



Water Efficiency Department  
2047 W. Malone Ave.  
San Antonio, TX 78224  
(210) 357-5705

Dear Valued Customer:

This packet contains lists of water-friendly plants that are recognized to be helpful and beautiful additions to any south Texas landscape. Contained in this packet are the following water-friendly plant lists:

- Ornamental Grasses
- Recommended Turfgrass Varieties
- Perennial Plants
- Deer Resistant Plants
- Annual Plants
- Small and Large Trees
- Dwarf, Small, Medium and Large Shrubs
- Vines
- Roses
- Palms

In addition to the plant lists, there is a pamphlet from the City of San Antonio NICE! (Natives Instead of Common Exotics) Program that contains information on native plant options for your landscape as well.

All of these plants are guaranteed to save water after they are established and the blooming species will provide color throughout the growing season. Enjoy the outdoors and good luck with your landscape!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nathan Riggs".

Nathan Riggs, Manager  
BexarMet Water Efficiency Department  
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**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List



**Annuals**

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Mexican sunflower / <i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i>	Sun	Orange flowers spring through fall. Attract wildlife.
Moss Rose / <i>Portulaca grandiflora</i>	Sun	Various colors bloom summer to fall.
Pentas / <i>Pentas lanceolata</i>	Sun/part shade	Various colors bloom summer to fall.
Periwinkle / <i>Vinca minor</i>	Shade	Lavender-blue flowers summer to fall.
Purslane / <i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Sun	Various colors bloom summer to fall.
Zinnia / <i>Zinnia hybrida</i> 'Profusion'	Sun	Blooms continuously spring through fall. Cherry, orange and white available.

Beginning January 1, 2007, the City of San Antonio began requiring residential and commercial builders to install turf grass with 60-day summer dormancy capabilities.

The following list of approved grass varieties were chosen for their ability to survive with very little or no water for 60 days:

## **BexarMet-Approved Turf Grass Varieties for Installation by Residential and Commercial Builders**

### **Bermuda Grass**

#### Varieties

Celebration  
Common Bermuda  
GN1  
Grimes EXP  
Tex Turf  
TifSport  
Tifway 419

#### Characteristics

Requires full sun.  
Extremely tolerant to traffic.  
Responds quickly to watering after drought.  
Requires frequent mowing to maintain appearance.  
Frequently goes dormant during the winter.

### **Buffalo Grass**

#### Varieties

Currently, all varieties are approved.

#### Characteristics

Requires full sun.  
Does NOT tolerate traffic well.  
Must be mowed very high – 5 inches or more – or not at all.  
Requires little, if any, watering or fertilizer after establishment.

### **St. Augustine Grass**

#### Varieties

Floratam

#### Characteristics

Prefers dappled shade.  
Does NOT tolerate traffic well.  
Remains relatively green throughout winter.  
Susceptible to fungal diseases if watered excessively during the winter.

### **Zoysia Grass**

#### Varieties

El Toro  
Empire  
Jamur  
Palisades

#### Characteristics

Tolerates both sun and shade.  
Tolerates foot traffic.  
Different cultivars have different drought tolerances.  
Growth is slow compared to St. Augustine and Bermuda.

For more information on turf grasses, contact the BexarMet Water Efficiency Office at (210) 357-5705.



## BexarMet Water District Water Friendly Plant List



### Small Trees (15 to 35 feet tall)

Common Name / Scientific Name	Light	Comments
Anacacho Orchid Tree / <i>Bauhinia lunaroides</i>	Sun/part shade	Fast grower, small canopy, grayish-silver bark, white fragrant spring blooms.
Anaqua / <i>Ehretia anacua</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen, clusters of white-star shaped flowers in spring followed by orange fruit.
Ashe Juniper / <i>Juniperus ashei</i>	Sun/part shade	Multi-stemmed, dark green leaves. Commonly referred to as cedar.
Carolina Buckthorn / <i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i>	Sun/part shade	Deciduous, slow growth rate. Good fall color. Upright oval growth form.
Chinese Pistache / <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Sun	Rounded growth habit with outstanding fall color. Grows rapidly, insect and disease-resistant.
Desert Willow / <i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Sun	Airy appearance with willow like foliage. Very adaptable under various soil conditions.
Eve's Necklace / <i>Sophora affinis</i>	Sun/part shade	Deciduous native with fernlike foliage and attractive fruit that resembles a necklace in winter.
Goldenball Lead Tree / <i>Leucaena refusa</i>	Sun/part shade	Open, airy, fine textured foliage, yellow blooms spring to fall. Deciduous.
Loquat / <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Sun	Fragrant flowers in fall followed by bright yellow edible fruit. Tropical looking foliage.
Mesquite / <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>	Sun	Large spreading, airy canopy, multi-trunked. White spring blooms, gives filtered shade.
Mexican Buckeye / <i>Ungnadia speciosa</i>	Sun/part shade	Multi-trunked native noted for showy pink orchid-like flowers in the spring.
Mexican Plum / <i>Prunus mexicana</i>	Sun/part shade	Deciduous native with profuse white blossoms in the spring.
Redbud / <i>Cercis texensis</i>	Sun/part shade	Deciduous native with clusters of white to purple blooms in early spring.
Retama / <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Sun	Native with drooping foliage, wide fragrant flowers form in late spring or early summer.
Shantung Maple / <i>Acer truncatum</i>	Sun/part shade	Spreading canopy with foliage that turns gorgeous red, red-orange in the fall.
Smoke Tree / <i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	Sun/part shade	Wispy pink to purple-pink flowers look like smoke, fall color is yellow, orange to scarlet.
Texas Mountain Laurel / <i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen native, lush foliage, outstanding springtime flowers reminiscent of grape Kool-Aid.
Texas Persimmon / <i>Diospyros texana</i>	Sun/part shade	Attractive bark with small deep-green leathery leaves, birds enjoy the fruit when ripe.
Wild or Mexican Olive / <i>Cordia boissieri</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen, showy flowers that turn into white fleshy fruits.
Yaupon Holly / <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen, light colored bark and dense branch structure. Bright red fruits in winter.



