

Native and Adapted  
*Landscape Plants*

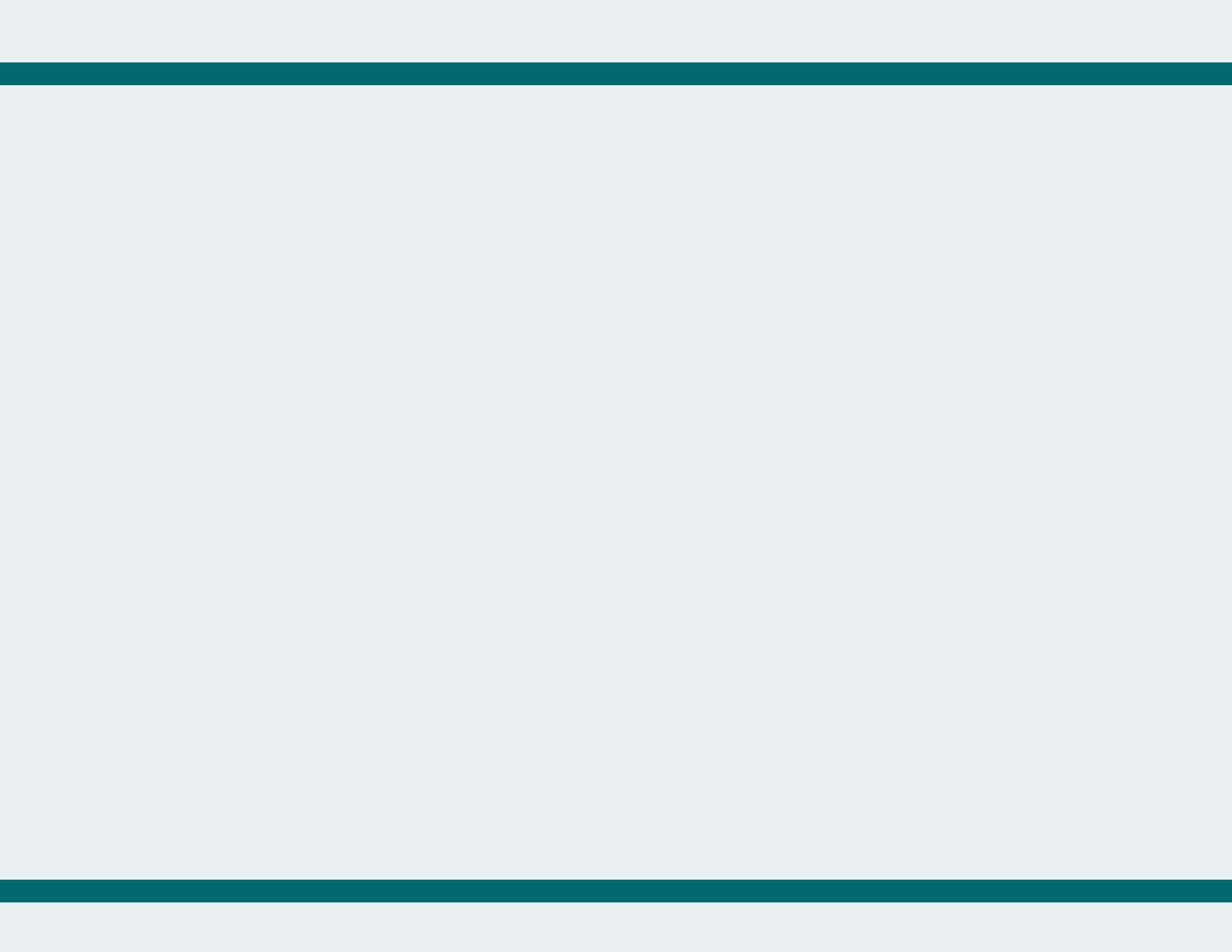


Texas AgriLife Extension ★ City of Austin

an earthwise guide for Central Texas

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*Landscape Plants*  
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*This guide was developed to help you in your efforts to protect and preserve our water resources.*

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For more information on deer-resistant, fire-resistant, rain garden and poisonous plants, see page 52

To help you create your own landscape design, resources are available to Austin citizens at [www.austintexas.gov/department/landscape-design](http://www.austintexas.gov/department/landscape-design)

Cover Photo: Crossvine

## Key

### Native to:

- E** - Edwards Plateau, Rocky, Western Zone: shallow, limestone or caliche soil (generally on the west side of Austin)
- B** - Blackland Prairie, Eastern Zone: Deeper, dark, clay soils (generally on the east side of Austin)
- B/E** - Native to both Edwards Plateau and Blackland Prairie
- T** - Native to Texas (not a part of Edwards Plateau or Blackland Prairie)
- X** - Hybrid plant with native Texas parentage

For additional native plant information, visit the plant section of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center website at [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)

### Height and Spread:

Height and spread are provided in ranges. The maximum heights reflect ideal conditions.

### Utility Approved Trees:

- UA** Plants appropriate for use near overhead and underground utilities should not exceed 20' (call 811 at least 3 business days before you plan to dig).

### Light:

- Sun** – needs at least 6-8 hours of full, direct sun
- Sun/Part Shade** – can take anywhere from 4-8 hours of sun. Typically these plants bloom more in sun but require less water in part shade
- Shade** – less than 4 hours of direct sun; or dappled light for 6-8 hours

### Evergreen or Deciduous:

- E** – Evergreen
- SE** – Semi-evergreen
- D** – Deciduous

### Water:

Refers to the plant's water needs during the growing season **after they are established**. The majority of plants require more frequent watering while becoming established. For Austin's current water restrictions, variances and other irrigation information visit: [www.WaterWiseAustin.org](http://www.WaterWiseAustin.org)

- VL** – Very Low (Water occasionally, if no significant rainfall for 30 days)
- L** – Low (Water thoroughly every 3-4 weeks if no significant rainfall)
- M** – Medium (Water thoroughly every 2-3 weeks if no significant rainfall. Most plants in the guide with this designation prefer shade so the soil does not dry out as quickly)
- H** – High (Water thoroughly every 5-7 days if no rainfall) Due to the City's efforts to conserve water, there are only a few plants with this designation and they should be placed in areas that are naturally moist and/or receive stormwater runoff

### Wildlife:

- X** – Most Texas native plants provide greater wildlife value than hybrid, non-native and/or exotic plants. Flowers, nectar, leaves, fruits and nuts provide food for wildlife; these plants also provide essential cover for nesting and raising young. To learn more visit: [www.KeepAustinWild.com](http://www.KeepAustinWild.com)





## *Gardening, "Austin-style..."*

This Grow Green guide was created to help you select plants that are native to and adapted for the Austin area. These plants tend to be drought tolerant, most need little, if any supplemental fertilizer, are resistant to most diseases and pests, and many provide habitat and food sources for local wildlife. The less watering, fertilizing and chemical usage required in your yard, the more you contribute to the conservation and protection of our precious water resources - our streams, lakes and aquifers

To achieve a successful earth-wise landscape, plant the right plant in the right place. Plants from other parts of the country are often poorly suited to our conditions. It is important to understand the regional climate as well as site specific conditions. Our climate can vary from baking hot heat and drought one year, to frequent rain and flooding in the next. Some years we may get a hard freeze and some not.

The environmental conditions across Austin vary quite a bit so it is critical to evaluate your specific site conditions. Consider the soil type and depth, sun and shade patterns, as well as any microclimate factors.

We hope you enjoy using this guide to bring a touch of Austin's natural beauty to your own landscape. Visit [www.GrowGreen.org](http://www.GrowGreen.org) for more earth-wise gardening information.





Texas Ash



Eastern Red Cedar



Black Cherry



Arizona Cypress



Bald Cypress



Montezuma Cypress



Cedar Elm



Honey Mesquite



Bigtooth Maple



Bur Oak



Chinquapin Oak



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
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**Trees**

General Maintenance: Eliminate crossing branches; shape a young tree in the first three years after planting to produce an attractive mature specimen. Avoid planting trees with fruit near sidewalks, pools and porches because they can be messy. For more tree care tips see the Grow Green Tree Care and Installation and Maintenance fact sheets. Did you know? Trees receive protection within the city limits of Austin once they reach 19" in diameter on single-family lots, and 8" in diameter on multi-family and commercial properties. For more information visit [www.austintexas.gov/treeportal](http://www.austintexas.gov/treeportal) or call (512) 974-1876.

Ash, Texas <i>Fraxinus texensis</i>	E	40-50'	40-50'	Sun	D	Fall	Yellow-bronze foliage	VL	x	Fast-growing; native; only Ash appropriate for Austin area; provide good drainage; relatively long life; provides nesting and cover; birds eat flowers and fruit; susceptible to emerald ash borer; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Cedar, Eastern Red <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> var. <i>virginiana</i>	B	30-50'	15-25'	Sun	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	L	x	Columnar, spreading shape; needs deep soil; good screen plant; native; provides cover and food for wildlife; Ashe Juniper, <i>J. ashei</i> , (mistakenly called Cedar) is a native alternative for shallow soils; does not need pruning
Cherry, Black <i>Prunus serotina</i> var. <i>exima</i>	B	25-50'+	35'	Sun	D	Spring	White flower; yellow fall foliage	L-M	x	Attractive shape; fall color; fragrant flowers; glossy leaves; fruit bearing; not for heavy clay soils; foliage can be fatal if consumed; provide moist location; attracts birds, butterflies and pollinators; prune for shape or to raise canopy
Cypress, Arizona <i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	T	25-50'	15-25'	Sun	E	Year round	Blue-silver foliage	VL	x	Suited to well-drained, limestone soils; attractive, peeling red bark; some disease problems; native to Chisos Mountains; prune to shape, if needed
Cypress, Bald <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	B/E	60-100'	35-50'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Copper foliage	H	x	For riparian/moist, deep soil or poor drainage conditions only; foliage dries up in dry, hot location; obtain plants of western seed source; does not need pruning
Cypress, Montezuma <i>Taxodium mucronatum</i>	T	60-100'	25-50'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Bronze foliage	M	x	Similar to Bald Cypress but faster growth and more adapted to dry conditions; may freeze in severe winters; native to south Texas; does not need pruning
Elm, Cedar <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	B/E	50-75'	25-35'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Gold foliage	VL	x	Upright form, native; adapted to rocky soils; can withstand poor soils; provides seeds and nesting for wildlife; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Honey Mesquite <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> var. <i>glandulosa</i>	B/E	25'-40'	25-30'	Sun	D	Spring - Fall	Creamy white flowers	VL	x	2-3" long blooms; bright green foliage and weeping shape; very slow growing; thorns; excellent nectar source; Thornless Mesquite is <i>Prosopis chilensis</i> ; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Maple, Bigtooth <i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	E	20-50'	20-30'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Red, gold foliage	M	x	Best maple for alkaline soils; outstanding fall color; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Oak, Bur <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	B/E	50-70'+	30-50'+	Sun	D	Spring	Large acorns	M	x	Large, majestic tree, very adaptable; provide plenty of space and deep soil; moderate growth rate; important source of food for wildlife; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Oak, Chinquapin <i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	B/E	50-70'+	30-40'	Sun	D	Fall	Yellow and rust foliage	L	x	Stately form; provide deep soil; moderate growth rate; provides food for many birds and mammals; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed





Lacey Oak



Mexican White Oak



Southern Live Oak\*



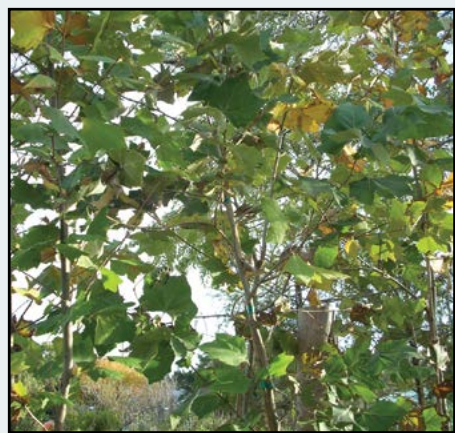
Texas Red Oak



Texas Palmetto



Pecan



Mexican Sycamore



Anacacho Orchid



Anacua



Arroyo Sweetwood



Mexican Buckeye



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Oak, Lacey <i>Quercus laceyi</i>	E	30-50'+	25'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Blue-green foliage	VL	x	Ideal for small urban yards; slow growth rate; will grow on shallow, limestone soils; resistant to oak wilt; susceptible to oak phylloxera insects; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Oak, Mexican White <i>Quercus polymorpha</i>	T	45-60'+	30-40'	Sun	SE	Spring	New foliage peach	VL	x	Handsome tree; provide deep soil; sheds leaves in spring when new leaves emerge; small population native to West Texas; resistant to oak wilt; susceptible to oak phylloxera insects; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Oak, Southern Live <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	B/E	40-60'+	50'+	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	L-VL	x	Oak wilt susceptible; provide large open space; evergreen but sheds leaves in spring as new leaves emerge; if planting in shallow soil, use Escarpment Live Oak, <i>Q. fusiformis</i> , which is more drought tolerant; prune only during hottest and coldest months; paint all wounds immediately to help prevent spread of oak wilt
Oak, Texas Red <i>Quercus texana</i>	E	60-75'+	15-30'	Sun	D	Fall	Red foliage in fall	L	x	Well adapted to rocky soils; susceptible to oak wilt; provides food and cover for wildlife; Shumard Oak, <i>Q. shumardii</i> is a taller alternative, but only for deep, well-drained soil; prune to shape or raise canopy
Palmetto, Texas Palm, Texas Sabal <i>Sabal texana</i> or <i>S. mexicana</i>	T	45'	15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Small white flowers	L	x	Not a true tree; found in moist, wet locations and/or those areas with occasional flooding; provides food for birds and other wildlife; prune only to remove dead fronds
Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	B	60-75'+	60-75'	Sun	D	Fall	Nut	H	x	For riparian/moist, deep soil conditions only; tall impressive tree; nut-producing; susceptible to disease and insects; many cultivars available
Sycamore, Mexican <i>Platanus mexicana</i>		60'	40'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Yellow/orange	H	x	For riparian/moist, deep soil conditions only; fast-growing; resistant to bacterial leaf scorch; may not be cold tolerant; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed

**Small Trees/Large Shrubs** <sup>UA</sup> For small trees see the TREE section General Maintenance Comments; for large shrubs, if a plant is multi-stemmed leave lower foliage to create creening or to “limb up” remove lower branches as needed; see individual species notes. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in a rain garden if the soil is fast draining and they don't sit in water for an extended period. Rain garden plant success depends on the soil, how fast it drains and if the plants are in their preferred growing conditions.

