Texas AgriLife Extension ★ City of Austin

grow green

Native and Adapted *Landscape Plants*



Find your perfect plant with our online search tool!

an earthwise guide for Central Texas

Native and Adapted *Landscape Plants*

an earthwise guide for Central Texas

This guide is to help you in your efforts to protect and preserve our water resources.



Contents

Trees 7

Small Trees & Large Shrubs 9

Shrubs (including Roses) 15

Perennials 25

Yuccas, Agaves, Succulents, Cacti, & Sotols..... 39

Ornamental & Prairie Grasses 41

Vines 43

Groundcovers 45

Turfgrasses 50

Invasive Plants to Avoid 53

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

To help you create your landscape design, community members can find resources available at **www.austintexas.gov/department/landscape-design.**

Cover Photo: Fall Asters and Agave

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***

Height and Spread

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

Utility Approved Trees

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

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.AustinTexas.gov/Department/Wildlife-Austin**



Gardening, "Austin-style..."

The City of Austin created this guide to help you select plants that are native and adapted to the Austin area. These plants tend to be drought-tolerant; need little if any supplemental fertilizer; are resistant to most diseases and pests; and many provide habitat and food sources for local wildlife. By using less water, fertilizer, & chemicals in your yard, you contribute to conserving and protecting our precious water sources – our streams, lakes, and aquifers.

Plant the right plant in the right place to achieve a thriving earth-wise landscape. Plants from other parts of the country are often poorly suited to Central Texas conditions. Therefore, it is essential to understand the regional climate as well as site-specific conditions. Our climate varies from year to year - conditions include temperatures from freezing to over 100°F, drought, large rainstorm events, and flooding. Some years we may get a hard freeze, and some we might not.

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

We hope you enjoy using this guide to bring a touch of Austin's natural beauty to your landscape.

Visit **www.GrowGreen.org** for more earth-wise gardening information.



Eastern Red Cedar



Black Cherry



Arizona Cypress



Bald Cypress



Montezuma Cypress



Cedar Elm



Honey Mesquite

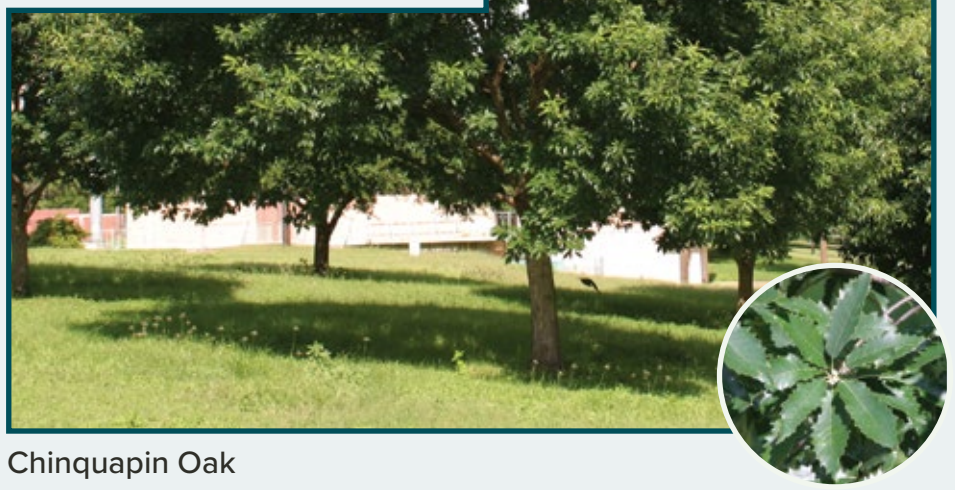




Bigtooth Maple



Bur Oak



Chinquapin Oak

Trees

Eliminate crossing branches on trees when you can. Shape trees 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 in 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/Department/Tree-Information-Center. To report concerns about trees, dial 3-1-1.

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Cedar, Eastern Red *Juniperus virginiana* var. *virginiana*	B	30-50'+	15-25'	Sun	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	L	X	Columnar, spreading shape; needs deep soil; good screen plant; Ashe Juniper, *J. ashei*, (mistakenly called Cedar) is a native alternative for shallow soils; provides food & habitat for wildlife; does not need pruning
Cherry, Black *Prunus serotina* var. *exima*	B	25-50'+	35'	Sun	D	Spring	White flower; yellow fall foliage	M	X	Attractive shape; fall color; fragrant flowers; glossy leaves; fruit-bearing; not for heavy, clay soils; needs moist location; foliage can be fatal if consumed; attracts birds, butterflies, and pollinators; prune for shape or to raise the canopy
Cypress, Arizona *Cupressus arizonica*	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 the Chisos Mountains; provides food and habitat for wildlife; prune to shape, if needed
Cypress, Bald *Taxodium distichum*	B/E	60-100'	35-50'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Copper foliage	M	X	For riparian/moist, deep soil, or poor drainage conditions only; foliage dries up in dry, hot locations; obtain plants of western seed source; bird habitat; does not need pruning
Cypress, Montezuma *Taxodium mucronatum*	T	60-100'	25-50'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Bronze foliage	H	X	Like Bald Cypress but faster growth and more adapted to dry conditions; may freeze in severe winters; native to south Texas; provides food & habitat for wildlife; does not need pruning
Elm, Cedar *Ulmus crassifolia*	B/E	50-75'	25-35'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Gold foliage	VL	X	Upright form; native; adapted to rocky soils; can withstand poorly drained, clay soils, and/or moderately compacted soils; seeds are a food source for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Honey Mesquite *Prosopis glandulosa* var. *glandulosa*	B/E	25-40'	25-30'	Sun	D	March to September	Creamy white flowers	VL	X	2-3" long blooms; bright green foliage and weeping shape; very slow growing; thorns; excellent nectar and food source for wildlife; Thornless Mesquite is *Prosopis chilensis*; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Maple, Bigtooth *Acer grandidentatum*	E	20-50'	20-30'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Red and gold foliage	M	X	Best maple for alkaline soils; outstanding fall color; seeds, buds, & flowers provide food to wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Oak, Bur *Quercus macrocarpa*	B/E	50-70'+	30-50'+	Sun	D	Spring	Large acorns	VL	X	Large, majestic tree; very adaptable; needs plenty of space and deep soil; moderate growth rate; acorns provide food for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Oak, Chinquapin *Quercus muhlenbergii*	B/E	50-70'+	30-40'	Sun	D	Fall	Yellow and rust foliage	L	X	Stately form; provide deep soil; moderate growth rate; acorns provide food for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the 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 & Maintenance
Oak, Lacey *Quercus laceyi*	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; provides habitat for birds and acorns are a food source for wildlife; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Oak, Mexican White *Quercus polymorpha*	T	45-60'+	30-40'	Sun	SE	Spring	New foliage peach	VL	X	Handsome tree; provide deep soil; sheds its leaves in spring when new leaves emerge; small population native to West Texas; resistant to oak wilt; susceptible to oak phylloxera insects; acorns are a food source for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Oak, Southern Live *Quercus virginiana*	B/E	40-60'+	50'+	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	L-VL	X	Oak wilt susceptible; provide ample open space; evergreen but sheds its leaves in spring as new leaves emerge; if planting in shallow soil, use Escarpment Live Oak, *Q. fusiformis*, which is more drought-tolerant; provides food and habitat for wildlife; prune only during hottest and coldest months and paint all wounds immediately to help prevent the spread of oak wilt
Oak, Texas Red *Quercus texana*	E	60-75'+	15-30'	Sun	D	Fall	Red foliage in fall	L	X	Well adapted to rocky soils; susceptible to oak wilt; use western seed source for red oaks; Shumard Oak, *Q. shumardii*, is a taller, alternative, but only for deep, well-drained soil; provides food and habitat for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy
Palmetto, Texas Palm, Texas Sabal *Sabal mexicana*	T	45'	15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	Small white flowers	L	X	Not an actual tree; found in moist, wet locations and those areas with occasional flooding; provides food for wildlife; prune only to remove the dead fronds
Pecan *Carya illinoinensis*	B	60-75'+	60-75'	Sun	D	Fall	Nut	H	X	For riparian/moist, deep soil conditions only; nut-producing; susceptible to disease and insect problems; pecans are food for wildlife; many cultivars are available
Sycamore, Mexican *Platanus mexicana*		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; seeds are eaten by some birds; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed

Small Trees & Large Shrubs

(UA) For Small Trees: see the TREES section comments. For large shrubs: if a plant is multi-stemmed leave lower branches for screening or remove them for a more open look. Look into individual species' notes. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in rain gardens if the soil is fast draining.

