

# Woody Plant Selection and Care

By Mike Andruczyk  
VCE – Horticulture Agent  
City of Chesapeake

# Selecting Woodyies

- Site Characteristics
- Aesthetic Characteristics
- Nursery/Garden Center Condition





# Selecting Woodyies

- Site Characteristics
  - Soil conditions
  - Site exposure
  - Plant hardiness
  - Maintenance needs



# Site Characteristics

- Soil conditions
  - Type of soil
  - Drainage
  - Depth of soil





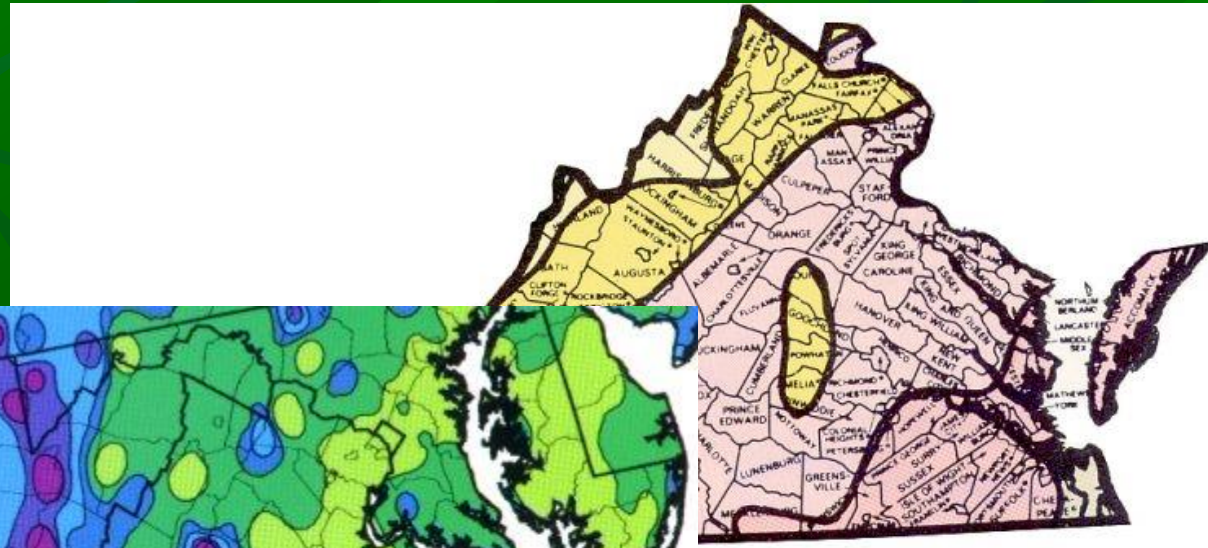
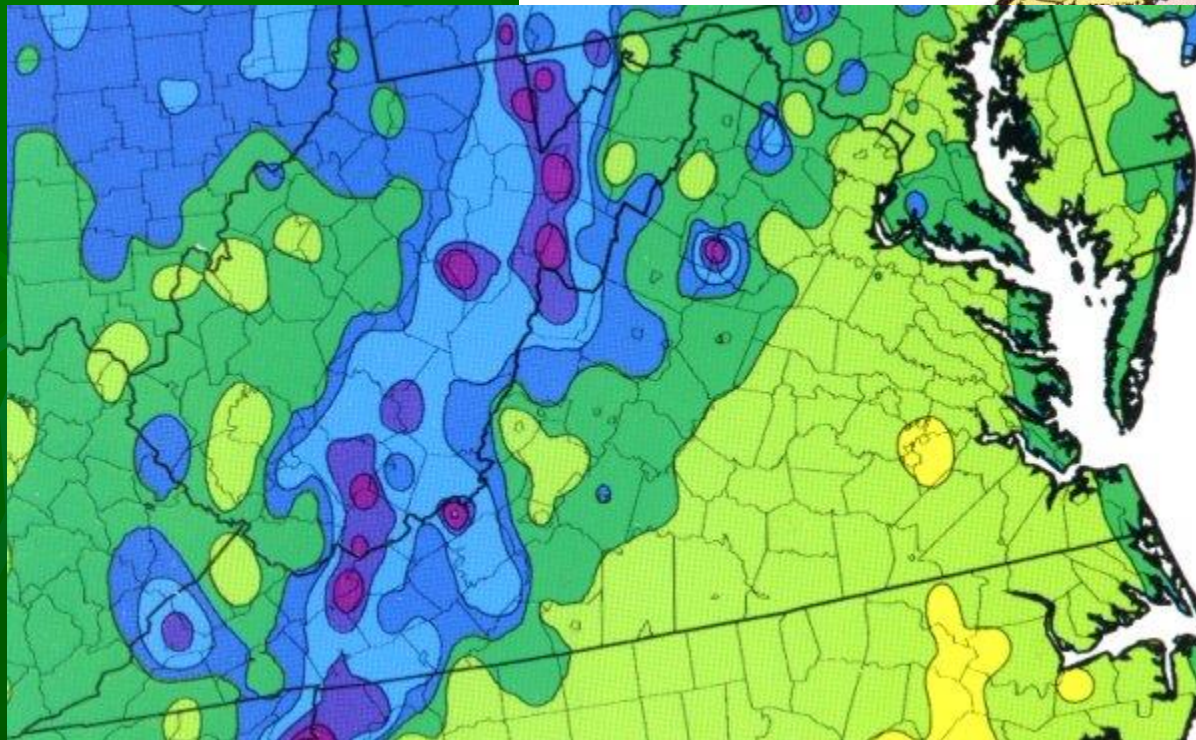
# Site Characteristics

