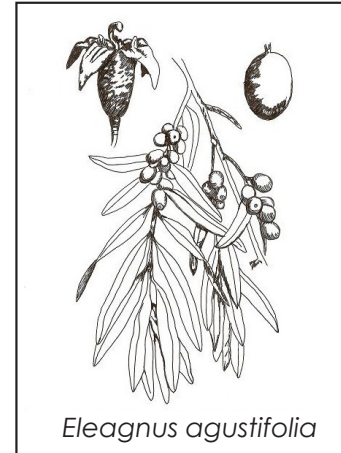
*Berberis vulgaris*

European Barberry



*Betula pendula*

European Birch



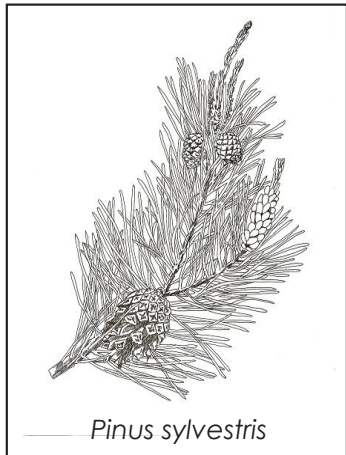
*Eleagnus agustifolia*

Russian Olive



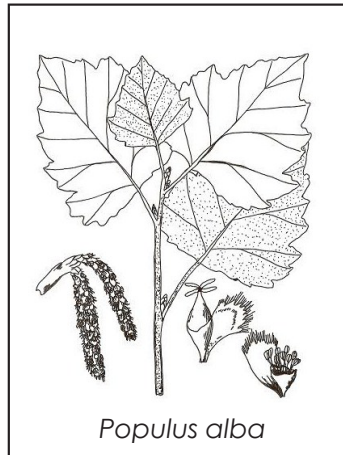
*Eleagnus umbellata*

Autumn Olive



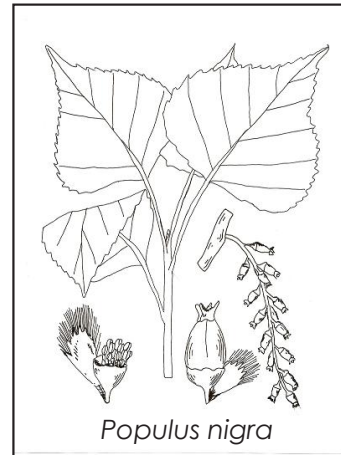
*Pinus sylvestris*

Scots Pine



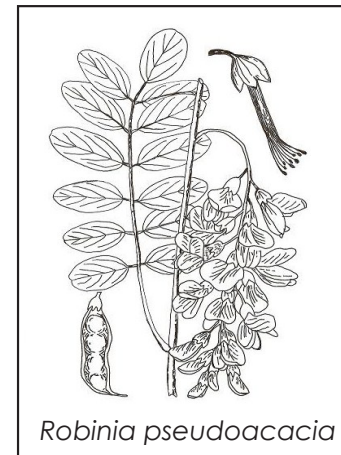
*Populus alba*

Silver Poplar



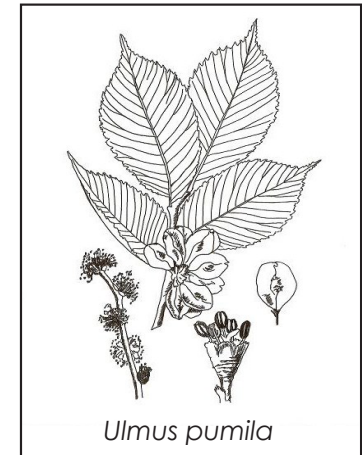
*Populus nigra*

Black Poplar



*Robinia pseudoacacia*

Black Locust

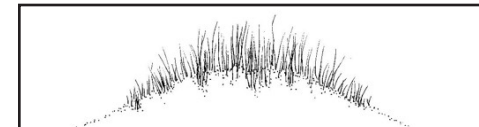


*Ulmus pumila*

Siberian Elm

dune planting guide

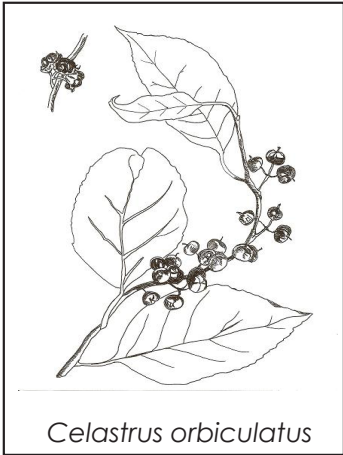
invasive species



## Invasive Plants List

### Shrubs:

Note: These are example drawings



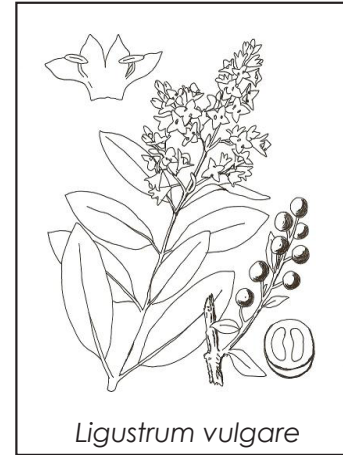
Oriental Bittersweet



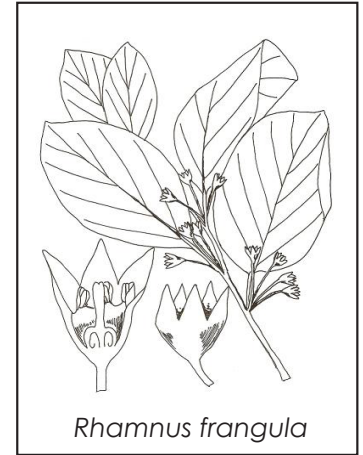
Dog-Strangling Vine



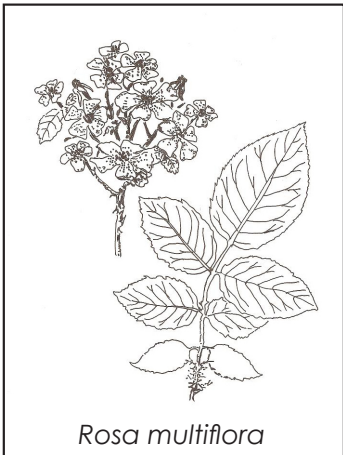
English Ivy



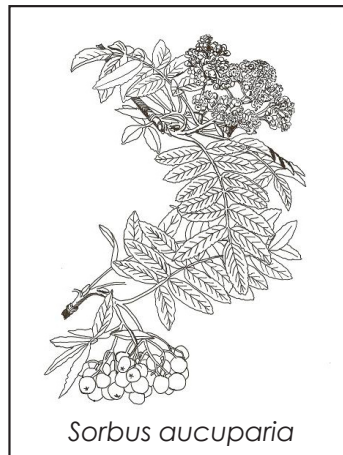
Common Privet



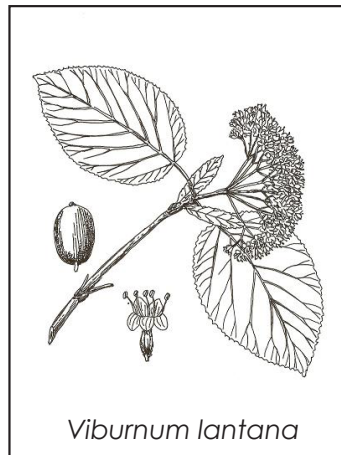
Glossy Buckthorn



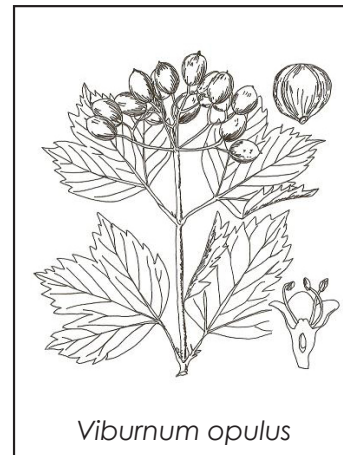
Multiflora Rose



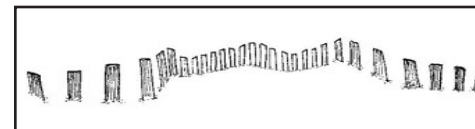
European Mountain  
Ash



Wayfaring Tree



European Highbush  
Cranberry



## Where to Get Help and Advice

The organizations listed are demonstrated leaders in dune conservation and restoration along the Lake Huron coastline.

Through their mandates, they provide a wealth of information and assistance to individuals, municipalities and other organizations interested in improving the health of dune grassland ecosystems on public or private properties.

### **Lake Huron Coastal Centre**

Lake Huron Coastal Centre is a grassroots organization dedicated to protecting Lake Huron's coastal environment. Priorities include water quality, coastal processes, climate change, and biodiversity. LHCC has decades of action in the areas of education, stewardship outreach, research and partnerships, and corporate planning.

Advocating stewardship with every segment of the coastal community, the LHCC is engaged, among other activities, in the planning and supervision of beach restoration projects in conjunction with community partners. For more information, contact:

Lake Huron Coastal Centre  
P.O. 477, Goderich, Ontario N7A 4C7  
Telephone: 226-421-3029  
E-mail: [coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca](mailto:coastalcentre@lakehuron.ca)  
Website: [www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca)



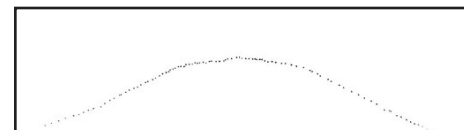