Anacacho Orchid Tree <i>Bauhinia lunarioides</i>	T	6-12' <sup>UA</sup>	6-12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White or pink flowers	L	x	Excellent understory tree; protect from winter winds; prefers well-drained soil; fragrant flowers attract butterflies and bees; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Anacua (Sandpaper Tree) <i>Ehretia anacua</i>	T	20-25'+	15-30'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - summer	White flowers	L	x	Fast-growing; often suckers or is multi-trunked; provide well-drained, alkaline soil; may die back in severe winters; edible fruit; attracts birds; bee nectar source; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Arroyo Sweetwood <i>Myrosporum sousanum</i>		up to 20'+ <sup>UA</sup>	15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers; gold fall foliage	VL	N	Fast-growing shrub, often multi-trunked; nice foliage; prefers alkaline soil; fragrant, showy flowers; attracts butterflies, birds and bees; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Buckeye, Mexican <i>Ungnadia speciosa</i>	E	12-20' <sup>UA</sup>	12-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Early spring	Pink flowers	L	x	Multi-trunked; use as understory shrub; needs 1/2 day of sun; 1" fragrant blooms; good nectar source; seeds eaten by wildlife but poisonous to humans; does not need pruning

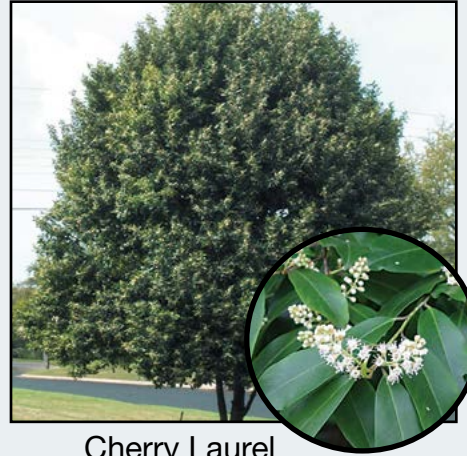




Red Buckeye



Carolina Buckthorn



Cherry Laurel



Crape Myrtle



Dessert Willow



Eve's Necklace



Goldenball Leadtree



Possumhaw Holly



Yaupon Holly



Huisache



Kidneywood



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Buckeye, Red <i>Aesculus var. pavia</i>	B/E	10-20' Ⓢ	10-15'	Part Shade	D	Spring	Red flowers	L-M	x	Red, funnel-shaped flowers; attracts hummingbirds; nectar source; seeds poisonous to wildlife; prune for shape only
Carolina Buckthorn <i>Frangula caroliniana</i>	B/E	12-20' Ⓢ	10-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall - winter	Yellow foliage	L	x	Understory tree with glossy leaves; can withstand periodic flooding; red berries attract wildlife; flowers are good nectar source; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	T	15-20'+	15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White flowers	M	x	Screening plant; avoid using in hot dry locations; requires deep soil and even soil moisture so is not suited for rain gardens; is susceptible to iron chlorosis; wildlife food; 'Bright and Tight' can be used as a large hedge
Crape Myrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>		varies if under 20' Ⓢ	varies	Sun	D	Summer	Varies	L-M	x	Often too big for selected space, so note mature size of cultivar (dwarf cultivars available); large types not suited to rain gardens; needs good air circulation; choose powdery mildew resistant cultivars; aphids and a new scale insect can be a problem; occasionally reseeds; remove suckers but do not chop tops
Desert Willow <i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	E	varies if under 20' Ⓢ	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White, pink or burgundy	VL	x	Open, airy structure creates light shade for underplantings; native; trumpet-shaped, 3" long flower; provide well-drained soil; flowers and seeds provide food for wildlife; prune for shape or to raise canopy; remove suckers if needed
Eve's Necklace <i>Styphnolobium affine</i>	E	15-20'+ Ⓢ	10-20'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Light pink flowers	VL	x	Small, understory tree; native; 4-6" drooping flower clusters; provides nectar; seeds are poisonous; prune to shape or raise canopy, if needed
Goldenball Leadtree <i>Leucaena retusa</i>	E	12-20'+ Ⓢ	12-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - Fall	Gold flowers	VL	x	Small, understory tree with 1" round globe-like fragrant blooms; native; airy foliage casts light shade for underplantings; provides cover, nesting and nectar; prune for shape or to raise canopy if needed
Holly, Possumhaw <i>Ilex decidua</i>	B/E	12-20' Ⓢ	12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall - winter	Red berries	M	x	Large multi-stemmed, shade-tolerant shrub; red berries on female plants attract birds in winter; tolerates poor drainage; similar to Yaupon Holly but loses its leaves in winter; prune for shape if needed
Holly, Yaupon <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	B	12-20' Ⓢ	10-15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Winter	Red berries	L-M	x	Large, evergreen, multi-stemmed, shade-tolerant shrub; red berries on female plants attract birds in winter; tolerates poor drainage; fruits best in full sun; poisonous berries; prune for shape if needed
Huisache <i>Acacia farnesiana</i>	T	15-20'+	20'	Sun	SE	Spring	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Excellent native tree for waterwise gardens; fragrant blooms; forage for birds and other small creatures; prune for shape or to raise canopy if needed
Kidneywood <i>Eysenhardtia texana</i>	E	8-15' Ⓢ	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White flowers	VL	x	Fast-growing, native shrub with open, airy foliage; fragrant flowers; blooms off and on through growing season; foliage smells citrusy when crushed; attracts butterflies and bees, prune for shape if needed





Mountain Laurel



Mexican Olive



Windmill Palm



Texas Persimmon



Mexican Plum



Pomegranate



Mexican Redbud



Retama



Roughleaf Dogwood



Mexican Silktassel



Evergreen Sumac



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Mountain Laurel, Texas <i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	E	12-20' Ⓢ	8-12'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Purple flowers	VL	x	Slow-growing evergreen native; showy purple flowers with grape bubble gum fragrance; poisonous seeds; native to rocky, limestone cliffs; provide good drainage; prune to shape or raise canopy if desired
Olive, Mexican <i>Cordia boissieri</i>	T	15' Ⓢ	15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring and Summer	Gray green foliage	VL	x	Furry-textured foliage; top may die in hard freeze; some reports fruit edible but not palatable; fruit can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces or rain gardens; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Palm, Windmill <i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>		25'	7-10'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Dark green foliage	L-VL	x	Palms are not true trees; tropical-looking, fan-shaped fronds; furry-looking trunks; painful spines; avoid west sun; hardy to 5° F; remove dead fronds as needed; can be heavy-feeders
Persimmon, Texas <i>Diospyros texana</i>	E	12-20'+ Ⓢ	8-12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers	VL	x	Multi-trunked, slow-growing native shrub; smooth, gray bark; native to shallow, rocky limestone soils; female trees bear fruit which attract wildlife but can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces or in rain gardens; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Plum, Mexican <i>Prunus mexicana</i>	B/E	15-20'+ Ⓢ	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers	L	x	Great understory tree; earliest spring bloomer; provide good drainage and fair amount of soil; fragrant flowers are nectar source; larval host; edible fruit in July-Sept; but can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces or in rain gardens; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Pomegranate <i>Punica granatum</i>		varies if under 20' Ⓢ	varies	Sun	SE	Summer - fall	Orange flowers	L	x	Will grow on shallow, rocky, limestone soil; thorny stems; dwarf fruiting and non-fruiting cultivars are available; some have edible fruit, don't plant fruiting cultivars near paved surfaces or rain gardens
Redbud, Mexican <i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. 'mexicana' Redbud, Texas <i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. 'texensis'	E	10-15' 15-20'	10-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Early spring	Pinkish purple	L-VL	x	Mexican variety has small wavy leaves; Texas variety has leaves that are larger and less wavy; provide well-drained site; Eastern Redbud not recommended; prune to shape, raise canopy or remove suckers
Retama <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	T	12-20' Ⓢ	12-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Green trunk and branches; seeds out; root suckers; thorns; fast-growing; short-lived; provides nectar, seeds and nesting; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Roughleaf Dogwood <i>Cornus drummondii</i>	B/E	12'-20' Ⓢ	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White berries	L	x	Give lots of space; thicket-forming; suckers extensively; use for natural areas and habitat gardens; tolerates alkaline soil; good nectar and fruit source
Silktassel, Mexican <i>Garrya ovata</i> spp. <i>lindheimeri</i>	E	5-11' Ⓢ	5-11'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Green flowers	L	x	Extremely drought and disease tolerant; must have well-drained soil to do well; fast-growing; good substitute for Ligustrum
Sumac, Evergreen <i>Rhus virens</i>	E	8-10' Ⓢ	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Late summer to winter	White blooms	L	x	Glossy leaves turn burgundy in cool season; fuzzy, orange/red berries provide food for birds and other wildlife; needs good drainage; prune as needed to maintain natural form





Flameleaf Sumac



Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum



Sandankwa Viburnum



Little Walnut



Wax Myrtle



Xylosma



Abelia



Agarita



American Beautyberry



Apache Plum





Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Sumac, Flameleaf <i>Rhus lanceolata</i>	B/E	12 - 15'+ Ⓢ	10 - 20'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Orange/red fall foliage	VL	x	Give lots of space; thicket-forming suckers can go out 20'; native to limestone soils; provides food for bees, mammals, and birds; no pruning necessary
Viburnum, Rusty Blackhaw <i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	B/E	15-20' Ⓢ	10-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring and fall	White flowers; fall foliage	L	x	Good understory tree; provide deep, well-drained soils; slow-growing; yellow, orange, and red fall color; fall fruit favored by birds; prefers deep soil so not suited to rain gardens; prune to shape or raise canopy as needed after blooming
Viburnum, Sandankwa <i>Viburnum suspensum</i>		6-8' Ⓢ	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White flower	M		Fairly fast-growing; needs good drainage; prefers deep soil so not suited to rain gardens; prune to shape as needed after blooming
Walnut, Little <i>Juglans microcarpa</i>	T	18-20'	20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring and fall	White flowers; nuts	M	x	Grows in limestone soil; provides good cover, nesting; nuts provide food for wildlife; poisonous flowers; prune for shape or to raise canopy as needed
Wax Myrtle <i>Morella cerifera</i>	B	12 - 15'+ Ⓢ	15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Winter	Blue berries	M	x	Fast-growing evergreen screen; foliage aromatic when crushed; dwarf cultivars available at 8-10' height; provides food and cover for wildlife; prefers deep soil so not suited for rain gardens; prune for shape or to raise canopy if needed
Xylosma <i>Xylosma congestum</i>		12-20' Ⓢ	8-15'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	White flowers	M	x	Large, loose, airy shrub or small tree; glossy foliage; inconspicuous flowers; adaptable to most soils, but prefers consistent soil moisture so not suited to rain gardens; heat tolerant; occasional scale or spider mites; hardy to 10° F; can be pruned as tree or hedge

## Shrubs

To maintain a natural look, selectively prune to shape if needed but do not shear. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in a rain garden if the soil is fast draining and they don't sit in water for an extended period. Rain garden plant success depends on the soil, how fast it drains and if the plants are in their preferred growing conditions.