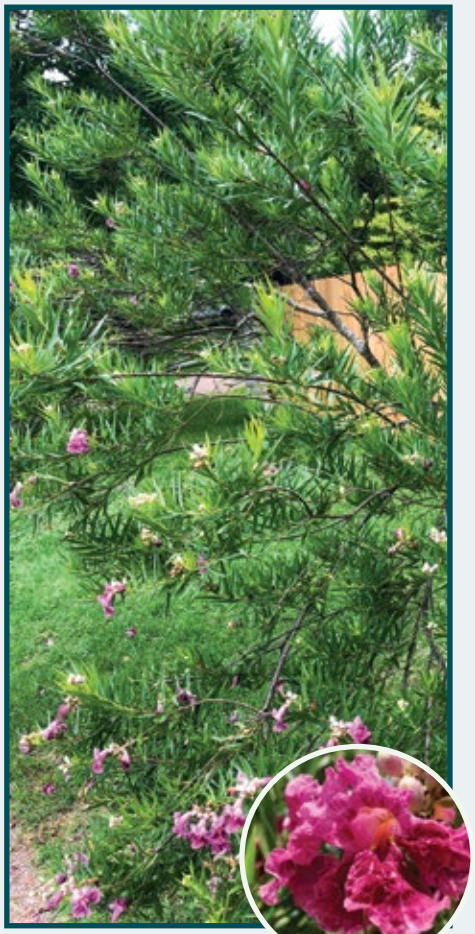
Anacacho Orchid Tree *Bauhinia lunarioides*	T	6-12' (UA)	6-12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White or pink flowers	L	X	Excellent understory tree; protect from winter winds; prefers well-drained soil; fragrant flowers attract butterflies and bees; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Anacua (Sandpaper Tree) *Ehretia anacua*	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; is a nectar source for bees; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Arroyo Sweetwood *Myrospermum sousanum*		up to 20'+ (UA)	15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers; gold fall foliage	VL	X	Fast-growing shrub, often multi-trunked; lovely foliage; prefers alkaline soil; fragrant, showy flowers; attracts butterflies, birds, and bees; prune to shape or raise canopy if needed
Buckeye, Mexican *Ungnadia speciosa*	E	12-20' (UA)	12-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Early spring	Pink flowers	L	X	Multi-trunked; use as understory shrub; needs 1/2 day of sun; yellow fall foliage; 1" fragrant blooms provide nectar for bees & hummingbirds; seeds eaten by wildlife but poisonous to humans; does not need pruning


Red Buckeye


Carolina Buckthorn


Cherry Laurel


Crape Myrtle


Desert 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 & Maintenance
Buckeye, Red *Aesculus pavia*	B/E	10-20' (UA)	10-15'	Shade	D	Spring	Red flowers	L-M	X	Red, funnel-shaped flowers; attracts hummingbirds; leaves drop early at the end of summer; prune for shape only
Carolina Buckthorn *Frangula caroliniana*	B/E	12-20' (UA)	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 *Prunus caroliniana*	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; berries are food for wildlife; 'Bright and Tight' can be used as a large hedge
Crape Myrtle *Lagerstroemia indica*		varies if under 20' (UA)	varies	Sun	D	Summer	Varies	L-M	X	Often too big for selected space, so note the mature size of the cultivar (dwarf cultivars are available); large types not suited for rain gardens; needs good air circulation; choose powdery mildew resistant cultivars; aphids and scale insects can be a problem; occasionally reseeds; the fruit is a food source for birds; remove suckers but do not chop the tops
Desert Willow *Chilopsis linearis*	E	varies if under 2' (UA)	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White, pink or burgundy	VL	X	The open, airy structure creates light shade underneath the canopy; trumpet-shaped, 3" long flower; provide well-drained soil; attracts hummingbirds; flowers and seeds provide food for wildlife; prune for shape or to raise the canopy; remove the suckers if needed
Eve's Necklace *Styphnolobium affine*	E	15-20'+ (UA)	10-20'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Light pink flowers	VL	X	Small, understory tree; 4-6" drooping flower clusters; provides nectar for bees; seeds are poisonous; prune to shape or raise the canopy, if needed
Goldenball Leadtree *Leucaena retusa*	E	12-20'+ (UA)	12-15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Gold flowers	VL	X	Small, understory tree with 1" round globe-like fragrant blooms; airy foliage casts light shade underneath the canopy; provides habitat and food for wildlife; prune for shape or to raise the canopy if needed
Holly, Possumhaw *Ilex decidua*	B/E	12-20' (UA)	12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall - winter	Red berries	M	X	Large, deciduous, multi-stemmed, shade-tolerant shrub; red berries on female plants attract birds in winter; tolerates poor drainage; like Yaupon Holly but loses its leaves in winter; prune for shape if needed
Holly, Yaupon *Ilex vomitoria*	B	12-20' (UA)	10-15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Winter	Red berries	L-M	X	Large, evergreen, multi-stemmed, shade-tolerant shrub; red berries on female plants are a food source for wildlife, tolerates poor drainage; fruits best in full sun; berries are poisonous for humans; prune for shape if needed
Huisache *Vachellia farnesiana*	T	15-20' + (UA)	20'	Sun	SE	Spring	Yellow flowers	VL	X	Excellent tree for drought-tolerant gardens; fragrant blooms; forage for wildlife; prune for shape if needed
Kidneywood *Eysenhardtia texana*	E	8-15' (UA)	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White flowers	VL	X	Fast-growing 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 & Maintenance
Mountain Laurel, Texas *Dermatophyllum secundiflora*	E	12-20' (UA)	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; fragrant blooms attract bees; prune to shape or raise the canopy if desired
Olive, Mexican *Cordia boissieri*	T	15' (UA)	15'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Gray green foliage	VL	X	Furry-textured foliage; top may die in hard freeze; some report the fruit as edible but not palatable; fruit can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces or rain gardens; prune to shape or to raise canopy if needed
Palm, Windmill *Trachycarpus fortunei*		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 the west sun; hardy to 5º F; can be heavy-feeders; bats nest in the fronds
Persimmon, Texas *Diospyros texana*	E	12-20'+ (UA)	8-12'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers	VL	X	Multi-trunked, slow-growing; smooth, gray bark; native to shallow, rocky limestone soils; female trees bear fruit which attracts wildlife but can be messy; prune to shape or to raise the canopy if needed
Plum, Mexican *Prunus mexicana*	B/E	15-20'+ (UA)	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White flowers	L	X	Great understory tree; early spring bloomer; provide good drainage and a fair amount of soil; fragrant flowers are nectar source; larval host; provides fruit in July-September; prune to shape or to raise the canopy if needed
Pomegranate *Punica granatum*		varies if under 20' (UA)	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
Redbud, Mexican *Cercis canadensis* var. *'mexicana'* **Redbud, Texas** *Cercis canadensis* 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; needs well-drained site; Eastern Redbud not recommended; blooms attract pollinators, and birds eat the seeds; prune to shape, raise the canopy, or remove suckers
Retama *Parkinsonia aculeata*	T	12-20' (UA)	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 habitat & food for wildlife; prune to shape or raise the canopy if needed
Roughleaf Dogwood *Cornus drummondii*	B/E	12'-20' (UA)	15-20'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	White berries	L	X	Give lots of space; thicket-forming and suckers extensively; use for natural areas and habitat gardens; tolerates alkaline soil; good nectar and fruit source
Silktassel, Mexican *Garrya ovata* spp. *lindheimeri*	E	5-11' (UA)	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; berries are wildlife food source; good substitute for Ligustrum
Sumac, Evergreen *Rhus virens*	E	8-10' (UA)	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Late summer - winter	White blooms	L	X	Glossy leaves turn burgundy in cool season; needs good drainage; fuzzy, orange/red berries provide food for birds and other wildlife; prune as needed to maintain the natural form



Flameleaf Sumac



Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum



Sandankwa Viburnum



Little Walnut



Wax Myrtle



Xylosma



Abelia



Agarita



American Beautyberry

Apache Plume

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Sumac, Flameleaf *Rhus lanceolata*	B/E	12-15'+ UA	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 *Viburnum rufidulum*	B/E	15-20' UA	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 wildlife; prefers deep soil so not suited for rain gardens; prune to shape or raise the canopy as needed after blooming
Viburnum, Sandankwa *Viburnum suspensum*		6-8' UA	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White flower	M	X	Is relatively fast-growing; needs good drainage; prefers deep soil so not suited for rain gardens; flowers attract pollinators and fruit is wildlife food source; prune to shape as needed after blooming
Walnut, Little *Juglans microcarpa*	T	18-20'	20'	Shade	D	Spring and fall	White flowers; nuts	M	X	Grows in limestone soil; provides food & habitat for wildlife; poisonous flowers; prune for shape or to raise canopy as needed
Wax Myrtle *Morella cerifera*	B	12-15'+ UA	15'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Winter	Blue berries	M	X	Fast-growing evergreen; use for screening; foliage is 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
Xylosoma *Xylosma congestum*		12-20' UA	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 for rain gardens; heat tolerant; occasional scale or spider mites; hardy to 10° F; attracts birds; can be pruned as tree or hedge

Shrubs

To maintain a natural look, selectively prune stems to shape but do not shear. Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in rain gardens if the soil is fast draining.

Abelia, Glossy *Abelia x grandiflora*		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 the label for specifics; attracts bees; selectively prune errant stems if too wild-looking
Agarita *Berberis trifoliolata (Mahonia trifoliolata)*	E	3-7'	3-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Early spring	Yellow flowers; red berries	VL	X	Bluish-green, holly-like foliage; fragrant early spring flowers; prickly leaves not pedestrian-friendly but provides excellent nesting for birds; red edible berries; pruning is not necessary
American Beautyberry *Callicarpa americana*	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 for rain gardens; attractive berries in fall and winter; provides food for wildlife; graceful structure does not need pruning
Apache Plume *Fallugia paradoxa*	E	4-6'+	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	White flowers; pink fruit	L	X	Multi-stemmed; 2" showy blooms; suitable for erosion control; adaptable to dry, well-drained, limestone, sandy, and clay soils; attracts bees; provides nectar and cover for wildlife; evergreen to 20° F


Japanese Aralia


Barbados Cherry


Purple Baptisia


Bottlebrush


Wooly Butterfly Bush


Coralberry


Cotoneaster


Black Dalea


Desert Broom


Elbow Bush


Flame Acanthus

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Aralia, Japanese *Fatsia japonica*		10'	10-12'	Shade	E	Late summer - early fall	Cream flowers	M	N	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 for rain gardens; remove yellow foliage as needed
Baptisia, Purple (Wild Indigo) *Baptisa australis*	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 *Malpighia glabra*	T	4-6'+	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	March to December	White to pale pink flowers	L-M	X	1/2" delicate, crepe-paper flowers followed by red berries prized by birds and small mammals; evergreen above 25º F.
Bottlebrush *Callistemon citrinus*		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 a natural look if needed
Butterfly Bush, Wooly *Buddleja marrubiifolia*	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; attractive 1/2" flower; provide good drainage; winter hardy; attracts butterflies; prune for a natural look if needed
Coralberry *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*	B	2-3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late fall - winter	Magenta berries	M	X	Good native for erosion control; stems root to form colony; prefers consistent soil moisture so not suited for rain gardens; needs rich soil and good air circulation; provides cover and berries for wildlife; cut back in winter if the plant gets leggy; control runners as required
Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster* spp.		3-5'	4-7'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Fall	Red berries	M	X	Adaptable evergreen shrubs; many cultivars available; foliage varies from silver-gray to dark green; check the label for specifics; berries and nectar are food for wildlife; prune for a natural look if needed
Dalea, Black *Dalea frutescens*	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 if a freeze damages the leaves
Desert Broom *Baccharis sarothroides*		3-6'+	3-4'	Sun	SE	Fall	White flowers	L	X	Multi-stemmed shrub; very adaptable; readily colonizes disturbed areas; use in habitat gardens; may shed leaves during drought
Elbow Bush *Forestirera pubescens*	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; birds and small mammals eat berries; prune to shape if needed
Flame Acanthus *Anisacanthus quadrifidus* var. *wrightii*	E	3-5'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Orange-red flowers	VL	X	Medium-sized native shrub; orange, tubular flowers attract hummingbirds; re-seeds; can prune into a low hedge; if frost damages its leaves, cut back by 1/3 to 1/2 before spring growth begins