### **Lake Huron Dune Grasslands Recovery Team**

The Pitcher's Thistle – Lake Huron Dune Grasslands Recovery Team is engaged in activities aimed at protecting and maintaining Lake Huron dune grasslands ecosystems, the Pitcher's Thistle, and other species at risk. Recovery efforts involve discussions with landowners, municipalities and First Nations, as well as education and outreach, land-use planning, and management of dunes in protected areas. Monitoring and research activities also figure prominently in the team's Lake Huron Dune Grasslands Recovery Strategy. For more information, visit:

[www.pitchersthistle.ca](http://www.pitchersthistle.ca)

**dune planting guide**

**contact information**



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**LAKE HURON  
COASTAL CENTRE**

[www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca)

**dune planting guide**

**other guides**



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## Glossary

**Backdune** – a stabilized dune found on the landward side of the foredune. Typically, it is recognizable by the presence of tree or shrub species. These species are able to establish themselves as a result of sand being deposited in the back dune by wind.

**Beach grass** – also known as Marram grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*), is perhaps the most successfully used species in dune restoration along the Lake Huron coastline.

**Biodiversity** – an array of different animals, fish, birds and plants found existing together in nature.

**Blow-out** – a term used to describe that portion of a dune which has become mobile, or active, due to the absence of vegetation to stabilize it. It can be induced by natural processes, but is commonly a result of human impacts.

**Conservation authority** – agency mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of water, land and natural habitats through programs that

balance human, environmental and economic needs in Ontario.

**Dune swale** – is an often wet, depressed area of land that occurs between dune ridges that may, during periods of high lake levels, become submerged with water. But it doesn't have to be from high lake levels, and it doesn't have to be submerged.

**Erosion** – the removal of sand or soil by wind and waves that generally occurs during periods of high lake levels.

**Foredune** – an active dune along a beach that naturally changes form over time in response to the forces of wind and waves. It is typically characterized by a predominance of dune grasses.

**Invasive species** – introduced plants or animals that are known to degrade natural areas by growing uncontrollably, often resulting in the loss of plants and animals that naturally exist in these areas.

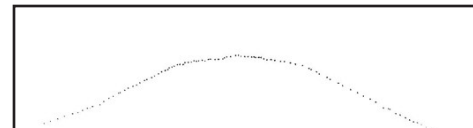
**Native dune plants** – plants that exist naturally in an area, having

evolved characteristics that make them ideally suited to their environment. Consequently, these plants require no maintenance, provided their natural environment is healthy and intact.

