Understory Shrubs

Lowbush Blueberry Vaccinium angustifolium

Native

Deciduous 6"-2" tall Prefers moist, well-drained, highly acidic organic soil Full sun to partial shade Showy red/bronze fall color Edible fruit attracts wildlife







Highbush Blueberry Vaccinium corymbosum

Native

Deciduous 4' to 10' tall Prefers moist, well-drained acidic soil Edible fruit attracts wildlife







Bottlebrush Buckeye Aesculus parviflora

Deciduous 8-12' tall, 8-15' wide Prefers moist, slightly acidic, well-drained soil Full sun but tolerant of partial shade Showy white flowers bloom in mid-July Pear-shaped, 2-3" in length, ripen in early fall Yellow-yellow green fall color









Highbush Cranberry Viburnum opulus

Native

Deciduous 8-10' tall Prefers fertile, moist soil Full sun to partial shade White flowers bloom May-June Edible fruit









Understory Shrubs cont.

American Elder Sambucus canadensis

Native

Deciduous 5-12' tall Prefers moist soil, adaptable Full sun Blooms in July, white flowers Fast growth rate Purplish-black edible fruit







Dwarf Fothergilla Fothergilla gardenii

Deciduous
3-6' tall
Partial shade to full sun
Prefers moist, acidic, cool well-drained soil
Lightly fragrant, white flower clusters
Blooms early to mid-May
Excellent mix of yellow-orange-red purple fall color







Maple Leaf Viburnum Viburnum acerifolium

Native

Deciduous
4-6' tall and wide
Prefers well-drained soil
Full sun to shade
Moderate growth rate
Blooms in June







Mountain Laurel Kalmia latifolia

Native

5-12 feet tall and wide Requires cool, moist acidic soil Partial shade to full sun Blooms late May and early June lasting several weeks







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Understory Shrubs, cont.

Summersweet Clethra Clethra alnifolia

Native

Deciduous 5-8 feet tall, 4-6 feet wide Prefers moist soil Full sun to partial shade Blooms in July and August Fragrant flowers







Sweetbells Leucothoe Leucothoe racemosa

Native to MA

Deciduous
4-6' tall and wide
Prefers moist, cool, acid soil, tolerates wet sites
Best in partial shade
White flowers blooming in May through June
Reddish fall color







Virginia Rose Rosa virginiana

Native

Deciduous
4-6' tall
Prefers well-drained, acidic soil
Full sun
Single pink flower blooms in June
Red hip fruit matures in August
Purplish to red fall color





Winterberry Ilex verticillata

Native

Deciduous
6-10 feet tall and wide
Prefers moist acidic soil
Full sun to partial shade
Fruit set only on pollinated female plants
Red berries are excellent winter food
for wildlife.









Understory Shrubs, cont.

Fragrant Sumac Rhus aromatica

Native
2-6' tall, 6-10' wide
Prefers acidic, well-drained soil
Drought tolerant
Full sun to partial shade
Showy orange to reddish purple fall color
Slow growth rate







Oakleaf Hydrangea Hydrangea quercifolia

Wider than tall plants range from 4-8' tall Prefers moist, organic soil Full to partial shade White pinnacle shaped flower blooms in July Showy red to reddish purple fall color









Additional Choices: Red Buckeye