

What is so important about trees?

Trees:

- Provide shade and cool temperatures
- Take carbon dioxide out of the air and put oxygen back in
- With their roots, they decrease risk of erosion

So hug a tree today!

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Ocean Beach, Fire Island List of Indigenous Trees

The following chart includes a list of trees and shrubs that are indigenous to Fire Island as well as their preferred planting sites. Indigenous trees and plants (those that developed naturally in a particular region) tend to thrive better and be less resistant to disease in that particular ecosystem than others that are artificially introduced.

<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Preferred Sites</i> *
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Dry sheltered sites
Juniperus virginiana	Red cedar	Dry, exposed and sheltered sites
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Moist or dry, sheltered sites
Quercus stellata	Post oak	Dry sheltered sites
Quercus velutina	Black oak	Dry sheltered sites
Salix	Willow	Moist overwash or sheltered sites
Vaccinium corymbosum	Highbush blueberry	Shrub; moist or dry sheltered sites
Amelanchier arborea	Downy Juneberry	Moist or dry sheltered sites
Prunus maritime	Beach plum	Shrub; dry exposed sites
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Moist or dry sheltered sites
Nyssa sylvatica	Sour gum	Moist overwash or sheltered sites
Ilex glabra	Inkberry	Moist or dry sheltered sites
Ilex opaca	American holly	Moist or dry sheltered sites
Viburnum dentatum	Arrow-wood	Shrub; moist or dry sheltered sites
Baccaris halmifolia	Groundsel tree	Moist overwash sites

**** Site Definitions***

- Dry site is one with the water table two feet or more below the surface
- Moist site is one with the water table within one foot of the surface
- Overwash site is one exposed to ocean or bay overwash, annually (more or less)
- Sheltered site is one protected from wind by dunes, structures, or vegetation
- Exposed site is one open to wind, particularly in winter

Provided by the Village of Ocean Beach Environmental Commission