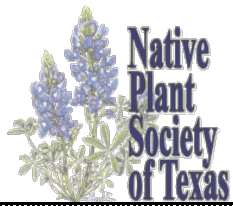




Houston Area Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP)  
 Plant List Spreadsheet  
 Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)

Common Name Scientific Name	Native Region <sup>1</sup>	Height (ft.); Spread (ft.)	Light <sup>2</sup>	Evergreen <sup>3</sup>	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water <sup>4</sup>	Soil Type	Maintenance	Comments
<b>Shade Trees &gt; 20 feet, 1 trunk @ &gt;6" diameter typical:</b>										
American Sycamore, Plane tree, Buttonball tree <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	FW, GP Low, moist woods; floodplains; rich bottomlands	75-100'; 75-100'	S-PS	D	Fall and winter	Round seed balls in fall; attractive, mottled white bark	M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, moist, well drained	Maintain rich organic soil so that no leaf diseases develop. Needs 30" water per year	Stately, slow growing, long lived (250) years; Tall, straight trunk, symmetrical, rounded crown. Ornamental brown bark exfoliates in irregular pieces to reveal creamy white inner bark. Palmate leaves with 5 lobes are 8-12" wide. Round 1 inch seed balls turn brown in fall, persist in winter feeding many birds and mammals. Massive tree is best for acreage or parks. American Sycamore is slow growing and hard to propagate so many are now planting Mexican Sycamore, ( <i>Platanus mexicana</i> ) which is only native to Mexico but a rapid grower, smaller, bark not as attractive. FACW
Anacua, Sandpaper Tree, Knockaway <i>Ehretia anacua</i>	GP Thickets, open woodlands, fence rows	20-45'; 20-30'	S-PS	SE	All year	White flowers fall/spring, orange fruit summer/fall	L-M	Loam, clay, well drained, alkaline	Needs 24" water per year; If grown in sand it will sucker and form thicket	Fragrant white flowers bloom in 3 inch clusters on branch tips from late fall through early spring, bee magnet. May rebloom in summer. Edible 1/4" orange or yellow berries loved by birds and mammals. Dark green, almost evergreen leaves feel like sandpaper. Multiple stems later fuse together to form an interesting fluted trunk with rough bark. Older trees have reddish, flaking bark and gnarled, stocky appearance. Larval host for Texas Tortoise beetle.
Bald Cypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	50-75'; 20-30'	S-PS	D	Fall	Leaves turn rust color in fall	M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape, 32" water minimum	Long-lived, pyramidal conifer with red-brown to silvery shredding bark. Feathery leaves turn rust colored in fall before falling. Fruit is 1" wrinkled green ball, brown in fall. May form knees in very wet soil.



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Black Cherry <i>Prunus serotina</i> variety <i>serotina</i>	FW, GP	70-100'; 30-40'	S-PS	D	Spring and summer	White flowers in spring and red fruit in summer	M	Sand, Loam, clay, well drained, acidic	Needs little maintenance pruning. May remove lower limbs for better canopy	4" fragrant, drooping white flower clusters Mar-April, edible red fruit in summer that birds love. Dense shade, may have yellow fall color; Satiny bark when young, mature bark splits into upturned flakes that resemble burned potato chips; Larval host: Tiger Swallowtail, Viceroy, numerous moths. Alternate simple leaves have finely toothed edges.
Bur Oak, Mossycup Oak, Burr Oak <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	POS Prairies; open woods; sandy ridges; stream edges	60-100'; 60-80'	S-PS	D	Fall	Large acorns for mammals	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Large, long-lived (300-400 years) tree. Thick, wavy bark on trunk resists fire, mature tree won't burn; young Bur Oak may burn but resprouts from roots. Large acorns (1.5 inches) with caps covering 1/2 of acorn with a mossy rim. Acorns eaten by cows, goats, deer, bears, rabbits, squirrels, rodents. In white oak family so oak wilt resistant. Very drought tolerant with deep tap root. FACU
Cedar Elm <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	Western FP, GP	30-60'; 20-30'	S-PS	D	Fall	Leaves turn yellow in fall	M	Sand, loam, clay, seasonal poor drainage okay, also drought tolerant	If necessary, prune for shape.	Upright vase shape; twigs sometimes have corky wings, thick, sandpapery leaves turn yellow in fall, tiny seeds in circular wings ripen in fall. Larval host: Mourning Cloak and Question Mark butterflies.
Drummond Red Maple <i>Acer rubrum</i> variety <i>drummondii</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	20-40'; 30-40'	S-PS	D	January, spring and late fall	Red flowers, red fruit, yellow-red fall color	H	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage okay	Prune off suckers. Seedlings easy to pull when young. 48" water minimum	Tolerates standing water 1 month. Red flowers in Jan. Females have showy red fruit (samara) in Spring. 3-lobed palmate leaves turn yellow then red in late fall. Bark is gray, smooth when young, furrowed with age. Host plant: Mourning Cloak & Tiger Swallowtail butterflies, Rosy Maple moth.
Eastern Red Cedar <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	20-50'; 20-30'	S-PS	E	Winter	Blue fruit	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Little maintenance needed; Tolerates heat, salt and wind	Pyramidal evergreen with brown shredding bark that becomes silver with age. Aromatic foliage and wood. Blue fruits in winter feed mammals and migrating birds. Excellent shelter for wildlife. Historical medicinal uses.