Fragrant Mimosa


Bush Germander


Greek Myrtle


Indian Hawthorne


Dwarf Burford Holly

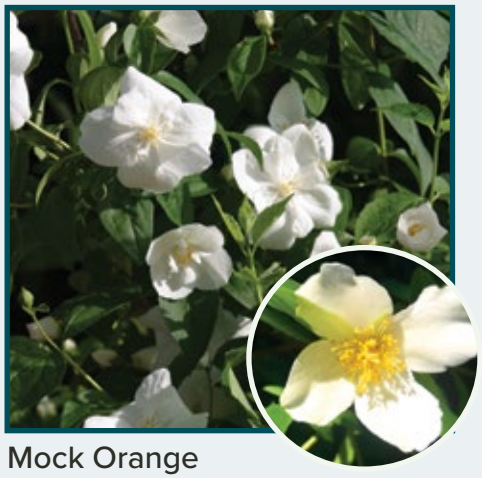

Dwarf Yaupon Holly


'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 & Maintenance
Fragrant Mimosa *Mimosa borealis*	E	6-8'	6-8'	Sun	D	Spring - summer	Pink flowers	VL	X	Needs good drainage; prickly stems; tolerates poor caliche soil; blooms are nectar source for pollinators; little maintenance necessary
Germander, Bush *Teucrium fruticans*		4-6'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Lavender/ blue flowers	L	X	Don't overwater; attractive silvery-gray green foliage; attracts bees and butterflies; prune errant stems for a natural look, shaping is not necessary
Greek Myrtle *Myrtus communis*		10-12'+	5-8'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	White flowers	L-M	X	Fine-textured evergreen shrub or small tree; fragrant flowers; heat and drought tolerant; good substitution for Boxwood; attracts bees; prune only to shape as needed
Hawthorn, Indian *Raphiolepis indica*		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 the label for specifics; attractive fleshy berries; flowers attract pollinators
Holly, Dwarf Burford *Ilex cornuta* '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 and birds; susceptible to scale insects; non-dwarf cultivars available; prune for a natural look
Holly, Dwarf Yaupon *Ilex vomitoria* 'Nana'	X	2-4'	2-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Evergreen foliage	L	X	Low, mounding, evergreen shrub; maintains a formal shape; good substitute for Boxwood; hybrid with native Texas parentage; fruits are food for wildlife, and the flowers attract bees; prune to shape if needed
Holly, Nellie R. Stevens *Ilex* x 'Nellie R. Stevens'		8-10'	5-6'	Sun	E	Fall - winter	Red berries	L-M	X	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 if needed
Japanese Yew *Podocarpus macrophyllus*		10-20'	5-10'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	Dark green foliage	L-M	N	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 *Sphaeralcea ambigua*	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; some birds and small mammals eat the seeds; lightly prune for shape
Mistflower, White *Ageratina havanensis*	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 *Philadelphus coronarius*		8-12'	6-8'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Mid-spring	White/ yellow flowers	L-M	X	Fragrant flowers; avoid use in poorly drained soil; medium-fast growth; fruit has no significant landscape interest; disease and pest free; flowers attract pollinators; 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



'Knock Out' 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 & Maintenance
Palmetto, Texas Dwarf *Sabal minor*	B/E	3-5'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring	White flowers	M	X	Not a true shrub; trunkless native palm; tropical-looking but tough; tolerates poor drainage; 1-6' flower clusters; drought tolerant after established; provides wildlife habitat; prune only to remove damaged fronds
Pineapple Guava *Feijoa sellowiana*		6-10'	6-8'	Sun	E	Spring - early summer	Pink and red blooms	L-M	X	Likes well-drained soil; attracts hummingbirds; a little cold tender; fruit can be messy so don't plant near paved surfaces; prune for the desired shape
Pittosporum *Pittosporum tobira*		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; attracts pollinators; pruning is not necessary

Roses

In late winter, prune back roses by 1/3rd. As needed, remove spent blooms to encourage repeat blooms. Avoid using roses in rain gardens due to thorns, maintenance, and varying water needs.

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



‘Nearly Wild’ Rose



‘Old Blush’ Rose



Upright Rosemary



Texas Sage



Flowering Senna



Skyflower



Fragrant (Aromatic) Sumac



Turk’s Cap



Sweet Almond Verbena



Thryallis (Golden Showers)

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Rose, Nearly Wild *Rosa* 'Nearly Wild'		3'	4'	Sun	SE	Spring - frost	Deep pink	M	X	Single pink bloom; repeat bloomer; disease resistant; needs soil with compost added; attracts bees
Rose, Old Blush *Rosa* 'Old Blush'		5'	5'	Sun	SE	Spring - frost	Deep pink	M	X	Antique rose; repeat bloomer; disease resistant; attracts bees

Shrubs continued...

Rosemary, Upright *Rosmarinus officinalis*		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, *R. officinalis* var. *prostratus* makes good groundcover; susceptible to frigid weather
Sage, Texas *Leucophyllum frutescens*	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 through the growing season; provide well-drained soil; flowers attract bees; prune for a natural look; do not shear or hedge
Senna, Flowering *Senna corymbosa*		6-8'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Summer - fall	Yellow flowers	L-M	X	Dark green leaves, showy bloomer, adapted to caliche soils; susceptible to freezing weather; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; prune for shape or to raise the canopy
Skyflower, Duranta *Duranta erecta*		5-10'	4-10'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer - frost	Purple or white flowers	L-M	X	Fine texture; yellow fruit; cold tender; provide fertile, well-drained soil; more flowers in full sun; many cultivars available; provides food and shelter for wildlife; cut back after a freeze but before new spring growth
Sumac, Fragrant (Aromatic) *Rhus aromatica*	B/E	6-9'	4-6'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Vibrant fall leaves	L	X	Leaves have spicy fragrance when crushed; fine texture; yellow fruit; cold tender; provide fertile, well-drained soil; many cultivars are available; nectar source for pollinators and berries for birds; cut back after a freeze but before new spring growth
Sweet Almond Verbena *Aloysia virgata*		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; susceptible to freezing weather; prune to shape
Thyrallis (Golden Showers) *Galphimia glauca*		4-6'	4'	Sun	E	Spring - frost	Yellow	L	X	Easy to grow; needs room to spread; tolerates most soils; prefers well-drained soils; hardy to 25° F; flowers attract pollinators; lightly prune if needed
Turk's Cap *Malvaviscus arboreus* 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; top of the plant may freeze; cut back to keep confined, when leggy, or if needed after freeze



Artemesia



Beebalm





Yellow Bird of Paradise



Black-eyed Susan ‘Goldstrum’



Bulbine



Red Bird of Paradise



Mexican Butterfly Weed



Calylophus



Cast Iron Plant



Catmint

Perennials

If the plant looks good, leave it alone. If the plant needs rejuvenating or if you want it more compact, 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 rain gardens if the soil is fast draining.

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Artemisia *Artemisia* 'Powis Castle'		1-2'	3-6'	Sun	E	Year round	Blue-gray foliage	VL	N	Aromatic, lace-like, gray foliage; low water use and low maintenance; cut back to 4" in late winter before new spring growth
Beebalm *Monarda fistulosa*	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 *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*		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; a freeze may damage the top, but roots are hardy to 15° F; prune for shape only; mulch to prevent winter damage to roots
Bird of Paradise, Yellow *Caesalpinia gilliesii*		6-8'	6-12'	Sun	D	Spring - fall	Yellow with orange	L	X	Light airy foliage; tropical look; dependably hardy; disease and pest resistant; attracts pollinators; seeds are toxic; prune for shape only; mulch to prevent winter damage to roots
Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta* var. *pulcherrima*	B/E	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Yellow with dark centers	L-M	X	Daisy-like blooms in summer; can grow native from seed; *Rubeckia fulgida* var. *sullivantii* 'Goldsturm' is a cultivar with larger flowers; source of nectar for butterflies; prune back in late winter
Bulbine *Bulbine frutescens*		2'	2.5'	Sun	E	Spring - fall	Orange or yellow	VL	X	Aloe-like leaves; cold tender; susceptible to cold weather; attracts pollinators; trim off bloom stalks as they decline
Butterfly Weed, Mexican (Tropical Milkweed) *Asclepias currasavica*		3-4'	1-2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Yellow and/or orange flowers	L	X	Non-native Mexican variety is common in nurseries; to encourage monarch migration and reduce local overwintering cut back to 6" November -February; plant native varieties when possible - try *A. asperula* and *A. viridis* from seed; Native *A. tuberosa* needs good drainage - **do not disturb its taproot when transplanting; monarch caterpillars eat leaves of milkweeds**
Calylophus (Square Bud Primrose) *Calylophus berlandieri*	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; suitable for use as groundcover; many insects attracted to flowers; no maintenance needed
Cast Iron Plant *Aspidistra elatior*		3'	2-3'	Shade	E	Spring - fall	Large green leaves	L	X	Good understory plant for dry shade, large, long green leaves; leaf edges will scorch with too much sun; provides habitat for insects; remove damaged foliage to 3" height as needed
Catmint *Nepeta* x *faassenii*		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 pollinators; cut back to 3-6" after freeze damage but before spring growth