**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List



**Small Shrubs**  
(3 to 5 feet tall)

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Barbados Cherry / <i>Malpighia glabra</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen, whitish-pink blooms with that turn to red fruit.
Barberry / <i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	Sun/part shade	Native, graceful arching branches with bronze-red foliage.
Beautyberry / <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Sun/part shade	Native, multi-branched deciduous with attractive purple or white fruit.
Bridal Wreath Spirea / <i>Spirea cantoniensis</i>	Sun/part shade	Sprawling growth habit with spectacular white or pink blooms in the spring.
Century plant, Agave / <i>Agave mexicana</i>	Sun	Native with large spiny gray-green leaves. Used as an accent plant.
Elbow Bush / <i>Forestiera pubescens</i>	Sun/part shade	Yellowish-green flowers, usually first to bloom in spring.
Firebush / <i>Hamelia patens</i>	Sun	Also called hummingbird bush. Red tubular flowers attract hummingbirds all summer.
Grayleaf Cotoneaster / <i>Cotoneaster glaucophylla</i>	Sun	Evergreen sprawling growth habit. Bright red berries in the fall.
Hogplum / <i>Colubrina texensis</i>	Sun	Dense shrub, light gray zigzag branches.
Indian Hawthorne / <i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen, dark leathery foliage. Dense foliage, flowers in spring.
Juniper / <i>Juniperus spp.</i>	Sun	Evergreen, many varieties, some low growing (under 3 feet).
Mahonia / <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Part shade	Glossy leathery leaves, yellow flowers followed by purple fruit.
Nandina, compact / <i>Nandina domestica</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with clusters of red berries in the winter. Cane like stems with delicate foliage.
Pittosporum, green / <i>Pittosporum tabira</i>	Sun/part shade	Fast-growing, thick glossy foliage, creamy white flowers.
Pittosporum, variegated / <i>Pittosporum tabira</i>	Sun/part shade	Glossy creamy white and green variegated leaves.
Rock Rose / <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	Sun/part shade	Showy pink flowers, upright growth.
Rosemary / <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Sun	Evergreen, upright growing habit, blue flowers in spring.
Sumac, evergreen / <i>Rhus virens</i>	Sun/part shade	Mounding, open growth habit. Used as an accent plant.
Turk's Cap / <i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i>	Shade	Native with unusual red flowers. Easy to grow. Flowers late spring through fall.
Yucca / <i>Yucca spp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Several varieties available. Grown for striking leaf character. Some bloom.



**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List



**Roses**

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Belinda's Dream	Sun	Pink	Large fragrant blossoms, near perfect landscape rose.
Buff Beauty	Sun	Apricot Orange	Cascading shrub.
Cecile Brunner	Sun/part shade	Light Pink	Polyantha. Also Climbing Cecile Brunner.
Climbing Pinkie	Sun/part shade	Pink	Polyantha. Semi-double flowers. Climber.
Cramoisi Superieur	Sun	Red	China. Fragrant.
Duchess de Brabant	Sun	Light Pink	Tea. Fragrant. Teddy Roosevelt's favorite.
Fortuniana	Sun/part shade	White	Vigorous climber, fragrant flowers.
Knock-out	Sun	Cherry Red	Hotter the weather, the better it performs.
Lady Banks	Sun/part shade	Yellow or White	Rambler, species rose. Clusters of flowers that bloom in spring.
Livin' Easy	Sun	Orange	Floribunda. Vibrant flowers.
Marie Daly	Sun	Pink	Polyantha. Very fragrant flowers.
Marie Pave	Sun/part shade	Pale Pink	Polyantha. Very fragrant. Blooms in abundance.
Martha Gonzales	Sun	Red	China. Flowering dwarf shrub.
Mrs. Dudley Cross	Sun	Pale Yellow tinged with Pink	Tea. Thornless.
Mermaid	Sun	White	Fragrant flowers. Vigorous climber.
Mutabilis	Sun	Begin Yellow, but turn to Orange, Pink and Red.	China. Large petals.
Old Blush	Sun	Pink	China. One of the hardiest and most adapted to our climate.
Souvenir de la Malmaison	Sun	Pink	Bourbon. Very fragrant tissue-thin flowers. Also Climbing Souvenir de la Malmaison.
The Fairy	Sun	Light Pink	Polyantha.
Zephirine Drouhin	Sun	Red	Bourbon. Thornless, climber.



## BexarMet Water District Water Friendly Plant List



### Perennials

Common Name / Scientific Name	Light	Comments
Autumn Sage / <i>Salvia gregii</i>	Sun/part sun	Shrubby, aromatic leaves. Assorted colors, ever blooming.
Bearded Iris / <i>Iris germanica</i>	Sun/part shade	Large flowers with fuzzy central portion. Assorted colors.
Blackfoot Daisy / <i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	Sun/part shade	Low-spreading plant, white daisy-like flowers.
Blue Plumbago / <i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Sun/part shade	Dark green leaves, clusters of bright blue or white flowers summer to fall.
Bouncing Bet / <i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Sun/part shade	Pink fragrant flowers in late spring through fall.
Butterfly Weed / <i>Asclepias spp.</i>	Sun	Brilliant orange flowers spring to fall, dark green leaves.
Canna / <i>Canna x generalis</i>	Sun/part shade	Brightly colored flowers atop foliage. Blooms late spring to fall.
Cigar plant / <i>Cuphea micropetala</i>	Sun/part shade	Shiny, dark green foliage, red-yellow cigar shaped flowers.
Copper Canyon Daisy / <i>Tagetes lemonii</i>	Sun	Yellow blossoms, blooms summer to fall.
Coreopsis / <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Sun/part shade	Bright yellow daisy-like flowers bloom on long stems all summer.
Daylily / <i>Hemerocallis spp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Tall to dwarf varieties. Large trumpet shaped flowers in a variety of colors.
Fall Aster / <i>Aster spp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Fall-bloomer, lavender daisy-like flowers.
Fall Obedient Plant / <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Sun/part shade	Lavender, pink or white blooms on upright spikes.
Firecracker Plant / <i>Russelia equisetiformis</i>	Sun	Branching habit with tubular red flowers spring to fall.
Gayfeather / <i>Liatris spicata</i>	Sun	Tall flower spikes, various colors. Blooms late summer to fall.
Goldstrum Black-eyed Susan / <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Sun	Large golden yellow daisy-like flowers, with dark brown centers.
Hinckley's Columbine / <i>Aquilegia sp.</i>	Shade	Large exotic looking yellow flowers in spring.
Indian or Blanket flower / <i>Gaillardia sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Red-yellow daisy-like flowers. Blooms abundantly summer to fall.
Indigo Spires Sage / <i>Salvia 'Indigo Spires'</i>	Sun	Intense, blue-purple flowers in large spikes. Blooms spring to fall.
Lantana / <i>Lantana sp.</i>	Sun	Minimum maintenance. Blooms spring to fall. Adds great color.
Mealy Cup Sage / <i>Salvia farinacea</i>	Sun/part shade	Silver-green foliage. Blooms spring to fall, blue, white or purple flower spikes.
Mexican Bush Sage / <i>Salvia leucantha</i>	Sun/part shade	Grayish-green foliage, purple to rose colors with white long slender flower spikes.
Mexican Heather / <i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	Sun/part shade	Compact foliage with small lavender flowers. Blooms spring to fall.
Mexican Mint Marigold / <i>Tagetes sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Fall bloomer. Yellow flowers with licorice scented foliage.
Mexican Oregano / <i>Poliomentha longiflora</i>	Sun/part shade	Pale lavender flowers with aromatic foliage. Blooms spring to fall.
Mexican Petunia / <i>Ruellia sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Narrow dark green leaves with funnel shaped flowers of various colors. Blooms spring to fall.
Mist Flower / <i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>	Sun/part shade	Fall bloomer with blue flowers.
Pink Rain Lily / <i>Zephyranthes grandiflora</i>	Part	Tubular pink flowers. Blooms after rain