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Loblolly Pine <i>Pinus taeda</i>	FP, FW, GP, POS	60-100'; 12-15'	S-PS	E	All year	Attractive trunks	M	Sand, loam, acid, well drained	Lots of litter: needles, twigs, cones which make excellent mulch!	Fast growing tree can tolerate some flooding and drought. Tall straight trunks to 110' with attractive flat brown plates which form a checkerboard pattern. 4-8" needles in bundles of 3. Pine cones 3-5". Provides food and shelter to many birds and mammals. Native bees may raise young in holes in downed branches. Larval host: Elf and Southern pine sphinx.
Osage Orange, Bois d'arc <i>Maclura pomifera</i>	FW, GP	20-40'	S-PS	D	Spring & Fall	Softball sized wrinkly lime green fruit on females repel cockroache s	M	Loam, clay, well drained	Treasure this tree if in your landscape!	Unusual tree has rich history. Native range undetermined because flexible, strong wood prized by native Americans for bows (Bois d'arc is French for "bow wood") traded & planted all over US. Orange brown trunk; Thorny stems inspiration for invention of barbed wire, rot-resistant wood was used for posts. Fruit eaten by horses, wildlife shelter. Drought tolerant.
Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	West FP, GP	50-100'; 50'	S	D	Fall	Edible nuts	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Nutritious, tasty nuts important food source for native Americans, settlers and wildlife. Compound leaf with 11 curved leaflets; Massive tree may develop yellow fall color. Texas state tree; Begins bearing @ 20 years, can live 300 years. Host plant: Grey Hairstreak butterfly.
Red Mulberry <i>Morus rubra</i>	FW, GP, CM Shaded woods, stream, river banks, ditches, ravines, depressions	35-40'; 35-40'	S-PS	D	Spring	Sweet blackberries	M	Sand, loam, clay, moist	Lay groundcloth to gather fruit; don't plant near patio, driveway (stains)	Broad rounded crown, short trunk, reddish brown bark. 8-10" leaves are ovate to almost heart-shaped with toothed edges, hairy; lobed leaves on strong shoots or basal sprouts. Yellow fall color; 1-1.5 inch edible, elongated black berries are sweet, fall off tree when ripe birds compete with mammals to devour. Can live 125 years. FACU



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River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i>	FP, FW	30-50'; 20-30'	S-PS	D	Winter	Bark	M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape	Silvery to peach colored bark flakes in sheets to deeper orange. Can be multi-trunked. Fruit resembles little cones, leaves are triangular with a rounded bottom which turn yellow in fall. Likes Houston's clay soil.
Shumard Red Oak <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	FP, GP	50-90'; to 60'	S-PS	D	Fall	red leaves	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape	Strong, long-lived, fast growing pyramidal tree with attractive 4-8" alternate leaves with pointed lobes turn red in late fall. Acorns feed wildlife. Larval host for many butterflies. Intolerant of flooding. Susceptible to oak wilt.
Sugarberry, Hackberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	West FP, FW, GP, POS	30-50'; 30'	S-PS	D	Fall	yellowish leaves, red berries	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape, remove weak branches	Tree is very valuable to wildlife: sweet berries important winter food for resident and migrating birds, were eaten by native Americans. Larval host: Question Mark, Mourning Cloak, Pale Emperor, Snout and Hackberry Emperor butterflies!
Swamp Chestnut Oak, Basket Oak, Cow Oak <i>Quercus michauxii</i>	FP, FW, CM rich lowland areas	60-80'; 30-50'	S-PS	D	Fall	red leaves	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape	Long, straight, ashy gray trunk, large oval leaves up to 11" long and 7" wide have rounded teeth on edges and turn vivid red in fall. Sweet acorns don't need boiling, relished by mammals and birds, even cows! Larval host: Juvenal's duskywing butterfly. Long lived.
Sweet Gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	50-60'; 20-30'	S-PS	D	Fall	Yellow and red leaves	M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic, well drained. Can tolerate some saline	If necessary, prune for shape. 40" water minimum.	Palmate leaves are star-shaped with 5 lobes. Vivid fall color is yellow to red. 45 species of birds and squirrels enjoy seeds from spiky brown fruit. Tree develops dense shade so use mulch or shade-tolerant groundcover.
White Oak <i>Quercus alba</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	80-100'; 60-80'	S-PS	D	Spring & Fall	Pink leaves in spring, red leaves in fall	M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage ok	If necessary, prune for shape. 44" water minimum.	Valuable, slow growing, long lived 100+ years. Emerging spring leaves are pink. Large, attractive lobed leaves turn dark red in fall without frost. Small acorns feed birds and bigger wildlife. Larval Host: Edwards hairstreak butterfly
Willow Oak <i>Quercus phellos</i>	FP, FW, GP	30-60'; 40-60'	S-PS	D	Fall	brief yellow fall color	M-H	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage ok	If necessary, prune for shape, 40" water minimum	Long, narrow, shiny leaves with bristle tip look like willow leaves. May turn yellow in fall. Abundant, small acorns feed birds and mammals. Butterfly host