Chile Pequin (Petin)



Red Columbine



Yellow 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 & Maintenance
Chile Pequin *Capsicum annuum*	E	2-4'	2-4'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	White flowers	L	X	Red peppers are edible and very hot!; reseeds easily; birds love the fruit; cut back to 3-6" after freeze damage but before new spring growth
Columbine, Red *Aquilegia canadensis*	E	1-2'	1-2'	Shade	SE	Spring	Red flowers	M	X	Prefers moist, yet well-drained soils; reseeds; dormant in summer without water; susceptible to leaf miners; attracts hummingbirds; prune off spent foliage and seed heads in late May
Columbine, Yellow *Aquilegia chrysantha* var. *hinckleyana*	T	1-2'	1-2'	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 hummingbirds; prune off spent foliage and seed heads in late May
Coralbean *Erythrina herbacea*	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; cut back if damaged by freeze and before spring growth
Coreopsis, Lance-leaf *Coreopsis lanceolata*	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 *Cuphea llavea*		1'	1'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late spring - frost	Red and purple flowers	L-M	X	Appropriately named; very heat tolerant; cold tender so not suited for rain gardens; attracts pollinators; cut back to 6" after cold damage occurs but before spring growth
Cuphea,'David Verity' *Cuphea* 'David Verity'		2-3'	2-3'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange and yellow	L	X	Provide well-drained soil; attracts pollinators; cut back to 3" height after cold damage occurs but before spring growth
Daisy, Blackfoot *Melampodium leucanthum*	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; prefers consistently dry soil; can be temperamental when transplanting; attracts pollinators; prune back if leggy
Daisy, Chocolate *Berlandiera lyrata*	T	1-2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Late summer	Yellow flowers	L-M	X	Likes dry, rocky limestone; the plant has a chocolate scent; nectar source for bees and other insects; use in a natural area or habitat garden; can be grown from seed; no maintenance
Daisy, Copper Canyon *Tagetes lemmonii*		3'	4'	Sun	D	Fall	Yellow flowers	L	X	Daisy-like flowers; strongly-scented leaves; native to Mexico; attracts pollinators; can prune plants to your desired height; stop shearing by mid-summer to allow fall flowers
Daisy, Engelmann *Engelmannia peristenia*	B/E	1.5-2'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring to mid-summer	Yellow flowers	M	X	Easy to grow native perennial; suitable for natural areas, meadows, and habitat gardens; reseeds quickly moving around the landscape; seed source for birds; seeds commercially available; remove spent bloom stalks


Damianita


Datura


Esperanza


Fall Aster


Firecracker Fern

River Fern


Firebush


Frostweed


Gaura


Gayfeather

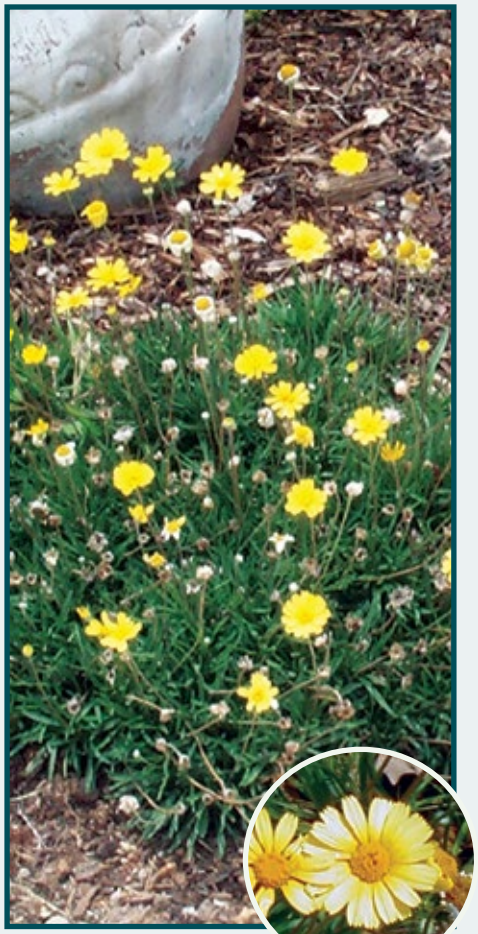
Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Damianita *Chrysactina mexicana*	E	1	1.5 - 2'	Sun	E	Spring and some summer	Golden yellow flowers	VL	X	Low-growing; mounding; use in a rock garden; mainly blooms in spring and then on and off through growing season; drought hardy; aromatic foliage; provide well-drained soil; attracts bees
Datura (Jimson Weed) *Datura wrightii*	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) *Tecoma stans*	T	4-8'	4-6'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Yellow or orange	L-M	X	Showy blooms; has narrow leaves; new cultivars provide color options; attracts bees and hummingbirds, remove spent flowers as needed; cut back to 6-8" after cold damage but before new spring growth
Fall Aster *Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*	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; attracts pollinators; colonizes but easy to control; lightly prune if needed through spring and summer to keep compact
Fern, Firecracker *Russelia equisetiformis*		3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring - winter	Red or white flowers	L	X	Needs moderately rich, well-drained soil; not a true fern; attracts hummingbirds; prune spent flower stalks
Fern, River *Thelypteris kunthii*	B/E	2-3'	3'	Shade	D			M-H	X	Likes shady, moist areas, so not suited for rain gardens; provides cover for wildlife; prune the dead fronds before springtime growth; mulch well
Firebush *Hamelia patens*		3-4.5'	4-5'	Sun	D	Summer - fall	Orange-red flowers	M	X	Orange tubular flowers attract hummingbirds; turns burgundy in fall; needs protection in severe winters; prune to 6" above ground if a hard freeze damages growth and before new spring growth
Frostweed *Verbesina virginica*	E	3-6'	colonizes	Shade	D	Fall/ winter	White flowers	L-M	X	Forms colonies; stem ruptures with freeze creating ice crystal formations; commercial availability limited; nectar source for pollinators; cut back to 6" after cold damage occurs and before new spring growth
Gaura *Gaura lindheimeri*	B	2-3'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Pink or white/ pink	L	X	Tall flower spikes with 1" flowers that resemble fluttering butterflies; attracts butterflies; cut back to 3" if a hard freeze damages the plant; prune before spring growth
Gayfeather *Liatris punctata* var. *mucronata*	E	1-3'	1-1.5'	Sun	D	August - December	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" if a hard freeze damages the plant; prune before spring growth


Green Germander

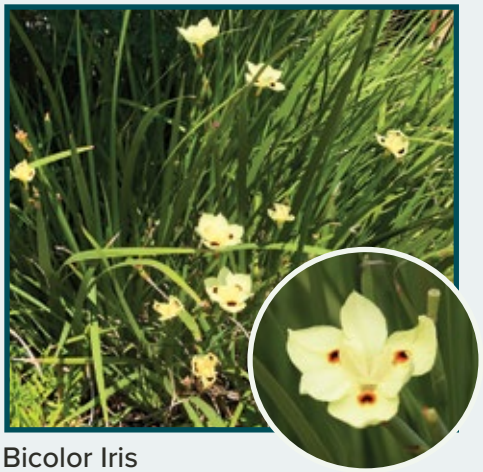

Ghost Plant


Perennial Hibiscus


Mexican Honeysuckle


Hymenoxys


‘Indigo Spires’ Salvia


Bicolor Iris


Lamb’s Ear


Lantana (hybrid)


Texas Lantana


Trailing Lantana

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Germander, Green *Teucrium chamaedrys*		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 pollinators; no pruning necessary
Ghost Plant *Graptopetalum paraguayense*		7-12"	6-12"	Sun/Part Shade	E	Year round	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
Hibiscus, Perennial *Hibiscus* spp.	X	3-5'	4'	Sun	D	Summer - frost	Bright red blooms	M	X	Showy blooms can reach 8-10" across; many cultivars available are hybrids; provides nectar for hummingbirds; *H. moscheutos & H. coccineus* are recommended varieties; cut back to 6-8" after cold damage but before new spring growth
Honeysuckle, Mexican *Justicia spicigera*		3'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - frost	Orange flowers	L	X	Orange tubular flowers; grayish foliage; long bloom period; attracts hummingbirds; prune back as needed to encourage fullness
Hymenoxys (Four Nerve Daisy) *Tetraneuris scaposa*	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 a rock garden; attracts pollinators; prune off spent bloom stalks
Indigo Spires *Salvia* 'Indigo Spires'	X	3-4'	5-7'	Sun/Part Shade	D	All summer	Blue/ purple	L-M	X	Allow room to spread; attracts hummingbirds; shear back by 1/3 in summer
Iris, Bicolor *Dietes bicolor*		4'	2-3'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - early summer	Creamy yellow w/ markings	L	X	Forms clumps of long, narrow, iris-like foliage; Butterfly Iris, *D. iriodoides*, has broader leaves and white flowers with blue and yellow markings; attracts bees and butterflies; remove unsightly foliage as needed
Lamb's Ear *Stachys byzantina*		1'	1.5'	Sun	D	Year round	Gray fuzzy leaves	L	X	Tolerates dry soil; mainly planted for fuzzy foliage; flowers attract bees; remove unsightly foliage as needed; avoid overhead watering
Lantana (hybrid) *Lantana x hybrida* (many varieties)	X	2-4'	4'	Sun	D	Spring - frost	Varies	L	X	Many varieties; butterfly delight; prolific blooming (inset photo: 'New Gold'); can be cold tender; all parts are poisonous; prickly stems; cut back to 6" after freeze damage and before new spring growth
Lantana, Texas *Lantana urticoides*	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
Lantana, Trailing *Lantana montevidensis*		1-1.5'	4'+	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring - frost	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



