

Invasive Out

Native In

Taking over the wetlands:



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Photo: Daria Chernoknyzhna iStock.jpg

**Purple Loosestrife –
*Lythrum salicaria***

- Designated by the State of Maine as “Widespread and Very Invasive”
- Commonly seen in wetlands and meadows
- Purple flower spikes appear in mid-late summer
- Each plant can produce up to 2.5 million seeds per year

**Blue vervain –
*Verbena hastata***

- Has spikes of blue-purple flowers
- Grows 2’-6’ in meadows, marshes, and shorelines from July-September
- Attracts birds, butterflies and bees, and is the larval host of **Common Buckeye** (*Junonia coenia*)

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/verbena/hastata/>

Resources and other native-to-North America choices

Blazing star – *Liatris spicata*, Native to E. N.America, grows in sunny meadows and needs less water than Blue vervain. 2’-6’ clumps of purple flower spikes bloom mid-late summer at the same time as the invasive loosestrife. Attracts birds and hummingbirds.

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/liatris/spicata/>

Blue lobelia – *Lobelia siphilitica*, Native to E. and C. Canada and the US., grows to 5’, with blue-purple spikes of flowers in sun, part shade and shade in very moist soil. Attracts birds and hummingbirds.

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=losi