**Relic sand** – refers to a finite amount of sand that is cycled between the lake, beach and dunes, with no new sand being contributed to the beach and dune ecosystem.

**Strand line** – an accumulation of organic material on the beach that has been washed ashore, resulting in the formation of a line parallel to the shoreline. This material is an important nutrient source for the beach and dune, as well as an important source of food and habitat for birds, insects and other animals.

**Succession** – the process of establishment of successive communities of organisms. Each previous community prepares the ground for establishment of the following community. The end result is the climax community.



## Appendix A - Rare and At Risk Species

Biodiversity is the diversity of plant and animal species in a natural environment. It is needed to sustain us and the ecosystems found on Earth. Biological diversity is continually threatened through human influences. Building roads, structures and homes displaces the natural wildlife from their habitats.

In order to protect our native biological diversity the Canadian government has created the Species at Risk Act to protect the

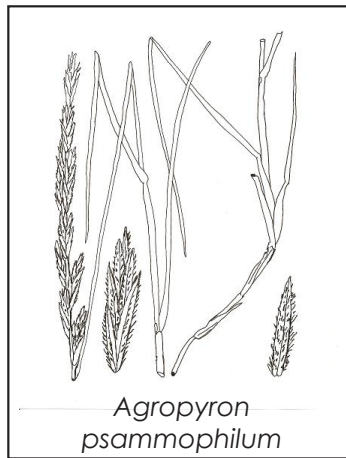
native wildlife populations within Canada. This act was passed in 2003 to provide legal protection to wildlife by preventing extinction and aiding in the recovery of endangered wildlife communities.

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has developed a database to monitor the local diversity within Ontario. This database contains a ranking system for species found in Ontario based on their diversity with levels

of diversity ranging from presumed extirpated (SX) to secure (S).

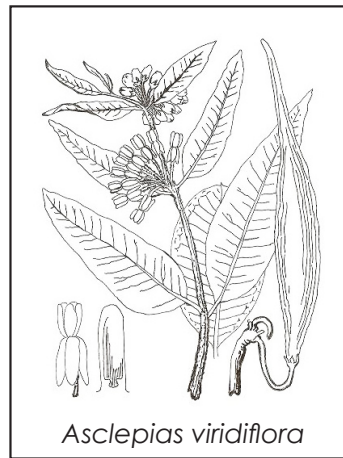
Although the legislation and data collection are being monitored by government organizations, all Canadians can help through conservation and stewardship. The following pages outline some of the native plant species that are at risk in dune landscapes along Lake Huron. Please protect these species by preserving and caring for their sensitive dune habitat.

A



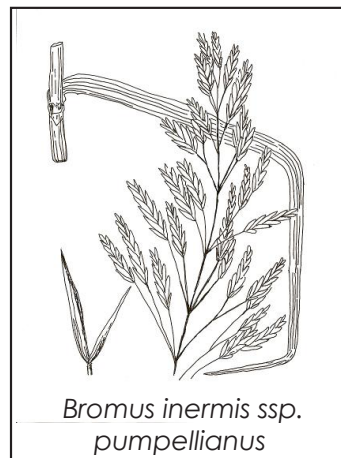
*Agropyron  
psammophilum*

Great Lakes  
Wheat Grass



*Asclepias viridiflora*

Green Milkweed



*Bromus inermis ssp.  
pumpellianus*

Pumpelly's Brome



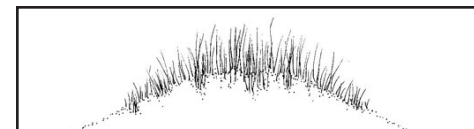
*Calamovilfa longifolia  
var. magna*

Long-Leaved Sand  
Reed



*Cirsium hillii*

Hill's Thistle



**Appendix A - Rare and At Risk Species**



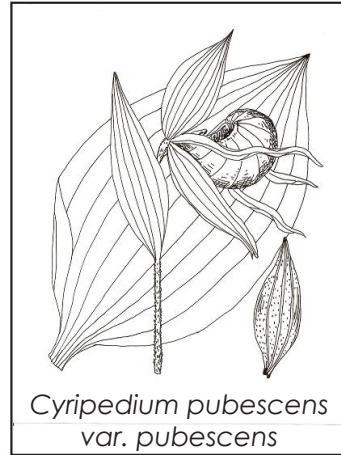
*Cirsium pitcheri*

Pitcher's Thistle



*Corispermum hookeri*

Bugseed



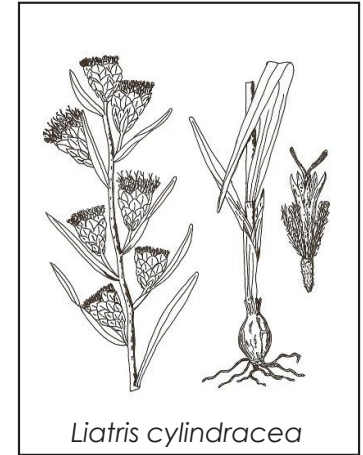
*Cypripedium pubescens*  
var. *pubescens*