Maximillian Sunflower



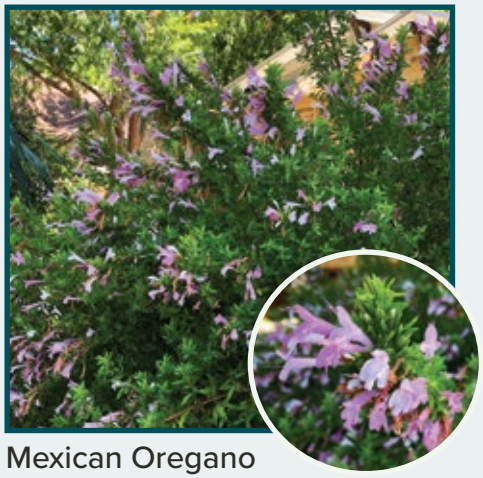
Mexican Mint Marigold



Gregg Mistflower



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 & Maintenance
Lion's Tail *Leonotis leonurus*		4-6'	4-6'	Sun	E	Late spring - fall	Orange flowers	L	X	Unusual, multi-tiered bloom; provide well-drained soil; seeds out readily; do not plant near preserves; attracts pollinators; prune after flowering to maintain a compact form
Maximilian Sunflower *Helianthus maximiliani*	B/E	up to 10'	Forms colony	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Yellow flowers	L-M	X	Forms large colonies, so plant with plenty of space toward the back of garden; easy to grow; seed is commercially available; cut back stalks after hard freeze and after birds have harvested seeds
Mexican Mint Marigold *Tagetes lucida*		2-3'	2-3'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Yellow/ orange flowers	L	X	Tarragon-flavored culinary herb; aromatic foliage; spreads over time; attracts pollinators; shear in early summer to encourage compactness
Mistflower, Gregg *Conoclinium greggii*	T	1-2'	2-4'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer - fall	Blue flowers	L-M	X	Forms colonies but is 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 a hard freeze
Obedient Plant, Fall *Phystostegia virginiana*	B	2-4'	4'+	Sun/Part Shade	D	Fall	Lavender	M	X	Tolerates poor drainage; spreads aggressively by underground rhizomes, but easy to contain; *P. angustifolia* is a spring-blooming relative; attracts pollinators; cut back to 6" after fall bloom
Oregano, Mexican *Poliomintha longiflora*		3'	4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Lavender/ pink	L	X	Aromatic foliage; edible leaves; attracts pollinators; 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 *Penstemon tenuis*	T	1.5-2.5'	1-1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	SE	Spring	Lavender	L	X	Attracts hummingbirds; reseeds freely, but is not overly aggressive; remove flower stalks before they set seed to avoid them spreading
Penstemon, Hill Country *Penstemon triflorus*	E	1.5-2.5'	1.5'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Spring	Hot pink to red	L	X	Provide well-drained soil; attracts hummingbirds; cut back flowers after blooming
Penstemon, Rock *Penstemon baccharifolius*	E	1-1.5'	2'	Sun	E	Spring - summer	Cherry red	L	X	Needs well-drained soil; attracts pollinators; trim to shape if leggy
Phlox, Garden *Phlox paniculata*		3'	2'	Sun/Part Shade	D	Summer	Pink/ white flowers	M	X	Tall bloom spikes all summer; susceptible to powdery mildew; attracts butterflies; cut back to 3" after a hard freeze and before spring growth
Plumbago *Plumbago auriculata*		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 ‘Katie’



Cedar Sage



Cherry Sage







Jerusalem Sage



Majestic Sage



Mealy Blue Sage

Mexican Bush Sage

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Primrose, Missouri *Oenothera macrocarpa*	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; attractive seed pods; attracts pollinators; cut back to 3" after freeze damages leaves
Purple Coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*	T	1-3'	3'+	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Violet or white flowers	L	X	Daisy-like flowers; native; seeds available for native species; hybrid selections also available; attracts butterflies and seeds are food for wildlife; remove flower stalks after birds have harvested seeds
Rock Rose *Pavonia lasiopetala*	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 the shade; reseeds freely, but is not overly aggressive; attracts butterflies; cut back by 1/3 in late winter
Ruellia, Dwarf *Ruellia brittoniana*		8"-1'	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Blue/ purple to pink	L	X	Petunia-like flower; dwarf varieties include 'Katie' or 'Bonita'; taller types reseed profusely; do not plant near preserves; attracts butterflies; prune taller species to 3" after frost browns leaves
Sage, Cedar *Salvia roemeriana*	E	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - summer	Red	VL	X	Reseeds freely; red bloom spikes bring color to shady spots; attracts pollinators; remove seed heads after flowering then scatter in new areas to expand population
Sage, Cherry (Autumn Sage) *Salvia greggii*	E	2-3'	2-3'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - frost	Red, many other colors	M	X	1" long blooms; comes in a variety of colors; tough; attracts hummingbirds; cut back mature plants by 1/3 to 1/2 after spring or fall bloom if needed to rejuvenate
Sage, Jerusalem *Phlomis fruticosa*		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 *Salvia guaranitica*		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 a hard freeze and before new spring growth begins
Sage, Mealy Blue *Salvia farinacea*	B/E	2-3'	2-3'	Sun	D	Spring - summer	Blue flowers	L	X	Will grow in most soils; easy to grow from seed; the cultivar *S. farinacea* 'Henry Duelberg' has dark blue flowers; attracts pollinators; remove spent bloom stalks to encourage flowering; cut back mature plants to 6" in late winter before new spring growth begins
Sage, Mexican Bush *Salvia leucantha*		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; attracts hummingbirds; cut back after frost browns leaves and before new spring growth


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 & Maintenance
Sage, Russian *Perovskia atriplicifolia*		3'	3'	Sun	D	Late summer - fall	Blue flowers	L	X	Fine-textured, silvery-green lacey leaves; spiky flower stalks; needs good drainage; attracts pollinators; cut back to 3" after first freeze browns the leaves and before new spring growth
Sage, San Luis *Salvia microphylla*		3-4'	3-4'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Summer - fall	Red, many other colors	L	X	Prefers well-drained soil; has scented foliage; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; many cultivars available; from Mexico
Sage, Tropical *Salvia coccinea*	B	2-3'	1-1.5'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Late Spring - fall	Red	L	X	Short-lived perennial; reseeds profusely; dwarf varieties available; outstanding hummingbird plant; cut back in early summer to 3" and after frost browns the leaves
Senna, Lindheimer *Senna lindheimeriana*	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; seeds are food for birds; prune back after a hard freeze
Shrimp Plant *Justicia brandegeana*		3-4'	3-4'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Copper, red or yellow	L	X	Does best in the morning sun and afternoon shade; looks best when massed; flowers resemble shrimp; do not plant near preserves; great hummingbird plant, cut back to 6" in winter to encourage bushiness
Skeletonleaf Goldeneye *Viguiera stenoloba*	E	3-4'	4-6'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Summer - frost	Yellow flowers	VL	X	Mound of daisy-like flowers; attractive fine-textured foliage; provide well-drained soil; attracts pollinators; cut back to 6" in winter to encourage bushiness
Skullcap, Heartleaf *Scuttelaria ovata* subsp. *bracteata*	E	2'	2'	Shade	E	Late May to early June	Blue flowers	L	X	Colonizes and spreads easily; might go dormant in summer; attracts bees; little maintenance required
Skullcap, Pink *Scutellaria suffrutescens*		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 *Scutellaria wrightii*	B/E	6-10"	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Purple flowers	L	X	Drought and heat tolerant; showy blooms; attracts bees; cut back by 1/2 after bloom if needed to keep compact
Society Garlic *Tulbaghia violacea*		1.5-2.5'	1.5'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	Pink flowers	L-M	N	Provide well-drained soil; solid or variegated leaf forms available; bruised foliage has onion aroma; remove spent bloom stalks
Spider Lily *Hymenocallis lirisome*	T	1-2'	1-2'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Late spring to early summer	White flowers	L-M	X	Large 7" white flowers; glossy strap-like leaves grow in clumps; will die back after a hard freeze and stay dormant until spring; attracts pollinators


Spiderwort


Texas Betony


Winecup


Yarrow


Zexmenia


Nolina


Agave


Basket Grass


Prickly Pear Cactus


Texas Sotol

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Spiderwort *Tradescantia* spp.	T	1-3'	2'	Shade	D	Spring - fall	Purple or pink flowers	L	X	Fast spreading; dormant in summer; edible; nectar source for pollinators; cut back to 6" in winter or to increase blooms
Texas Betony *Stachys coccinea*	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; gray-green foliage; attracts hummingbirds; stems can be brittle; shear regularly to encourage fullness and bloom
Winecup, Perennial *Callirohoe involucrata*	B/E	6"-1'	4-5'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - early summer	Magenta flowers	L	X	Sprawling habit great for filling in between other plants; will go dormant in summer without supplemental water; larval host plant; cut back to the rosette in winter
Yarrow *Achillea* spp.		1-1.5'	3'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Late spring and summer	varies	L-M	X	Forms a groundcover; fern-like leaves; nectar attracts butterflies; larval host plant for Painted Lady butterfly; remove spent blooms; cut back to basal foliage after a hard freeze
Zexmenia *Wedelia texana*	E	1.5-2.5'	2-3'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Spring - frost	Golden yellow flowers	L	X	Blooms continuously though not profusely; reseeds easily; attract pollinators; 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. Remove old leaves and bloom stalks at the base for a neater appearance. Wear heavy-duty gloves and eye protection.