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<b>Small Trees/Tall Shrubs (10 - 25 feet typical)</b>										
American Holly <i>Ilex opaca</i>	FP, FW, GP	15-25'; 20'	S-PS	E	Winter	Red berries	L-M	Sand or loam only, acid, well drained	Do Not Plant in Clay. Naturally branches to the ground-don't prune.	Pyramidal shape in full sun, up to 60' in part shade. Thick, leathery, deep green leaves (2-4" long) have spiny teeth on leaf edges. Male and female greenish-white flowers on separate trees. Bright red fruits in fall on females, persist through winter. Birds love the fruit. Host plant: Henry's Elfin butterfly.
Arrowwood Viburnum <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	6-10'; 12'	S-PS-SH	D	Spring and Fall	White flower clusters, blue fruit. Red fall color	L-M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; Moist, seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape	3 inch white flower clusters in late spring. Interesting leaves are toothed and grooved. Red fall color without needing frost. Downy straight twigs. Clusters of small blue to black fruit in late summer which songbirds and wildlife enjoy. Larval host Spring Azure.
11. Carolina Buckthorn, Indian Cherry <i>Frangula caroliniana</i>	Bottomlands, stream banks and woods	10-15'; 8-12'	PS	D	Fall	Red berries	M	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Pruning not needed; 16" water minimum	This small tree is best in part shade where it becomes airy and tiered. It needs at least 3-4 hours of sun to thrive. It produces red berries in summer which turn black in fall before birds devour. The glossy elliptic to ovate leaves have prominent veins and remain on the tree for a long time in fall. Larval host: Snout butterfly.
Eastern Redbud <i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>canadensis</i>	FW, GP, eastern FP	15-25'; 15-20'	PS	D	Spring & Fall	Pink-purple blooms; Yellow leaves in fall	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape; 35" water minimum	Purply-pink pea blossoms cover trunk and branches before leaves appear Feb to March. Blooms same time as Mexican Plum. Heart shaped leaves may turn yellow in fall. Fruit is a tan to purplish pod. DR



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False Indigo, Indigobush, River Locust <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Stream & pond edges; gravel bars, open woods; roadsides	12-18'; 6-15'	S-PS	D	Spring- summer	Purple bloom spikes	M	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Doesn't need pruning, may form a thicket	Multi-trunked shrub or small tree to 18'. Purple flower spikes with striking orange anthers in spring, repeat blooms. 9" compound leaves with tiny rounded leaflets. Important Larval Host: Silver Spotted skipper, Southern Dogface, Gray Hairstreak, Hoary Edge, Andrenid bee. Called false because very little indigo dye can be extracted. Amorphos means formless or deformed - the flowers only have 1 petal unlike other pea flowers. Tiny black seeds feed wildlife. Holds nitrogen in soil for plant use. FACW
Farkleberry, Sparkleberry <i>Vaccinium arboreum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM Sandy, open woods; wooded stream banks; clearings	12-15'; 10-12'	PS	D	Spring, fall & winter	White Flowers, red fall color, red and grey exfoliating bark in winter	M	Sand, sandy loam, acid, well drained but moist 40" water minimum per year	Don't prune	Small tree In the blueberry family with small blue fruits for birds. In late spring, fragrant white bells, red fall color. Attracts birds, pollinators (including native bees), small mammals. Larval host: Henry's elfin, Striped hairstreak. Medicinal uses.
Fringe Tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	FP, FW; GP&M	15-30'; 10-20'	PS	D	Spring & fall	White Flowers	M-H	Sand, loam; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage okay	Don't prune - very slow growing; 40" water minimum	Long white fringe of blooms in spring. Dark green glossy leaves. Dark-blue, grape-like fruit on females attract pileated woodpeckers.
Hercules Club Toothache tree, Lime prickly ash <i>Zanthoxylum clava- herculis</i>	FW, GP, POS	10-25'; 12-15'	S-PS	D	Spring & winter	Clusters of tiny white, yellowish flowers spring, black fruit in fall	L-M	Sand, loam, acid, well drained	Don't prune	Aromatic, round headed tree with spines on branches; Grey bark covered with spine-tipped cone-like growths. Lustrous, pinnately compound leaves with spines on leaf stem, 5-19 leaflets with serrated edges. Clusters of whitish- yellowish flowers in spring. Larval host: Giant Swallowtail butterfly. Clustered, shiny black fruits in fall on females feed birds. Chewing leaves numbs mouth to alleviate toothache.