	shade/shade	summer to fall.
Purple Coneflower / <i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	Sun/part shade	Large purple or white flowers that bloom spring to fall.
Rock Rose / <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	Sun/part shade	Rose colored flowers that bloom spring to fall.
Skullcap / <i>Scutellaria sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Neat, compact foliage. Various colors blooms spring-fall. Long blooming.
Shrimp Plant / <i>Justicia spp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Exotic looking flowers that resemble shrimp. Blooms summer to fall.
Snowflake / <i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	Sun/part shade	Tiny white bell-shaped flowers that bloom in spring.
Summer Phlox / <i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Sun	Large scented clusters of white, red, pink or lavender blooms.
Texas Betony / <i>Stachys coccinea</i>	Sun/part shade	Low-growing with coral flowers that blooms spring to fall.
Tropical Sage / <i>Salvia coccinea</i>	Sun/part shade	Various colors, blooms summer to fall. Good shade plant.
Verbena / <i>Verbena spp.</i>	Sun	Clusters of flowers, various colors. Blooms summer to fall.
Whirling Butterflies / <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	Sun/part shade	Four-petaled white flowers with red sepals that resemble butterflies.
White Rain Lily / <i>Zephyranthes candida</i>	Part shade/shade	White tubular flowers that bloom after a rain.
Yarrow/ <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Sun/part shade	Delicate fern-like foliage, assorted colors.
Zexmenia/ <i>Wedelia hispida</i>	Sun/part shade	Yellow daisy-like flowers, dark green leaves, spreads rapidly.



**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List



**Palms**

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
California Fan Palm / <i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	Sun	Tall growing, tree-like. Thick massive trunk with large grey-green fronds.
Dwarf Palmetto / <i>Sabal minor</i>	Part shade/shade	Slow-growing, ground hugging with pale green to bluish fan leaves.
Mediterranean Fan Palm / <i>Chaemerops humilis</i>	Sun	Dense shrubby mass of silvery-green fronds. Multiple trunks.
Mexican Blue Palm / <i>Brahea armata</i>	Sun	Slow-growing, icy blue stiff fronds. Thrives in hot dry conditions.
Mexican Fan Palm / <i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Sun	Can grow to 100 feet. Withstands hot harsh conditions.
Phoenix, Canary Island Date Palm / <i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Sun	Slow-growing, large feather type palm.
Pindo Palm / <i>Butia capitata</i>	Sun	Slow-growing, hardy leather palm.
Texas or Mexican Palmetto / <i>Sabal mexicana</i>	Sun	Deep taproot, large clusters of date-like fruits.
Texas Sabal Palm / <i>Sabal texana</i>	Sun	Slow-growing, cold-hardy.
Windmill Palm / <i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	Sun/part shade	Slender trunk, slow-growing. Good for containers.



**BexarMet Water District**  
**Water Friendly Plant List**  
**Ornamental Grasses**



Common Name / Scientific Name	Light	Comments
Fountain Grass / <i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> ' <i>Rubrum</i> '	Sun	Commonly known as Purple fountain grass. Narrow arching purple leaves, red-rose flowers.
Gulf Muhly / <i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	Sun/part shade	Glossy deep green leaves. Arching foliage, pink flowers in fall.
Inland Sea Oats / <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Part shade/shade	Decorative seed heads that sway in the breeze. Great for shady spots.
Little Bluestem / <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Sun	Native upright vertical clumps. Blue-green foliage turning rust.
Maiden or Silver Grass / <i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Sun	Green to silvery with white patterns of color on upright long foliage. Bronze fall color.
Mexican Feather Grass / <i>Stipa tenuissima</i>	Sun/part shade	Very thin leaves, bright green, weeping form.
Muhly Grass / <i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	Sun	Arching clumps with blue-green foliage. Feathery appearance.
Pampas Grass / <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Sun	Dense, clumping with white or pink plume-like blooms. Various sizes, privacy screen.
Sideoats Gramma / <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Sun	Native, state grass of Texas. Purple tinted flowers with attractive seeds on one side of stem.