- Site exposure
  - Amount of sun
  - Amount of wind
  - Amount of rain



# Site Characteristics

- Plant hardiness
  - Cold tolerance
  - Heat tolerance





# Site Characteristics

- Maintenance needs
  - Pest resistant
  - Pruning needs
  - Clean up needs



# Selecting Woodyies

- Aesthetic Characteristics
  - Plant size
  - Plant form
  - Leaf type
  - Leaf texture
  - Flower/Fruit Color





# Aesthetic Characteristics

- Plant Size
  - Height
  - width



# Aesthetic Characteristics

- Plant Form
  - Groundcover/vine/shrub
  - Habit
    - Trailing/mat
    - Mound/spreading
    - Clump/tuft
    - V-shaped
    - Round/rounded
    - Oval
    - Pyramidal/conical
    - Columnar





# Aesthetic Characteristics

- Leaf Type
  - Deciduous/Evergreen
  - Green/other colored



# Aesthetic Characteristics

- Leaf Texture
  - Fine
  - Medium
  - Coarse





# Aesthetic Characteristics

- Color

- Flower

- When
    - Length of bloom time
    - Mess/allergies

- Fruit

- When
    - Wildlife attraction
    - Length of display
    - Mess



# Nursery/Garden Center Condition

- Leaf condition
- Plant Shape
- Root/soil Condition