Abelia, Glossy <i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>		6'	6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer - fall	Pink/white flowers	L-M	x	Fast-growing, very adaptable, dense, evergreen hedge; fragrant flowers; 3-4' dwarf cultivars available; check label for specifics; attracts bees; selectively prune errant stems if too wild-looking
Agarita <i>Berberis trifoliata</i> ( <i>Mahonia trifoliata</i> )	E	3-7'	3-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Early spring	Yellow flowers; red berries	VL	x	Native, evergreen shrub; bluish-green, holly-like foliage; fragrant early spring flowers; prickly leaves not pedestrian friendly but provides excellent nesting for birds; red edible berries; pruning not necessary
American Beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	B	4-6'	6'	Shade	D	Fall - winter	Purple fruit	L-M	x	Great native understory shrub; prefers dependable moisture and deep soil, so not suited to rain gardens; attractive berries in fall and winter; wildlife food; graceful structure does not need pruning
Apache Plume <i>Fallogia paradoxa</i>	E	4-6'+	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	White flowers; pink fruit	L	x	Multi-stemmed; 2" showy blooms; good for erosion control; adaptable to dry, well-drained, limestone, sandy and clay soils; provides nectar, cover; attracts bees, butterflies, birds; evergreen to 20° F





Japanese Aralia



Barbados Cherry



Purple Baptisia



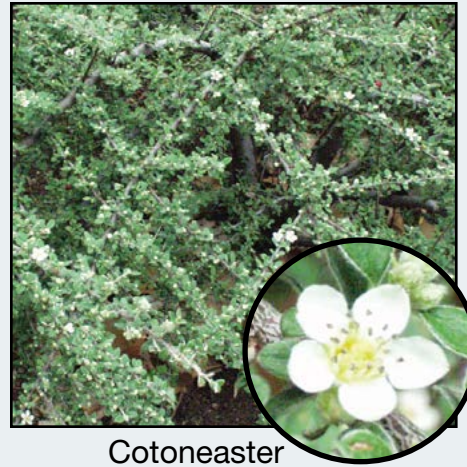
Bottlebrush



Woolly Butterfly Bush



Coralberry



Cotoneaster



Desert Broom



Elbow Bush



Flame Acanthus



Black Dalea



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Aralia, Japanese <i>Fatsia japonica</i>		10'	10-12'	Shade	E	Late summer - early fall	Cream flowers	M	x	Large, tropical-looking foliage; inconspicuous blooms; water from below to reduce foliage disease; may die back in harsh winter; prefers consistent soil moisture so not suited to rain gardens; remove yellow foliage as needed
Baptisia, Purple (Wild Indigo) <i>Baptisia australis</i>	T	up to 5'	3'	Sun	D	Spring - early summer	Blue/purple	L-M	x	Tap-rooted plant; prefers well-drained soil; tolerates limestone, most parts of plants poisonous; attracts butterflies and bees
Barbados Cherry <i>Malpighia glabra</i>	T	4-6'+	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - Fall	White to pale pink flowers	L-M	x	1/2" delicate, crepe-paper flowers; red berries that are prized by birds and small mammals; evergreen above 25° F
Bottlebrush <i>Callistemon citrinus</i>		8'	6'	Sun	E	Spring - Summer	Red flowers	L	x	Unusual, tropical-looking flowers; provide well-drained soil; drought tolerant; pest and disease resistant; many cultivars available; attracts bees; prune for natural look if needed
Butterfly Bush, Woolly <i>Buddleja marrubiifolia</i>	T	4-6'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring - fall	Orange flowers	L	x	South Texas native shrub with fuzzy, silvery blue-green leaves; interesting 1/2" flower; provide good drainage; winter hardy, attracts butterflies; prune for natural look if needed
Coralberry <i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	B	2-3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall - winter	Magenta berries	M	x	Good native for erosion control; stems root to form colony; prefers consistent soil moisture so not suited to rain gardens; needs rich soil and good air circulation; provides cover and berries for wildlife; cut back in winter if gets leggy; control runners as required
Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.		3-5'	4-7'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Fall	Red berries	M	x	Adaptable evergreen shrubs; many species and cultivars available; foliage varies from silver-gray to dark green; check label for specifics; attractive fleshy berries; attracts bees; prune for natural look if needed
Dalea, Black <i>Dalea frutescens</i>	E	1-3'	3'	Sun	D	Summer	Purple flowers	VL	x	Native to dry, limestone soils; requires little water; long roots will find water some distance away; excellent nectar source; may shear back after first frost browns leaves
Desert Broom <i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>		3-6'+	3-4'	Sun	SE	Fall	White flowers	L	x	Multi-stemmed shrub; very adaptable; readily colonizes disturbed areas; use in wildscapes; may shed leaves during drought
Elbow Bush <i>Forestiera pubescens</i>	E	4-6'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White	VL	x	Thicket-forming, irregular-shaped shrub; use in natural areas or wildlife habitats; non-showy flowers provide spring nectar for many insects; berries eaten by birds and small mammals; prune to shape if needed
Flame Acanthus <i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus</i> var. <i>wrightii</i>	E	3-5'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Orange-red flowers	VL	x	Medium-sized native shrub can be used as low hedge; orange, tubular flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies; reseeds aggressively; if frost browns leaves, cut back by 1/3 to 1/2 before spring growth begins





Fragrant Mimosa



Bush Germander



Greek Myrtle



Indian Hawthorne



Dwarf Burford Holly



Dwarf Yaupon Holly



Nellie R. Stevens Holly



Japanese Yew



Globe Mallow



White Mistflower



Mock Orange



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Fragrant Mimosa <i>Mimosa borealis</i>	E	6-8'	6-8'	Sun	D	Spring - summer	Pink flowers	VL	x	Needs good drainage; prickly stems; tolerates poor caliche soil; little maintenance necessary
Germander, Bush <i>Teucrium fruticans</i>		4-6'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Lavender/blue flowers	L	x	Don't over water; attractive silvery-gray green foliage; attracts bees and butterflies; prune errant stems for a natural look, shaping not necessary
Greek Myrtle <i>Myrtus communis</i>		10-12'+	5-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	White flowers	L-M		Fine-textured evergreen shrub or small tree; fragrant flowers; heat and drought tolerant; good substitution for Boxwood; prune only to shape as needed
Hawthorn, Indian <i>Raphiolepis indica</i>		4-6'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White or pink flowers	L-M	x	Adaptable evergreen shrubs; many cultivars available; susceptible to leaf spot problems in wet weather; look for disease resistant and cold hardy cultivars; check label for specifics; attractive fleshy berries; pruning usually not necessary
Holly, Dwarf Burford <i>Ilex cornuta</i> 'Burfordii'		4-6'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - winter	White blooms; red berries	L	x	Use as evergreen hedge or screen; adapts to many soil types; attracts bees; susceptible to scale insects; non-dwarf cultivars available; prune for natural look
Holly, Dwarf Yaupon <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> 'Nana'	X	2-4'	2-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year Round	Evergreen foliage	L		Low, mounding, evergreen shrub; maintains a formal shape; good substitute for Boxwood; hybrid with native Texas parentage; pruning not usually necessary
Holly, Nellie R. Stevens <i>Ilex cornuta</i> 'Nellie R. Stevens'		8-10'	5-6'	Sun	E	Fall - winter	Red berries	L-M		Inconspicuous blooms in spring; female plants produce red berries if not sheared; susceptible to iron chlorosis and scale insects; berries attract wildlife; prune to shape
Japanese Yew <i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>		10-20'	5-10'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Dark green foliage	L-M	x	Narrow, upright evergreen shrub; provide well-drained soil; slow-growing; poisonous fruit, prefers even soil moisture, so not suited for rain gardens; prune to shape if needed
Mallow, Globe <i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	T	2-5'	2-5'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange, pink or purple flowers	L	x	Provide good drainage and fertile soil; flowers attract bees and butterflies; seeds eaten by seed-eating birds and small mammals; lightly prune for shape
Mistflower, White <i>Ageratina havanensis</i>	E	3-5'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	White flowers	L	x	Rounded shape; grows in most soils; fragrant blooms in fall; attracts butterflies, moths and hummingbirds; cut back by 1/2 in winter before new growth begins, if needed to maintain compactness
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus coronarius</i>		8-12'	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White/yellow flowers	L-M		Fragrant flowers; avoid use in poorly drained soil; medium fast growth; fruit has no major landscape interest; disease and pest free; prune non-flowering woody stems immediately after flowering

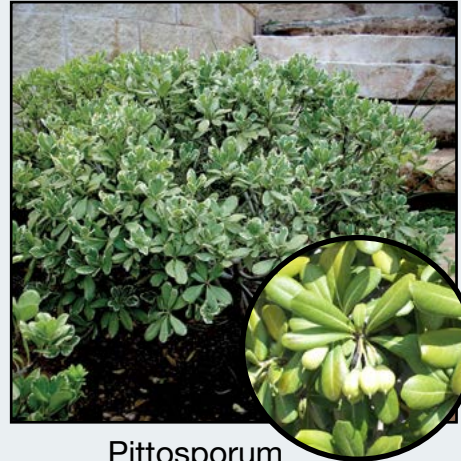




Texas Dwarf Palmetto



Pineapple Guava



Pittosporum



'Belinda's Dream' Rose



'Cecile Brunner' Rose



'Grandma's Yellow' Rose



'Knockout' Rose



'Livin' Easy' Rose



'Marie Daly' Rose\*



'Martha Gonzales' Rose



'Mutabulis' Rose



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Palmetto, Texas Dwarf <i>Sabal minor</i>	B/E	3-5'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White flowers	L-M	x	Not a true shrub; trunkless native palm; tropical-looking but tough; tolerates poor drainage; 1-6' flower clusters; provides cover and food; prune only to remove damaged fronds
Pineapple Guava <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>		6-10'	6-8'	Sun	E	Spring - early summer	Pink and red blooms	L-M	x	Likes well-drained soil; a little cold tender; fruit can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces or in rain gardens; prune for desired shape
Pittosporum <i>Pittosporum tobira</i>		8-10'	7-9'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Creamy-white flowers	M	x	Broad-leaved evergreen makes a good screen; glossy leaves; fragrant flowers; provide well-drained soil; 'Variegata' has leaves with white edges; dwarf cultivars available; susceptible to scale insects; may be damaged in severe winter; pruning not necessary

## Roses

Prune back by 1/3 in late winter; remove spent blooms to encourage more blooms; Use drip irrigation to reduce wet foliage and and prevent fungal diseases. Roses are not recommended for rain gardens due to thorns, maintenance and variable water needs.

Rose, Belinda's Dream <i>Rosa 'Belinda's Dream'</i>		4'	4'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Pink flowers	M		Repeat bloomer; fragrant; disease resistant; good shrub form with large blooms
Rose, Cecile Brunner <i>Rosa 'Cecile Brunner'</i>		3-4'	3-4'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Pink flowers	M		Repeat bloomer; disease resistant; easy to grow and care for
Rose, Grandma's Yellow <i>Rosa 'Grandma's Yellow'</i>		4-5'	3'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Yellow flowers	M		Formerly 'Nacogdoches'; repeat bloomer; purest and most disease-resistant yellow rose; fragrant flowers; very thorny
Rose, Knock Out <i>Rosa 'Knock Out'</i>		3'	3'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Red flowers	M		Purple new growth; repeat bloomer; cultivar showing disease resistance
Rose, Livin' Easy <i>Rosa 'Livin' Easy'</i>		4'	3'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Coral to orange	M		Repeat bloomer; showing good disease resistance; upright growth habit
Rose, Marie Daly <i>Rosa 'Marie Daly'</i> , Rose, Marie Pavie <i>Rosa 'Marie Pavie'</i>		3'	3'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	White to pale pink	M		Antique rose; repeat bloomer; fragrant, very few thorns; disease tolerant; 'Marie Pavie' is white version (see insert)
Rose, Martha Gonzales <i>Rosa 'Martha Gonzales'</i>		3'	3'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Red flowers	M		Antique rose; repeat bloomer; few thorns; disease tolerant
Rose, Mutabilis <i>Rosa 'Mutabilis'</i>		6'	8'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Copper yellow to pink	M		Antique rose; very drought tolerant; copper yellow flowers turn to a pretty pink, repeat bloomer; disease resistant





'Nearly Wild' Rose



'Old Blush' Rose



Upright Rosemary



Texas Sage



Flowering Senna



Skyflower



Fragrant (Aromatic) Sumac



Sweet Almond Verbena



Thryallis (Golden Showers)



Turk's Cap



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Rose, Nearly Wild <i>Rosa</i> 'Nearly Wild'		3'	4'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Deep pink	M		Single pink bloom; repeat bloomer; disease resistant; needs soil with compost added
Rose, Old Blush <i>Rosa</i> 'Old Blush'		5'	5'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Deep pink	M		Antique rose; repeat bloomer; disease resistant
<b>Shrubs continued</b>										
Rosemary, Upright <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>		4'	4-6'	Sun	E	On and off all year	Pale blue	L-M	x	Culinary herb; upright shrub; good drainage required; attracts bees; Trailing Rosemary, <i>R. officinalis</i> var. <i>prostratus</i> makes good groundcover
Sage, Texas <i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	T	5-8'	4-5'	Sun	E	Spring - summer	Purple, pink or white flowers	L-VL	x	Gray leaves but green-leaved and compact cultivars also available; blooms off and on after rain events; provide well-drained soil; prune for natural look; do not shear or hedge
Senna, Flowering <i>Senna corymbosa</i>		6-8'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Summer - fall	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Dark green leaves, showy bloomer, adapted to caliche soils; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; susceptible to extremely cold weather; prune for shape or to raise canopy; cut back 1/2 in late winter if damaged by freeze
Skyflower, <i>Duranta erecta</i>		5-10'	4-10'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Summer - fall	Purple or white flowers	L-M		Fine texture; yellow fruit, cold tender; provide fertile, well-drained soil; more flowers in full sun; many cultivars available; cut back after freeze but before new spring growth
Sumac, Fragrant (Aromatic) <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	B/E	6-9'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Vibrant fall leaves	L	x	Leaves have spicy fragrance when crushed; flowers provide early nectar; smaller varieties available; fruits ripen early, attract wildlife; prune errant stems for natural look; shaping not necessary
Sweet Almond Verbena <i>Aloysia virgata</i>		4-8'+	8'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - summer	White flowers	M-L	x	Multi-branched, upright habit, adaptable; fragrant flowers; blooms on and off all summer; attracts butterflies, bees and hummingbirds; dies back in severe winter; prune to shape
Thyrallis, (Golden Showers) <i>Galphimia glauca</i>		4-6'	4'	Sun	E	Spring - fall	Yellow	L		Easy to grow; needs room to spread; tolerates most soils; prefers well-drained soils; hardy to 25° F; lightly prune if needed, to reduce legginess
Turk's Cap <i>Malvastrum arboreus</i> var. 'Drummondii'	E	2-6'	3-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring - fall	Red flowers; red fruit	L	x	Forms expanding colonies, but easy to contain; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; top of plant may freeze; cut back to keep confined, when leggy, or if needed after freeze





Artemisia



Beebalm



Yellow Bird of Paradise



Black-eyed Susan



Bulbine



Red Bird of Paradise



Mexican Butterfly Weed



Calylophus



Cast Iron Plant



Catmint



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
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## Perennials

Mild winters and/or protecting plants may eliminate the need to cut them back; if the plant looks good, leave it alone. If it needs rejuvenating or you want to encourage compactness, most perennials will respond positively if cut back 1/3 to 1/2. In general it is best to cut back perennials in winter before new spring growth occurs. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in a rain garden if the soil is fast draining and they don't sit in water for an extended period. Rain garden plant success depends on the soil, how fast it drains and if the plants are in their preferred growing conditions.