**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List

**Medium Shrubs**  
(6 to 9 feet tall)



<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Agarita / <i>Berberis trifoliata</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen with coarse holly-like foliage. Yellow spring flowers and edible berries.
Althea, Rose of Sharon / <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Sun	Upright growth habit with wide color range of flowers that bloom all summer.
Bay / <i>Laurel nobilis</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with fragrant leaves that are used in cooking.
Bird of Paradise / <i>Caesalpinia sp.</i>	Sun	Open form, tropical blooms from late spring through fall.
Burford Holly / <i>Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii'</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen bushy growth with bright red berries in the fall.
Butterfly Bush / <i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Sun	Upright spreading habit, wide color range of flowers that bloom spring to frost.
Cenizo or Texas Sage / <i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen shrub with dusty gray foliage that tolerates poor soil conditions.
Eleagnus / <i>Eleagnus fruitlandii</i>	Sun	Fast growing spreading growth habit. Silvery green foliage with fragrant flowers.
Esperanza / <i>Tecoma stans</i>	Sun/part shade	Native that blooms golden yellow trumpet shaped flowers.
Flameleaf Sumac / <i>Rhus lanceolata</i>	Sun/part shade	Multi-trunked with beautiful red foliage in the fall.
Glossy Abelia / <i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with large graceful arching branches with small white flowers.
Kidneywood / <i>Eysenhardtia texana</i>	Sun/part shade	Open airy shrub, spikes of fragrant white flowers.
Pyracantha / <i>Pyracantha sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen, glossy green leaves. White flowers in spring, bright red berries in fall and winter.
Whitebrush / <i>Aloysia gratissima</i>	Sun/part shade	Vanilla scented flowers. Good used as a hedge.
Winter, Standing Honeysuckle / <i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>	Sun/part shade	Clusters of small creamy white fragrant flowers in winter.



## BexarMet Water District Water Friendly Plant List



### Large Trees (Over 35 feet)

Common Name / Scientific Name	Light	Comments
Bald Cypress / <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Sun	Native, deciduous conifer with fine textured leaves. Fall color is deep rust.
Bigtooth Maple / <i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	Sun	Native deciduous with outstanding red and yellow fall foliage.
Bur Oak / <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Sun	Stately native with yellow fall color. Wildlife love the large golf-ball sized acorns.
Cedar Elm / <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	Sun	Irregular shaped native with glossy, rough leaves. Tolerant of variety of soils.
Cherry, Black Escarpment / <i>Prunus serotina</i>	Sun	Deciduous, white spring blooms. Oval foliage with good fall color.
Chinquapin Oak / <i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	Sun	Deciduous native with large rounded top. Large bright-green foliage.
Deodar Cedar / <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Sun	Attractive blue-green foliage, shaped like a pyramid. Planted as a Living Christmas tree.
Fan-Tex Ash / <i>Fraxinus velutina</i> 'Rio Grande'	Sun	Deciduous, darker green leaves than Arizona Ash. Foliage turns yellow in fall.
Hackberry / <i>Celtis spp.</i>	Sun	Deciduous, brittle wood. Lindheimer Hackberry has soft hairs on underside for grayish cast.
Lacey Oak / <i>Quercus laceyi</i>	Sun	Native, extremely drought-tolerant. Bluish-gray leaves turn gold in the fall.
Live Oak / <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Sun	Native with broad, spreading limbs. One of our best shade trees, long-lived and evergreen.
Monterrey Oak (Mexican White Oak) / <i>Quercus polymorpha</i>	Sun	Dark green leaves, deciduous in spring when new buds open. Grows faster than live oak.
Montezuma Cypress / <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Sun	Evergreen, soft fernlike foliage, strong weeping branches. Tolerant of poor soil conditions.
Pecan / <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Sun	State tree. Deciduous, valued for shade and nuts.
Shumard Red Oak / <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Sun	Deciduous, large majestic with open branching habit. Red to yellow fall color.
Texas Ash / <i>Fraxinus sp.</i>	Sun	Deciduous, dark green foliage, fall color is pastel hues of red, gold, orange, and purple.
Texas Pistache / <i>Pistacia texana</i>	Sun	Single or multi-trunked, dark green foliage, small red seeds turn blue-black.
Texas Red Oak / <i>Quercus texana</i>	Sun	Deciduous, multi-trunked. Scarlet and orange foliage in the fall.
Texas Sycamore / <i>Platanus occidentalis v. glabrata</i>	Sun	Deciduous, native with white peeling bark. Tolerates most soil conditions.



**BexarMet Water District**  
**Water Friendly Plant List**



**Large Shrubs**  
(10 to 25 feet tall)

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Chaste Tree / <i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Sun	Fast growing multi-trunked shrub or small tree. Lavender blue flower spikes all summer.
Cherry Laurel / <i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Sun/part shade	Dark green foliage, upright form.
Crepe Myrtle / <i>Lagerstroemia spp.</i>	Sun	Large shrub or small tree. Multi-trunked with beautiful flowers all summer.
Mock Orange / <i>Philadelphus sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Fragrant, white spring flowers. Several varieties available.
Nellie R. Stevens Holly / <i>Ilex cornuta 'Nellie R. Stevens'</i>	Sun/part shade	Fast growing large shrub or small tree. Dark green glossy leaves. Very versatile.
Oleander / <i>Nerium oleander</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen fast growing that blooms summer through fall.
Possumhaw / <i>Ilex decidua</i>	Sun/part shade	Native deciduous that is low maintenance. Striking red berries in the winter.
Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum / <i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	Sun/part shade	White spring blooms, orange to maroon foliage in the fall.
Yaupon Holly / <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen with upright growth habit, freely branching.



**BexarMet Water District**  
Water Friendly Plant List



**Ground Covers**

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Artemesia / <i>Artemesia sp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Native, silvery-grey to green finely divided, feathery, fragrant foliage.
Asiatic Jasmine / <i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	Sun/shade	Evergreen, fast-growing. Dense, matting with glossy leathery leaves. Vining.
Blue Plumbago / <i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Sun	Sprawling, arching habit. Long bloomer with blue flowers.
Cast Iron Plant / <i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Shade	Glossy broad leaves. Evergreen with cream colored flowers.
Damianita / <i>Chrysactinia mexicana</i>	Sun	Native with yellow fragrant flowers spring to fall.
Dwarf Ruellia( Mexican Petunia) / <i>Ruellia sp.</i>	Sun/shade	Neat mounds with purple, white or pink blooms. Reseeds.
English ivy / <i>Hedera helix</i>	Shade	Self-climbing dark evergreen foliage. Slow to medium growth.
Frogfruit / <i>Phyla incisa</i>	Sun/part shade	Semi-evergreen with white flowers.
Juniper, trailing / <i>Juniperus sp.</i>	Sun	Low-growing, several varieties to choose from.
Lantana, trailing / <i>Lantana sp.</i>	Sun	Lilac flowers that bloom summer through fall.
Liriope / <i>Liriope muscari</i>	Sun/shade	Evergreen, clump-forming with dense grass-like foliage. Purple blooms.
Monkey grass / <i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	Sun/shade	Evergreen, clump-forming with dense grass-like foliage. Mat forming.
Meadow sedge / <i>Carex perdentata</i>	Sun/shade	Native, grass-like. Evergreen.
Nandina / <i>Nandina domestica 'Harbour Dwarf'</i>	Sun/shade	Low growing evergreen with orange-red to bronzy-red foliage in winter.
Rosemary, prostrate / <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Sun	Evergreen, grey to blue-green fragrant foliage. Pale blue flowers.
Santolina / <i>Santolina sp.</i>	Sun	Bushy type, dense mounding habit. Slender grey-green or silvery finely cut, aromatic foliage.
Silver pony-foot / <i>Dichondra argentea</i>	Sun/part shade	Silver-grey trailing habit. Native.
Tropical sage / <i>Salvia coccinea</i>	Sun/part shade	Various colors, blooms summer to fall. Good shade plant.



