## Going native

**SOURCE Kirk Brummett,** ArtisTree Landscape Maintenance and Design, 941-488-8897, www.artistree.com

Our plan is representative of a coastal hammock landscape where existing live oak clusters and hardy Sabal palms (the state tree of Florida) are present. We selected sustainable plants that are 90 percent Florida native varieties since they perform the best in the shade and microclimate found under oaks and Sabals. Once established, these plants require minimal water and maintenance. In addition to being sustainable, the native plantings we selected are aesthetically pleasing as many are prolific bloomers and/or have interesting foliage colors and textures. Crimson-colored bromeliads, purple beautyberries and Walter's viburnum loaded with masses of small white blossoms are perfect choices for our woodsy hammock setting. Finally, our plant selection is environmentally friendly, with many of the birds and animals that are native to the woodlands of Florida depending on them for nourishment, habitat and shelter. Nothing says breakfast to a mockingbird or honeybee like the fruit of a wild coffee shrub!