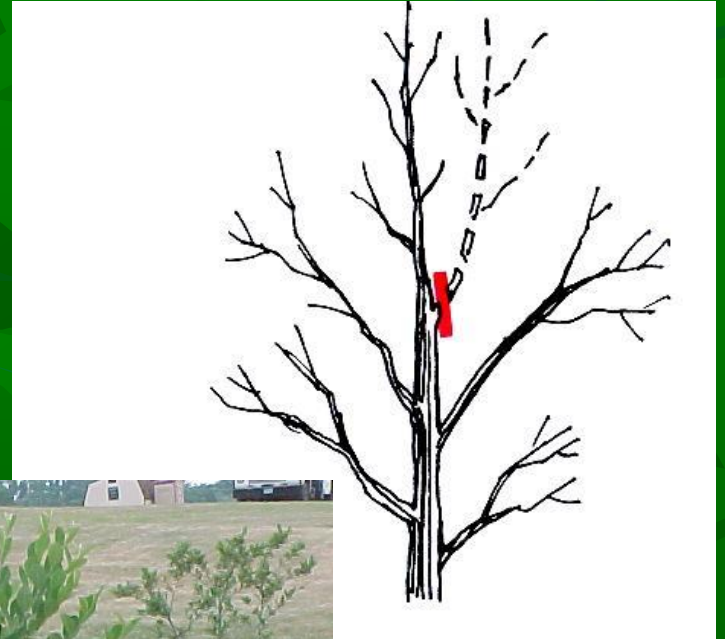
# Leaf Condition

- Pest free
- Fully turgid



# Plant Shape

- Central leader / multiple stemmed
- Dense branching / non-leggy





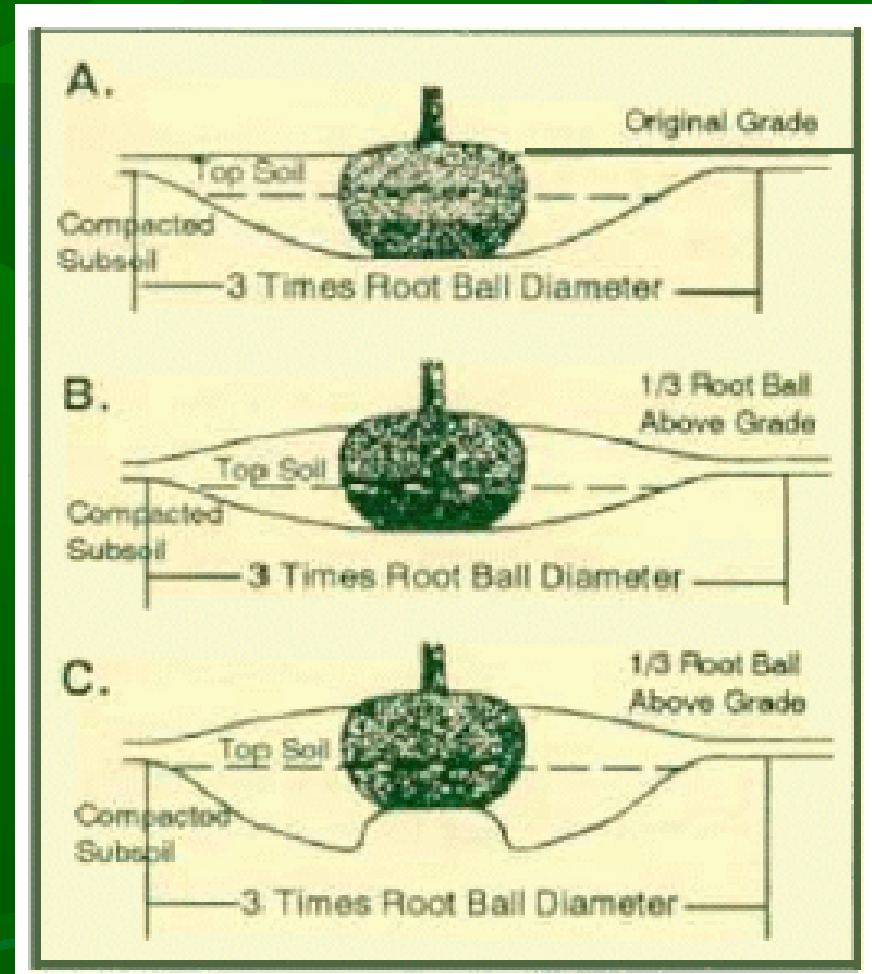
# Root/Soil Condition

- Moist soil/roots
- Not pot-bound
- Intact B&B



# Planting (part 1)

- Size of hole
- Setting in the hole





# Planting (part 2)

- Removal of “extras”
- Refilling / amending
- Fertilizing



# Planting (part 3)

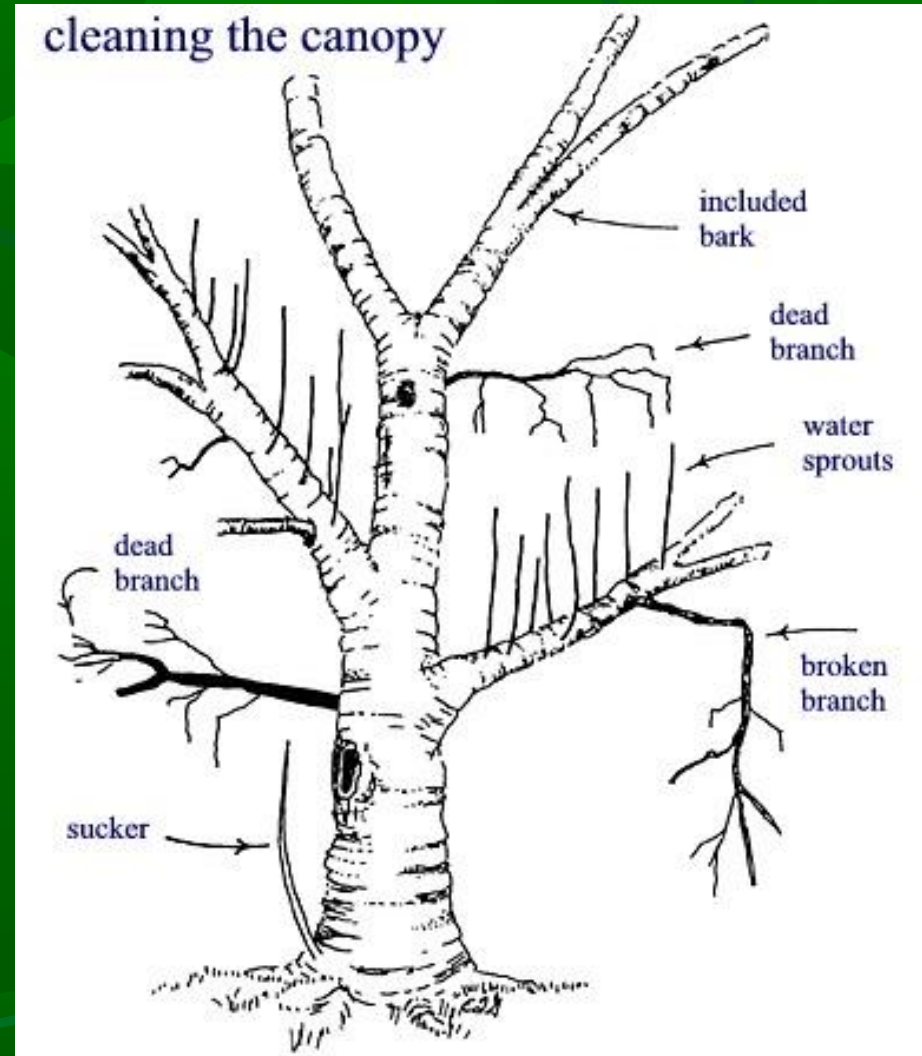
- Watering





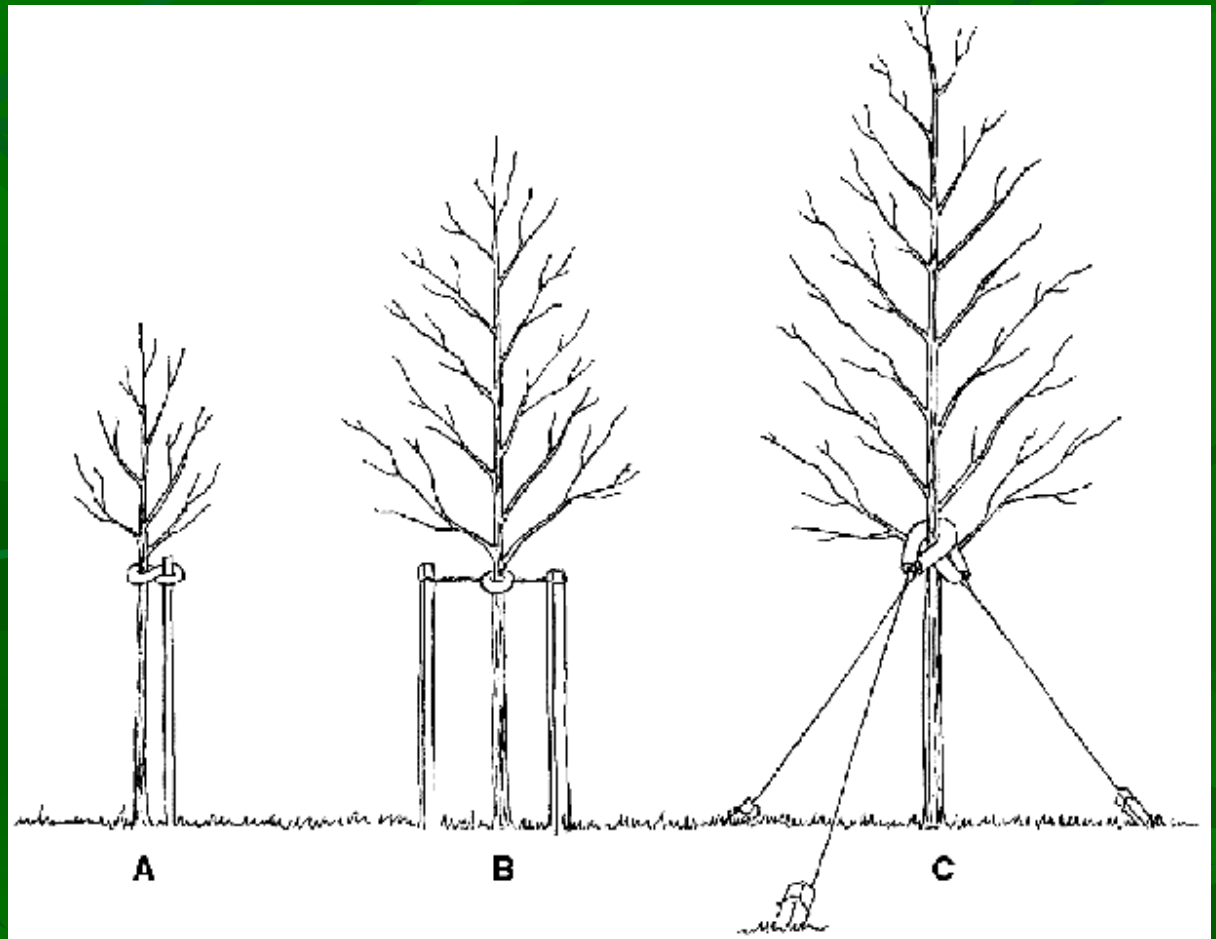
# Planting (part 4)

