ANM33 Maine State Supplement 2012-1

Riparian Buffer, Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Habitat

Criteria

Common	Scientific	Wildlife Benefits:
White spruce	*Picea glauca,*	The following species are known to use this tree as food, cover or travel corridors: ruffed and spruce grouse, gray jay, black-backed woodpecker, white-winged crossbill, pine grosbeak, red-breasted nuthatch, cedar waxwing, snowshoe hare, porcupine, gray and red squirrel, chipmunk, weasel, and bay-breasted, magnolia and Cape May warblers.
White pine, Red Pine, Jack Pine	*Pinus strobes, Pinus resinosa, Pinus banksiana*	Pine seed, especially white, are consumed extensively by some wildlife species. Black-capped chickadee, white-winged crossbill, goldfinch, pine grosbeak, juncos, red- and white-breasted nuthatch, eastern towhee, brown thrasher, several woodpeckers, bay-breasted, magnolia and Cape May warblers showshoe hare, white-footed mouse, beaver, porcupine, gray and red squirrel, chipmunk are some of the species that use pine as habitat.
Northern white-cedar, Arborvitae	*Thuja occidentalis*	Northern white cedar and spruce-fir forests have similar "northern conifer" wildlife communities that include a wide range of resident and migratory species. Northern white cedar provides critical food and cover to wintering deer in eastern and northern Maine.
Eastern Red Cedar	*Juniperus virginiana*	Wildlife benefit greatly from red cedar . They find refuge and nest sites in the dense branches and foliage and consume the fleshy, berry-like cones. The fruits and leaves provide important winter food for several species, like white-tailed deer, who browse on the vegetation, and fox and skunk who eat the nutritious cones. Rabbits, mice, and ground birds, also eat the small cones, as do many songbirds.
N. Red Oak, White Oak, Black Oak	*Quercus borealis Quercus alba Quercus nigra*	Oaks are one of the primary and most important sources of hard mast for wildlife. Many game and non-game species use acorns as a food source rich in carbohydrates that helps Maine wildlife put on fat prior to winter.

Black Cherry **Pin Cherry,** **Choke Cherry**	***Prunus serotina*** ***Prunus pensylvanica*** ***Prunus virginiana***	**Cherry fruit is important food for numerous species of passerine birds, game birds, and mammals, including the red fox, black bear, raccoon, opossum, squirrels, and rabbits.**
Red Maple, Sugar Maple	***Acer rubrum*** ***Acer saccharum***	**White-tailed deer, moose, and snowshoe hare commonly browse sugar maples. Red squirrel, gray squirrel, and flying squirrels feed on the seeds, buds, twigs, and leaves. Porcupines consume the bark and can girdle the upper stem. Songbirds, woodpeckers, and cavity nesters nest in sugar maple. Although the flowers appear to be wind-pollinated, the early-produced pollen may be important to the biology of bees and other pollen-dependent insects because many insects, especially bees, visit the flowers.**
White Ash, **Green Ash,** **Black Ash**	***Fraxinus Americana*** ***Fraxinus pennsylvanica*** ***Fraxinus nigra***	**Ash provides browse and cover for many species of wildlife. The samara fruit is good forage for wood duck, finches, grosbeaks, squirrels, and mice. Twigs are used as food by beaver, porcupine, deer and rabbits.**
Eastern Hemlock	***Tsuga canadensis***	**Stands of hemlock provide overwintering shelter for deer, ruffed grouse, turkey, snowshoe hare. Hemlock also provides excellent winter food for yarding deer. Over 90 bird species are known to use hemlock forests, with black-throated green warbler, solitary vireo and northern goshawk being hemlock obligates.**
Basswood	***Tilia americana***	**Basswood provides good browse, its buds are important winter food for birds and deer. Fruit is eaten by birds and small mammals. Basswood often provides habitat for cavity-nesting wildlife as it decays.**
Serviceberry	***Amelancier spp.***	**Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various tree species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
Speckled Alder	***Alnus rugosa***	**Speckled alder thickets provide cover for moose, white-tailed deer, rabbits, and others. Moose, muskrats, beavers, and rabbits browse the twigs and foliage. Songbirds, including redpolls, goldfinches, woodcock, and grouse eat the seeds, buds, and catkins. Beavers build dams and lodges with speckled alder.**

Highbush Cranberry	***Vaccinium corymbosum***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. The fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
Arrowwood Viburnum **Nannyberry Viburnum** **Hobblebush**	***Viburnum dentatum var. lucidum*** ***Viburnum lentago*** ***Vigurnum lantanoides***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. The fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
Willow spp.	***Salix spp.***	**Many species of trees or shrubs are of value to wildlife. Willow provides food for a variety of wildlife such as moose, deer, rabbit, and beaver. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for thicket species such as New England Cottontail.**
Dogwood spp.	***Cornus spp.***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. Fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
American Elderberry	***Sambucus canadensis***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. Fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
Witch-Hazel	***Hamamelis virginina***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. The seeds of this plant are used by birds and mammals. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**

Beaked hazlenut	***Corylus cornuta***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. Fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**
Hawthorn spp.	***Crateagus spp.***	**Many species of shrubs are of value to wildlife. Fruit or nuts are an important food source. Soft (berries and fruit) and hard (nuts) mast produced by various shrub species is a valuable food source for wildlife. Shrubs can be particularly important because several species of wildlife, especially songbirds, prefer to feed or nest on or near the ground. Shrubs also provide good protective cover for these types of wildlife.**

Note: There are other native species that can also be used in riparian buffers that benefit wildlife. If you want to use species not on this list, please contact your local NRCS office to determine applicability.