Agave spp. *Agave* spp.		varies	varies	Sun/Part Shade	E	Spring and/or summer	White to creamy white and yellow	VL	X	Are available in many sizes, leaf types, and varying degrees of hardiness; plant dies after blooming but leaves "pups"; agave weevil is a pest; Century Plant (*A. americana*), Parry's Agave (*A. parryi* var. *truncata*), Queen Victoria Agave (*A. victoriae-reginae*), and Squid (*A. bractosa*) are recommended varieties; provides nectar, pollen, and seeds for wildlife; no maintenance
Basket Grass (Sacahuista) *Nolina texana*	E	2'	3'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Fall	Cream-colored plume	VL	X	Not an actual grass; grass-like mounding form effectively reduces erosion on slopes; keep away from walkways as leaves have sharp edges; flowers attract insects; remove old bloom stalks at the base
Cactus, Prickly Pear *Opuntia* 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 the label for size, flower color, hardiness, and distinguishing attributes
Nolina *Nolina lindheimeriana*	E	10-12'	4-5'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Summer	Tan flowers	L	X	10' tall spike of small, tan flowers; flowers attract bees; remove old leaves from trunk for a neater appearance
Sotol, Texas *Dasylirion texanum*	E	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/Part Shade	E	Early summer	White flowers on sturdy stalk	L	X	Long blade-like leaves with sharp edges (not pedestrian-friendly); needs space; good barrier plant; requires good drainage; may attract hummingbirds; remove old bloom stalks at the base


Yucca


Paleleaf Yucca


Red Yucca


Twistleaf Yucca


Little Bluestem


Indian Grass




Meadow Sedge


Bamboo Muhly


Big Muhly


Inland Sea Oats

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

Ornamental & Prairie Grasses

The Muhly grasses are all good options as accents or in groups. They stay in mounding forms. Cut back 1x a year if needed. Use prairie grasses in restoration, prairie, meadow, or natural plantings but not in more formal landscapes.

Bluestem, Little *Schizachyrium scoparium*	B/E	3-4'	1.5'	Sun	D	Fall	Copper foliage	L	X	Prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in a meadow, natural area, or restoration project: larval host plant for several Skipper butterflies; cut back to 6" in winter before new spring growth
Indiangrass *Sorghastrum nutans*		3-5'	5'	Sun	D	Fall	Bright gold	M-H	X	Prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in a meadow, natural area, or wetland; tall seed heads in fall; reseeds; seeds & green stems are a food source for wildlife; cut back to 8" height in winter before new spring growth
Inland Seaoats *Chasmanthium latifolium*	B/E	2-4'	3-6'+	Shade	D	Summer - fall	Ivory seeds	L-M	X	Is a good understory plant; graceful, drooping wheat-like seed heads, reseeds easily; appropriate for woodlands; prefers moist areas; provides wildlife habitat and food; cut back to 4" in winter
Sedge, Meadow *Carex perdentata*	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 *Muhlenbergia dumosa*		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; blooms stalks turn attractive straw color in winter; provides shelter for birds; selectively prune stalks to maintain elegant shape; cut back in winter if needed
Muhly, Big *Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*	E	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Fall	White flowers on 6' stalk	L-M	X	Clumping, blue-green grass; a smaller native alternative to invasive Pampasgrass; featherlike blooms in fall; provides food & habitat for wildlife; rake or cut back in winter



Deer Muhly



Gulf Muhly



Pine Muhly



Sideoats Grama



Switchgrass



Alamo Vine



Carolina Jessamine



Crossvine



Fig Vine



Coral Honeysuckle

Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Muhly, Deer *Muhlenbergia rigens*	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; provides shelter for birds; cut back in winter
Muhly, Gulf *Muhlenbergia capillaris*	T	2.5'	2'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Fall	Pink seed heads	L-M	X	Wispy seed heads offer excellent fall color; especially when backlit; birds & small mammals eat the seeds; cut back in winter
Muhly, Pine *Muhlenbergia dubia*	T	1-3'	1-3'	Sun	D	Fall	Feathery seed heads	VL	X	Nicely shaped bunchgrass; stiff needles; wildlife habitat; no maintenance required
Sideoats Grama *Bouteloua curtipendula*	T	2-3'	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Fall	One-sided seed head	L	X	State grass of Texas; prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in meadows, natural areas, or wetlands; side hanging seed pods; easy to grow from seed; drought tolerant; food source for wildlife; cut back to 6" height in winter before new spring growth
Switchgrass *Panicum virgatum*	B/E	6'	4'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Fall	Reddish tint	L-H	X	Prairie plant appropriate in mass plantings in meadows, natural areas, or wetlands; numerous cultivars available; upright; tall seed heads in fall; usually has a reddish tint; prefers moist areas; reseeds; food and habitat source for wildlife; cut back to 8" height in winter before new spring growth

Vines

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

Alamo Vine *Merremia dissecta*	E	12'	10-12'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White flowers w/red throat	L-M	X	Fast-growing, twining vine; easy to grow from seed; tolerates poor soil and alkaline soil but needs good drainage; spreads by rhizomes; poisonous seeds; blooms in the afternoon; provides nectar for butterflies; prune to direct and control growth
Carolina Jessamine *Gelsemium sempervirens*	T		6-20'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Early spring	Yellow flowers	M	X	Twining vine; fragrant; prefers even soil moisture so is not suited for rain gardens; attracts hummingbirds; poisonous if ingested
Crossvine *Bignonia capreolata*	T		6-30'+	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Summer	Orange flowers	L	X	Tendril vine attaches to a wall; very aggressive climber; 'Tangerine Beauty' variety has bright coral blooms; attracts hummingbirds and bees; prune to direct and control growth
Fig Vine *Ficus pumila*			6-30'+	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - fall	Green leaves	M		Very aggressive once established; not recommended for wood structures; do not plant near preserves; host plant for some butterfly species; susceptible to hard freezes; prune to direct and control growth as needed
Honeysuckle, Coral *Lonicera sempervirens*	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 is food for wildlife; 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 & Maintenance
Jasmine, Star *Trachelospermum jasminoides*		20'	12-16'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Spring - summer	White flowers	L	X	Fragrant blooms; glossy leaves; poisonous if ingested; aggressive in shady areas; do not plant near preserves; attracts pollinators; prune to direct and control growth
Mexican Flame Vine *Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides*		10'+		Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	Orange flowers	L	X	Non-aggressive twining vine with thick, glossy leaves; provides quick cover for chain link fence; susceptible to cold weather; attracts butterflies, bees, and birds; prune to direct and control growth
Passion Vine *Passiflora incarnata*	T		6-15'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Early spring - summer	Lavender flowers	L-M	X	Tendril vine; perennial; exotic-looking flower; food for several species of butterfly larvae; aggressive growth; prune to direct and control growth
Rose, 'Lady Banksia' *Rosa banksiae*			20+'	Sun	E	Spring	White to yellow	M	X	Fast-growing, climbing rose; needs sturdy support and lots of space so not suited for rain gardens; thornless; white flowers are fragrant; attracts pollinators; prune after spring bloom to control and direct growth
Trumpet Vine *Campsis radicans*	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 *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	B/E		to 40'+	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Fall	Scarlet fall foliage	L	X	Vigorous vine or groundcover; not recommended for wood structures; food source for wildlife; fruit is poisonous for humans
Wisteria, Texas *Wisteria frutescens*	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; attracts pollinators; prune to direct and control growth

Groundcovers

Some groundcovers are great turf alternatives. They are most effectively planted 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 rain gardens if the soil is fast draining.

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


Frogfruit


Creeping Germander


Golden Groundsel

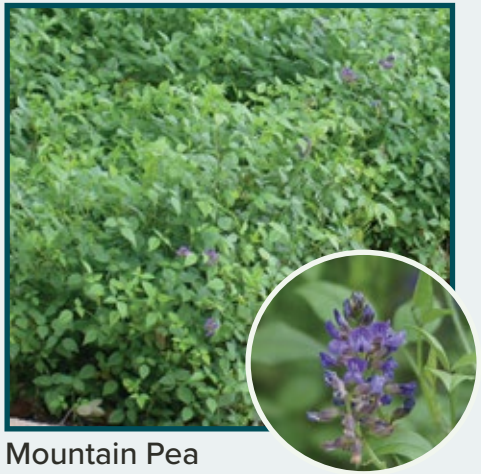

Horseherb


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 & Maintenance
Frogfruit *Phyla nodiflora*	B/E	6-8"	1.5-2'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - fall	White	L-M	X	Native groundcover; spreads rapidly; small flower; can tolerate poor drainage; commercial availability may be limited; larval host plant to butterflies; cut back to 3" in winter
Germander, Creeping *Teucrium cossonii*		4-6"	1.5-2'	Sun	E	Summer	Pink and purple flowers	L	X	Low mounding form; silver foliage; dark green cultivar available; requires well-drained soil; attracts bees; pruning not necessary
Golden Groundsel (Round-leaf ragwort) *Packera obovata*	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 for the year; attracts butterflies and creates habitat; pruning not necessary
Horseherb *Calyptocarpus vialis*	B/E	8-10"	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Spring - fall	Yellow flowers	VL	X	Recommended for revegetation; tolerates some foot traffic; does well in dry shade; naturally abundant in shady areas and lawns, but limited commercial availability; attracts small butterflies; can mow as needed to maintain preferred height
Iceplant *Aptenia* spp. *Delosperma* spp. *Malephora* spp.		6"	1'	Sun	SE	Spring-fall	Purple to yellow flowers	VL	X	Iceplant is the common name for three genera; fast-growing, groundcover for hot, dry sites; great for hanging baskets; has thick green succulent leaves; attracts bees and butterflies; no pruning is necessary
Leadwort Plumbago *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*		6-12"	3-5'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Summer	Blue flowers	L	X	Deep blue flowers and green foliage with a burgundy tinge in cool weather; attracts butterflies; cut back if needed in winter
Liriope *Liriope muscari*		12-18"	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Summer	Purple spikes	M	N	Grass-like clumps of evergreen foliage; requires more water in the sun; cultivars of varying height available; check plant label for details; cut back in winter if needed
Monkey Grass (Mondo Grass) *Ophiopogon japonicus*		4-8"	1'+	Shade	E	Year round	Green foliage	M	N	Great lawn alternative for 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 *Orbexilum pedunculatum*	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; shear occasionally to promote compact growth
Oregano *Origanum vulgare*		10"-2'	2'	Sun	E	Summer	White to rosy pink	L-M	X	Sprawling plant; pungently aromatic; flavorful leaves used in cooking; attracts bees; cut back to 3" in winter if needed
Pigeonberry *Rivina humilis*	B/E	1-1.5'	2'	Shade	D	Spring - fall	White/ pink flowers	M	X	Spreads rapidly; tolerates moist or dry soil; birds prize tiny red berries; may go dormant in summer; limited commercial availability; prune for a natural look