- Pruning
  - Suckers/watersprouts
  - Broken branches
  - Diseased/dead wood
  - Crossing/inward branches
  - Narrow crotch/double leader
  - Shaping
    - Health
    - Aesthetics



# Planting (part 5)

- Staking
  - When to
  - Methods
  - Removal





# Planting (part 6)

## Mulching

- Organic
  - Leaves, bark, pine needles, wood chips
- Inorganic
  - Rubber, fabrics, rock





# Groundcovers



*Ajuga reptans*





# *Ardisia japonica*





*Asarum splendens*





# *Epimedium taxa*





# *Juniperus horizontalis*





*Lysimachia nummularia*





# *Mazus reptans*





# *Ophiopogon japonicus*



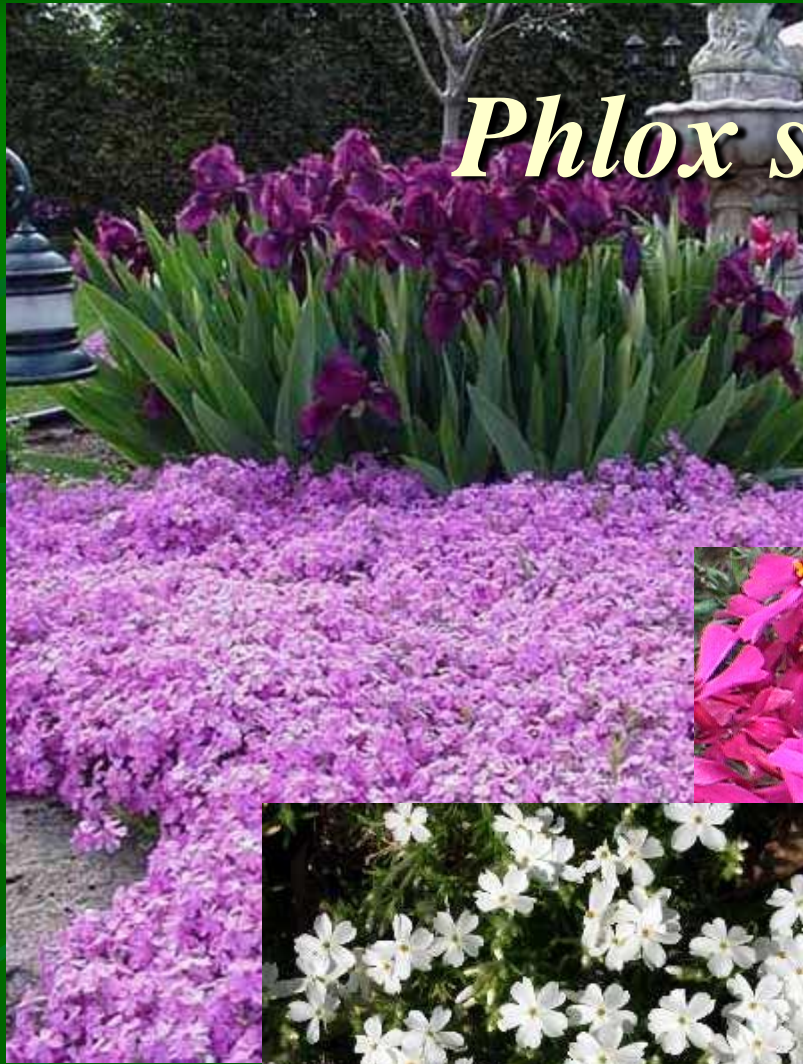