Artemisia <i>Artemisia 'Powis Castle'</i>		1-2'	3-6'	Sun	E	Year round	Blue-gray foliage	VL		Aromatic, lace-like; low water use and low maintenance; cut back to 4" in late winter before new spring growth
Beebalm <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	B	2-5'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Lavender, pink or white flowers	L-M	x	Showy native perennial with many cultivars; grows on a variety of soils; nectar source; attracts butterflies, birds and hummingbirds; fragrant foliage; cut back to 4" in late winter before new spring growth
Bird of Paradise, Red <i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>		5-6'+	3-6'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Red/orange flowers	L	x	Dependable summer bloomer with very showy, tropical-looking flowers; heat tolerant; attracts hummingbirds; top will be damaged by freeze but roots are hardy to 15° F; prune for shape only; mulch to prevent winter kill of roots
Bird of Paradise, Yellow <i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>		6-8'	6-12'	Sun	D	Spring - fall	Yellow with orange	L		Light airy foliage; tropical look; dependably hardy; disease and pest resistant; seeds are toxic; prune for shape only; mulch to prevent winter kill of roots
Black-eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> var. <i>pulcherrima</i>	B/E	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Yellow with dark centers	L-M	x	Daisy-like blooms in summer; butterfly nectar; can grow native from seed; <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> var. <i>sullivantii</i> 'Goldsturm' is a cultivar with larger blooms; prune back in late winter
Bulbine <i>Bulbine frutescens</i>		2'	2.5'	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	Orange or yellow	VL		Aloe-like leaves; cold tender; may not survive harsh winter unless protected, so not recommended for rain gardens; trim off bloom stalks as they decline
Butterfly Weed, Mexican (Tropical Milkweed) <i>Asclepias currasavica</i>		3-4'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Yellow and/or orange flowers	L	x	Leaves of milkweeds are eaten by monarch caterpillars; non-native Mexican is common in nurseries, to encourage migration and reduce local overwintering, which may increase disease; cut back to 6" Nov-Feb. Plant natives when possible. Native <i>A. tuberosa</i> needs good drainage; do not disturb its taproot when transplanting; or try it, <i>A. asperula</i> and <i>A. viridis</i> from seed
Calylophus (Square Bud Primrose) <i>Calylophous berlandieri</i>	E	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Good rock garden plant; needs good drainage; 'Compact Gold' is a low-growing variety; good for use as groundcover; no maintenance needed
Cast Iron Plant <i>Aspidistra elatior</i>		3'	2-3'	Shade	E	Spring - fall	Large green leaves	L		Good understory plant for dry shade; large, long green leaves; leaf edges will scorch if too much sun; remove damaged foliage to 3" height as needed
Catmint <i>Nepeta X faassenii</i>		1-2'	1.5 - 3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Lavender blue flowers	L-M	x	Silvery green foliage; provide well-drained soil and afternoon shade; seeds are sterile so it will not spread; attracts bees and butterflies; cut back to 3-6" after freeze damage but before spring growth





Chile Pequin (Petin)



Red Columbine



Columbine



Coralbean



Coreopsis



Batface Cuphea



Cuphea 'David Verity'



Blackfoot Daisy



Chocolate Daisy



Copper Canyon Daisy



Englemann Daisy



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Chile Pequin <i>Capsicum annuum</i>	E	2-4'	2-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	White flowers	L	x	Red peppers are edible and very hot!; perennial only in mild winter; reseeds easily; birds love the fruit; cut back to 3-6" after freeze damage but before new spring growth
Columbine, Red <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	E	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	Red flowers	M	x	Prefers moist, yet well-drained soils; reseeds; dormant in summer without water; susceptible to leaf miners; attracts some hummingbirds; prune off spent foliage and seedheads in late May
Columbine <i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i> var. 'Hinkleyana'	T	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Prefers moist, yet well-drained soils; reseeds; dormant in summer without water; susceptible to leaf miners; attracts some hummingbirds; prune off spent foliage and seedheads in late May
Coralbean <i>Erythrina herbacea</i>	T	5'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	Red flowers	L	x	Good understory plant; blooms on long stalks; sharp spines; attracts hummingbirds; seeds are poisonous and not eaten by wildlife; will freeze back so not suited for rain gardens; remove tall bloom shoots after flowering; cut back after freeze and before spring growth
Coreopsis, Lance-leaf <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	T	1-1.5'	1.5-2'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Butterfly plant; covered with yellow daisy-like flowers; native to east and southeast Texas; 'Sunray' and 'Baby Sun' are tighter, more compact; prune or shear off spent blooms to encourage more flowers
Cuphea, Batface <i>Cuphea llavea</i>		1'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring - fall	Red and purple flowers	L-M	x	Appropriately named; very heat tolerant; cold tender so not suited for rain gardens; cut back to 6" after cold damage occurs but before spring growth
Cuphea, 'David Verity' <i>Cuphea 'David Verity'</i>		2-3'	2-3'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange and yellow	L	x	Appropriately named; very heat tolerant; cold tender so not suited for rain gardens; cut back to 6" after cold damage occurs but before spring growth
Daisy, Blackfoot <i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	E	6-12"	1-1.5'	Sun	E	Spring and summer	White with yellow centers	VL	x	Short daisy-like blooms all spring and summer; occasionally reseeds; requires dry conditions; excellent rock garden plant; can be temperamental when transplanting; prune back if leggy
Daisy, Chocolate <i>Berlandiera lyrata</i>	T	1-2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late summer	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Likes dry, rocky limestone, plant has chocolate scent; nectar source for bees and other insects; use in natural area or habitat garden; can be grown from seed; no maintenance
Daisy, Copper Canyon <i>Tagetes lemmonii</i>		3'	4'	Sun	D	Fall	Yellow flowers	L	x	Daisy-like flowers; strongly-scented leaves; native to Mexico; attracts beneficial insects; can prune plants to size mound you want; stop shearing by mid-summer to allow fall flowers
Daisy, Engelmann <i>Engelmannia peristenia</i>	B/E	1.5-2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring to mid-summer	Yellow flowers	M	x	Easy to grow native perennial; good for natural areas, meadows and habitat gardens; reseeds easily moving around the garden; flowers open in late afternoon; attracts birds; seeds commercially available; remove spent bloom stalks





Damianita



Datura



Esperanza



Fall Aster



Firecracker Fern



River Fern



Firebush



Frostweed



Gaura



Gayfeather



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Damianita <i>Chrysactina mexicana</i>	E	1	1.5 - 2'	Sun	E	Spring and some summer	Golden yellow flowers	VL	x	Low-growing; mounding; use in rock garden; mainly blooms in spring and then on and off through growing season; drought hardy; aromatic foliage; provide well-drained soil; attracts bees; prune in early spring to shape
Datura (Jimson Weed) <i>Datura wrightii</i>	E	4-5'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Large white flowers	L	x	Large, night-blooming, white, trumpet-shaped flowers; native; all parts are poisonous, attracts bees, butterflies, and moths; may reseed; cut back to 6-8" after cold damage and before new spring growth
Esperanza (Yellow Bells) <i>Tecoma stans</i>	T	4-8'	4-6'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Yellow or orange	L-M	x	Showy blooms; native species has narrow leaves; new cultivars provide color options; top attracts bees and humminbirds; remove spent blooms as needed; cut back to 6-8" after cold damage but before new spring growth
Fall Aster <i>Aster oblongifolium</i>	E	2-3'	2.5-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Purple/lavender flowers	L	x	Native perennial with fine-textured flowers; profuse fall bloomer; nectar source; colonizes but easy to control; lightly prune if needed through spring and summer to keep compact
Fern, Firecracker <i>Russelia equisetiformis</i>		3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - winter	Red or white flowers	L	x	Needs moderately rich, well-drained soils; not a true fern; attracts hummingbirds; prune spent flower stalks
Fern, River <i>Thelypteris kunthii</i>	B/E	2-3'	3'	Shade	D			M-H	x	Likes shady, moist areas, so not suited for rain gardens; prune dead fronds before spring time growth; mulch well
Firebush <i>Hamelia patens</i>		3-4.5'	4-5'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange-red flowers	M	x	Tubular flowers attract hummingbirds; turns burgandy in fall; needs protection in severe winters; prune to 6" above ground after first hard freeze and before new spring growth
Frostweed <i>Verbesina virginica</i>	E	3-6'	colonizes	Shade	D	Fall	White flowers	L-M	x	Forms colonies; nectar source; attracts bees and butterflies; stem ruptures with freeze creating ice crystal formations (inset photo); commercial availability limited; cut back to 6" after cold damage occurs and before new spring growth
Gaura <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	B	2-3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Pink or white/pink	L	x	Tall flower spikes with 1" flowers that that resemble fluttering butterflies; attracts butterflies; cut back to 3" after first hard freeze
Gayfeather <i>Liatris mucronata</i>	E	1-3'	1-1.5'	Sun	D	Fall	Purple to rose pink	VL	x	Likes well-drained limestone soil; best if kept dry; great nectar source for butterflies and other insects; cut back to 3" after first hard freeze





Green Germander



Ghost Plant



Gregg Mistflower



Perennial Hibiscus



Mexican Honeysuckle



Hymenoxys



'Indigo Spires' Salvia



Bicolor or Butterfly Iris



Lamb's Ear



Lantana (hybrid)



Texas Lantana



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Germander, Green <i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>		up to 1'	1-2'	Sun	D	Spring	Pink, purple, lavender	L-M	x	Shrubby; clump-forming; dark evergreen, aromatic foliage; needs well-drained soil; attracts bees and butterflies; no pruning necessary
Ghost Plant <i>Graptopetalum paraguayense</i>		7-12"	6-12"	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Grayish pink leaves	VL	x	Easy to grow with good drainage, light blue to gray, pink foliage; succulent leaves break off easily (and readily re-root); attracts bees; no maintenance necessary
Gregg Mistflower <i>Conoclinium greggii</i>	T	1-2'	2-4'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Blue flowers	L-M	x	Forms colonies, but easy to contain; tolerates poor soil; can take full sun but does best in morning sun or part shade; attracts butterflies; native to West Texas; cut back to 3" if needed after hard freeze
Hibiscus, Perennial <i>Hibiscus</i> spp.	X	3-5'	4'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Bright red blooms	M	x	Showy blooms can reach 8-10" across; many cultivars available are hybrids; provides nectar for hummingbirds; <i>H. moscheutos</i> <i>H. coccineus</i> ; cut back to 6" after hard freeze
Honeysuckle, Mexican <i>Justicia spicigera</i>		3'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Orange flowers	L	x	Hummingbird plant; grayish foliage; long bloom period; prune back as needed to encourage fullness
Hymenoxys (Four Nerve Daisy) <i>Tetraneris scaposa</i>	E	1'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - fall	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Daisy-like blooms grow from small tuft; prefers dry, well-drained soils; good in rock garden; prune off spent bloom stalks
Indigo Spires <i>Salvia</i> 'Indigo Spires'	x	3-4'	5-7'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Blue/purple	L-M	x	Allow room to mound and spread; shear back by 1/3 in summer
Iris, Bicolor <i>Dietes bicolor</i>		4'	2-3'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - early summer	Creamy yellow w/ markings	L		Forms clumps of long, narrow, iris-like foliage; Butterfly Iris, <i>D. irioides</i> , has wider leaves and white flower with blue and yellow markings; remove unsightly foliage as needed
Lamb's Ear <i>Stachys byzantina</i>		1'	1.5'	Sun	D	Year round	Gray fuzzy leaves	L	x	Tolerates dry soil; used for foliage not flowers; attracts bees; remove unsightly foliage as needed; avoid overhead watering
Lantana (hybrid) <i>Lantana x hybrida</i>	X	2-4'	4'	Sun	D	Spring - fall	Varies	L	x	Many varieties; butterfly delight; prolific blooming (photo: 'New Gold'); can be cold tender; all parts are poisonous; cut back to 6" after freeze and before new spring growth
Lantana, Texas <i>Lantana urticoides</i>	B/E	3-5'	4-5'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange and yellow flowers	L	x	Flowers begin yellow and turn orange; give lots of room; attracts butterflies; stems become thorny with age; all parts are poisonous, cut back in winter as desired to keep in bounds