**BexarMet Water District**  
**Water Friendly Plant List**



**Dwarf Shrubs**  
 (1 to 3 feet tall)

<b>Common Name / Scientific Name</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Dwarf Burford Holly / <i>Ilex cornuta</i> 'Rotunda Burfordii'	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with dark green glossy leaves and rich red berries. Excellent as a border.
Dwarf Chinese Holly / <i>Ilex comuta</i> 'Rotunda'	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with spiny leaves and rounded growth habit.
Dwarf Nandina / <i>Nandina spp.</i>	Sun/part shade	Rounded growth habit with lightly cupped leaves. Foliage turns red-purple in winter.
Dwarf Yaupon Holly / <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> 'Nana'	Sun/part shade	Native low spreading, compact evergreen that is excellent as a border plant.
Rosemary, Prostrate / <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Sun	Low growing, sprawling, flowers in spring. Excellent over rock walls.
Salvia / <i>Salvia gregii</i>	Sun/part shade	Various bloom colors, upright growth.
Sumac, Aromatic / <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Sun/part shade	Upright, airy growth habit, Beautiful fall color.
Verbena / <i>Verbena spp.</i>	Sun	Clusters of flowers, various colors. Blooms summer to fall.
Whirling Butterflies / <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	Sun/part shade	Four-petaled white flowers with red sepals that resemble butterflies.
White Rain Lily / <i>Zephyranthes candida</i>	Part shade/shade	White tubular flowers that bloom after a rain.
Yarrow / <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Sun/part shade	Delicate fern-like foliage, assorted colors.
Zexmenia / <i>Wedelia hispida</i>	Sun/part shade	Yellow daisy-like flowers, dark green leaves, spreads rapidly.



**BexarMet Water District**  
**Water Friendly Plant List**  
**Deer Resistant Plants**



(NOTE: Some of these may be consumed by deer as a last resort under extreme drought conditions.)

Shrubs and Small Trees	Native	Shade Tolerant	Growth Characteristics
Agarita ( <i>Berberis infoliolata</i> )	X		Evergreen, red edible berries
Althea ( <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i> )		X	Deciduous shrub, summer blooms
Arizona Cypress ( <i>Cupressus arizonica</i> )	X		Evergreen large shrub
Aromatic Sumac ( <i>Rhus aromatica</i> )	X		Good fall color
Burford Holly ( <i>Ilex cornuta</i> )		X	Evergreen foliage
California Fan Palm ( <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> )			Slow-growing, tree-like palm
Cenizo / Texas Sage ( <i>Leucophyllum spp.</i> )	X		Evergreen foliage
Cotoneaster ( <i>Cotoneaster glaucophylla</i> )		X	Gray foliage, sprawling shrub
Desert Willow ( <i>Chilopsis linearis</i> )	X		Willow-like foliage, small tree
Dwarf Burford Holly ( <i>Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii'</i> )		X	Evergreen, glossy foliage
Dwarf Chinese Holly ( <i>Ilex cornuta 'Rotunda'</i> )		X	Evergreen, glossy foliage
Dwarf Palmetto ( <i>Sabal minor</i> )	X	X	Bushy palm
Dwarf Yaupon Holly ( <i>Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'</i> )	X	X	Evergreen, glossy foliage
Eleagnus ( <i>Eleagnus fruitlandi</i> )		X	Evergreen, medium tall shrub
Esperanza ( <i>Tecoma stans</i> )	X	X	Large yellow, bell-like blooms
Evergreen Sumac ( <i>Rhus virens</i> )			Evergreen, large shrub
Flameleaf Sumac ( <i>Rhus lanceolata</i> )			Large shrub
Germander Bush ( <i>Teucrium fruiticans</i> )			Low tidy foliage
Honey Mesquite ( <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> )	X		Lacy, small tree
Indian Hawthorne ( <i>Raphiolepis indica</i> )		X	Evergreen, spring flowering
Japanese Boxwood ( <i>Buxus japonica</i> )		X	Evergreen foliage
Juniper ( <i>Juniperus sp.</i> )			Evergreen, many varieties
Mexican Buckeye ( <i>Ungnadia speciosa</i> )	X	X	Spring flowering
Mexican Silktassle ( <i>Garrya lindheimeri</i> )	X		Evergreen, glossy foliage
Mountain Cedar ( <i>Juniperus ashei</i> )			Evergreen conifer
Nandina ( <i>Nandina domestica</i> )		X	Evergreen, red fall berries
Nandina, Dwarf ( <i>Nandina sp.</i> )		X	Evergreen, reddish foliage
Oleander ( <i>Nerium oleander</i> )	X		Evergreen, summer blooming
Pineapple Guava ( <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> )			Evergreen, showy blooms
Pomegranate ( <i>Punica granatum</i> )			Orange blooms, edible fruit
Rosemary ( <i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i> )			Fragrant, useful herb
Scarlet Bouvardia ( <i>Bouvardia ternifolia</i> )	X	X	Small shrub, reddish flowers
Texas Mountain Laurel ( <i>Sophora secundiflora</i> )	X		Evergreen, purple blooms
Texas Palmetto ( <i>Sabal texana</i> )	X		Tall palm
Texas Persimmon ( <i>Diospyros texana</i> )	X		Tree-like large shrub
Turk's Cap ( <i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i> )	X	X	Red flowers, deciduous shrub