# *Pachysandra terminalis*





# *Phlox subulata*





# *Pratia pedunculata*



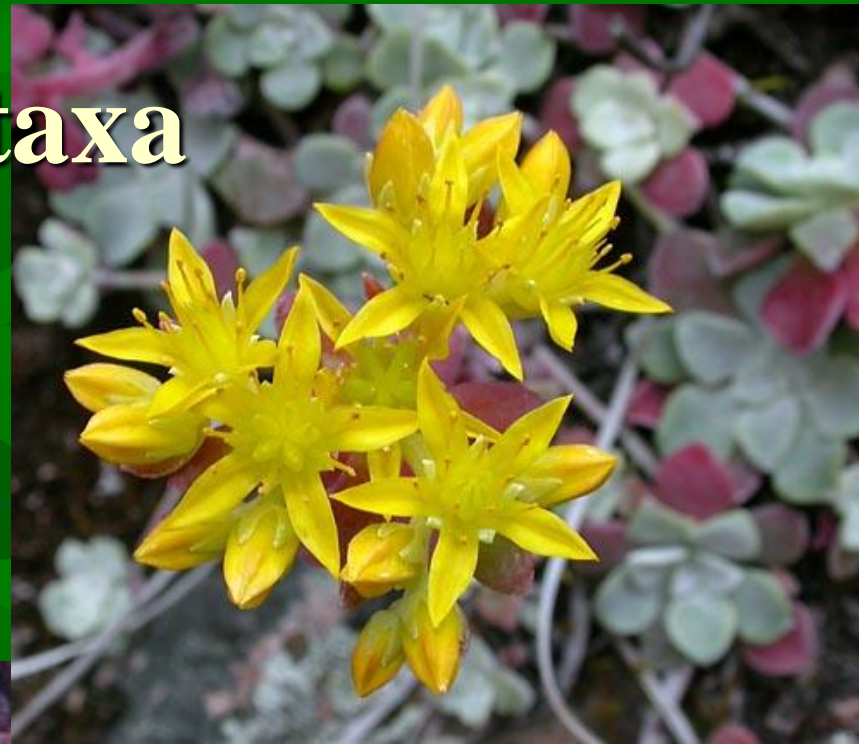
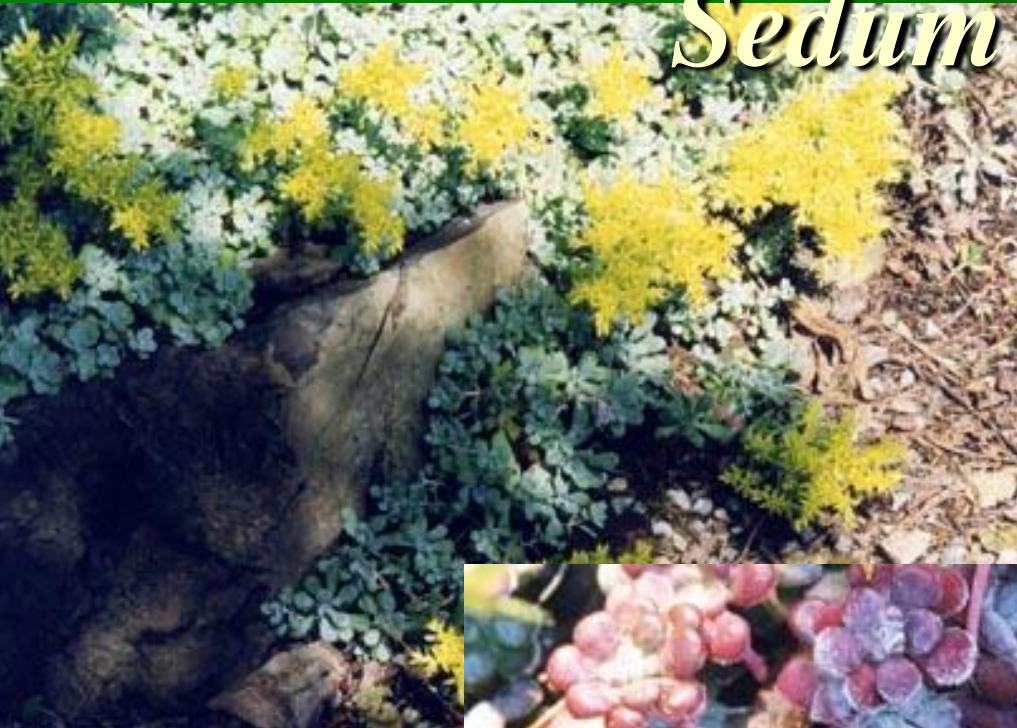


*Reineckia carnea*





*Sedum taxa*





# *Sarcococca hookeriana* var. *humilis*





# *Saxifraga stolonifera*





# *Stachys byzantina*





# *Vinca minor*



The background of the slide is a dense, layered pattern of green leaves and vines. The leaves are various shades of green, from a vibrant lime green to a deep forest green. The vines are thin, dark green lines that crisscross the background, creating a sense of movement and growth. The overall effect is a lush, naturalistic texture.

