



# Top 10 Shrubs for Your Wildlife Garden



Blueberry, cranberry · *Vaccinium* ·  

**Why:** Host plant for 294 species of caterpillars (Lepidoptera) including Spring Azure and Striped Hairstreak; relished by songbirds; fall color. **Native examples:** highbush blueberry, lowbush blueberry, cranberry



Hawthorn · *Crataegus* ·  

**Why:** This spiny shrub, attracts 168 Lepidopteran species including red-spotted purple butterflies and has white flowers and red berries to boot. **Native examples:** Washington, green



Serviceberry · *Amelanchier* ·   



**Why:** High bird value in the fruit as well as host for 124 Leps; feeds 36 bird species including Swainson's thrush, brown thrasher and Northern flicker. **Native examples:** shadbush (juneberry), smooth, downy



Dogwood · *Cornus* ·   

**Why:** Flowering tree and multi-stemmed shrubs provide cover, food, and nesting sites for 36 bird species like purple finches and cedar waxwings. **Native examples:** red-osier, alternate-leaved, gray, silky, flowering



Bayberry, myrtle · *Myrica* ·  

**Why:** High fat content in berries provide energy for migrating birds when they need it the most; plant host for 108 species of moths and butterflies. **Native examples:** wax myrtle, northern bayberry



Viburnum · *Viburnum* ·   

**Why:** Fruit-bearing shrub; insect host plant; great cover plant; used by at least 24 bird species including cedar waxwings, thrushes, and flycatchers. **Native examples:** mapleleaf, southern arrowwood, blackhaw




Witchhazel · *Hamamelis* · 

**Why:** Late-flowering shrub feeds 63 species of Lepidopterans; also consider its smaller relative, witchalder (*Fothergilla*) with gorgeous fall color.

**Native examples:** witchhazel, dwarf witchalder, mountain witchalder




Rhododendron · *Rhododendron* · 

**Why:** Supports 51 Lepidopteran species; bird nesting sites; among our most beautiful native shrubs with orange, fuchsia, and white blooms in spring.

**Native examples:** smooth azalea, great laurel, early azalea, pink azalea



Elderberry · *Sambucus* · 

**Why:** Fruit eaten by many birds, at least 48 species including thrushes, flycatchers, woodpeckers, and grosbeaks; excellent cover plant for birds.

**Native examples:** American black, red



Honeysuckle · *Lonicera* · 

**Why:** This vine is an excellent food source for hummingbirds and 37 butterfly species; will flower repeatedly for three seasons; beware invasives. **Native examples:** trumpet/coral