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Hornbeam, Ironwood, Musclewood, Blue Beech <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	FW, FP, GP Shaded woods, stream & river banks, flood plains, bottomland	20-30'; 20-30'	PS-SH	D	fall & winter	Fruit turns orange, tan; fall color yellow, orange, red	M	Sand, sandy loam, acid, well drained but moist	Slow growing, don't prune, 40" water minimum per year	Multi-trunked tree with smooth bluish gray bark with bulges that look like muscles. Leaves resemble elm leaves, double-toothed edges, yellow fall color. Interesting nutlets have 3- lobed bract like an umbrella over it, turn orange or brown in fall and many dangle in pendulous chain-like clusters. Seeds feed birds, mammals also eat catkins, inner bark. Larval host: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Red-spotted Purple, Striped Hairstreak. Hornbeam and ironwood refer to the extreme hardness of wood. FAC
Mexican Buckeye <i>Ungnadia speciosa</i>	Harris County Slopes and rocky ridges	10-25'; 12-15'	S-PS	D	All seasons	Pink blooms, fall color, fruits	VL	Sand, loam, acid, well drained	If you have black gumbo, plant in a raised bed. Needs 16 inches of water per year	Mexican Buckeye has something to enjoy in every season. In spring, fragrant 1 inch pink blossoms appear. Black tipped stamens pour out of bloom's center. Compound foliage is attractive all summer and turns yellow in fall. Fruits look like ornaments, turn orange in fall, may remain on tree for 1 year. Fruit contains black seeds with white eyes, poisonous. In winter enjoy pretty brown speckled bark.
Mexican Plum <i>Prunus mexicana</i>	FW, GP	10-20'; 8-12'	S-PS	D	Spring	White flowers; Edible fruit	L	Sand, loam, clay; well drained; Drought tolerant	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Showy white flowers before leaves appear in early spring, sweet, grapey scent. Dark, satiny bark becomes furrowed with age. Plums turn yellow to mauve to purple July through September - make jelly or leave for wildlife food.
Parsley Hawthorn <i>Crataegus marshallii</i>	FW, GP, CM, western FP	10-25'; 12-15'	S-PS	D	Spring & winter	White flowers, red fruit, flaking bark	L-M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape	Dainty white 5-petaled blooms with red stamens in early spring. Leaves look like parsley. Red berries feed birds in winter. Gray bark flakes to show orange inner bark. Butterfly host plant. Thorns for protected bird's nests.
Possumhaw Holly <i>Ilex decidua</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	12-15'; 12-15'	S-PS	D	Winter	Red berries on female	M	Sand, loam, clay, seasonal poor drainage okay, also drought tolerant	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Twiggy gray branches with oval toothed leaves. Striking red berries on bare branches all winter loved by cedar waxwings and 'possums. Fruits best in full sun DR



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Red Bay <i>Persea borbonia</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	12-40'; 30'	S-PS	E	Fall	black berries	M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, moist	Slow growing, don't prune.	Dense evergreen foliage, rounded form, often branches low to the ground; Aromatic leaves can be used in cooking like bay leaf. Tiny yellow-green flowers in spring. Birds and squirrels love small black fruits in fall. Host plant: Palamedes and Spicebush Swallowtail caterpillars which feature snake eyes on back to scare predators. Mature trunk has red-brown checkered bark.
Rusty Blackhaw <i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	FW, FP, GP Thickets, open woodlands, stream & river banks	12-40'; 30'	S-PS	D	Spring and Fall	Spring white flower clusters, fall black fruit	L	Sand, loam, clay, acid, well drained, requires 24" water per year	Slow growing, don't prune; Need at least two plants from different sources for good fruit set	Rusty blackhaw has larger flowers and fruit than Arrowwood viburnum ( <i>V. dentatum</i> ). 3-4 inch clusters of white flowers in very early spring. Opposite leaves are glossy and turn red in fall. Leaves and winter buds have red hairs (visible with hand lens). Mature trees have "checkerboard" trunks. Clusters of bluish-black football-shaped fruits in fall, edible, birds love. Larval host for Spring Azure and Henry's Elfin butterflies. UPL
Sassafras <i>Sassafras albidum</i>	FW, GP woodlands roadsides, fencerows	15-20'; 10-15'	S-PS	D	Fall	Fall color	M	Sand, loam, acid, well drained	May colonize to form thicket	Little bunches of yellow flowers in spring seem to float in the air, fall fruits gobbled by birds, mitten shaped leaves turn red, orange, peach and yellow in fall. Powdered roots make file' for gumbo.
Scarlet Buckeye Red Buckeye, Firecracker Plant <i>Aesculus pavia</i> var. <i>pavia</i>	FW, POS Thickets, hillsides, slopes, shaded woods, and river banks in dappled shade	10-20'; 6-12'	PS	D	Spring	Scarlet flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, well drained	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Small tree with opposite, palmately compound leaves which normally drop by summer's end. Shiny leaflets are 6" long and 3" wide. Dramatic, scarlet-red flower clusters up to a foot long with 1 1/2" trumpet flowers in spring. Fruit is round, two-sided capsule with 1-2 seeds, brown with white eye which gives it the buckeye name. Seeds poisonous, native Americans used to stun fish.





