

ask

the landscape professional

Linda K. Lillie of Sprigs & Twigs

Welcome to my weekly series!

Feel free to send me questions you'd like to have me answer and I will do my best to address the ones of most general interest.

Email or mail your questions to: info@sprigsandtwigs.net or Linda Lillie, Sprigs & Twigs Inc, PO Box 245, Gales Ferry, CT 06335



Question of the Week: In your "Ask the Landscape Professional" article on May 5, 2013, you mentioned that Sprigs & Twigs uses a lot of native plants. Just what is a native plant?

Thank you that is a good question. A native plant is one that evolved naturally and was growing in North America prior to European settlement in the 17th century. These plants have evolved and adapted over thousands of years in harmony with distinct communities of microorganisms, insects, mammals, fish and birds. Birds, butterflies, bees, beneficial insects and other animals prefer native plants for food, shelter and nesting places. The variety of birds, insects and animals attracted to native plants provide natural pest, disease and weed control in our landscapes. Native plants also play a role in attracting these creatures back into our landscapes as pollinators. Native plants require less resources and maintenance to thrive. When I design gardens, I always try to incorporate native plants into the design. There are many great choices available for a variety of garden habitats. As always, the key to a good garden design is putting the right plant in the right location, so you must do your homework and know your plants. To help you in learning native plants, Sprigs & Twigs has produced a high quality, glossy, 44 card set (the same size as baseball cards), called "Native Plants of Connecticut-Perennial Series" that shows a picture of the plant on the front and a complete description of characteristics on the back. There will be other native plant series in the future, e.g., "Shrubs", "Trees", etc. The set comes in a plastic case.



If you would like to have a set, you can pick one up at our office, 8 Hurlbutt Rd, Gales Ferry for \$11.95 + tax, or call us at 860-235-0752 with a credit card and we can mail one to you for \$14.95.

Sprigs & Twigs

**Avenger
100% Organic
Weed Killer
Retailer**

Linda K. Lillie is the President of Sprigs & Twigs, Inc, the premier landscape tree care & lawn care company in SE Connecticut for the last 17 years. She is a graduate of Connecticut College in Botany, a Connecticut Master Gardener and a national award winning landscape designer for her design and installation work.

860-235-0752



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