Large Yellow  
Lady's Slipper



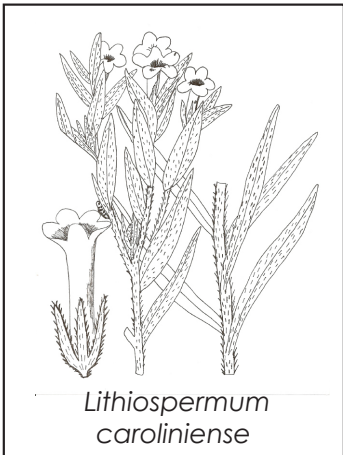
*Hymenoxys acaulis*

Lakeside Daisy



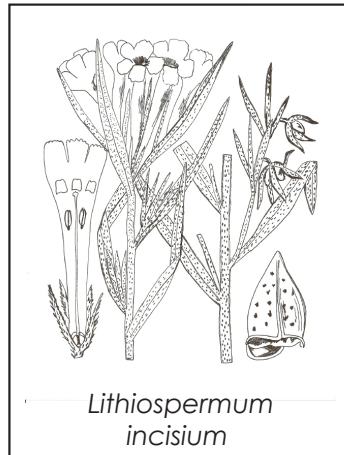
*Liatris cylindracea*

Ontario Blazing-star



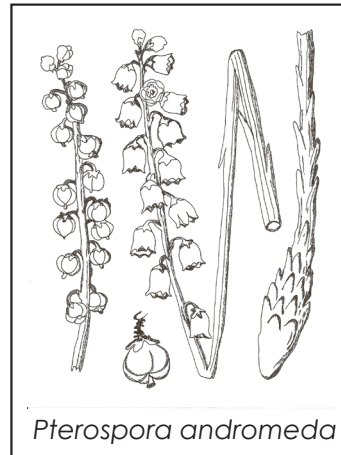
*Lithospermum*  
*carolinense*

Plains  
Puccoon



*Lithospermum*  
*incisum*

Narrow-Leaved  
Puccoon



*Pterospora andromeda*

Pine Drops



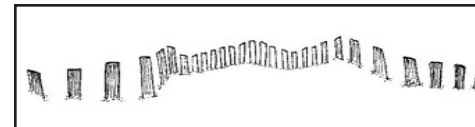
*Solidago hispida*

Hairy Goldenrod



*Solidago ptarmicoides*

Upland White  
Goldenrod



## Appendix A - Rare and At Risk Species

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Other Info
<i>*Agropyron psammophilum/ Elymus lanceolatus</i>	Great Lakes Wheat Grass	Grass; yellow bloom April; silvery grey-green, narrow spike leaf, fine texture; 30-90cm tall; grain fruit; long-lived; low growth habit	Grows sheltered dune areas, often on leeward side of foredune or in interdunal meadow; on Canadian side of Lake Huron, found scattered from Point Clark to Manitoulin Island	Provincially rare; distribution so limited, it could be considered globally rare; attracts birds
<i>*Asclepias viviflora</i>	Green Milkweed	Pale green cluster flowers June through September; leaves are variable in shape, plants from dry sites have long narrow leaves, while plants from moist sites have round leaves; 60 cm tall	Rare, usually found in high quality habitat in sand dunes	Monarch butterfly feeds on foliage, causes skin irritation in humans
<i>*Bromus inermis ssp. pumpellianus</i>	Pumpelly's Brome	Grass; bloom inconspicuous; 50-100 cm tall; hairy leaves	Sandy prairies, sand beaches	Rare in Ontario
<i>*Calamovifa longifolia var. Magna</i>	Long-leaved Sand Reed	Grass; brown flowers July to August; long tapering leaves; 30-180 cm tall		Provincially rare
<i>*Cirsium pitcheri</i>	Pitcher's Thistle	Pink blooms mid summer; thistle-like leaves covered in white hairs; 1 m tall	Undisturbed sandy shorelines, dunes	Endangered species, protect and minimize disturbance in general vicinity
<i>*Cirsium hillii</i>	Hill's Thistle	Pink-purple flower July-August, 25-60cm tall, deep hallowed root system, stems soft rigid and some hairs	Alvars, open limestone woodland, sand dunes, sandy woodlands, Manitoulin Island and west side of Bruce Peninsula	Threatened status
<i>*Corispermum hookeri</i>	Bugseed	Brown/green flowers on a spike; lance-like leaves in August to September; hairy stem	Sandy shores and dunes	Rare
<i>*Cypripedium pubescens var. pubescens</i>	Large Yellow Lady's Slipper	Yellow slipper-like flower blooms in June; simple leaf; 20-30 cm tall	Moist woods, bogs	Do not transplant, will not survive

## Appendix A - Rare and At Risk Species

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Other Info
<i>*Hymenoxys acaulis</i>	Lakeside Daisy	Yellow daisy-like bloom in May to early June; dark green slightly hairy foliage; low growing clump 8-15 cm tall	Bruce peninsula	Rare
<i>*Liatris cylindracea</i>	Ontario Blazing-star	Herbaceous perennial; linear leaves; long raceme of purple flowers blooms in August; 30-90 cm tall	Dry sand, low dunes, open pine woodlands, wet meadows, dry oak woods, alvars	Rare
<i>*Lithospermum caroliniense</i>	Plains Puccoon	Deep yellow tubular flowers in clusters April to June; grey-green linear leaves covered with stiff hairs; 30-90cm tall	Dunes, open sandy woodlands	Sensitive status
<i>*Lithospermum incisum</i>	Narrow-leaved Puccoon	Tubular yellow flowers April to June; narrow leaves, less hairy than other puccoons; 30-90 cm tall	Dune savannah, sandy woodlands, open dry habitats	At risk status
<i>*Pterospora andromedea</i>	Pinedrops	Yellowish-brown egg-shaped flowers June to August; reddish-brown leafless stems; winged seeds; 30-100 cm tall	Humus-rich soil in pine forests; occasionally in open sandy pine woods and savannahs	Rare
<i>*Solidago houghtonii/Oligoneuron houghtonii</i>	Houghton's Goldenrod	Yellow flowers summer to fall; 90 cm; large flowers for a Goldenrod	Alvars, dunes	Extremely rare in and outside of Ontario, occurs only at a few sites on the Bruce Peninsula & Manitoulin Island
<i>*Solidago simplex</i> spp. <i>randii</i> var. <i>gillmanii</i>	Gillman's Goldenrod	Yellow disc or ray florets; narrowly oblanceolate, basal and proximal cauline leaves, margins often sharply serrate; 5-80 cm tall	Dunes and sandy shores	Extremely rare
<i>*Stipa spartea</i>	Porcupine Grass	Grass; yellow flowers April to May; arching clumps; 60-120 cm tall; turns silvery white in fall	Open stabilized dunes, sandy openings in dry deciduous/ coniferous forest on dunes	Rare