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Shining Sumac, Winged Sumac Flameleaf Sumac <i>Rhus copallinum</i>	FW, GP	10-20'; 10-15'	S-PS	D	Fall	Flaming red fall color	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	May colonize to form thicket	Dark green compound leaves with midrib "wings" turn vivid red in fall. Clusters of yellow blooms in spring. Red fruit feeds birds and mammals in winter, "sumac-aide" drink for humans.
Sweetbay Magnolia <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	FW, Eastern FP Open woodlands, shaded woods, swamps	10-20'; 10-15'	S-PS	D	Spring	White blooms, lemony scent	M	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Slow growing, don't prune	Unlike Southern Magnolia ( <i>M. grandiflora</i> ) which gets huge, Sweetbay is a good size for small yard, can also handle our Houston monsoons. Leaves are thinner with white undersides, turn yellow/brown in winter are replaced in spring. 4-6 inch white blooms with same lemony fragrance, develop over 3 days. Red seeds on 2" oval woody cone. Smooth gray bark, usually multi-trunked. Larval Host: Sweetbay Silkmoth, Tiger and Spicebush swallowtail butterflies. FACW
Texas Persimmon <i>Diospyros texana</i>	GP, Eastern FP Rocky, open woodlands, slopes	10-15'; 6-10'	S-PS	D	Spring & summer	White blooms, black fruit	VL	Loam, clay, well drained	Only needs 12" of water per year	Small tree with smooth, pale grey trunk which peels to reveal white, gray, pink inner bark. Tiny, urn-shaped, fragrant white flowers in spring. Edible fruit turns black when ripe in summer, loved by birds and mammals.
Two-Wing Silverbell <i>Halesia diptera</i>	FW, GP Rich woods, swamp margins	10-25'; 10-15'	PS	D	Spring & Fall	White blooms, yellow fall color	L	Sand, loam, moist, well drained, acid	Slow growing, don't prune	Small rounded tree, 3-7" leaves turn yellow in fall. White, waxy bell-shaped blooms in spring with four petals and tight cluster of stamens in middle resembles candle in a holder. Ornamental fruits with two wings and a seed turn tan in fall, feed wildlife.
Wax myrtle <i>Morella (Myrica) cerifera</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	8-10'; 6-8'	S-PS	E	Winter	Gray berries	M-H	Sand, loam, clay; Saline okay; seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Olive green leaves have spicy fragrance when brushed against and are evergreen. Waxy gray berries all winter eaten by 40 species of birds. Larval host: hairstreak butterflies. DR
Yaupon Holly <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	12-25'; 8-12'	S-PS	E	Winter	Red berries on female	M	Loam, clay, sand seasonal poor drainage okay	If necessary, prune for shape; 24" water minimum	Red berries cover tree all winter, a nice contrast to small oval evergreen leaves. Needs sun to produce berries. Dense structure with stiff branches attracts nesting birds. DR



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<b>Shrubs, Multibranched, woody stems up to 10', persist through winter</b>										
American Beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	3-6'; 5-7'	PS-SH	D	Fall	Purple fruit	M	Loam, clay, seasonal poor drainage okay	Pruning not necessary; 32" water minimum	Open, long-limbed, understory shrub with pink-lavender spring flowers. Striking clusters of glossy, purple-mauve fruit encircle stems in fall. The weight causes the stems to arch attractively. Swoons dramatically when thirsty. Birds avidly gobble berries.
Arkansas Yucca <i>Yucca arkansana</i>	FP, GP Prairie, plains, meadows, pastures, savannahs	1-4'; 2-5'	S-PS	E	Spring	White blooms	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Don't plant near paths or driveway - sharp tips	Smallest yucca to 3 feet, usually just a rosette of leaves. 8-24 inch evergreen leaves with white margins and curly threads. Flexible leaves are bluish-green to yellowish-green and have sharp spines on tips. 6-7 foot central column of white bell flowers forms in spring. Fruit is a capsule with thin black seeds.
Barbados Cherry <i>Malpighia glabra</i>	GP	2-6'; 2-3'	S-PS	SE	Spring-Fall	Pink flowers, red cherries	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Pruning not necessary	Small rounded mounds feature lacy, pink flowers with sweet cherry scent. Shiny red cherries have a sweet taste but mostly seeds, high in Vitamin C. Birds like fruit. Heavy show of flowers and fruit in spring, sporadic repeat blooms with nice fall display. Larval Host: skipper, duskywing, cassius blue butterflies.
Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	FP; GP, CM	6-12'; 6-8'	PS-SH	D	May-Jun, Fall nutlets	White flowers in early summer	H	Wetlands or moist clay, sandy loam or loam	Prune as needed to maintain natural form	Teeny, white flowers form ball with heavy perfume. Butterflies+ moths love it, especially swallowtails and sphinxes; a bee magnet. In fall, buttonlike seed balls feed 25 species of birds including ducks. Will grow in 1 foot of water or moist soil. Mod DR
Chile pequin <i>Capsicum annuum</i>	GP, CM	1-4'; 2-5'	PS-SH	D	May-Nov	White flowers, green berries turn red when ripe	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	May prune back in winter, particularly after a freeze or to encourage bushier form after several years	Nodding 1/2" white flowers bloom during warm months, 1/2-1" green peppers, turn red when ripe. Source of cultivated peppers. Birds love to eat. Can be eaten green (hottest) or red and: raw, roasted or dried. Warning: 13-40 times hotter than jalapeños (60,000 to 100,000 Scoville Units). Can be striking planted in masses. DR



