



photos: Dan Jaffe

NEW JERSEY TEA

Ceanothus americanus

This durable and drought-tolerant plant produces bright white flowers that attract hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees. Use as a groundcover or a low hedge for the most difficult areas of your yard.

Species is listed as Threatened in Maine.

Growing Information

Sunlight	Full sun to part shade
Soil Type	Prefers well-drained sandy or rocky soils
Height	2–3'
Flowering calendar	May to July

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves	No
Flowers	Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees
Fruit	No
Seeds	No
Host to no caterpillar species	

Benefits for People

- During the Revolutionary War, dried leaves were used as a tea substitute and hence the name New Jersey tea
- Can be used as an effective groundcover or low hedge for dry rocky slopes and banks

Natural Habitat

- Dry open woods and meadows