## Appendix B - Native Species - Trees

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Acer spicatum</i>	Moose Maple	Multi-stemmed trees; reddish-brown bark; red orange fall color; 6-9 m tall	Tolerates partial shade; cool moist acid soils	Commercially available, seed	Attracts wildlife, shade tolerant
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Paper Birch	Yellow/green blooms in April; simple leaf; up to 20 m tall; white peeling bark	Intolerant of shade; wide range of soils	Commercially available or rooted by cuttings or by seed	Often multi-stemmed tree
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash	Opposite, pinnately compound leaves; oval form; clusters of fruit samaras; 20 m tall	Wide range of soils, tolerates moist conditions	Commercially available	Shade tolerant
<i>Larix laricina</i>	Tamarack/ Eastern Larch	Deciduous conifer; flat-needled, light green spikes; 15-25m tall; bark is scaly, gray to reddish brown; open pyramidal shape	Found in cold poorly-drained sites such as bogs, swamps, lake edges. Requires full sun to partial shade	Commercially available; seed; easily propagated through cuttings from young trees	Casts a light shade; home for squirrels and birds; drops needles in fall
<i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	Conifer; needles 15-22mm long pointed but not sharp, bluish-green; crown conical, irregular, densely foliated; 40m tall; spread to 9m	Most often found by streams and lake shores, full sun to partial shade	Commercially available	Excellent for nesting birds, good windbreak
<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Red Pine	Conifer; 2-needled pine, needles 10-16 cm long, pointed and shiny dark green; bark reddish brown to pink; 23-32 m tall; 6-12m spread	Found on outwash plains, level or gently rolling sand plains, low ridges adjacent to lakes and swamps	Commercially available	Natural stands are found to occur on sandy soils only

## Appendix B - Native Species - Trees

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine	Conifer; 5-needle pine, needles 8-10 cm long, soft and flexible; 30 m tall; 10 m spread.	Best on moist fertile soils; can be found on dry rocky to moist wet conditions	Commercially available	Ontario's provincial tree; good for nesting birds
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	Leaves with 9 bristle-tipped lobes, acorn with flat cap	Full sun, sandy soils, well-drained soil	Commercially available	Fast growing for an Oak
<i>Salix myricoides</i>	Bayberry Willow; Blue-leaf Willow	Flowers May; strongly glaucous leaves, green above and bluish-white underneath; 3 m (shrub) or 5 m (tree)	Sand dunes, sandy shores, gravelly shores, shoreline thickets	Cuttings or seed	
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	White Cedar	Evergreen, scale-like, pointed leaves, opposite in alternating pairs (in 4 rows), bright green above and pale below; flattened branchlets, in fan-shaped sprays; 15-38 m tall; seed cones are ellipsoid	Wide-ranging habitat, from swamps to dry areas	Commercially available or by bare root or seed	Good windbreak

## Appendix B - Native Species - Shrubs

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry	Broadleaf evergreen; white/pink flowers on a raceme bloom May to June; paddle-shaped leaves, thick and leathery leaves; bright red berries; 30-90 cm tall	Sandy soil, beach transition zones	Commercially available; seed; softwood cuttings	Attracts butterflies and other wildlife
<i>Cornus foemina</i>	Grey Dogwood	Small white cluster flowers bloom in July; bright blue fruit; 6m tall; twigs are reddish in colour and turn grey with age	Pinery, backdunes	Commercially available or by seed	Thicket forming
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier Dogwood	White flat top clusters, May - July; leaves opposite arcuately veined; 4-5m tall; white fruit	Tolerates sand burial	Commercially available	Also known as <i>Cornus sericea ssp. sericea</i>
<i>Hypericum kalmianum</i>	Kalm's St. John's Wort	Broadleaf evergreen; yellow flower blooms July to August; small narrow leaves; dense mound; 60-100 cm tall	Dunes and rocky lakeshores. Prefers moist-wet rich sandy loam, tolerates poor soils and some drought. Full sun to partial shade	Commercially available	Good small shrub for mass planting. Attracts butterflies and bees
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper	Evergreen; 1m tall; blue waxy berry-like fruit; reddish bark	Open meadows, rocky shores	Commercially available	Berries favoured by birds
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Creeping Juniper	Evergreen; less than 30 cm tall; scale like leaves; not prickly; blue berry-like fruit	Tolerates sand burial, found in backdune, Pinery	Commercially available	Berries favoured by birds

## Appendix B - Native Species - Shrubs

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Common Ninebark	Whitish-pink flowers bloom late spring and early summer; multi-stemmed; upright and spreading with exfoliating bark to reveal several layers of reddish to light brown inner bark	Typically found along streams, rocky banks, gravel bars, and in moist thickets; full sun to partial shade; able to tolerate a wide range of soil conditions	Commercially available; spreads by underground runners	Effective as a hedge or screen for use as erosion control on banks; provides winter interest
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	Showy yellow flowers June to September; greyish-green pinnately compound leaves; 90-120 cm tall	Moist meadow to dry, between back dunes, tolerates sand burial, found as far south as Pinery	Commercially available or by seed or softwood cuttings	Good erosion control, pest free, maintenance free, attracts butterflies
<i>Prunus pumila</i>	Sand Cherry	White flowers in May; trailing and upright habit; 200 cm tall; edible fruit (1cm)	Tolerates some burial; full sun; tolerates dry conditions	Commercially available	Attracts birds
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac	Yellow catkin flowers April to June; trifoliolate leaf; 1.8-3.5m tall	Backdune, full sun, tolerates dry conditions	Commercially available or by seed; suckering growth; looks best when planted in masses	Attracts butterflies and other wildlife
<i>Rosa acicularis</i>	Prickly Rose	Single white or pink flower, blooms in July; pinnately compound leaves; 1.3m tall	Rocky soils, sun to part shade	Commercially available; seed; stem cuttings	Attracts birds
<i>Salix cordata</i>	Sand Dune Willow/ Heartleaf Willow	Lance-shaped leaves with base that is rounded to heart-shaped; buds reddish-brown; 3-4m tall; fast growing	Typically found on dunes and along lakeshores. Grows on sandy, silty or gravelly soils. Does well also in wet, ill-drained and intermittent flooded soils	Seed or cuttings	Good for use as a low windbreak; erosion control
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow	Catkins in early spring; oblong to narrow elliptic leaves, green surface and white lower surface of leaves; flattened reddish-purple buds; bark grayish brown; 5m tall, 4m spread; multi-stemmed	Common to stream sides, ponds, or in low spots in the landscape; moist sandy, loamy and clay soils, tolerates dry soils; requires full sun to partial shade	Commercially available; cuttings, seed	Weak-wooded but rejuvenates from roots easily
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	American Highbush Cranberry	Leaves opposite with 3 lobes; fruit bright red; white flower blooms in early June; 3.5 m tall	Wide range of soils, tolerates moist conditions	Commercially available	Not to be confused with European Highbush ( <i>V. Opulus</i> )