Vitex ( <i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> )			Tree-like large shrub
Windmill Palm ( <i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i> )			Tree-like palm
Yaupon Holly ( <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> )	X	X	Evergreen, red berries
<b>Groundcovers</b>			
Asiatic Jasmine ( <i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i> )		X	Evergreen foliage
Clover Fern ( <i>Maiselia macropoda</i> )	X		Grayish, clover-like foliage
Monkey Grass ( <i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i> )		X	Evergreen, grass-like foliage
Prostrate Rosemary ( <i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i> )			Gray-green, fragrant foliage
Santolina ( <i>Santolina</i> sp.)			Green or gray foliage
Trailing Juniper ( <i>Juniperus</i> sp.)			Evergreen, trailing habit
Vinca ( <i>Vinca major</i> )			Dark green foliage
<b>Ornamental Grasses</b>			
Big Bluestem ( <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> )	X		Three to four feet
Fountain Grass ( <i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> )			Three to four feet
Little Bluestem ( <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> )	X	X	Three feet
Muhly Grass ( <i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i> )	X		Three feet
Pampas Grass ( <i>Cortaderia selloana</i> )			Seven feet
Purple Autumn Grass ( <i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> )			Three to four feet
Sideoats Gramma ( <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> )	X		Two to three feet
<b>Vines</b>			
Carolina Jessamine ( <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> )		X	Evergreen, spring flowering
Coralvine ( <i>Antigonon leptopus</i> )			Deciduous, late summer flowering
Lady Banksia ( <i>Rosa banksia</i> )			Spring flowering
<b>Perennials</b>			
Ageratum ( <i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i> )		X	Also known as blue mist flower
Amaryllis ( <i>Amaryllis</i> spp.)		X	Spectacular flowers, many colors
Angel's Trumpet ( <i>Datura</i> spp.)		X	Fragrant night bloomer
Artemesia ( <i>Artemesia</i> spp.)			Silvery, gray wooly foliage
Autumn Sage ( <i>Salvia gregii</i> )	X		Summer to fall blooms, many colors
Bearded Iris ( <i>Iris germanica</i> )		X	Spring blooms, many colors
Blackfoot Daisy ( <i>Melampodium leucanthum</i> )	X		Daisy-like blooms
Blue Plumbago ( <i>Plumbago auriculata</i> )		X	Brilliant blue flowers
Bouncing Bet ( <i>Saponaria officinalis</i> )		X	Showy, fragrant flowers
Canna ( <i>Canna</i> sp.)		X	Brightly colored flowers
Copper Canyon Daisy ( <i>Tagetes lemonii</i> )			Yellow blooms
Dusty Miller ( <i>Senecio cineraria</i> )		X	Woolly silvery-white leaves
Gray Santolina ( <i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> )			Aromatic gray-green leaves
Green Santolina ( <i>Santolina virens</i> )			Aromatic green leaves
Indian Blanket ( <i>Gaillardia</i> sp.)	X		Reddish, yellow blooms
Lantana ( <i>Lantana</i> sp.)	X		Summer to fall blooms, many

			colors
Whirling Butterflies ( <i>Guara lindheimeri</i> )	X	X	White flowers with red sepals
Indigo Spires Salvia ( <i>Salvia</i> 'Indigo Spires')			Large spikes of deep blue-purple
Mealy Cup Sage ( <i>Salvia farinacea</i> )	X		Violet-blue flower spikes
Mexican Mint Marigold ( <i>Tagetes lucida</i> )			Anise-like fragrance on leaves
Mexican Oregano ( <i>Poliomentha longiflora</i> )		X	Pale lavender flowers
Perennial Verbena ( <i>Verbena</i> sp.)	X		Clusters of flowers
Pink rain lily ( <i>Zephyranthes grandiflora</i> )	X	X	Pink blooms after rainfall
Purple Coneflower ( <i>Echinacea angustifolia</i> )	X		Summer to fall blooms, purple
Rosemary ( <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> )		X	Scented herb
Society garlic ( <i>Tulbaghia violacea</i> )		X	Lavender blooms
Tropical Sage ( <i>Salvia coccinea</i> )	X	X	Summer to fall blooms
White Rain Lily ( <i>Zephyranthes candida</i> )	X	X	White blooms after rainfall



## BexarMet Water District Water Friendly Plant List



### Vines

Common Name / Scientific Name	Light	Comments
Carolina Jessamine / <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen compact bushy growth with yellow flowers.
Confederate Jasmine / <i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen with wonderful white small fragrant flowers resembling a pinwheel.
Coral Honeysuckle / <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen with showy bright orange to scarlet tubular flowers and bright red berries.
Coral Vine or Queen's Wreath / <i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	Sun	Fast-growing, tolerates poor soil. Rose-pink flowers that drape up and down foliage.
Crossvine / <i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Sun/part shade	Native evergreen, orange-red tubular flowers. Can grow to 30 feet, easily attaches to surfaces.
Fig Ivy / <i>Ficus pumila</i>	Sun/part shade	Evergreen. Small, heart-shaped dull-green leaves. Can be used as a ground cover.
Lady Banksia / <i>Rosa banksia</i>	Sun	Strong growing rose, blooms yellow or white in spring. Provides dense screening.
Mexican Flame Vine / <i>Senecio confusus</i>	Sun	Brilliant orange tubular flowers. Adds spectacular color to landscape.
Passionflower / <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Sun/part shade	Native that is grown for its unusual exotic blooms that range in colors.
Sky Blue Vine / <i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i>	Sun	Lush green heart shaped leaves with sky blue drooping flowers. Can reach 20 feet.
Trumpet Vine / <i>Campsis radicans</i>	Sun/part shade	Native, very showy. Long orange-red tubular flowers followed by bean-like seed pods.
Virginia Creeper / <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Sun/ shade	Native fast-growing vine that tolerates shade. Blue-black berries in the fall.