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Coralbean <i>Erythrina herbacea</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM open sandy woods and clearings on plains	6-12'; 6-8'	S-PS	D	May-Nov	Red flowers, black pods with red beans, interesting foliage	L	Sand, loam, clay, acid, well drained	Trim dead stem tips after new growth emerges in spring when frost damage becomes evident	Opulent bright red curved flowers in summer attract hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Black seed pods with protruding red beans secured by threads. Sharp thorns on stems. Unique 3-leaflet alternate leaves. Seeds are poisonous. Attractive as garden background or on its own.
Dwarf Palmetto <i>Sabal minor</i>	FP, GP, CM	5-6'; 4-6'	S-PS-SH	E	Fall	Black fruit in fall	M	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Cut off dead leaves and spent flower stalks; 35" water minimum	Palm with underground trunk, evergreen fan shaped leaves are 5-6 feet tall and 4 feet wide. 7-8 foot bloom stalk, with white flowers, then grape-like black fruit develop with stalk drooping to the ground. Birds and other animals like the date-like fruit. DR
Halberd-leaf Hibiscus <i>Hibiscus laevis</i>	FW, FP, GP Marshes	5-6'; 6-8'	S-PS	D	May-Nov	White or pink flowers with red throats	M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, poor drainage okay	No pruning necessary, dies back after frost	Multi stemmed and well branched shrub to 6 feet. Leaves resemble daggers with handguards (not old world weapon axe-like halberd). Either pink or white 3" blooms with red throats bloom from bottom to top of stem all summer. Seeds dry in large capsules. OBL
Late Flowering Boneset <i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, Prairies, savannahs, woodland edges, near lakes	to 6'; 3-4'	S-PS	D	Aug-Nov	White flowers in fall	M	Sand, loam, clay can tolerate sun better with more water	Pruning not necessary, grows by rhizomes	Clouds of white flower clusters in fall attract numerous butterflies (hairstreaks, fritillaires, monarchs), native bees. Birds eat seeds. Opposite serrated leaves. Historic medicinal use. DR
Rockrose <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	Galveston county, edges of thickets	3-8'; 3'	S-PS	D	Apr-Nov	Pink flowers	M	well drained rocky or sandy soil, can tolerate some clay	Prune in winter to encourage bushy shape, can get leggy	Open branched shrub with pink hibiscus-like flowers during the warm months. Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and bees.
Salt Marsh Mallow <i>Kosteletzkya virginica</i>	FP, GP, CM Brackish marshes; coastal plains; swamps	3-5'; 3-4'	S-PS	D	Jun-Nov	Pink flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, poor drainage okay	Pruning not necessary, grows by rhizomes	3-5' sub-shrub with oval and pointed leaves. Has masses of 3 inch light pink or white hibiscus-like flowers all summer. Flowers dangle downward slightly. Fused central column of stamens are golden with pollen. Lives only 5 years so let some seeds sprout for replacement plants. OBL