## Appendix B - Native Species - Perennials, Annuals & Grasses

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow	White clustered flowers July to September; alternate compound leaves that are 7-12 cm long with many fern-like leaflets; 90 cm tall	Meadows, poorer soils	Commercially available or by seed	Fragrant foliage when crushed
<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>	American Beach Grass; Marram Grass	Grass; June -August bloom; spike; 20-60 cm tall; large tap root	Pioneer dune species which acts as a primary dune stabilizer; tolerates burial by sands, full sun and dry conditions	Commercially available; easily transplanted (see planting guide on page 6 for details)	Most common dune vegetation for Lake Huron dunes, with the exception of Sauble Beach
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly-everlasting	Yellow/white globe-like flowers June to October; leafy woolly stems; 30-90 cm tall	Meadows	Commercially available	Attracts butterflies
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Blue Stem	Grass; blooms September to October; 1.3- 2.5 m tall	Drought tolerant, sun to partial shade	Commercially available; seed; root division	Attracts butterflies and birds
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	Candle Anemone	Greenish white thimble-like flower June to July; whorled leaved; 30-90 cm tall	Open sandy woodlands	Commercially available or by seed	All parts are toxic
<i>Anemone multifida</i>	Red or Cut-leaf Anemone	Yellowish-white within maroon coloured flowers May to June; clumping habit; leaves are deeply cut into linear portions with a long petiole; 15-50 cm tall	Shores and rocky banks	Commercially available or by seed or root division	All parts are toxic
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Red Columbine	Flowers are red with a yellow interior, bloom April to June; compound leaves with leaflets that have three rounded lobes; 60 cm tall	Partly shaded to shaded woodland and meadows	Commercially available or by seed	Attracts hummingbirds
<i>Arabis lyrata</i>	Lyre-leaved rock cress	Biennial; greenish white flowers May-July; rosette of basal leaves; 10-30 cm tall	Rocky and sandy soils	Commercially available	

## Appendix B - Native Species - Perennials, Annuals & Grasses

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Artemisia campestris</i>	Wormwood	Biennial; spike of pale yellow-green flowers blooms July-September; silvery green leaves; basal leaves pinnately lobed; 20-80 cm tall	Open sites, sandy soil	Commercially available	
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	Deep pink, cluster flower June to August; 120 cm tall	Inter-dune wet areas	Commercially available	
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed	Pink drooping cluster flowers June to August; leaves are opposite, simple, broad, ovate-lanceolate; 1-2 m tall	Open sites, sandy soil	Can spread rapidly by rhizomes; by seed	Host plant for Monarch Butterfly larvae; toxic to livestock
<i>Bromus ciliatus</i>	Fringed Brome	Grass; yellow flower July to August; drooping florets oat-like appearance; clump-forming grass; 150 cm tall	Sun to part sun; moist soils; stream banks	Commercially available; not rhizomatous	Often in association with conifers such as cedar
<i>Cakile edentula</i>	American Sea-rocket	Succulent annual; white to purple racemes July to September; green fruit divided in two sections; leaves are alternate, oblong, ovate and deeply scalloped to wavy serrated margin; 10-50 cm tall	Sandy beaches above high water line	By seed, in situ	
<i>Calamagrostis arkansana</i>	Low Calamint	Herbaceous perennial; pale purple flowers bloom May to August; egg-shaped leaves along stems; 10-20 cm tall	Inter-dune wet areas	Commercially available	Mint smelling
<i>Calamagrostis inexpansa</i>	Northern Reedgrass	Grass; purple flower; dark green foliage; 1 m tall	Variety of open wet habitats	Commercially available	
<i>Calamovifa longifolia</i>	Sand Reedgrass	Grass; scaly underground roots; up to 2 m tall	Sandy shores	Commercially available	

## Appendix B - Native Species - Perennials, Annuals & Grasses

Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	Blue or purple bell-shaped flowers June to September; rounded basal leaves; 10-40 cm tall	Open dry meadows, rocky shorelines; shade tolerant	Commercially available or by seed, root cuttings, stem cuttings	
<i>Camas esculenta</i>	Camas Lily	Purple flower, blooms in June; 30 cm tall	Sandy soils, prefers acid soil, semi shade	Commercially available; bulbs	Pollinated by bees
<i>Carex eburnea</i>	Bristleleaf Sedge	Sedge; green blooms in early spring; thin wiry leaves; 30 cm tall	Rocky and sandy outcrops	Commercially available	
<i>Carex scirpoidea</i>	Northern Singlespike Sedge	Sedge; ovate to lanceolate leaves; long rhizomes; 45 cm tall	Rocky outcrops, sedge meadows; tolerates partial shade	Bare root or seed	
<i>Castilleja coccinea</i>	Indian Paintbrush	Annual or biennial; red bract blooms May-July; leaves with 3 narrow lobes; 30-60 cm tall	Wet meadows	Commercially available	Difficult to transplant
<i>Corispermum pallasii</i>	Siberian Bugseed; Pallas' Bugseed	Annual forb; tiny, 5-parted clustered flowers late summer to fall; alternate, stalkless, linear to lanceolate leaves; branches from base; stems covered sparsely with hairs, becoming smooth; 10-45 cm tall	Sandy shores and dunes	From seed	
<i>Corispermum villosum</i>	Hairy Bugseed	Annual forb; compact and dense flowers late summer to fall; linear-oblong lanceolate or linear leaves; plants usually branched from the base; densely or sparsely covered with hairs occasionally becoming smooth; 10-30 cm tall	Sandy shores and dunes; occasionally adventive on roadsides and railways	From seed	
<i>Cyperus houghtonii</i>	Smooth Sand Sedge	Sedge; rhizomes; v-shaped leaves; 10-100 cm tall	Open sandy habitats	Seed or bare root	

