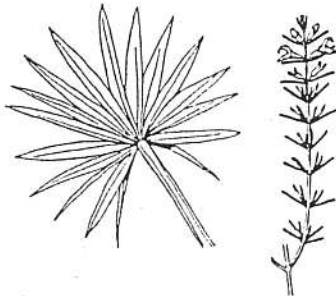


Native Trees and Shrubs of the Soundside Community

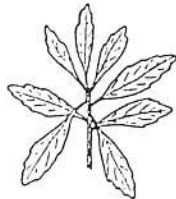
The Soundside area has many elevations as you stroll along the numerous paths throughout our development. Some of the species that we would like to make note of in Soundside are listed below. We encourage incorporation of as many native trees, shrubs and vegetation as possible in the home site landscaping design. Most native species require very little maintenance and enhance berm areas.



- (1) Sweet Bay or Silver Bays are well known because just about every low spot, stream bank, or spring head has a number of these medium to small trees. The evergreen leaves show their silvery undersides when the wind blows and almost seem to sparkle. This bay tree has rather small flowers, white and lemony-fragrant, whose structure clearly indicates this species' relationship to the magnolias. Small fruiting "cones" turn bright red when ripe and have numerous small red seeds which attract birds.



- (2) The Saw Palmetto is easy to recognize by touching its stems of sharp saw teeth. This palm once had great value to the Florida Indians. Its fruit was a staple food in their diet and its fronds were used for making roofs and baskets. It grows in sandy soil and is a common understudy plant in the area.



- (3) Conradina is a small shrub that belongs to the mint family. This plant grows on dry sandy soils of Santa Rosa Island as well as the mainland coastal areas. The tiny lance shaped leaves are pale green, aromatic and clustered along the stem. It blooms in the spring with many small lavender flowers. The leaves emit a very pleasant odor when crushed.



- (4) Deer Moss is a sphagnum that lives directly on top of sand. It looks like a sponge and has the ability to resist drought. Dry, dead looking moss becomes green after rain. Such adaptive features add much to anchor a berm area.



- (5) Wax Myrtle is a member of the bayberry family, with a yellow resin on the leaves giving it a golden brown cast. It's very aromatic when crushed and was once used in candle making. An attractive shrub/tree that is very low maintenance in landscaping.



- (6) Ti-Ti, also known as Swamp Cyrilla, American Cyrilla, White Ti-Ti, Leatherwood and Ironwood, is a semi-evergreen shrub or small tree with attractive small white flowers and fruiting capsules arranged in narrow, often clustered, lateral racemes. Though usually not over 15' high, it can sometimes reach 25 to 30' in height with a trunk diameter of 10 to 14". Ti-Ti is an important honey plant and is a source of the nectar bees in making the excellent "Ti-Ti honey".

- (7) The Live Oak is easily recognized by its evergreen leaves with edges curled under to make a boat-shape. The tree usually branches near the ground and was widely used in ship-building because of its large, arching limbs. In the days of sailing ships it provided timbers for the ribs and knees of ships. Near the water, it is commonly deformed by wind and salt spray, forming a low, shrubby growth.

- (8) Yaupon Holly, a small-leaved evergreen shrub, is a hardy relative of the well known American holly. The dried leaves were used during the Civil War as a substitute for coffee since they are a source of caffeine. Too strongly brewed however, the leaves can induce vomiting (scientific name is *Ilex Vomitoria*). The berries ripen in the fall to a yellow/orange or red color.



(9) Sand Pine is a small, common pine on coastal soils of Florida. It is recognized by the dark green needles, 2 to 3.5" long, found in bundles of two and by the cones which remain on the tree for several years.

(10) The Slash Pine is a straight tree, easily recognized by the bark pattern that is broken into large plates and covered with thin, papery orange colored scales. The needles are 6 to 8" long and borne in bundles of 2 or 3. The wood and turpentine products are commercially important in the South.



(11) Turkey Oak is an irregular tree or shrub with open crowns of crooked branches. It has large, nearly triangular leaves, spreading from point base into 4 to 8" long lobes. Prominent, veined leaves turn red before shedding in early winter. The wood chops and burns easily.

(12) Scrub Oak is the same as Live Oak, but because of high soil drainage and harsh conditions, it never grows as tall as the Live Oak tree.



(13) Evergreen Blueberry is an erect evergreen shrub up to 3' tall and has 1/4" long, smooth, club shaped leaves with 1/2" long, urn shaped, pink/white flowers. The Blueberry produces 1/2", purple/black, edible berries. It is common to both dry and wet areas of Soundside.



(14) The Partridgeberry, Twinberry or Twin Flower is a creeping, moist woodland perennial with paired tubular flowers. The colorful red fruit is edible though it is tasteless. It is apparently eaten only as a last resort by wildlife, since the berries often remain on the plant for months. The flowers bloom from April to June with the berries ripening in August or September, often persisting until the following spring. Partridgeberry is one of the most adaptable and easy-to-grow groundcovers for the home gardener in the South.



(15) Fetterbush or Lantern Bush grows in swamps and along streams and is especially attractive when in bloom. The bell-shaped flowers hang downward along the stems, while the fruits turn upward. The leaves have veins around the lower sides of the margins, allowing the plants to be easily identified by touch. Dark green leaves are very similar to the camellia leaf.

(16) Muscadine Grape plants can climb high into the trees by means of unbranched tendrils. The alternate, simple, grape shaped leaves may have tendrils or fruit clusters opposite them. The vines make good baskets and wreaths.



(17) Florida Rosemary is scattered over dunes and other high, well drained areas. The small evergreen leaves remind you of a fir. The round bush, several feet high, gives a faint and pleasant fragrance.



(18) Gallberry is a type of holly that forms large thickets 2 to 5' tall in damp, sunny areas. The berries are inky black and bitter tasting when mature, remaining on the plant all winter. The evergreen leaves are 1 to 2" long and have only a few teeth near the top.



(19) Gopher-Apple is a small shrub up to 12" tall with horizontal under-ground stems making it appear to be many separate small Oak or Cherry Laurel seedlings. Mature fruit is eaten by land turtles (Gophers) and homo sapiens seeking a new flavor.