## “Substitute a Native for an Exotic” List

### Crape Myrtle –

*Desert Willow, Retama, Anacacho, Mexican Plum, Texas Redbud, Mexican Buckeye, Texas Mountain Laurel*

### Nandina –

*Flameleaf Sumac, Coyotillo*

### Burford Holly –

*Agarito, Coyotillo (without the spiny leaves), Barbados Cherry (pink flowers and red fruits), Willow-leaf Heimia (yellow flowers), Desert Yaupon*

### Redtip Photinia, Oleander, Ligustrum –

*Evergreen Sumac, Cenizio, Texas Mountain Laurel, Condalia*

### Dwarf Yaupon (it is a selection of Texas native just not our area) –

*Desert Yaupon*

### Primrose Jasmine –

*Elbowbush (deciduous), Whitebrush*

### Cast Iron Plant –

*Turk's Cap*

### Asian Jasmine –

*Silver Dalea, Frogfruit, Straggler Daisy, Virginia Creeper (deciduous, but has red fall foliage), Evening Primrose (may almost disappear in the summer, but has large pink flowers in spring), mulch*

### Japanese Honeysuckle –

*Coral Honeysuckle, Carolina Jessamine, Virginia Creeper*

### Miscanthus or Purple Fountain Grass –

*Little Bluestem Grass (upright, deep red brown foliage with fluffy seed heads), Beargrass*

### Pampas Grass –

*Lindheimer Muhly Grass, Big Bluestem, Indiangrass*

## Resources

### San Antonio Botanical Gardens

555 Funston  
San Antonio, Texas 78209

### SAWS Conservation

<http://www.saws.org/conservation/h2ome/landscape/>  
P.O. Box 2449  
San Antonio, TX 78298-2449  
(210) 704-7283

### BexarMet

<http://www.bexarmet.org/>  
P.O. Box 245994  
San Antonio, TX 78224-5994

### Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Schoolhouse

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildscapes/>  
Austin, TX 78602 Austin:  
(512) 308-0979,  
San Antonio Urban Wildlife Office  
(210) 688-6444

### National Wildlife Federation

<https://secure.nwf.org/backyard/>  
P.O. Box 1583  
Merrifield, VA 22116-1583  
(800) 822-9919

### Alamo Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer Program

[www.AlamoMasterNaturalist.org](http://www.AlamoMasterNaturalist.org)  
PO Box 690356  
San Antonio, TX 78269

### Alamo Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas

email: [sanantonio@npsot.org](mailto:sanantonio@npsot.org)  
(210) 733-0034



City of San Antonio  
Development Services Department  
P.O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, Texas 78283-3966



# NICE!

## Native Plants Instead of Common Exotics (N.I.C.E. !\*) Landscapes



Creating a beautiful landscape with the use of native plants can be fun and rewarding. The native plants can be from existing vegetation on your property such as the trees and shrubs that your builder has preserved or can be a partial or complete conversion. A N.I.C.E. ! landscape will not only support our songbirds, butterflies and hummingbirds, but will use less water and require no or minimal pesticides, fertilizers or maintenance. In addition, landscaping with natives maintains our unique South Texas character.

In San Antonio there are environmental concerns particularly with respect to water. The Edward's Aquifer is currently the sole source of water for the Greater San Antonio area; water for drinking, bathing and for landscapes. As a means for insuring water in the future, there is a concerted effort to reduce water use. Currently, approximately 40% of the water used in the summer is used to irrigate landscapes.

This brochure describes not only why a N.I.C.E. landscape is a smart move, but also how to create and manage one.

The typical landscape that is so common today has its basis in the formal gardens of Europe. This style emerged as the standard in the 1940's with the invention of the gas powered lawnmower. The horticulture industry searched the world over for plants to fit the needs of such "formal" gardens so that today most of the plants that are used in our landscapes, including turf grasses, originate from other countries, primarily from Asia. Selections were made to be evergreen or have foliage with color, fast growth, large flowers, and easy, inexpensive propagation. So today, most individuals and professionals are more familiar with these exotics than they are with the native plants in their area. The Redtip Photinia and Asian Jasmine are the same plants no matter where you live and are easy and relatively inexpensive to purchase.

So what is lost when we use exotics? Why does it matter? A home will be a family's most important investment. It is anticipated

that there will be years of enjoyment along with maintenance to insure that the home continues to grow in value. A landscape created with native plants adds variety and enjoyment.

Approximately, 7,000 new homes are built in San Antonio every year. When a subdivision is created, there are many issues that must be considered; utilities, roads, drainage and trees. Unfortunately, trees and their associated vegetation is often a low priority. Also builders feel that families want a back yard with grass, so even if the native trees, and shrubs and herbs could be saved, they are often removed. Builders feel that families do not want native plants for their landscapes because in nature they look so wild, and unmanaged, nor the builder or the home buyer know how they can be managed to be aesthetically pleasing.

### Programs

Conserving water is so important to the community that the water utilities have programs that offer incentives for preservation of native trees and shrubs or convert existing landscapes to native plants or other drought tolerant vegetation. Typically the programs are based on the square footage of landscape that is either planted with drought tolerant plants or mulched. Turf grass does not qualify. For more information on these programs contact your water utility.

\* Natives Instead of Common Exotics (N.I.C.E.!) is a state-wide program initiated by the Boerne, Texas Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas

US Trade Mark pending

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the National Wildlife Federation have a Wildlife Certification program. These programs stress the importance of providing food, water, cover and places for wild life to raise their young. A N.I.C.E.! landscape, where there are 3 layers of vegetation; canopy trees, understory shrubs and ground level plants such as herbs and grasses, is the most effective for attracting songbirds, butterflies and hummingbirds and to deter grackles. You will also want to minimize any pesticide use that may impact the wildlife you are trying to attract.

## How

If you are lucky enough to have existing trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses on your property, it is best if you start by identifying the plants and watching them through the first year. You will want to take notes of their flowers, fruits, fall foliage color and wildlife visitors to assist you in deciding which plants you want to keep. Although this is recommended, it is not necessary if you want to start right away.

Remove those plants that do not meet your landscape goals, but be sure to maintain as much diversity as possible. A strategy is to remove any thorny vines or shrubs that will be close to activity areas. If you have a majority of one type of plant such as the Ash Juniper (Mountain Cedar), reduce their numbers while maintaining individuals in any buffer areas either between you and the neighbor or on the north side of the property to shield the home from north winds. When reducing the numbers of an individual plant, also consider maintaining a variety of ages within the population so that as some plants mature and die, there will be younger individuals to replace the lost plants. Consider removing much of the lower vegetation in a selected area among the preserved trees to provide a shaded play space for children. This natural area can be mulched and provides a wonderful alternative to a turf grass areas to set a playset. Simply mulch with the shredded unwanted vegetation. Also the lower branches of the trees can be raised and understory shrub heights can be reduced in those front areas to allow clear vision and good air circulation. The understory shrubs can also be pruned into any shape you want; hedged into a box or ball or just pruned to encourage desirable shape and vigorous new growth. These areas will not require any irrigation, mowing or fertilization. In order to permanently remove some of the unwanted trees, shrubs or vines, it may necessary to treat fresh cuts with the appropriate herbicide to prevent them from re-growing from the roots or the base of the plant.