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Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wild Rye	Grass; yellow, green or brown spike flower August to September; linear leaves; 60-100 cm tall	Dry meadows, dunes and sandy shores	Commercially available or by seed or root division	
<i>Elymus lanceolatus var. psammophilus</i>	Great Lakes Wheat Grass	Grass; blue-green, slightly pubescent, leaves 4-8mm wide; underground rhizomes; 30-90 cm tall	Sand dunes, sandy soils	Seed 1/2" into sand in early spring	Low maintenance, dune stabilizer
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Horsetail	Rush; no bloom; reed-like; hollow evergreen, unbranched stems with black bands; 90 cm tall	Full sun to part shade, wide range of soils	Commercially available or by root division	Attracts dragonflies; spreads from colonies, aggressive
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Flat-top Goldenrod	Yellow flat-top flowers bloom July-September; grass like leaves; 60-150 cm tall	Sandy pannes between dunes, marsh edges, lake borders, prairies. High organic, sandy soils. Drought tolerant	Commercially available; root division	Plant is attractive to bees, butterflies and/or birds
<i>Festuca saximontana</i>	Rocky Mountain Fescue	Grass; panicle flower; grass-like leaf; basal habit; 25-50 cm tall	Grassland-upland areas with sandy soils, requires full sun to partial shade, drought tolerant	Seed	Useful for erosion control on sandy, gravelly soils; grows well in harsh conditions
<i>Gentiana procera</i>	Fringed Gentian	Blue or violet tubular flowers, bloom in July; leaves opposite and narrow; 15-20 cm tall	Wetlands and bogs	Commercially available	
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Blue Flag Iris	Blue flower blooms May-June; 10-100 cm tall	Marshes, swamps, wet meadows, soils with high organic content and direct sunlight	Commercially available; single corms or bulbs can be divided or cut from the parent root system	Provides good shoreline protection; the root stock is fed on by aquatic rodents
<i>Juncus balticus</i>	Baltic Rush	Rush; pink/brown flowers blooms spring to mid-summer, clump forming, 100 cm tall	Moist meadows, along streams or lakes, silt and clay loam to coarser sandy substrates	Commercially available, divide in spring, space 25-30 cm apart	Excellent for erosion control; also known <i>J. arcticus</i>

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Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Juncus brevicaudatus</i>	Narrow-panicle Rush	Rush, greenish-brown spike flowers blooms mid-summer to fall; grass-like leaves	Found along emergent shorelines; grows best in acidic or peaty moist soils	Divides in spring	
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	June Grass	Grass; yellow bloom April-June, grey-green; clump forming, 30-90 cm tall	Prairies, stabilized dunes, openings in sandy woodlands, found in rocky Bur Oak stands	Commercially available, collect seeds in September, mature plants may be divided	
<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>	Beach Pea	Pink-purple flowers bloom in summer; low sprawling leguminous plant; 30-60 cm tall	Found on sandy shores; grows in sandy, loamy or clay well-drained soils; requires full sun, will not grow in shade	Seed; root division in spring; it may not transplant well so care should be taken	Fixes atmospheric nitrogen; flowers are pollinated by bees, moths and butterflies
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	Rough Blazing-star	Spiked purple flower blooms August to October; stem zigzagged; narrow green leaves; 20-60 cm tall	Full sun, tolerates dry conditions; open sandy woodlands, sandy prairies	Commercially available, seed	Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Dense Blazing-star	Grass-like leaves that are clumped at the base; tall spike of rose coloured flowers; blooms August to September; 90-120 cm tall	Moist meadows	Commercially available	
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	Wood Lily	Red-orange cup shaped flower blooms July to August; long and narrow whorled leaves; 30-90 cm tall	Open woods, meadows, tolerates shade	Commercially available	
<i>Maianthemum stellata</i>	False Solomon's Seal	White flower blooms in early summer; 30-60 cm tall	An indicator of cool, moist environments; found adjacent to streams; grows best on gravel to silty and sandy loams soils	Commercially available; seed; rhizomes	Different from true Solomon's Seal in that it has its flowers at the end of the stem

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Botanical Name	Common Name	Identification	Habitat	Propagation	Other Info
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Evening Primrose	Yellow flowers bloom spring to late summer; 30-150 cm tall.	Meadows, dry or moist sandy and loamy soils prefers full sun and will not grow in shade; drought tolerant	Commercially available; sow the seeds in situ from late spring to early summer	Attracts bees, butterflies and moths; flowers open in the evening with a strong pleasant smell
<i>Oligoneuron ohioense</i>	Ohio Goldenrod	Yellow flower, blooms July to September	Wet fields, bogs and fens	Commercially available	
<i>Panicum acuminatum var. acuminatum</i>	Hairy Panic Grass	Grass; blooms July-September; olive green to purple tufted grass; 30-60 cm tall	Found in wetlands, prairies and open woods; grows best on sandy soils	Seed	Also known as <i>Dichanthelium acuminatum var. acuminatum</i>
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	Slender Mountain-mint	Whitish to lavender terminal flower with two-lipped petals with purple spots; blooming June to September; narrow leaves; clump forming; 50-75 cm tall	Prairie remnants, open sandy woods, old fields	Commercially available or by seed or root division	Mint smelling
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	Grass; white/green or brown flower August to October; fine textured silver-grey foliage, grows in clumps; 60-90 cm tall	Sheltered areas behind foredunes or in a meadow between the dunes; tolerates dry conditions; full sun	Commercially available or by root dividing and readily reseeds	Erosion control; attracts birds and butterflies
<i>Senecio pauperculus</i>	Groundsel	Long-stalked, deep yellow ray and disc florets late June to July; basal, usually tufted, oblong-lance-like, spatulate, or oblong-elliptic shaped scalloped or saw-toothed leaves; 30-60 cm tall	Alvars and open woodland	Commercially available, seed, root cuttings	
<i>Solidago hispida</i>	Hairy Goldenrod	Yellow flower August to October; broadly oblanceolate to obovate or elliptic, basal and proximal cauline leaves tapering to winged petioles; 20-100 cm	Woodland and forest edge	Seed, root division	Attracts bees, and migrating butterflies; shelter and food for many songbirds and small mammals