# Vines



# *Actinidia kolomikta*





# *Aristolochia durior*





*Bignonia capreolata*





*Celastrus scandens*





# *Clematis armandii*





*Clematis X jackmanii*





# *Clematis montana*





# *Ficus pumila*





# *Humulus lupulus*





*Hydrangea anomala* subsp.  
*petiolaris*





# *Jasminum X stephanense*



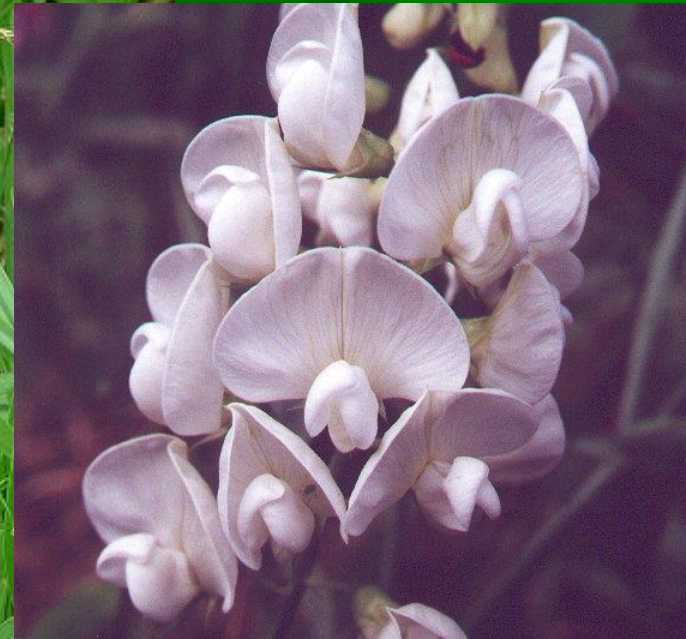


# *Kadsura japonica*





# *Lathyrus latifolius*





# *Lonicera sempervirens*





*Millettia reticulata*



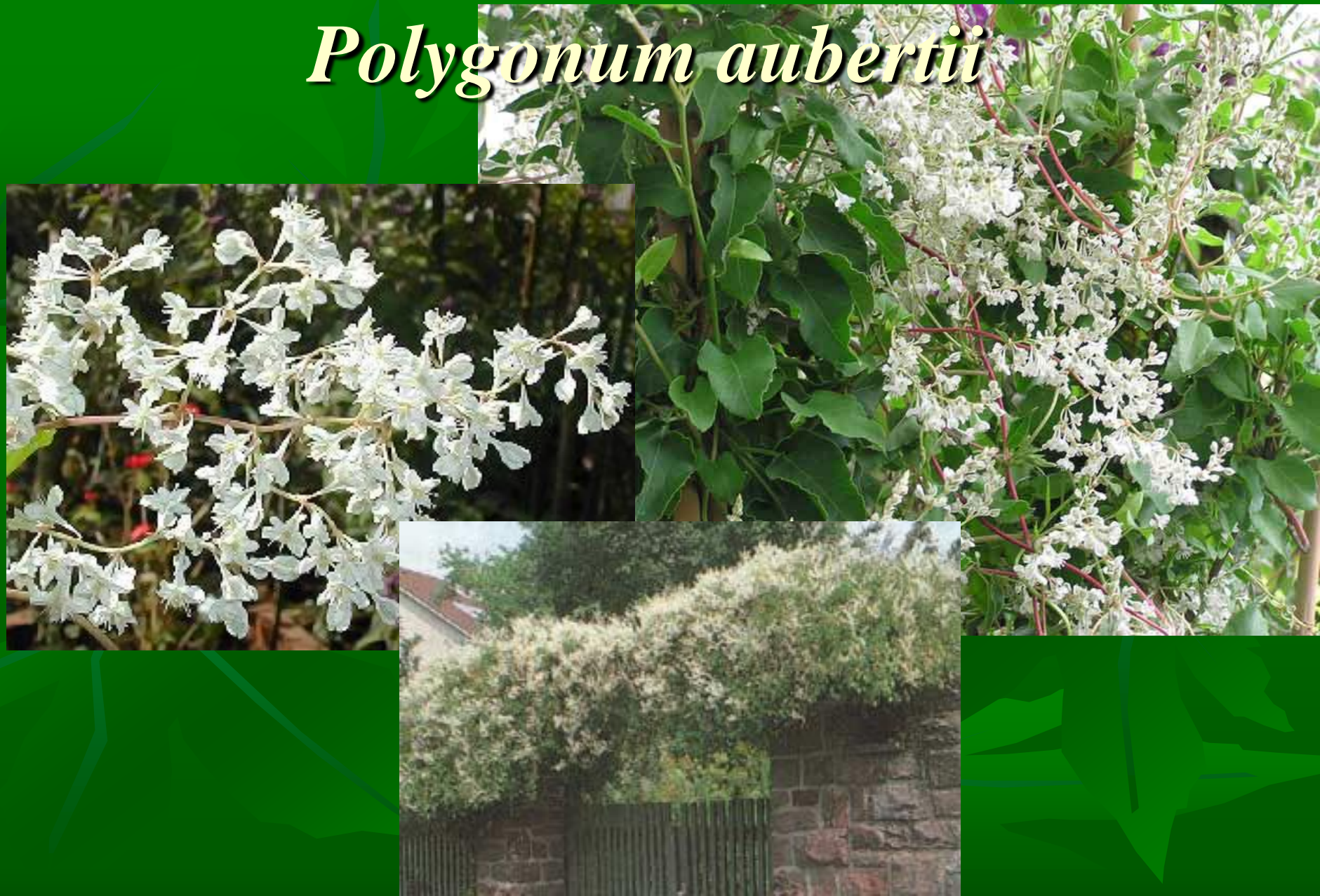