Purple Heart


Leaf Sage


Santolina


Sedges


Sedum (varieties)


Silver Ponyfoot


Snakeherb


Verbena


Violet


Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern


Wooly Stemodia

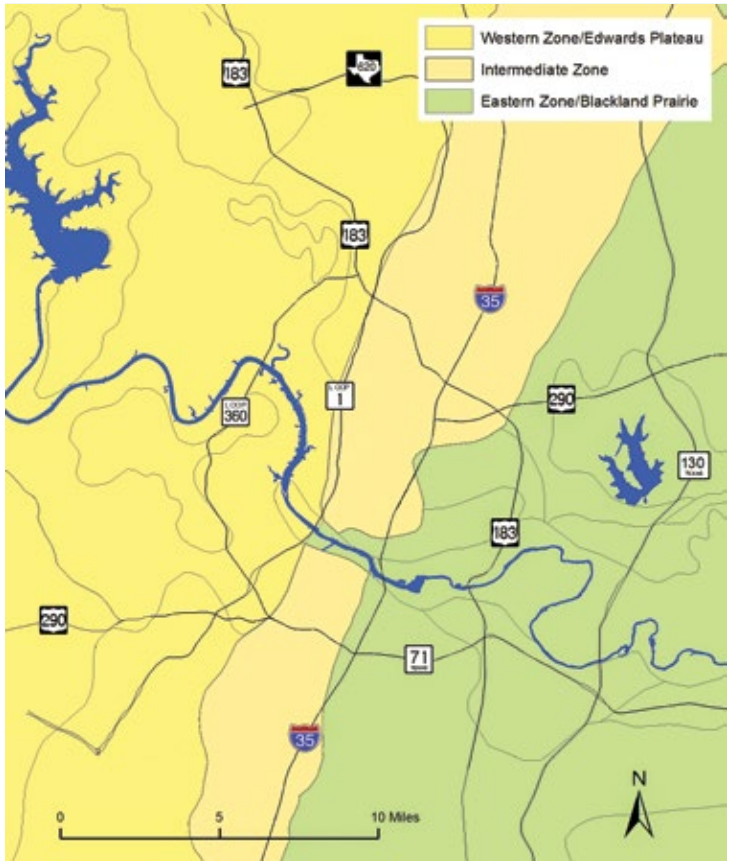
Common Name	Texas Native	Height	Spread	Light	Evergreen/Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water	Wildlife	Comments & Maintenance
Purple Heart *Setcreasea pallida*		1'	3'	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Spring - Fall	Purple leaves w/pink flowers	L	N	Requires more water in the sun but very drought tolerant once 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 *Salvia lyrata*	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 the garden; attracts hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies
Santolina (Lavender Cotton) *Santolina chamaecyparissus*		1-2'	1-2'	Sun	E	Spring	Yellow flowers	VL	X	Shrubby groundcover; fine-textured, aromatic evergreen foliage; requires excellent drainage; not long-lived; attracts bees; green leaf species also available
Sedges *Carex* spp.		varies		Sun/ Part Shade	E	Year round	Evergreen leaves	most are L	X	Grassy, clumplike foliage; plant in masses for groundcover; Berkeley (*C. tumicola*), Meadow Sedge (*C. perdentata*), and Texas, (*C. texensis*) are recommended; check the label for specifics on height, hardiness, and water needs; seeds provide food for birds; no pruning necessary
Sedum (Stonecrop) *Sedum* spp.		6"	1'	Sun/ Part Shade	E	Summer	White	L	X	Succulent plants with many species, leaf types, and flower colors; check the label for specifics; good drainage required; withstands shallow, poor soil; attract pollinators; no pruning necessary
Silver Ponyfoot *Dichondra argentea*	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 overwater; native to west Texas; provides wildlife habitat; no pruning required
Snakeherb *Dyschoriste linearis*	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 and off through fall after it rains; 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 check labels for details; native Prairie Verbena is *V. bipinnatifida*; cut back to 3" if needed in winter
Violets *Viola missourensis*	T	4-6"	8-10"	Shade	D	Spring	Violet flowers		X	Reseeds easily; will move around in garden; lighter purple bloom than houseplant; attracts butterflies
Wavy Scaly Cloak Fern *Astrolepis sinuata*	T	1'	3'	Sun/ Part Shade	SE	Spring - Fall	Feathery fronds		N	Xeric fern; drought tolerant; low water use; heat and cold tolerant; may go partially dormant with less water; no pruning needed
Wooly Stemodia *Stemodia lanata*	T		3'+	Sun/ Part Shade	D	Summer	Purple blooms	L	N	Delicate purple blooms contrast with gray foliage; good cascading plant for pots; needs good drainage; prune unattractive foliage

Land stewards advocate reducing turfgrass use because it can require large amounts of water, fossil fuels, and chemicals. If you decide to use turf, then choose wisely and keep the area small. If you choose 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 at **www.GrowGreen.org**.

There is not a turf 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 or irrigation and when temperatures are conducive to growth.

Turfgrass species and variety selection depend primarily 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* 8" of tilled or otherwise un-compacted soil**, which will encourage turfgrasses to develop deep, extensive root systems. If you have a site with limited or compacted soil, suitable turfgrass quality may be challenging to establish and maintain



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, highly alkaline limestone and caliche soils 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, 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 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 grow densely, so it is more susceptible to weed invasions than other turfgrasses. To maintain a natural look, mow 2 to 4 times per year on the highest mower 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.



Shortgrass Prairie Seed Mixes

Low water use / Full sun / Tolerates light foot traffic

Commercial native seed mixes are available that combine Buffalograss *(Buchloe dactyloides)*, Curly Mesquite *(Hilaria belangeri)*, and Blue Grama Grass *(Bouteloua gracilis)*. You can also add short wildflowers to mixes to create a shortgrass meadow.

Seeds: Native grasses mix



Bermudagrass hybrids that do not produce viable seed*

Cynodon dactylon x *Cynodon transvaalensis*

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

Bermudagrass grows densely and is the most widely used turfgrass species for golf courses 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 frequent use, mowing, watering, and fertilization. Hybrid varieties of bermudagrass (crosses of *C. dactylon* and *C. transvaalensis*) are most often planted as sod or from sprigs and produce sterile seed heads. As a result, most hybrids do not pose the same invasive threat as Common Bermuda types. However, all Bermudagrass varieties can be invasive to neighboring plant beds and gardens due to their aggressive growth from rhizomes and stolons.

Special Note: Common Bermuda is one of Austin's Top 24 Invasive Plants in the City's Invasive Species Management Plan. Austin Water will not approve their landscape rebates for this grass. Common Bermudagrass and improved varieties are not recommended for use in home lawns. When they are not mowed, they produce viable seeds that can escape the garden and invade natural areas. Bermudagrass seed is listed in the City of Austin Environmental Criteria Manual. It is used for commercial development to stabilize the soil and reduce sediment and runoff damage 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 easier to establish using sod; seeds are slow to germinate, making it difficult to establish with that method. Like Bermudagrass, be sure to stay ahead of the rhizome and stolon growth into garden beds as it is hard to eradicate if it is left to invade. The invasion is slower than bermudagrass, but it will do so and even in shaded beds!

To find turfgrass varieties available in Texas, go to: **https://aggieturf.tamu.edu/texas-turfgrasses/**

What is a rain garden, and what do I need to consider when choosing plants for one?

A rain garden is a low-lying area that catches and absorbs the stormwater that runs off hard surfaces (such as roofs, driveways, and parking lots) and filters out pollutants. Simple rain gardens can include just turfgrass.

Many of the plants featured in this guide can grow successfully in a residential rain garden. However, plants that need consistent soil moisture, have increased maintenance characteristics like falling fruit, and are considered invasive should be avoided.

Plants that prefer Low (L) and Very Low (VL) water can be used in a rain garden if the soil is fast-draining and doesn't sit in water for an extended period. Rain garden plants' success depends on the soil, how fast it drains, and if the plants are in their preferred growing conditions.

For more information, **visit www.AustinTexas.gov/Raingardens**

How much rainfall does Austin receive per year?

On average, Austin receives 32 inches of rain per year, typically with very little in summer.

How hot and cold does it get?

Heat: The average temperature highs in the summer 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 most significant stress when planting, so the best time to plant is in the fall; the worst time to plant is in late spring through summer.

Cold: Austin is in USDA Hardiness 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 susceptible to cold damage in harsh winters should be planted in protected areas, such as the south or west side of your house and should be well-mulched before cold weather arrives.

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

After consulting numerous information sources, this rating was removed from the guide because there is minimal consensus on which plants specifically are "deer-resistant". In areas with deer, all woody plants need to be protected when 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?

Firewise Plants: Building a fire-resistant landscape isn't as simple as only looking at plant selection. It includes various factors like the slope of the terrain, building materials in and around the home, and 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.**

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 an exhaustive resource on the topic.

- For poisoning emergencies, call the American Association of Poison Control Centers at 1.800.222.1222
- For more information on common plants poisonous to animals, visit www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants.
- You may also call ASPCA Poison Control Center at 1.888.426.4435 (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.

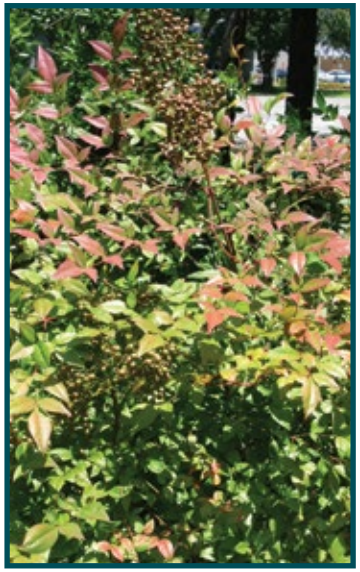
The following plants have already invaded preserves and greenbelts in Austin. They are easily transported long distances and by seeds, berries, and spores. For more information about Austin's invasive species, visit **www.AustinTexas.gov/invasive**.