Trailing Lantana



Lion's Tail



Maximillian Sunflower



Mexican Mint Marigold



Fall Obedient Plant



Mexican Oregano



Gulf Coast Penstemon



Hill Country Penstemon



Rock Penstemon



Garden Phlox



Plumbago



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Lantana, Trailing <i>Lantana montevidensis</i>		1-1.5'	4'+	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Lavender or white flowers	L	x	May be used as a groundcover; very tolerant of poor soils; resistant to lantana lacebugs; attracts butterflies; all parts are poisonous; do not plant near preserves
Lion's Tail <i>Leonotis leonurus</i>		4-6'	4-6'	Sun	E	Late spring - fall	Orange flowers	L		Unusual, multi-tiered bloom; provide well-drained soil; seeds out readily; do not plant near preserves; prune after flowering to maintain compact form
Maximilian Sunflower <i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	B/E	up to 10'	Forms colony	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Forms colony so plant with plenty of space toward back of garden; easy to grow; seed is commercially available; cut back stalks after freeze and birds have harvested seeds
Mexican Mint Marigold <i>Tagetes lucida</i>		2-3'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Yellow/orange flowers	L	x	Tarragon-flavored culinary herb; spreads over time; nectar source for butterflies; shear in early summer to encourage compactness
Obedient Plant, Fall <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	B	2-4'	4'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Lavender	M	x	Tolerates poor drainage; spreads aggressively by underground rhizomes, but easy to contain; <i>P. angustifolia</i> is spring-blooming relative; cut back to 6" after fall bloom
Oregano, Mexican <i>Poliomintha longiflora</i>		3'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Lavender/pink	L	x	Aromatic foliage; edible leaves; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; will sprawl if not pruned; cut back top 1/2 after bloom and to 3-4" after cold damage and before spring growth
Penstemon, Gulf Coast <i>Penstemon tenuis</i>	T	1.5-2.5'	1-1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	Lavender	L	x	Attracts hummingbirds; seeds out readily; remove flower stalks before they set seed to avoid spread
Penstemon, Hill Country <i>Penstemon triflorus</i>	E	1.5-2.5'	1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	Hot pink to red	L	x	Good hummingbird plant; needs well-drained soil; cut back flowers after blooming
Penstemon, Rock <i>Penstemon baccharifolius</i>	E	1-1.5'	2'	Sun	E	Spring - summer	Cherry red	L	x	Needs well-drained soil; attracts hummingbirds; trim if leggy
Phlox, Garden <i>Phlox paniculata</i>		3'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Purple flowers	M	x	Tall bloom spikes all summer; susceptible to powdery mildew; attracts butterflies; cut back to 3" after hard freeze and before spring growth
Plumbago <i>Plumbago auriculata</i>		3-4'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Sky blue or white	L-M	x	Light green foliage; does best with morning sun and afternoon shade; attracts hummingbirds; cut back to 6" if hard freeze damage occurs





Missouri Primrose



Purple Coneflower



Rock Rose



Dwarf Ruellia



Cedar Sage



Cherry Sage



Jerusalem Sage



Majestic Sage



Mealy Blue Sage



Mexican Bush Sage



Penstemon Sage



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Primrose, Missouri <i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	B/E	1-1.5'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	Yellow flowers	L	x	Silver foliage; large, yellow, buttercup-like flowers that open in the evening; may go dormant in summer; interesting seed pods; cut back to 3" after freeze damages leaves
Purple Coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	T	1-3'	3'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Violet or white flowers	L	x	Daisy-like flowers; native; good butterfly plant; seed available for native species; hybrid selections also available; remove flower stalks after birds have harvested seeds
Rock Rose <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	E	3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Pink	L	x	Small native shrub with 1.5" hibiscus-like blooms; more prone to powdery mildew in shade; very few blooms after spring; reseeds freely; attracts butterflies; cut back by 1/3 in late winter
Ruellia, Dwarf <i>Ruellia brittoniana</i>		8"-1'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Blue/ purple to pink	L	x	Petunia-like flower; dwarf varieties include 'Katie' or 'Bonita'; reseeds profusely; taller types are invasive; do not plant near preserves; attracts butterflies; cut back to 3" after first frost browns leaves
Sage, Cedar <i>Salvia roemeriana</i>	E	1-2'	1-2'	Shade/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Red	VL	x	Reseeds freely; red bloom spikes bring color to shady spots; great for hummingbirds; remove seed heads after flowering, then scatter in new areas to expand population
Sage, Cherry (Autumn Sage) <i>Salvia greggii</i>	E	2-3'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - fall	Red, many other colors	M	x	1" long blooms; comes in a variety of colors; hummingbirds love the red ones; tough, may bloom less after 4-5 years; cut back mature plants by 1/3 to 1/2 after spring or fall bloom if needed to rejuvenate
Sage, Jerusalem <i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>		2-3'	3-4'	Sun	E	Spring - summer	Yellow flowers	L	x	Unusual flowers; multi-tiered; attractive gray green foliage; attracts bees and hummingbirds; remove spent bloom stalks and ratty foliage as needed
Sage, Majestic <i>Salvia guaranitica</i>		3-5'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Blue or purple flowers	L	x	Attractive green foliage and large florets on spikes; attracts hummingbirds; cut back to 6" after cold weather browns leaves and before new spring growth begins
Sage, Mealy Blue <i>Salvia farinacea</i>	B/E	2-3'	2-3'	Sun	D	Spring - summer	Blue flowers	L	x	Will grow in most soils; attracts hummingbirds and bees; easy to grow from seed; the cultivar <i>S. farinacea</i> 'Henry Duelberg' has dark blue flowers; remove spent bloom stalks to encourage flowering; cut back mature plants to 6" in late winter before new spring growth begins
Sage, Mexican Bush <i>Salvia leucantha</i>		4-5'	4-5'	Sun	D	Late summer - fall	Purple and white	L	x	Silver-green, lance-like foliage; new growth white and fuzzy; an all purple flowering type is available; cut back after frost browns leaves and before new spring growth
Sage, Penstemon/ Big Red Sage <i>Salvia penstemonoides</i>	E	3-4'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer - fall	Magenta flowers	L	x	Tall, spiked blooms provide vertical accent and nectar for hummingbirds in summer; attractive glossy leaves form evergreen rosette (basal leaves) in winter; remove spent bloom stalks at base





Russian Sage



San Luis Sage



Tropical Sage



Lindheimer Senna



Shrimp Plant



Skeletonleaf Goldeneye



Heartleaf Skullcap



Pink Skullcap



Wright's Purple Skullcap



Society Garlic



Spider Lily



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Sage, Russian <i>Perovskia atriclipifolia</i>		3'	3'	Sun	D	Late summer - fall	Blue flowers	L	x	Fine-textured, silvery green lacy leaves; spiky flower stalks; needs good drainage; cut back to 3" after first freeze browns leaves and before new spring growth
Sage, San Luis <i>Salvia microphylla</i>		3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer - fall	Red, many other colors	L	x	Prefers well-drained soil; has scented foliage; attracts butterflies and hummingbirds; many cultivars available; from Mexico
Sage, Tropical <i>Salvia coccinea</i>	B	2-3'	1-1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring - fall	Red	L-M	x	Short-lived perennial; reseeds profusely; dwarf varieties available; outstanding hummingbird plant; attracts butterflies; cut back in early summer to 3" and after first frost browns leaves
Senna, Lindheimer <i>Cassia lindheimeriana</i>	E	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late Summer - fall	Yellow flowers	L	x	Gray foliage; provide well-drained soil; very tolerant of poor, rocky soils; prune back after frost browns leaves
Shrimp Plant <i>Justicia brandegeana</i>		3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Copper, red or yellow	L	x	Does best in morning sun, afternoon shade; great hummingbird plant; best when massed; flowers resemble shrimp; do not plant near preserves; cut back to 6" in winter to encourage bushiness
Skeletonleaf Goldeneye <i>Viguiera stenoloba</i>	E	3-4'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Summer - fall	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Mound of daisy-like flowers; attractive fine-textured foliage; provide well-drained soil; cut back to 6" in winter to encourage bushiness
Skullcap, Heartleaf <i>Scutellaria ovata</i> subsp. <i>bracteata</i>	E	2'	2'	Shade	E	Spring	Blue flowers	L	x	Colonizes and spreads easily; flowers attract butterflies; may be dormant in summer; little maintenance required
Skullcap, Pink <i>Scutellaria suffrutescens</i>		1'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Pink flowers	L	x	Low-growing; very tidy; mounding plant; attracts bees; cut back by 1/3 after bloom if needed to keep compact
Skullcap, Wright's Purple <i>Scutellaria wrightii</i>	B/E	6-10"	1'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Purple flowers	L	x	Native, low water use; drought and heat tolerant; showy blooms; attracts bees; cut back by 1/2 after bloom if needed to keep compact
Society Garlic <i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>		1.5-2.5'	1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Pink flowers	L-M		Provide well-drained soil; solid or variegated leaf forms available; bruised foliage has onion aroma; remove spent bloom stalks
Spider Lily <i>Hymenocallis lirisome</i>	T	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers	L-M	x	Large 7" fragrant, white flowers; glossy strap-like leaves grow in clumps; attracts insects; will die back after freeze and stay dormant until spring





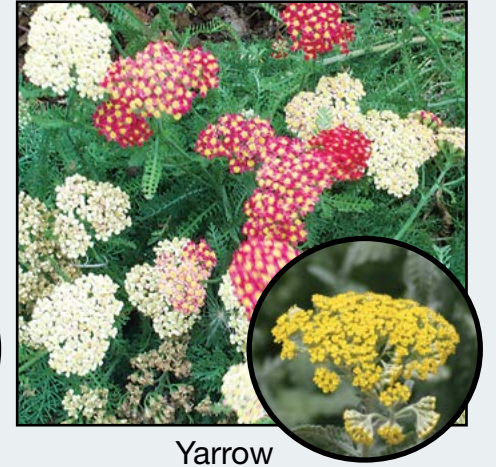
Spiderwort



Texas Betony



Winecup



Yarrow



Zexmenia



Agave



Basket Grass



Prickly Pear Cactus



Nolina



Texas Sotol



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Spiderwort <i>Tradescantia</i> spp.	T	1-3'	2'	Shade	D	Spring - fall	Purple or pink flowers	L	x	Fast spreading; dormant in summer, woody; edible; nectar source for insects; cut back to 6" in winter or to increase blooms
Texas Betony <i>Stachys coccinea</i>	T	1-1.5'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Coral/red flowers	L	x	Constantly blooming; can be used as a groundcover; nice gray green foliage; attracts hummingbirds; stems can be brittle; shear regularly to encourage fullness and bloom
Winecup, Perennial <i>Callirohoe involucrata</i>	B/E	6"-1'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - early summer	Magenta flowers	L	x	Sprawling habit great for filling in between plants; will go dormant in summer without supplemental water; larval host plant; cut back to rosette in winter
Yarrow <i>Achillea</i> spp.		1-1.5'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Late spring and summer	varies	L-M	x	Forms groundcover; fern-like leaves; butterflies enjoy nectar; larval host plant for Painted Lady butterfly; remove spent blooms; cut back to basal foliage after frost browns leaves
Zexmenia <i>Wedelia texana</i>	E	1.5-2.5'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Golden flowers	L	x	Blooms continuously though not profusely; use in combination with other blooming plants; reseeds; periodic shearing will encourage repeat blooming and fullness

## Yuccas/Agaves/Succulents/Cacti/Sotols

These plants require very little, if any maintenance but they all must have well-drained soil. Old bloom stalks should be removed at the base; old leaves can be removed for a neater appearance; wear heavy-duty gloves and eye protection

Agave spp. <i>Agave</i> spp.		varies	varies	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	White to creamy white and yellow	VL	x	Agave spp. are available in many sizes, leaf types, and varying degrees of hardiness; after blooming rosette dies but it leaves "pups"; provides nectar, pollen and seeds; agave weevil is new pest to watch for; Century Plant ( <i>A. americana</i> ); Parry's Agave ( <i>A. parryi</i> var. <i>truncata</i> ); Queen Victoria Agave ( <i>A. victoriae-reginae</i> ); Squid ( <i>A. bractosa</i> ); no maintenance required
Basket Grass (Sacahuista) <i>Nolina texana</i>	E	2'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Fall	Cream-colored plume	VL	x	Not a true grass; grass-like mounding form effective on slopes; keep away from walkways as leaves have sharp edges; remove old bloom stalks at base
Cactus, Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia</i> spp.	B/E	varies	varies	Sun	E	varies	varies	L	x	Likes well-drained, alkaline soil; may become shrub-like; parts are edible; purple fruit; provides pollen, nectar and fruit for wildlife; many types available including spineless; check label for size, flower color, hardiness and distinguishing attributes
Nolina <i>Nolina lindheimeriana</i>	E	10-12'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Tan flowers	L	x	10' tall spike of small, tan flowers; remove old leaves from trunk for neater appearance
Sotol, Texas <i>Dasyliirion texanum</i>	E	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Early summer		L	x	Long blade-like leaves with sharp edges (not pedestrian-friendly); needs space; good barrier plant; requires good drainage; remove old bloom stalks at the base