Several reference books for our area are: *Trees, Shrubs and Cactus of South Texas* by James Everitt and D. Lynn Drawe; *A Field Guide to Common South Texas Shrubs* by Richard Taylor, Jimmy Rutledge and Joe Herrera, *Texas Wildflowers* by Campbell and Lynn Loughmiller and *Grasses of the Texas Hill Country* by Brian Loftin and Shirely Loftin. Also the San Antonio Botanical Gardens is a great resource. Their newly opened South Texas Trails have plants identified for your convenience and/or the knowledgeable staff can assist with identifying your plants.

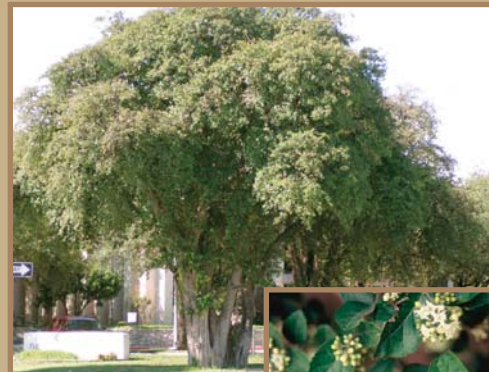
## Native Plants to Consider

### Large Shade Trees

Most individuals are familiar with and can identify the following trees especially if they are already mature trees. What often gets overlooked in a natural area, are small, immature trees of these species. Often a young tree can be in better health, have a better shape or even be located in a better location than an older individual tree. Maintain a diversity of tree types and ages, keeping some of the younger trees.

Creating habitat for our small song birds such as the Ruby Crown Kinglet, Warblers, Wrens and Vireos has another benefit as they do an excellent job of devouring most of the small insects that feed on our landscape trees.

- **Anqua** – semi evergreen with sandpaper leaves and clusters of white flowers in the early spring. It grows into a very large tree (40-50 ft) and often has fused multiple trunks.



Anaqua



- **Pecan** – Deciduous (looses its leaves in the winter) and one of the tallest trees up to 60 ft, food for squirrels, humans and even some birds such as the Blue Jay.

- **Live Oak** – Mostly evergreen, spreading-canopy tree, food for squirrels, deer, and birds; used for nesting especially in cavities.
- **Red Oak** – Deciduous with red fall color, one of the tallest trees up to 60ft, food for squirrels, deer, and birds; used for nesting especially in cavities.
- **Cedar Elm** – Deciduous with a more compact canopy, butterfly larvae food, deer browse, fruits eaten by squirrels and birds; used for nesting especially in cavities.
- **Hackberry** – Deciduous, relatively short-lived (45-55 years), this is all of wildlife's favorite food (that is why there are so many unwanted Hackberry seedlings in our landscape areas).
- **Mesquite** – Deciduous, excellent honey from the flowers: seed pods and fruits are food for mammals.
- **Huisache** – Mostly evergreen with feathery foliage and fragrant yellow flowers. Good for honey and provides excellent protective nesting due to thorns. Thorns diminish as tree ages.



Huisache

### Small to Medium Trees

Typically these trees form the "understory," the plants that grow under the large shade trees; but many can and do survive in full sun. Unfortunately, today most of the listed trees cannot be purchased, but must be preserved, transplanted or grown from seed.

- **Ash Juniper or Mountain Cedar** – Our only evergreen conifer species. Fruits of the female are enjoyed by turkey, mammals and many other birds. The Golden Cheek Warbler uses strips of bark for nesting; and many birds find year-round shelter in its canopy.



Ashe Juniper

- **Texas Persimmon** – Mostly deciduous, long-lived. The female provides fruits that are excellent for humans and other mammals. The smooth bark is very aesthetically pleasing. This tree can be pruned into any shape.



Texas Persimmon

- **Condalia** – Mostly evergreen with a gnarly trunk, provides small orange to black fruits throughout the growing season for a variety of mammals and birds.



Condalia

- **Eve's Necklace** – Delicate foliage with light pink flowers (cousin to the Texas Mountain Laurel) and ornamental black fruits that look like jewelry.
- **Texas Mountain Laurel** – Evergreen; can be kept as a shrub or trained into a tree with fragrant purple flowers; seed pods with bright red seeds. This plant can be trimmed into a square to form a hedge.



Texas Mountain Laurel

- **Acacia** – there are many species of Acacia trees. Most have delicate, feathery foliage, some are evergreen and some have small thorns, but all have flowers that are used to make honey and can be trained into a landscape feature.
- **Kidneywood** – Mostly deciduous, delicate small tree or shrub with spikes of white fragrant flowers.

## Shrubs or "Bushy" Vegetation

- **Evergreen Sumac** – Large evergreen shrub that can be trained into a tree, spikes of white flowers that turn into red fruit that provide food for mammals and birds.
- **Flameleaf Sumac** – Deciduous and usually a small tree with a spike of bright red fruits (can make "lemonade" from the fruits) and brilliant orange-red fall foliage.
- **Agarito** – Evergreen medium shrub related to the Hollies, gray green leaves with spiny tips so keep away from children's play area, bright yellow, fragrant flowers and red fruit that are tart and tasty for humans, mammals and birds, will do well in shade or sun.



Agarita

- **Silk Tassle** – Evergreen medium to large shrub almost always and understory plant, fruits used by mammals and birds.
- **Whitebrush** – is just that, "brushy," but can be trimmed into whatever shape you want, fragrant spikes of white flowers, browse for deer and good honey plant.
- **Hogplum** – small shrub can be full sun or shade, deer browse and some birds eat the hard fruits.
- **Elbowbush** – Deciduous shady shrub that sprawls under trees similar to the exotic Primrose Jasmine, first to flower in the spring.
- **Wafer Ash** – Delicate small tree or large shrub in partial to full shade. Has light green leaves, clusters of creamy white and sweet fragrant flowers in early spring and ornamental papery fruits. The leaves are a favorite food for the Black Swallowtail butterfly larva.



Wafer Ash

