



Planting crab apples

Just having moved to a semi rural setting, having more space and closer interaction with nature has been a blessing. Wildlife in general thrived in and around the home partly due to an overgrown landscape scheme, a pond and sporadic hardwood trees. Every plant adjacent to the house had to be grubbed out. I do regret taking out the crab apples.



The varieties were unknown, but they were mature and heavy fruit producers, providing a food source for wildlife. Gone are the future robin, cardinal, and waxwing flocks in the morning perching while feeding. Might be less deer and turkey traffic around the house also. The tear out was essential, making room for all kinds of possibilities. Wanting to continue to attract wildlife, I will strongly consider planting new crab apples. Extra space in the form of a pasture will enable me to site them not too close, but not too far away from the house to enjoy them.



Once described by one of my fellow salesman as a bulletproof, underused midsize grower, crab apples are almost maintenance-free. This tree with its spring bloom giving way to edible fruit during fall and winter will be a beneficial slam dunk.

Never really thought I would ever see the merit using crab apples for myself. The plant center has always supplied a number of proven varieties that will help in reforesting what was lost. Stay tuned to see the progress. Sing it, Eva! "...Goodbye city life, Green Acres we are there!"



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[*Return to Archive*](#)