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

These plants travel by runners and rhizomes and can invade nearby or "downstream" areas. Avoid planting near parks and preserves.

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





Already have these plants?

Control by trimming back berries, seed heads, 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

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

Botanical Name Page

Abelia x *grandiflora* 15
Acer grandidentatum 7
Achillea spp. 39
Aesculus pavia var. *pavia* 11
Agave spp. 39
Ageratina havanensis 19
Aloysia virgata 23
Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. *wrightii* 17
Aptenia spp. 47
Aquilegia canadensis 27
Aquilegia chrysantha var. *hinckleyana* 27
Artemisia 'Powis Castle' 25
Asclepias currasavica 25
Aspidistra elatior 25
Astrolepis sinuata 49
Baccharis sarothroides 17
Baptisa australis 17
Bauhinia lunarioides 9
Berberis trifoliolata 15
Berlandiera lyrata 27
Bignonia capreolata 43
Bouteloua curtipendula 43
Buddleja marrubiifolia 17
Bulbine frutescens 25
Caesalpinia gilliesii 25
Caesalpinia pulcherrima 25
Callicarpa americana 15
Callirohoe involucrata 39
Callistemon citrinus 17
Calylophus berlandieri 25
Calyptocarpus vialis 47
Capsicum annuum 27
Carex perdentata 41
Carex spp. 49
Carya illinoinensis 9
Cassia corymbosa 23
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides 47
Cercis canadensis var. 'mexicana' 13
Cercis canadensis var. 'texensis' 13
Chasmanthium latifolium 41
Chilopsis linearis 11
Chrysactina mexicana 29
Conoclinium greggi 31
Cordia boissieri 13
Coreopsis lanceolata 27
Cornus drummondii 13
Cotoneaster spp. 17
Cuphea, 'David Verity' 27
Cuphea llavea 27
Cupressus arizonica 7
Dalea frutescens 17
Dalea greggii 47
Dasylirion texanum 39
Datura wrightii 29
Delosperma spp. 47
Dermatophyllum secundiflora 13
Dichondra argentea 49
Dietes bicolor 31
Diospyros texana 13
Duranta erecta 23
Dyschoriste linearis 49
Echinacea purpurea 35
Ehretia anacua 9
Engelmannia peristenia 27
Erythrina herbacea 27
Eysenhardtia texana 11
Fallugia paradoxa 15
Fatsia japonica 17
Feijoa sellowiana 21
Ficus pumila 43
Forestirera pubescens 17
Frangula caroliniana 11
Galphimia glauca 23
Garrya ovata spp. *lindheimeri* 13
Gaura lindheimeri 29
Gelsemium sempervirens 43
Graptopetalum paraguayense 31
Hamelia patens 29
Helianthus maximiliani 33
Hesperaloe parviflora 41
Hibiscus spp. 31
Hymenocallis lirisome 37
Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii' 19
Ilex decidua 11
Ilex vomitoria 'Nana' 19
Ilex x 'Nellie R. Stevens' 19
Juglans microcarpa 15
Juniperus virginiana var. 'virginiana' 7
Justicia brandegeana 37
Justicia spicigera 31
Lagerstroemia indica 11
Lantana montevidensis 33
Lantana urticoides 31
Lantana x *hybrida* 31
Leonotis leonurus 33
Leucaena retusa 11
Leucophyllum frutescens 23
Liatris punctata var. *mucronata* 29
Liriope muscari 47
Ilex vomitoria 11
Lonicera sempervirens 43
Mahonia trifoliata 15
Malephora spp. 47
Malpighia glabra 17
Malvaviscus arboreus var. *drummondii* 23
Marsilea macropoda 45
Melampodium leucanthum 27
Merremia dissecta 43
Mimosa borealis 19
Monarda fistulosa 25
Morella cerifera 15
Muhlenbergia capillaris 43
Muhlenbergia dubia 43
Muhlenbergia dumosa 41
Muhlenbergia lindheimeri 41
Muhlenbergia rigens 43
Myrospermum sousanum 9
Myrtus communis 19
Nepeta x *faassenii* 26
Nolina lindheimeriana 39
Nolina texana 39
Oenothera macrocarpa 35
Ophiopogon intermedius 47
Ophiopogon japonicus 47
Opuntia spp. 39
Orbexilum pedunculatum 47
Origanum vulgare 47
Packera obovata 47
Panicum virgatum 43
Parkinsonia aculeata 13
Parthenocissus quinquefolia 46
Passiflora incarnata 45
Pavonia lasiopetala 35
Penstemon baccharifolius 33
Penstemon tenuis 33
Penstemon triflorus 33
Perovskia atriplicifolia 37
Phaeralcea ambigua 19
Philadelphus coronarius 19
Phlomis fruticosa 35
Phlox paniculata 33
Phyla nodiflora 47
Phystostegia virginiana 33
Pittosporum tobira 21
Platanus mexicana 9
Plumbago auriculata 33
Podocarpus macrophyllus 19
Poliomintha longiflora 33
Prosopis glandulosa var. *glandulosa* 7
Prunus caroliniana 11
Prunus mexicana 13
Prunus serotina var. *exima* 7
Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides 47
Punica granatum 13
Quercus laceyi 9
Quercus macrocarpa 7
Quercus muhlenbergii 7
Quercus polymorpha 9
Quercus texana 9
Quercus virginiana 9
Raphiolepis indica 19
Rhus aromatica 23
Rhus lanceolata 15
Rhus virens 13
Rivina humilis 49
Rosa banksiae 47
Rosa 'Belinda's Dream' 21
Rosa 'Cecile Brunner' 21
Rosa 'Grandma's Yellow' 21
Rosa 'Knock Out' 21
Rosa 'Livin' Easy' 21
Rosa 'Marie Daly' 21
Rosa 'Marie Pavie' 21
Rosa 'Martha Gonzales' 21
Rosa 'Mutablis' 21
Rosa 'Nearly Wild' 23
Rosa 'Old Blush' 23
Rosmarinus officinalis 23
Rudbeckia hirta var. *pulcherrima* 25
Ruellia brittoniana 35
Russelia equisetiformis 29
Sabal minor 21
Sabal mexicana 9
Salvia coccinea 37
Salvia farinacea 35
Salvia greggii 35
Salvia guaranitica 35
Salvia 'Indigo Spires' 31
Salvia leucantha 35
Salvia lyrata 49
Salvia microphylla 37
Salvia roemeriana 35
Santolina chamaecyparissus 49
Schizachyrium scoparium 41
Scutellaria suffrutescens 37
Scutellaria wrightii 37
Scuttelaria ovata subsp. *bracteata* 37
Sedum spp. 49
Senna lindheimeriana 37
Setcreasea pallida 49
Sorghastrum nutans 41
Stachys byzantina 31
Stachys coccinea 39
Styphnolobium affine 11
Symphoricarpos orbiculatus 17
Symphyotrichum oblongifolium 29
Tagetes lemmonii 27
Tagetes lucida 33
Taxodium distichum 7
Taxodium mucronatum 7
Tecoma stans 29
Tetraneuris scaposa 31
Teucrium chamaedrys 31
Teucrium cossonii 47
Teucrium fruticans 19
Thelypteris kunthii 29
Trachelospermum jasminoides 45
Trachycarpus fortunei 13
Tradescantia spp. 39
Tulbaghia violacea 37
Ulmus crassifolia 7
Ungnadia speciosa 9
Vachellia farnesiana 11
Verbesina virginica 29
Viburnum rufidulum 15
Viburnum suspensum 15
Viguiera stenoloba 37
Viola missourensis 49
Wedelia texana 39
Wisteria frutescens 45
Xylosma congestum 15
Yucca pallida 41
Yucca rupicola 41
Yucca spp. 41

For additional earthwise landscaping information and an online plant database, visit | **www.growgreen.org**



Photo Credits:

(L) = large image (S) = small inset image

Far South Nursery: *Arroyo Sweetwood (L, S), Catmint (L), Desert Broom (L), Greek Myrtle (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), Switch Grass (S);* Joseph A. Marcus: *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);* Myra B. Allison: *Frostweed (L);* Norman G. Flaigg: *Little Walnut (L, S);* Paul Cox: *Clover Fern (L);* R.W. Smith: *Purple Baptisia (S);* Rachel Cywinski: *Anacua (L);* W.D. and Dolphia Bransford: *Flameleaf Sumac(L), Spider Lily (L)*

Merideth O'Reilly: *Anacua (S), Carolina Buckthorn (L), Chocolate Daisy (L), Fragrant Sumac(S), Gregg Mistflower (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: *Elbowbush (L), Gayfeather (S), Texas Persimmon (S), Evergreen Sumac (L, S), Violets (L, S)*

Contributing Organizations:

American Society of Landscape Architects, Austin Parks Foundation, Capital Area Master Naturalists, 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, Parks, and Recreation Department, Public Works, Watershed Protection Department

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

Maximum sales price outside Austin: $2.00
MAY NOT BE RESOLD FOR PROFIT

5th Edition, 2014
Revised 2021

References:

Bender. K. and Damude. N., *Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife, TWPD, 2007*

Correll and Johnston, *Manual of the Vascular Plants of Texas, The University of Texas at Dallas, 1996*

Simpson, Benny, *A Field Guide to Texas Trees, Texas Monthly Press, 1988*

Wasowski A. and Wasowski, S., *Native Texas Plants Second Edition; Landscaping Region by Region, Texas Monthly Press, 1997*

Comments:

We recognize that many other plants are well-deserving of selection, and we welcome your comments and suggestions regarding any new additions and changes you think would be helpful.

Please call **512-974-2550** or email us through **www.GrowGreen.org**.

This guide is an educational publication developed for Austin community members to assist with their home landscaping projects. Commercial development projects must follow Austin Environmental Criteria Manual regulations.

City of Austin WATERSHED PROTECTION **512-974-2550**

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION **512-854-9600**

RECYCLED PAPER