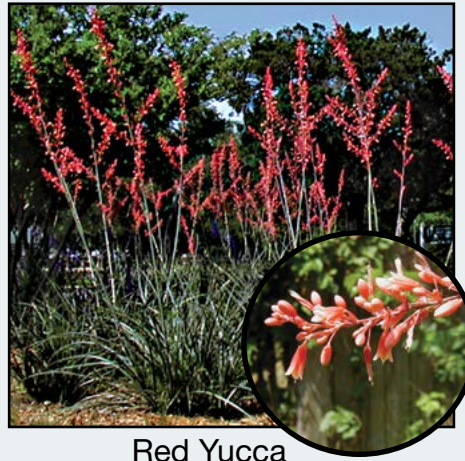




Yucca



Paleleaf Yucca



Red Yucca



Twistleaf Yucca



Little Bluestem



Indian Grass



Inland Sea Oats



Meadow Sedge



Bamboo Muhly



Big Muhly



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Yucca spp.		varies	varies	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Mostly white	VL	x	Fragrant flowers; deer typically eat blooms but not foliage; Yucca spp. are available in many sizes, leaf types and hardiness; seeds eaten by small mammals; Paleleaf ( <i>Y. pallida</i> ); Twistleaf ( <i>Y. rupicola</i> ); Softleaf ( <i>Y. recurvifolia</i> ); Big Bend ( <i>Y. rostrata</i> ); remove old bloom stalks at the base
Yucca, Paleleaf <i>Yucca pallida</i>	B	1'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	White flowers	VL	x	Fragrant flowers; leaves pale blue-green; deer will eat bloom but not foliage; remove old bloom stalks at the base; ( <i>H.funifera</i> ) is Giant Yucca
Yucca, Red <i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	E	2-4'	4'	Sun	E	Spring - summer	Coral spike	VL	x	May colonize; deer will eat blooms but not foliage; attracts hummingbirds; remove old bloom stalks at the base
Yucca, Twistleaf <i>Yucca rupicola</i>	E	1-2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	White	L	x	Older leaves are twisted; deer eat blooms but not foliage; nectar attracts nocturnal moths; larval host plant for the Yucca Giant Skipper; remove old bloom stalks at the base

## Ornamental Grasses

The Muhlys are all good options as accents, in groups or in rain gardens. They stay in mounding forms and can be cut back once a year if needed. The prairie grasses are best used in restoration, prairie, habitat gardens or natural plantings.

Bluestem, Little <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	B/E	3-4'	1.5'	Sun	D	Fall	Copper foliage	L	x	Prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in meadow, natural areas or restoration project; larval host plant for several Skipper butterflies; provides cover for wildlife; cut back to 6" in winter before new spring growth
Indiangrass <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>		3-5'	5'	Sun	D	Fall	Bright gold	M-H	x	Prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in meadow, natural areas or wetlands; tall seed heads in fall; provides food and cover for wildlife; reseeds; cut back to 8" height in winter prior to new spring growth
Inland Sea oats <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	B/E	2-4'	3-6'+	Shade	D	Summer - fall	Ivory seeds	L-M	x	Good understory plant; graceful, drooping wheat-like seed heads, reseeds easily; appropriate for woodlands; prefers moist areas; cut back to 4" in winter
Sedge, Meadow <i>Carex perdentata</i>	B/E	1-1.5'	1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Green foliage	M	x	Clumping sedge; coarser texture than most sedges and is one of the tallest; trim to contain; seeds provide food for wildlife
Muhly, Bamboo <i>Muhlenbergia dumosa</i>		4-5'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late summer to winter	Fine-textured seed stalks	L	x	Silver-green, fine-textured foliage; hardy but stems brittle; bloom stalks turn attractive straw color in winter; selectively prune stalks to maintain elegant shape; cut back in winter if needed
Muhly, Big <i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	E	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	White flowers on 6' stalk	L-M	x	Clumping, blue-green grass; smaller native alternative to Pampasgrass; featherlike blooms in fall; provides seeds, denning and nesting material; rake or cut back in winter





Deer Muhly



Gulf Muhly



Pine Muhly



Sideoats Grama



Switchgrass



Alamo Vine



Carolina Jessamine



Fig Vine



Coral Honeysuckle



Crossvine



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Muhly, Deer <i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	T	1-1.5'	1-1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Feathery seed heads	L	x	Tidy clump grass that maintains a round shape; commercial availability may be limited; cut back in winter
Muhly, Gulf <i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	T	2-1/2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Pink seed heads	L-M	x	Wispy seed heads provide great fall color, especially when backlit; cut back in winter
Muhly, Pine <i>Muhlenbergia dubia</i>	T	1-3'	1-3'	Sun	D	Fall	Feathery seed heads	VL	x	Nicely shaped bunchgrass; stiff needles; no maintenance required
Sideoats Grama <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	T	2-3'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	One-sided seed head	L	x	State grass of Texas; side hanging seed pods; easy to grow from seed; drought tolerant; cut back to 6" height in winter prior to new spring growth
Switchgrass <i>Panicum virgatum</i>	B/E	6'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Reddish tint	L-H	x	Upright, habit; tall seed heads in fall; usually has a reddish tint; prefers moist areas; prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in meadow, natural areas or wetlands; reseeds; cut back to 8" height in winter prior to new spring growth; numerous cultivars available

## Vines

Most vines prefer their roots to be shaded while the vegetation grows in dappled light to full sun.

Alamo Vine <i>Merremia dissecta</i>	E	12'	10-12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White flowers w/ red throat	L-M		Fast-growing, twining vine; easy to grow from seed; tolerates poor soil and alkaline soil but needs good drainage; spreads by rhizomes; poisonous seed; blooms in afternoon; nectar for butterflies; prune to direct and control growth
Carolina Jessamine <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	T		6-20'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Early spring	Yellow flowers	M	x	Twining vine; fragrant; attracts hummingbirds; prefers even soil moisture so is not suited for rain gardens; poisonous if ingested
Crossvine <i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	T		6-30'+	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - summer	Orange flowers	L	x	Tendrill vine attaches to wall; very aggressive climber; 'Tangerine Beauty' variety has bright coral blooms; attracts hummingbirds and bees; prune to direct and control growth
Fig Vine <i>Ficus pumila</i>			6-30'+	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Green leaves	M		Vine attaches to wall; very aggressive; not recommended for wood structures; do not plant near preserves; free of insects and diseases; susceptible to hard freezes; prune to direct and control growth
Honeysuckle, Coral <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	T		6-12'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Late winter to early spring	Coral flowers	L-M	x	Twining vine for smaller structures; nectar attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; fruit attracts birds; prefers fertile, moist soil; prune to direct and control growth





Star Jasmine



Mexican Flame Vine



Passion Vine



Lady Banksia Rose



Trumpet Vine



Virginia Creeper



Texas Wisteria



Aztec Grass



Clover Fern



Gregg Dalea



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Jasmine, Star <i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>		20'	12-16'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	White flowers	L		Fragrant blooms; glossy leaves; poisonous if ingested; aggressive in shady areas; do not plant near preserves; prune to direct and control growth
Mexican Flame Vine <i>Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides</i>		10'+		Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Orange flowers	L	x	Non-aggressive twining vine with thick glossy leaves; provides quick cover for chainlink fence; dies back in severe winter; attracts bees, butterflies, and birds; prune to direct and control growth
Passion Vine <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	T		6-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Early spring - summer	Lavender flowers	L-M	x	Tendrill vine; perennial; food for several species of butterfly larva; exotic-looking flower; aggressive growth; spreading; prune to direct and control growth
Rose, 'Lady Banksia' <i>Rosa banksiae</i>			20+'	Sun	E	Spring	White to yellow	M		Fast-growing, climbing rose; needs sturdy support and lots of space so not suited for rain gardens; thornless, disease free; white flowers are fragrant; prune after spring bloom to control and direct growth
Trumpet Vine <i>Campsis radicans</i>	B/E		6-40'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Reddish-orange flowers	L	x	Not recommended for wood structures; attracts hummingbirds; aggressive spreader; plant where roots can be confined; 'Madame Galen' and 'Georgia' have larger blooms; prune to direct and control growth
Virginia Creeper <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	B/E		to 40'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Scarlet fall foliage	L	x	Vigorous vine or groundcover; not recommended for wood structures; pest free; many birds eat fruit; fruit is poisonous
Wisteria, Texas <i>Wisteria frutescens</i>	T	25-30'	3-6'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	Bluish-lilac flowers	M	x	High heat tolerance; fragrant; plants can become chlorotic on alkaline soils; flowers attract several insect species; prune to direct and control growth

## Groundcovers

Some groundcovers are great turf alternatives. They are most effective in large masses to form a solid cover on the ground. Most are very low maintenance. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in a rain garden if the soil is fast draining and they don't sit in water for an extended period. Rain garden plant success depends on the soil, how fast it drains and if the plants are in their preferred growing conditions

Aztec Grass <i>Ophiopogon intermedius</i>		1'	1-1.5'	Shade	E	Year round	Variegated foliage	M		Clumping grass-like groundcover; similar to Liriope with white variegated leaves; no pests or diseases; variety of cultivars available - check label for specifics; no pruning necessary
Clover Fern <i>Marsilea macropoda</i>	T	6"-1'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Grayish leaves	L		Tough groundcover with clover-like leaves; does not require much water but likes it; spreads by runners; dies back during severe winters; no pruning necessary
Dalea, Gregg <i>Dalea greggii</i>	T	6"-1'	2-4"	Sun	SE	Summer - fall	Purple flowers	L	x	Good for slopes; silvery blue-green leaves; dry soil; winter-hardy; mostly fall flowers attract bees and butterflies; seeds eaten by birds and small mammals; pruning not necessary





Frogfruit



Creeping Germander



Golden Groundsel



Horseherb



Iceplant



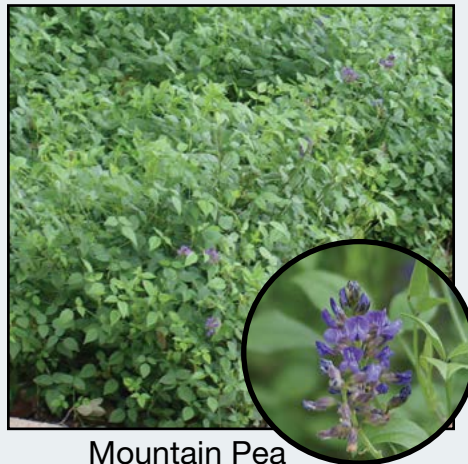
Leadwort Plumbago



Liriope



Monkey Grass



Mountain Pea



Oregano



Pigeonberry



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Frogfruit <i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	B/E	6-8"	1.5-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White	L-M	x	Native groundcover; spreads rapidly; small flower; larval host plant to butterflies; can tolerate poor drainage; commercial availability may be limited; cut back to 3" in winter
Germander, Creeping <i>Teucrium cossonii</i>		4-6"	1.5-2'	Sun	E	Summer	Pink and purple flowers	L	x	Low mounding form; silver foliage; attracts bees; dark green cultivar available; requires well-drained soil; pruning not necessary
Golden Groundsel (Round-leaf ragwort) <i>Packera obovata</i>	E	1.5'	1-2'	Shade	E	Spring	Yellow flowers	L-M	x	Colonizes and spreads by runners but is easy to control; blooms in spring; is an evergreen rosette most of the year; attracts butterflies; pruning not necessary
Horseherb <i>Calyptocarpus vialis</i>	B/E	8-10"	1'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Recommended for revegetation; tolerates some foot traffic; great for dry shade; naturally abundant in shady areas and lawns - but limited commercial availability; can mow as needed to maintain preferred height
Iceplant <i>Aptenia</i> spp. <i>Delosperma</i> spp. <i>Malephora</i> spp.		6"	12"	Sun	SE	Spring-fall	purple to yellow flowers	VL		Iceplant is the common name for 3 generas; fast-growing, groundcover for hot, dry sites; great for hanging baskets; has thick green succulent leaves; attracts bees and butterflies; no pruning necessary
Leadwort Plumbago <i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>		6-12"	3-5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Blue flowers	L	x	Deep blue flowers and green foliage with burgundy tinge in cool weather; attracts butterflies; cut back if needed in winter
Liriope <i>Liriope muscari</i>		12-18"	12"	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Purple spikes	M		Grass-like clumps of evergreen foliage; requires more water in sun; cultivars of varying height available; check plant label for details; cut back in winter if needed
Monkey Grass (Mondo Grass) <i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>		4-8"	12+"	Shade	E	Year round	Green foliage	M		Great lawn alternative in shade; provide fertile, well-drained soil; clusters of flowers close to the leaves; dwarf form also available; do not plant near preserves; needs even moisture so not suited for rain gardens; cut back in winter if needed
Mountain Pea <i>Orbexilum pedunculatum</i>	T	8-12"	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	Purple flowers	L	x	Loose-textured, fast-growing, spreading groundcover; attracts bees; good substitute for Asian Jasmine; limited commercial availability; native to east and southeast Texas; shear occasionally to promote compact growth
Oregano <i>Origanum vulgare</i>		10"-2'	2'	Sun	E	Summer	White to rosy pink	L-M	x	Sprawling plant; pungently aromatic; attracts bees; flavorful leaves used in cooking; cut back to 3" in winter if needed
Pigeonberry <i>Rivina humilis</i>	B/E	1-1.5'	2'	Shade	D	Spring - fall	White/pink flowers	M	x	Spreads rapidly; tolerates moist or dry soil; tiny attractive red berries are prized by birds; may go dormant in summer; limited commercial availability; prune for natural look





