



A mix of native coastal plants that thrive in sandy, well-drained soils near the beach. Here are some of the key species visible:

Native Plants Identified

1. Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) –

- Location: Left side of the photo, leaning tree by the beach.
- Description: A hardy native conifer common to coastal habitats, with scale-like evergreen foliage. It tolerates salty air and poor soils, making it an important dune stabilizer. Provides food and shelter for birds.

2. Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) –

- Location: Middle to right side, forming dense clumps of tall green plants.
- Description: Upright stems with narrow leaves, soon to produce bright golden-yellow flower clusters (late summer/fall). Important nectar source for pollinators, especially butterflies and bees.

3. Beach Grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*, American Beachgrass) –

- Location: Sandy edges near the beach, forming tufts.
- Description: Long, narrow, stiff blades that help stabilize dunes and prevent erosion. Critical plant for dune ecosystems, providing habitat for small wildlife.

4. Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) –

- Location: Lower left foreground, with white-petaled daisy flowers.
- Description: Although attractive, this is actually a European introduction but often found naturalized along coasts.

5. Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) –

- Location: Right side, mixed in with grasses and shrubs.
- Description: Thick, waxy leaves adapted to salt spray; produces rich golden blooms in late summer. High wildlife value, feeding pollinators and seed-eating birds.

6. Shrub Plantings (likely Bayberry, *Myrica pensylvanica*) –

- Location: Behind the patio, mixed with taller grasses.
- Description: Native to sandy coasts, with aromatic gray-green foliage. Provides berries that are an important food source for birds.

These native plants help stabilize the sandy soil, resist salt spray, and provide habitat for pollinators and birds—making them essential for a healthy coastal ecosystem.