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In the New York City area the coastal maritime plant communities are represented in the following habitats: Beach/Dunegrass, Stabilized Back Dunes, Maritime Grassland, Maritime Shrubland and Successional Maritime Forest.

### **Beach/ Dunegrass**

This sparse plant community is dominated by only a few salt grasses and herbaceous species. Sand is relatively unstable.

#### **Herbs**

- *Cakile edentula* - American searocket
- *Solidago sempervirens* - Seaside goldenrod

#### **Graminoids**

- *Ammophila brevigulata* - Beach grass
- *Panicum amarum* - Bitter panic grass
- *Panicum virgatum* - Switch grass

### **Stabilized Back Dunes**

A community dominated by grasses and low shrubs.

#### **Shrubs**

- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* - Bearberry
- *Hudsonia tomentosa* - False beach heather
- *Lechea maritima* - beach pin weed
- *Myrica pensylvanica* - Bayberry
- *Prunus maritime* - Beach plum

#### **Cacti**

- *Opuntia humifusa* - Prickly pear cactus

#### **Graminoids**

- *Panicum virgatum* - Switch grass
- *Schizachyrium scoparium* - Little bluestem

### **Maritime Grassland**

The maritime grassland community is characterized by low-lying areas near the coast that are subject to wind and occasional salt spray.

#### **Shrubs**

- *Myrica pensylvanica* - Bayberry
- *Rhus copallinum* - Winged sumac
- *Rubus flagellaris* - Northern dewberry

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### Maritime Grassland <sup>con't</sup>

#### Herbs

- *Asclepias syriaca* - Common milkweed
- *Asclepias tuberosa* - Butterfly weed
- *Eupatorium altissimum* - Tall thoroughwort
- *Eupatorium hyssopifolium* - Late boneset
- *Euthamia graminifolia* - Flat-top goldenrod
- *Euthamia tenuifolia* - Coastal plain flat-topped goldenrod
- *Lespedeza capitata* - Bush clover lespedeza
- *Oenothera biennis* - Evening primrose
- *Pityopsis falcata* - Falcate golden aster
- *Solidago canadensis* - Common goldenrod
- *Solidago rugosa* - Wrinkle-leaved goldenrod
- *Symphyotrichum ericoides* - White heath aster
- *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* - New England aster

#### Graminoids

- *Andropogon virginicus* - Broom sedge
- *Carex pensylvanica* - Pennsylvania sedge
- *Danthonia spicata* - Wild oatgrass
- *Deschampsia flexuosa* - Common hair grass
- *Juncus greenei* - Greene's rush
- *Panicum virgatum* - Switch grass
- *Schizachyrium scoparium* - Little bluestem
- *Sorghastrum nutans* - Indian grass

### Maritime Shrubland

This community is subject to salt spray and offshore winds. Shrubs are found to be more dominant than herbaceous species.

#### Trees/ Shrubs

- *Acer rubrum* - Red maple
- *Amelanchier canadensis* - Canadian serviceberry
- *Aronia melanocarpa* - Black chokeberry
- *Clethra alnifolia* - Sweet pepperbush
- *Hudsonia tomentosa* - False heather
- *Ilex opaca* - American holly
- *Juniperus virginiana* - Eastern red cedar
- *Myrica pensylvanica* - Bayberry
- *Prunus maritime* - Beach plum
- *Prunus serotina* - Black cherry
- *Rhus copallina* - Shining sumac
- *Rosa virginiana* - Low-pasture rose
- *Sassafras albidum* - Sassafras

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### Maritime Shrubland <sup>con't</sup>

#### Trees/ Shrubs <sup>con't</sup>

- *Vaccinium corymbosum* - High bush blueberry
- *Viburnum dentatum* - Southern arrowwood

#### Vines

- *Celastrus scandens* - American bittersweet
- *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* - Virginia creeper
- *Smilax glauca* - Cat greenbrier
- *Smilax rotundifolia* - Round leaved greenbrier
- *Toxicodendron radicans* - Common poison-ivy

#### Herbs

- *Eupatorium album* - White thoroughwort
- *Euthamia graminifolia* - Flat-top goldenrod
- *Maianthemum stellatum* - False Solomon's seal
- *Oenothera biennis* - Evening primrose
- *Opuntia humifusa* - Prickly pear
- *Solidago sempervirens* - Seaside goldenrod

#### Graminoids

- *Panicum amarum* - Bitter panicgrass
- *Panicum virgatum* - Switch grass
- *Schizachyrium scoparium* - Little bluestem

### Successional Maritime Forest

A maritime forest will naturally succeed a maritime shrubland if it is left undisturbed. A minimal amount of herbaceous material at ground-level will be able to survive.

#### Trees/ Shrubs

- *Acer rubrum* - Red maple
- *Amelanchier canadensis* - Canadian serviceberry
- *Betula Populifolia* - Gray birch
- *Celtis occidentalis* - Hackberry
- *Ilex opaca* - American holly
- *Juniperus virginiana* - Eastern red cedar
- *Myrica pensylvanica* - Bayberry
- *Pinus rigida* - Pitch pine
- *Prunus serotina* - Black cherry
- *Rhus copallina* - Shining sumac
- *Rhus glabra* - Smooth sumac
- *Rhus typhina* - Staghorn sumac
- *Rosa Carolina* - Pasture rose
- *Rosa virginiana* - Low-pasture rose

### Successional Maritime Forest <sup>con't</sup>

#### Trees/ Shrubs <sup>con't</sup>

- *Sassafras albidum* - Sassafras
- *Vaccinium corymbosum* - High bush blueberry

#### Vines

- *Celastrus scandens* - American bittersweet
- *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* - Virginia creeper
- *Smilax glauca* – Cat greenbrier
- *Smilax rotundifolia* – Round leaved greenbrier
- *Toxicodendron radicans* - Common poison-ivy