Purple Heart



Lyre Leaf Sage



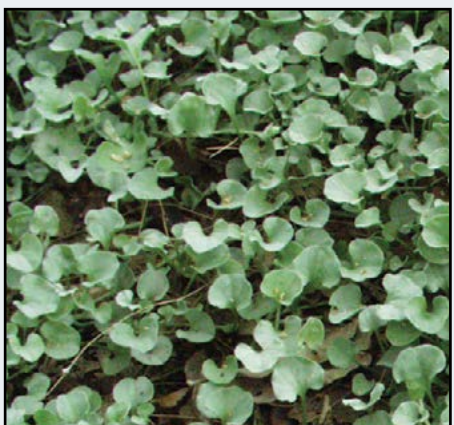
Santolina



Sedges



Sedum (varieties)



Silver Ponyfoot



Snakeherb



Verbena



Violet



Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern



Woolly Stemodia



Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments and Maintenance
Purple Heart <i>Setcreasea pallida</i>		1'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Purple leaves w/pink flowers	L		Requires more water in sun but very drought tolerant once established; roots may rot in poorly drained soil, so not suited to rain gardens; not fully cold hardy in severe winter unless in protected location; prune to direct and control growth
Sage, Lyre Leaf <i>Salvia lyrata</i>	T	1-2'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White to purplish blue flowers	L-M	x	Great for dry shade but can grow in full sun; reseeds easily so may move in garden; attracts hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies
Santolina (Lavender Cotton) <i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>		1-2'	1-2'	Sun	E	Spring	Yellow flowers	VL	x	Shrubby groundcover; fine-textured, aromatic evergreen foliage; attracts bees; requires excellent drainage; not long-lived; green leaf species also available
Sedges <i>Carex</i> spp.		varies	varies	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	most are L		Grassy, clumplike foliage; plant in masses for groundcover; Berkeley ( <i>C. tumicola</i> ); Meadow ( <i>C. perdentata</i> ); Texas, ( <i>C. texensis</i> ); check label for specifics on height, hardiness and water needs; no pruning necessary
Sedum (Stonecrop) <i>Sedum</i> spp.		6"	1'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	White	L		Succulent plants with many species, leaf types, flower colors; check label for specifics; good drainage required; withstands shallow, poor soil; no pruning necessary
Silver Ponyfoot <i>Dichondra argentea</i>	T	2-4"	2.5'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Year round	Silver-gray leaves	L	x	Attractive silver gray foliage on low-growing runners; good drainage is critical; do not over water; native to west Texas; no pruning required
Snakeherb <i>Dyschoriste linearis</i>	T	6-12"	1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Late spring - summer	Lavender flowers	L	x	Prefers dry caliche soils; upright stems, blooms mainly in spring but on/off through fall after rain; attracts butterflies; no pruning required
Verbena spp.		varies up to 18"	varies	Sun	SE	Spring - fall	varies	L	x	Spreading habit; fine-textured leaves; needs good drainage; attracts butterflies; there are many types of verbenas available commercially so check labels for details; native Prairie Verbena is <i>V. bipinnatifida</i> ; cut back to 3" if needed in winter
Violets <i>Viola missouriensis</i>	T	4-6"	8-10"	Shade	D	Spring	Violet flowers	L-M	x	Reseeds easily; will move around in garden; lighter purple bloom than houseplant
Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern <i>Astrolepis sinuata</i>	T	1'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Feathery fronds	L		Xeric fern; drought tolerant; low water use; heat and cold tolerant; may go partially dormant with less water; no pruning needed
Wooly Stemodia <i>Stemodia lanata</i>	T	4-10"	3'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Purple blooms	L	x	Delicate purple blooms contrast with gray foliage; good cascading plant for pots; needs good drainage; prune unattractive foliage

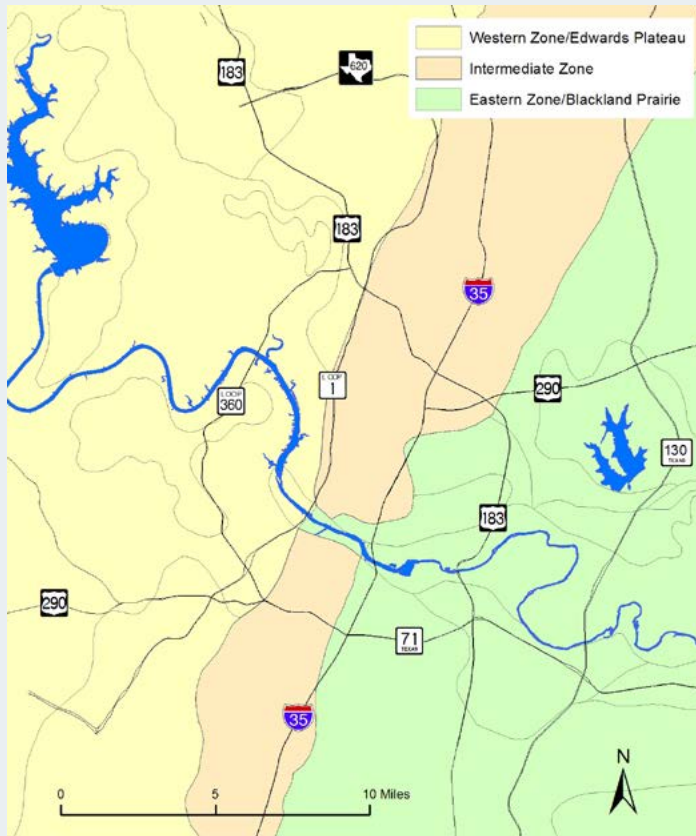


Sustainable landscape practices promote reducing turfgrass use because of its potential high water use and higher maintenance from mowing and nutritional needs. If you decide to use turf then choose it wisely and keep the area small. If you decide not to use turf consider using one of the groundcovers listed in this guide as a lawn alternative. If you already have a lawn, check out the Grow Green Lawn Care and Lawn Problems fact sheets.

No turfgrass is perfect for all sites in Central Texas. Austin Water restrictions may be more limiting during times of drought so it is best to select one of the warm-season grasses listed below. During extended periods of drought these grasses will turn brown and go dormant but will green up after enough rain.

### Turfgrass species and variety selection depends largely on the following considerations:

- Water use
- Amount of sun or shade
- Use and how much foot traffic it will receive
- Maintenance requirements
- Soil depth and quality: Regardless of the species, **to use the least amount of water you must provide at least 4-6" of tilled, or otherwise un-compacted soil**, which will encourage turfgrasses to develop deep, extensive root systems that allow them to persist. If you have a site with limited or compacted soil, suitable turfgrass quality may be difficult to maintain during periods of drought.



### What are the most common types of soil in the Austin area?

There are three main types:

- 1. Western Zone, Edwards Plateau:** On the rocky hills west of MOPAC/Loop One on the west side of town are highly alkaline limestone and caliche soils that are shallow and often with exposed rock. In those areas the soil depth can be a matter of inches.
- 2. Intermediate Zone, Combination and Disturbed Soils:** In the central parts of Austin (running north and south) where the Eastern and Western Zones intersect and overlap there are intermediate areas that are a mix of shallow to moderately deep soils intermingled in areas with soil brought in during construction. Due to the potential variability, identify specific soil types on your site to determine your best approach.
- 3. Eastern Zone, Blackland Prairie:** Generally east of IH 35 is the beginning of the deep, dark, clay prairie soils. Due to their tiny particle sizes, heavy clay soils do not have a lot of air spaces and typically do not drain very quickly. Adding compost or expanded shale improves aeration and drainage.



## Warm-season Turfgrasses from Low to Medium water use:



Buffalograss  
*Buchloe dactyloides*

**Very low water use / Full sun / Tolerates light foot traffic**

It does not have a dense canopy so it is more susceptible to weed invasions than other turfgrasses. Fewer weeds will invade with a more natural look by mowing 2 to 4 times per year on the highest mowing height adjustment. It does best in areas with 25 inches or less of annual rainfall. Overseeding turf or mixing the seed with other shortgrass species is one way to produce a denser turf.

See Shortgrass Prairie Seed Mixes

**Sod:** '609', 'Density', 'Prairie', 'Prestige'

**Seeds:** Common, 'Texoka', 'Bison', 'Bowie', 'Comanche', 'Topgun'



Shortgrass Prairie Seed Mixes

**Low water use / Full sun / Tolerates light foot traffic**

Several commercial native seed mixes are available that combine Buffalograss, *Buchloe dactyloides*, Curly Mesquite, *Hilaria belangeri* and Blue Grama Grass, *Bouteloua gracilis*; short wildflowers can also be added to create a short-grass meadow.

**Seeds:** Native grasses (wildflowers) mix



Bermudagrass hybrids that do not produce viable seed

**Low-medium water use / Full sun / Tolerates high foot traffic.**

Bermudagrass produces a dense canopy and is the most widely used turfgrass species for golf course and athletic turf in the southern United States. It is also popular for home lawns. The hybrids have a finer leaf texture than common types and create a denser turf that performs better under more frequent use, mowing, watering and fertilization. Hybrid varieties of Bermudagrass (interspecific crosses of *C. dactylon* and *C. transvaalensis*) are most often planted as sod and produce seedheads that are sterile. As a result, most hybrids do not pose the same invasive threat as Common Bermuda types and are preferred for use in the landscape. All Bermudagrass varieties have the potential to be invasive to neighboring plant beds and gardens due to their aggressive growth from rhizomes and stolons.

**Sod, plugs or sprigs:** 'Celebration', 'GN1', 'Grimes EXP', 'Tex Turf', 'TifSport', 'Tifway 419'

**Special Note:** Common Bermuda, *Cynodon dactylon*, is listed as one of Austin's Top 24 Invasive Plants in the City's Invasive Species Management Plan and is not accepted for Austin Water landscape rebates. It is not recommended for use in home lawns. Common Bermudagrass, as well as improved varieties of Common, that are left unmowed produce viable seeds that can escape the garden and invade natural areas. Bermudagrass seed and sod are listed in the City of Austin Environmental Criteria Manual, (used for commercial development only), to stabilize the soil and to reduce damages from sediment and runoff to downstream areas.



Zoysiagrass  
(*Zoysia japonica*):

**Low - medium water use / Full sun or partial shade / Tolerates some foot traffic.**

Zoysiagrass spreads by rhizomes and stolons producing a dense turf. Within the zoysiagrass genus, *japonica* species are typically coarse-textured while *matrella* species are typically finer textured. However, much like Bermudagrass there are also interspecific crosses of each. Zoysiagrasses require less mowing and fertilization than Bermudagrass and are often considered lower maintenance for those reasons. It is best established from sod due to slow germination and growth that make it difficult to establish from seed. Like Bermudagrass, be sure to stay ahead of the rhizome and stolon growth into planting beds as it is wicked to try and eradicate if it is left to invade. It is slower than Bermudagrass in invading but will do so... and even in shaded beds!

**Sod:** 'Palisades', 'Jamur', 'El Toro', or 'Crowne'

**Seed:** 'Zenith' and 'Compadre'



### Where can I get information about rain gardens and rain garden plants?

A rain garden is a low vegetated area that adsorbs and filters rainwater runoff from, roofs, sidewalks and driveways. Many of the plants featured in this guide can be expected to grow successfully in a residential rain garden. Plants that are not recommended are those that typically grow in the shade and need consistent soil moisture, require deep soil or have some an undesirable plant characteristic (short-lived, weak wood, plants that have spines or fruit that falls on pavement and any that are considered invasive).

### How much rainfall does Austin receive per year?

On average 32 inches of rain per year with very little in summer.

### How hot and cold does it get?

**Heat:** The average temperature highs in the summer months are above 90° F, so plants that need cool summer temperatures, like peonies, lilacs or fuchsias, will not do well here. Summer heat is the biggest stress when planting, so the best time to plant is the fall; worst time to plant late spring – summer.

**Cold:** Austin is in Zone 8b where the average extreme minimum is 15 – 20° F. Our temperatures don't usually go below 20° F – but in severe winters they can. Plants that are susceptible to damage in severe winters should be planted in protected areas, such as on the south or west side of your house, and well-mulched before cold weather arrives.

### Why was the Deer Resistance rating removed from this version of the guide?

This rating was removed from this version because after consulting numerous information sources it is clear that there is very little consensus on which plants specifically are “deer resistant.” To be safe, all woody plants in areas with deer need to be protected when the plants are young and until they can grow above the browse line.

Plant characteristics that may deter deer:

- Aromatic plants like rosemary, most of the salvias and lantanas
- Prickly, spiny or thorny foliage or stems like agarita, cactus, sotols (deer often eat the flowers)
- Bad-tasting sap like star jasmine
- Fuzzy leaves like Texas sage and lamb's ear
- Other approaches to deter deer include fencing, repellents and scare devices.