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St. Andrew's Cross <i>Hypericum hypericoides</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, dry woods, floodplains	1-3'; 2-3'	S-PS	E	Jun-Sept	Yellow flowers	M	Light sandy or rocky acidic soil, can tolerate clay	Pruning not necessary	Small shrub with pairs of tiny oval leaves, shredding brown bark. Small yellow flowers are cross shaped.
Strawberry bush <i>Euonymus americanus</i>	FW, CM	to 6'; 3-4'	PS-SH	D	Fall-Winter	Red fruit + leaves in fall	M-H	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Pruning not necessary	Very upright lime-green branches to six feet. Interesting blooms start as red ball, flatten out to fleshy whitish flower. Warty fruits start turning red in summer then split open to reveal orange-red seeds. Leaves turn red in fall.
Texas Lantana <i>Lantana urticoides</i>	West FP brushy places, woodlands	5-6'; 4-6'	S-PS	D	Apr-Oct	orange red clustered flowers	L	Sand, loam clay	Prune for shape and size in winter, wearing gloves	Orange flowers turn yellow with age. Ovate opposite leaves; Berries feed wildlife but poisonous to humans. Sap is irritating, Host plant: Painted Lady. DR
Ti-ti, Leatherwood <i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i>	FW Low, wet pinelands; stream banks	3-8'; 3-10'	S-PS	D	Spring, fall	White flowers, fall color	H	Sand, loam, clay, acid, poor drainage okay	Can grow in 6" water or regular moist soil	Multiple trunks form large mass with shiny elliptical leaves. Blooms in late May or June with fragrant white spires hanging down which attract butterflies and native bees. Tiny fruits form on the spike and gradually turn ivory to brown - nice contrast with green leaves. Some leaves turn red in winter. FACW
Virginia Sweetspire <i>Itea virginica</i>	Eastern FP, FW	3-8'; 3'	PS-SH	D	Spring, fall	White flowers, fall color	H	Sand, loam, clay, Acidic; poor drainage okay	Pruning not necessary	4" drooping white spires in spring, nice contrast to dark bark. Fall leaves keep turning color: yellow, red, maroon, purple. Spreading roots stabilize soil.
<b>Flowering Annuals/Biennials/Perennials</b>										
American Basketflower <i>Centaurea americana</i>	FP, GP, CM Prairies, pastures, woodlands, savannas and roadsides	1.5-5'	S-PS	A	May-Aug	Lavender to pink flowers	L	Sandy loam, clay loam, medium loam	Remove spent stalks if desired	Sweet honey fragrance, makes excellent cut flower. Showy, easily cultivated. Looks similar to thistles, but is not prickly. Attracts bumble bees, native bees, butterflies--especially swallowtails, and other insects. Many species of birds, including bobwhite quail and sparrows devour the seeds.
Aquatic milkweed <i>Asclepias perennis</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	18-24"	S-PS	P	May-Sep	White-pink flowers	M	Sand, loam, moist	Low	White and pink flower clusters attract pollinators; host plant for Monarch butterflies. Could do well in rain gardens.
Black Eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	FW, GP, CM	1-2'; to 1'	S-PS-SH	P	May to Sept	Yellow flowers with black cone	L	Sand, loam, clay, acidic well drained	Deadhead to prolong blooming	2-3 inch vivid yellow ray flowers with a black central cone. Seeds feed wildlife. Larval host: Gorgone Checkerspot, Bordered Patch. DR



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Blue Mistflower <i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1-3'; 2-4'	S-PS	P	Spring-fall	Blue flowers	L-M	Loam, clay, sand, poor drainage okay	Low; may divide every 4 years to refresh	1/4' Misty blue flowers in masses attract nectaring butterflies. May bloom in spring but gorgeous in fall. Good border plant.
Blue-eyed Grass <i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	FW, GP, Eastern FP Meadows; damp fields; low open woods	1-1.5'; 9"	S-PS	P	Mar-Jul	Blue flowers	M	Moist, poor to average soils	Divide every other year	Pale blue to violet-blue flowers on branched stems. Flowers have dark violet nectar guides leading to bright yellow center. Looks like grass but belongs to iris family; short-lived perennial. Will decline if allowed to dry out. Heavy mulch causes crown rot; rich soils cause weak stems. FACW
Blue Sage, Pitcher Sage <i>Salvia azurea</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Prairie, plains, meadows, pastures, savannahs, woodland edge, open woodlands	1.5-6'; 2'	S-PS	P	Sep-Nov	Blue flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Keep well watered when young. Can be cut back for lower, bushier blooms. Cut back after blooms cease.	Attractive blue flowers. Has deep, tough roots to compete with prairie grasses which shade it. Usually 1.5-2.5' but can grow to 6'. Easy to grow from seed. Attracts native bees and bumble bees.
Bluestar <i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	GP FW FP Prairies, swamps, ditches, streams	8-12"; 1-3'	S-PS	P	Mar-May	light blue flower clusters	H	Sand, loam; acid, poor drainage okay	May cut flower stalks back after blooming. Low maintenance	Ornamental; Pale blue flowers in spring; Attracts butterflies. Good for rain gardens. Spreads by roots. DR
Cardinal Flower <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, open woodlands, moist prairies, stream banks	1-4'; 1-2'	S-PS	P	May-Oct	Red tubular flowers	H	Humus-rich, wet loams, clays and sandy loams; poor drainage ok	Soil must be kept moist	Leaves alternate and lanceolate. Showy red fragrant blooms attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Good nectar source. Dormant in winter/winter rosette. Medicinal use but is toxic in large quantities. DR
Clustered Bushmint <i>Hyptis alata</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Freshwater wetlands; roadsides; wet prairies	2-5'	S	P	May-Nov	White flowers	M	Moist/wet acidic sandy soils		Musky mint fragrance; round flower heads; tiny white flowers with purple spots. Attracts insects, which then attract birds. OBL. Moderate DR.
Elephant's Foot <i>Elephantopus carolinianus</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, woodlands, thickets	1-3'; 2-3'	PS-SH	P	Fall	Lavender flowers in clusters	M	Well drained dry soils - does best in sandy soils	Reseeds well; Can be groundcover. dormant in winter	Small airy lavender flower clusters August to September, good for shady areas. Large lower leaves can form groundcover if plants massed. Can tolerate drought. Nectar source for pollinators Reseeds well. DR