# *Parthenocissus henryana*





# *Polygonum aubertii*





# *Rosa banksia*





*Schisandra chinensis*



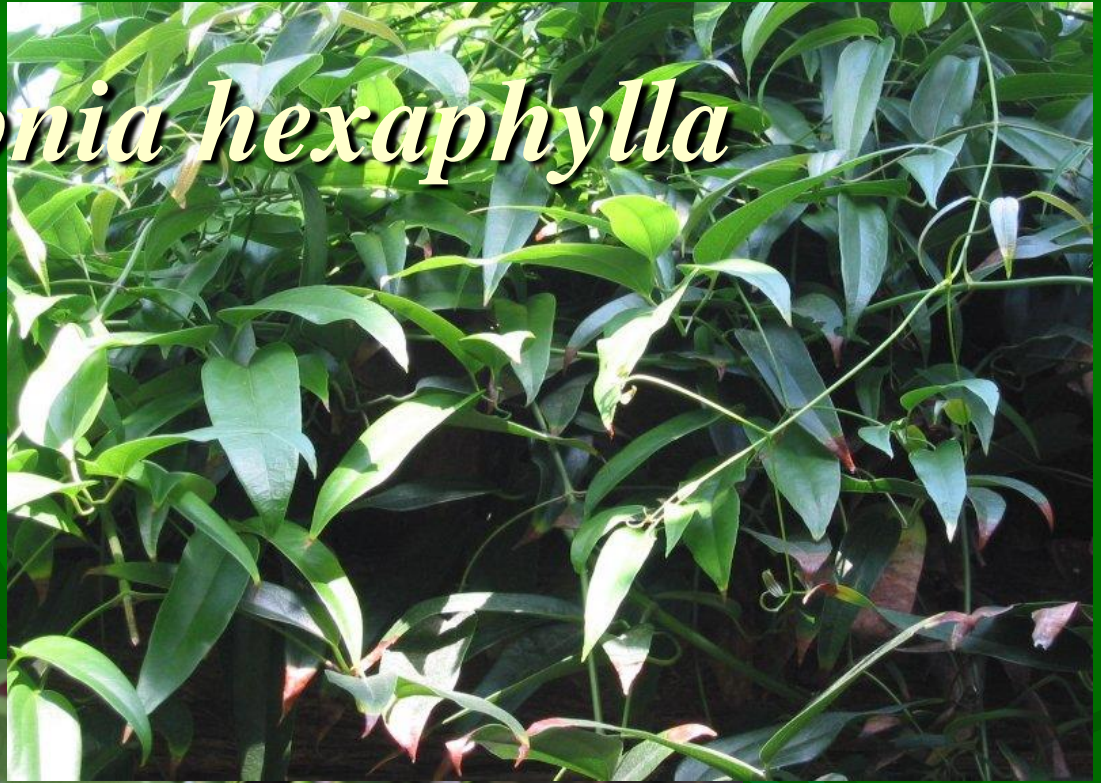


# *Schizophragma hydrangeoides*





*Stauntonia hexaphylla*





# *Trachelospermum jasminoides*





*Wisteria frutescens*





# Thank You

Mike Andruczyk  
VCE – Horticulture Agent  
Dept. of Agriculture  
310 Shea Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23322-5571  
757-382-6348  
757-382-6665 fax  
Mikeand@vt.edu