### Where can I find out more information about which plants to choose when designing a fire-resistant landscape?

Building a fire-resistant landscape isn't as simple as only looking at plant selection. It includes a variety of factors from the slope of the landscape, building materials in and around the home to choosing the right plant for the right location. For more details on determining the right plant for the right place and how you can help build defensible space around your home

visit: [www.austintexas.gov/WildfireEnviroBMPs](http://www.austintexas.gov/WildfireEnviroBMPs)

### Where can I find more information about plants that are poisonous to humans and pets?

This guide includes some comments on plants' toxicity but it should not be considered exhaustive resource on the topic.

For poisoning emergencies call the **American Association of Poison Control Centers at (800) 222-1222**

For more information on common plants that are poisonous to animals visit [www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants](http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants)

You may also call **ASPCA Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435** (there may be a consulting fee).



# AUSTIN'S TOP INVASIVE PLANTS TO AVOID

Invasive plants spread into areas where they are not native. Their introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

The following plants have already invaded preserves and greenbelts in Austin. They spread by seeds, berries and spores that can be easily transported long distances. For more information about Austin's invasive species, visit [www.austintexas.gov/invasive](http://www.austintexas.gov/invasive)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Non-Invasive Alternatives
<b>Bermudagrass, Common</b>	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Hybrid Bermudagrasses (with sterile seeds)
<b>Catclaw Vine</b>	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i>	Carolina Jessamine, Crossvine
<b>Chinaberry</b>	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinquapin Oak, Texas Red Oak
<b>Chinese Parasol Tree</b>	<i>Firmiana simplex</i>	Arizona Cypress
<b>Chinese Pistache</b>	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinquapin Oak, Texas Red Oak
<b>Chinese Tallow</b>	<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Bigtooth Maple, Texas Redbud, Red Oak
<b>Chinese Wisteria</b>	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Passion Vine
<b>Elephant Ear</b>	<i>Colocasis esculenta</i>	Arrowhead, Crinum Lily, Tuckahoe
<b>Golden Bamboo</b>	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	Evergreen Yaupon, Bamboo Muhly
<b>Japanese Hollyfern</b>	<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	River Fern
<b>Japanese Honeysuckle</b>	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Coral Honeysuckle
<b>Johnsongrass</b>	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Little Bluestem, Bushy Bluestem
<b>Kudzu</b>	<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>	Virginia Creeper
<b>Lilac Chaste Tree</b>	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Mexican Buckeye
<b>Paper Mulberry</b>	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	Cherry Laurel, Texas Persimmon
<b>Phontina, Red Tip</b>	<i>Photinia x fraseri</i>	Cherry Laurel, Possumhaw, Silktassel
<b>Photina, Tawainese</b>	<i>Photinia serratifolia</i>	Cherry Laurel, Possumhaw, Silktassel
<b>Privets, Large Leaf</b>	<i>Ligustrum japonicum, L. lucidum, L. vulgare</i>	Cherry Laurel, Yaupon
<b>Privets, Small Leaf</b>	<i>Ligustrum quhoui, L. sinense</i>	Possumhaw, Wax Myrtle, Yaupon
<b>Sacred Bamboo</b>	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Bush Germander, Texas Sage
<b>Scarlet Firethorn</b>	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Evergreen Sumac, Yaupon
<b>Tree of Heaven</b>	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Chinquapin Oak, Lacey Oak

These plants travel by runners and rhizomes. While they are not generally transported long distances, they can invade nearby or "downstream" areas. Avoid planting near parks and preserves.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Non-Invasive Alternatives
<b>English Ivy</b>	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Leadwort Plumbago, Mountain Pea
<b>Vinca</b>	<i>Vinca major &amp; V. minor</i>	Leadwort Plumbago, Mountain Pea
<b>Wisteria (non-native species)</b>	<i>Wisteria sinensis, W. floribunda</i>	Passion Vine



Already have these plants? Most plants can be controlled by trimming back berries, seedheads or runners.

THIS PLANT LIST IS ONLY A RECOMMENDATION AND HAS NO LEGAL EFFECT IN THE STATE OF TEXAS. IT IS LAWFUL TO SELL, DISTRIBUTE, IMPORT OR POSSESS A PLANT ON THIS LIST UNLESS THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LABELS THE PLANT AS NOXIOUS OR INVASIVE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S PLANT LIST.



Common Name	Page #	Common Name	Page #	Common Name	Page #	Common Name	Page #												
Abelia, Glossy	15	Cuphea, 'David Verity'	27	Horseherb	47	Passion Vine	45	Santolina (Lavender Cotton)	49										
Agarita	15	Cypress, Arizona	7	Huisache	11	Pecan	9	Sedge, Meadow	41										
Agave spp.	39	Cypress, Bald	7	Hymenoxys (Four Nerve Daisy)	31	Penstemon, Gulf Coast	33	Sedges	49										
Alamo Vine	43	Cypress, Montezuma	7	Iceplant	47	Penstemon, Hill Country	33	Sedum (Stonecrop)	49										
American Beautyberry	15	Daisy, Blackfoot	27	Indiangrass	41	Penstemon, Rock	33	Senna, Flowering	23										
Anacacho Orchid Tree	9	Daisy, Chocolate	27	Indigo Spires	31	Persimmon, Texas	13	Senna, Lindheimer	37										
Anacua (Sandpaper Tree)	9	Daisy, Copper Canyon	27	Inland Seaots	41	Phlox, Garden	33	Shrimp Plant	37										
Apache Plume	15	Daisy, Engelmann	27	Iris, Bicolor	31	Pigeonberry	47	Sideots Grama	43										
Aralia, Japanese	17	Dalea, Black	17	Japanese Yew	19	Pineapple Guava	21	Silktassel, Mexican	13										
Arroyo Sweetwood	9	Dalea, Gregg	45	Jasmine, Star	45	Pittosporum	21	Silver Ponyfoot	49										
Artemisia	25	Damianita	29	Kidneywood	11	Plumbago	33	Skeletonleaf Goldeneye	37										
Ash, Texas	7	Datura (Jimson Weed)	29	Lamb's Ear	31	Plum, Mexican	13	Skullcap, Heartleaf	37										
Aztec Grass	45	Desert Broom	17	Lantana (hybrid)	31	Pomegranate	13	Skullcap, Pink	37										
Baptisia, Purple (Wild Indigo)	17	Desert Willow	11	Lantana, Texas	31	Primrose, Missouri	35	Skullcap, Wright's Purple	37										
Barbados Cherry	17	Elbow Bush	17	Lantana, Trailing	33	Purple Coneflower	35	Skyflower, Duranta	23										
Basket Grass (Sacahuista)	39	Elm, Cedar	7	Leadwort Plumbago	47	Purple Heart	49	Snakeherb	49										
Beebalm	25	Esperanza (Yellow Bells)	29	Lion's Tail	33	Redbud, Mexican	13	Society Garlic	37										
Bird of Paradise, Red	25	Eve's Necklace	11	Liriope	47	Redbud, Texas	13	Sotol, Texas	39										
Bird of Paradise, Yellow	25	Fall Aster	29	Mallow, Globe	19	Retama	13	Spider Lily	37										
Black-eyed Susan	25	Fern, Firecracker	29	Maple, Bigtooth	7	Rock Rose	35	Spiderwort	39										
Bluestem, Little	41	Fern, River	29	Maximilian Sunflower	33	Rose, 'Belinda's Dream'	21	Sumac, Evergreen	13										
Bottlebrush	17	Fig Vine	43	Mexican Flame Vine	45	Rose, 'Cecile Brunner'	21	Sumac, Flameleaf	15										
Buckeye, Mexican	9	Firebush	29	Mexican Mint Marigold	33	Rose, 'Grandma's Yellow'	21	Sumac, Fragrant (Aromatic)	23										
Buckeye, Red	11	Flame Acanthus	17	Mistflower, White	19	Rose, 'Knock Out'	21	Sweet Almond Verbena	23										
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Butterfly Weed, Mexican	25	Frostweed	29	Mountain Laurel	13	Rose, 'Marie Daly'	21	Texas Betony	39										
Cactus, Prickly Pear	39	Gaura	29	Mountain Pea	47	Rose, 'Marie Pavie'	21	Thyralis, (Golden Showers)	23										
Calylophus	25	Gayfeather	29	Muhly, Bamboo	41	Rose, 'Martha Gonzales'	21	Trumpet Vine	45										
Carolina Buckthorn	11	Germander, Bush	19	Muhly, Big	41	Rose, 'Mutabilis'	21	Turk's Cap	23										
Carolina Jessamine	43	Germander, Creeping	47	Muhly, Deer	43	Rose, 'Nearly Wild'	23	Verbena spp.	49										
Cast Iron Plant	25	Germander, Green	31	Muhly, Gulf	43	Rose, 'Old Blush'	23	Viburnum, Rusty Blackhaw	15										
Catmint	25	Ghost Plant	31	Muhly, Pine	43	Rosemary, Upright	23	Viburnum, Sandankwa	15										
Cedar, Eastern Red	7	Goldenball Leadtree	11	Nolina	39	Roughleaf Dogwood	13	Violets	49										
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Cherry Laurel	11	Greek Myrtle	19	Oak, Chinquapin	7	Sage, Cedar	35	Walnut, Little	15										
Chile Pequin	27	Gregg Mistflower	31	Oak, Lacey	9	Sage, Cherry (Autumn Sage)	35	Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern	49										
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Columbine	27	Hibiscus, Perennial	31	Oak, Southern Live	9	Sage, Lyre Leaf	49	Winecup, Perennial	39										
Columbine, Red	27	Holly, Dwarf Burford	19	Oak, Texas Red	9	Sage, Majestic	35	Wisteria, Texas	45										
Coralbean	27	Holly, Dwarf Yaupon	19	Obedient Plant, Fall	33	Sage, Mealy Blue	35	Wooly Stemodia	49										
Coralberry	17	Holly, Nellie R. Stevens	19	Olive, Mexican	13	Sage, Mexican Bush	35	Xylosma	15										
Coreopsis, Lance-leaf	27	Holly, Possumhaw	11	Oregano	47	Sage, Penstemon/Big Red Sage	35	Yarrow	39										
Cotoneaster	17	Holly, Yaupon	11	Oregano, Mexican	33	Sage, Russian	37	Yucca, Paleleaf	41										
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								Zexmenia	39										



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**Ray Matthews:** Cover **Far South Nursery:** Arroyo Sweetwood (L, S), Catmint (L), Desert Broom (L), Greek Myrtle (L), Mexican Flame Vine (L) Mountain Pea (L, S), Texas Dwarf Palmetto (L), Roughleaf Dogwood (L), San Luis Sage (L), Sweet Almond Verbena (L), White Mistflower (L) **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center:** **Andy and Sally Wasowski:** Alamo Vine (L), Apache Plume (L), Beebalm (L), Flameleaf Sumac (S), Golden Groundsel (L), Huisache (L,S), Lyre Leaf Sage (S), Maximilian Sunflower (L), Purple Baptisia (L), Snakeherb (L), Switchgrass (L); **Joseph A. Marcus:** Carolina Buckthorn (L), Datura (L), Lyre Leaf Sage (L), Pine Muhly, Roughleaf Dogwood (L), Purple Wright's Skullcap (L), Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern (L); **Lee Page:** Mealy Blue Sage (L); **Melody Lytle:** Frostweed (S); **Michael Dana:** Spiderwort (L); **Myra B. Allison:** Frostweed (L); **Norman G. Flaigg:** Little Walnut (L, S); **Paul Cox:** Clover Fern (L); **Ray Matthews:** Crossvine (C); **R.W. Smith:** Purple Baptisia (S); **Rachel Cywinski:** Anacua (L); **W.D. and Dolphia Bransford:** Flameleaf Sumac(L), Spider Lily (L), **Meredith O'Reilly:** Anacua (S), Chocolate Daisy (L), Fragrant Sumac(S), Gregg Mistflower (S), Mexican Buckeye (S), Mexican Olive (L,S), Tropical Milkweed(S) **Native Texas Nursery:** Eve's Necklace (L, S), Texas Redbud (L, S) **Plant Resources Center and Bio406d at the University of Texas at Austin:** Coralbean (S), Elbowbush (L), Evergreen Sumac(L,S), Gayfeather (S), Indiangrass (S), Maximilian Sunflower (S), Texas Persimmon (S), Violets (L, S)

#### **Contributing Organizations:**

American Society of Landscape Architects, Austin Parks Foundation, Capital Area Master Naturalists, Countryside Nursery, Far South Growers, Keep Austin Beautiful, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, McNeal Growers, National Wildlife Federation, Native Texas Nursery, Texas A&M, The Great Outdoors, The Natural Gardener, Texas A&M Extension Service/Travis County, TreeFolks, Turfgrass Producers of Texas

#### **City Departments:**

Austin Energy, Austin Resource Recovery, Austin Water, Development Services Department, Office of Sustainability, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works, Watershed Protection Department

*With special thanks to all the City of Austin staff past and present, who have contributed to the guide*

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5th Edition, 2014  
Revised 2016

#### **References:**

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#### **Comments:**

We recognize that there are many other plants well deserving of selection and we welcome your comments and suggestions regarding any new additions and changes you think would be useful. Please call 512-974-2550 or email us through [www.growgreen.org](http://www.growgreen.org).