Botanical Name	Common name	ID	Control Method
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple	Leaves with 4-7 lobes, dark green, opposite	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut	Bell-shaped red/white flowers. 5-9 leaflets, palmately compound leaves, thorny round fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese Barberry	Yellow drooping flower clusters, many stems; green or red leaves; bright red oblong fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	European Barberry	Simple, alternate leaves, ovate or obovate; bright red fruit	Remove entire shrub, including roots, suckers
<i>Betula pendula</i>	European Birch	Triangular ovate leaves, double-toothed; 3-7 cm long	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	Leaves narrow and oblong, dull green, olive-like fruit; small fragrant flower clusters	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shear or chain saw
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn Olive	Oval, pointed silver leaves; fruit silver to red	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine	Evergreen, 2 needled bundles, orange bark; cones conical to ovoid	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Populus alba</i>	Silver Poplar	3-5 lobed blue green leaves	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black Poplar	Diamond shaped leaves	Remove bark and phloem layer from 10 cm band around trunk, do not damage xylem layer, may encourage suckering, check girdle for re-development of bark
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust	White fragrant flower in drooping clusters, alternate, pinnately compound, oval; bean-like fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian Elm	Dark green single toothed leaves; fruit round and smooth	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw

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Botanical Name	Common name	ID	Control Method
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental Bittersweet	Greenish-yellow flower clusters, leaves alternate, simple; round orange-yellow fruit; shrub or vine	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Cynanchum nigrum</i>	Dog-strangling vine	Vine, flowers purple with 5 lobes, leaves opposite, simple, twining stems	Hand pull each stalk at ground level before seed set, remove root to prevent resprouting
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	Leaves alternate, simple leaf with white veins, small yellow flowers, groundcover or vine	Hand pull each stalk, dig up root systems or cut stems close to ground with trimmer
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Common Privet	White flowers in clusters, leaves opposite; simple berry like fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>	Glossy Buckthorn	Small white flowers, alternate rounded leaves that resemble dogwood; black fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora Rose	Pink, red, yellow or white flowers; prickles; 1 m tall	Hand pull or dig up root system with spade
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	European Mountain Ash	White flowers; compound leaves 11-17 leaflets; bright scarlet to orange-red berries; underside of leaves are fuzzy	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring Tree	White umbrella shaped flowers, leaves opposite, simple; clusters of black fruit	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	European High Bush Cranberry	Yellow or white flower, leaves opposite, 3 lobed; bright red berries	Remove bark around base of trunk, remove saplings with shears or chain saw

Beware of



Invasives

Botanical Name	Common name	ID	Control Method
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Goutweed	Dense white flower clusters; leaves with long petioles, variegated leaves, 9 leaflets	Hand pull each stalk before seeds set, dig up root system
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	White flowers on stalk with terminal clusters; leaves toothed; 1m high	Hand pull, cut stems close to ground with trimmer
<i>Asperula odorata</i>	Sweet Woodruff	White 4-lobed flower; leaves in whorls, lanceolate or elliptical; stems hairy	Cut stems close to ground with trimmer, dig up root system with spade
<i>Campanula rannculoides</i>	Creeping Bellflower	Blue flowers; leaves alternate, simple, unevenly toothed	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems close to ground with shears
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily of the Valley	White bell-shaped flowers; 2-3 basal leaves, oblong, dark green; pale red berries	Dig up root system with spade
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	Crown Vetch	White/purple flower; 7-12 leaflets in pairs, oblong; fruit bean-like	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems with trimmer
<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	Leafy Spurge	Leaves spirally arranged; greenish yellow flowers	Cut stems close to the ground with trimmer
<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>	Baby's Breath	Leaves linear-lanceolate; white, pink or purple flowers	Dig up root system with spade, before flowers set seed.
<i>Impatiens glandifera</i>	Himalayan Balsam	Lanceolate leaves opposite/whorled and toothed; fruit is club shaped; red-pink cluster of flowers	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems close to ground with shears, do not allow to set seed.
<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Silver Dollar	Leaves cordate, coarsely toothed; reddish-purple flower; stiff hairy stems	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems with trimmer
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Moneywort	Simple yellow flower; leaves opposite	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems with trimmer
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosetrife	Tall plant, opposite leaves; purple flower on a spike	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems with trimmer
<i>Phragmites communis</i>	Common Reed	Reed; perennial, 1-4 m high; tufted spike with white flowers	Cut stems close to ground with trimmer or chainsaw, dig up root system if possible
<i>Taraxacum erythrospermum</i>	Red-seeded dandelion	5-30 cm tall; basal growth, bright yellow flower.	Hand pull each stalk, dig up root systems, do not allow to produce seeds
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Common dandelion	5-30 cm tall; basal growth; bright yellow flower	Hand pull each stalk, dig up root systems, do not allow to produce seeds
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Periwinkle or Myrtle	Short plant; dark glossy green foliage; small purple flower; leaves elliptical and lanceolate; groundcover	Dig up root system with spade, cut stems with trimmer

Beware of



Invasives