**Segment for Week of 30 August, 2021**

This is Pauline Milbourne bringing you information on Shore friendly living and gardening from the Eastern Shore Master Gardeners and Virginia Cooperative Extension. Virginia has a variety of native shrubs that can make great additions to your landscape. As you think about fall plantings, consider the following additions to your fall plantings.

The Carolina Rose flowers attracts native and bumble bees and their fruits attract quail and other gamebirds. The Carolina Rose hosts 122 species of native caterpillars with a strong, old-fashioned, rose fragrance. They are disease resistant and tolerate hot dry weather.

The Ninebark flowers, fruits and seeds attract native bees, butterflies, song and gamebirds and hosts 40 species of native caterpillars. The ninebark continually molts in thin strips, exposing new layers, as if it had “nine lives.” It has also been observed that “the species is adaptable to all conditions, probably even nuclear attacks, and once established, requires a bulldozer for removal.

The Southern Wild Raisin or otherwise known as Possum Haw, transplants well because of shallow roots and hosts the Baltimore Checkerspot caterpillar. It is salt tolerant, deer resistant and has edible berries that taste like raisins.

Winterberry flowers and fruits attract native bees, pollinators, and more than 48 species of song and gamebirds. The winterberry plant hosts 34 species of native caterpillars and its berries provide good winter food source for wildlife, but are poisonous to humans.

The Sweetshrub hosts two species of native caterpillars and produces cut flowers prized for their intense fragrance. Its leaves, twigs and bark are also fragrant and can be dried with the flowers for use in potpourri. Winterberry will colonize but growth and spreading are slow. It is a good companion to paw paw tree and is salt tolerant.

The Red Chokeberry fruits persist into winter, because it has an astringent taste that birds don’t prefer. Native Chokeberries host 26 species of native caterpillars including Coral Hairstreak, Striped Hairstreak butterflies.

The Northern Spicebush is an attractive shrub and one of the first to bloom in the spring. The entire shrub has sweet, spicy fragrance and has historically been used as a substitute for allspice. Is it also salt tolerant.

The Strawberry Bush has flowers that attract native bees and pollinators but also has seeds that attract gamebirds and songbirds. The strawberry bust hosts six species of native caterpillars and is a favorite addition to flower arrangements. This plant tolerates poor drainage and moderate droughts once established.

More details on these natives and others can be found at your local Extension Office. For answers to Gardening questions and more, call your local Accomack or Northampton County Extension Office. Here on the Shore call either 678-7946 or 787-1361.