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Frostweed <i>Verbesina virginica</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Open, dryish woodlands and stream banks	3-6'; 2'	PS-SH	D	Aug-Nov	White flowers	M	Loam, clay, well drained	Prune to new growth in late winter	Large dark green leaves; leafy wings run the length of the stems. White flowers arranged in large clusters. In freezing weather, stems exude water which expands and freezes into frothy "ice". Easy to grow. Important pollinator plant-- attracts butterflies, native bees, honey bees, beetles and other insects. FACU. High DR.
Gaura, Butterfly Gaura <i>Oenothera lindheimeri</i>	GP, CM	2-3'; 2-3'	S-PS	P	April to frost	White flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, seasonal poor drainage okay	Low	White butterfly-like flowers on a tall, airy plant. Forms clumps - good at back of perennial garden. Long blooming time, flowers fade to pink. DR
Gayfeather, Blazing Star, <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1-5'; 1'	S	P	July-October	Spikes of purple flowers	M	Sand, loam Acidic; seasonal poor drainage ok	Low; can separate clumps every 5 years	Tall, thick spikes of purple flowers bloom from the top down summer to fall. Interesting 'hairy' foliage. Attracts many insects and butterflies. Scarify seed
Green milkweed <i>Asclepias viridis</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1.5-2'; 1-1.5'	S	P	Summer	Green flowers, purplish hoods	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Low	Wavy leaf margins and light-green flowers with purple hoods attract nectaring butterflies-larval host plant for Monarch family; birds use seed fluff for nesting materials. Irritating sap DR
Gulf Coast Penstemon <i>Penstemon tenuis</i>	GP, CM	1 1/2'; to 1'	S-PS	P	Spring	Purple flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, seasonal poor drainage ok	Low-leave seed on stalks to reseed and feed wildlife	One inch purple bell flowers on short spikes in spring that attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees. May rebloom in fall. Good tough filler plant. If watered may form thick green mat for groundcover in summer. DR
Heartleaf Scullcap <i>Scutellaria ovata</i>	GP, Western FP Open thickets, oak mottes, woodland edges and openings	1-3'	PS-SH	E	Apr-Jun	Blue, violet flowers	L	Moist sand, loam, clay	Pinch off spent bloom spikes to promote new growth (can use line trimmer)	Mint family--Snapdragon-like blue flowers bloom on spikes similar to Salvia sp. Colonizes by underground fleshy roots. Can be used as groundcover under trees, grows in heavy leaf litter. Nectar attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. UPL. DR



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Illinois Bundleflower <i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Open, wooded slopes; prairies; stream banks; roadsides; disturbed areas	1-3'	S	D	May-Sep	Greenish-white flowers	M	Various soils. Does not like coarse sands or dense clays.		Fern-like leaves are twice pinnately compound; they fold in strong sunlight and when touched. Ball-shaped clusters of small whitish or greenish flowers are followed by flat, leathery, twisted seedpods. Blooms in summer and in fall after rains. Legumes enrich soil through nitrogen fixation. Considered one of the most important prairie legumes; seeds are important to upland game birds (quail, prairie chicken) and other wildlife. FAC; DR
Indian Blanket, Firewheel <i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM	1-2'; 1-2'	S	A	April to frost	Yellow, red, orange flowers	L	Sand, loam, well drained - Avoid rich soil!	Easy to grow. Deadhead and water in summer	Eye catching vivid red ray flowers with yellow outer ring and reddish central disk bloom during warm months. Deadhead and water in summer to prolong blooming. Needs good drainage. Reseeds easily. Attracts butterflies DR
Lance-Leaf Water Willow <i>Justicia ovata var. lanceolata</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM wetlands pond edges	12-18"	S-PS	P	May-Sept	Lavender flowers	H	Wetland plant	Not an aggressive spreader	Tiny, two-lipped flowers are lavender or purple with darker markings. Long narrow leaves shiny. Thrives in wet areas, rain gardens and pond edges, spreads by rhizomes. Host plant: Texan Crescent butterfly and moths. Attracts small insect pollinators. Dormant in winter.
Lemon Beebalm <i>Monarda citriodora</i>	East FP, FW, GP, CM, Prairies, meadows	1-2'	S-PS	A	May-Jul	Purple or white flowers	L	Sandy loams, clay loams; well drained	Allow seeds to mature (dry and brown) before cutting down to ensure reseeding	Easy to grow. Showy tiered flower spikes of purple (seed mix) or white (common) flowers in late spring to summer Plant with Indian blanket for maximum color effect. Wonderfully aromatic. Edible leaves. Nectar source for hummingbirds, butterflies, bees. DR
Mexican Hat <i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Prairie, plains, meadows, pastures, savannahs, roadsides	1.5-3'	S	D	May-Oct	Yellow or yellow and red-brown flowers	VL	Well drained sand, loam, clay	Leave cones for birds to eat seeds	2" flowers may have yellow or red with yellow petals around a elongated brown cone. Drought tolerant, fast growing, not fussy about soils. Easy to grow from seed. Long blooming season. Aromatic foliage. Attracts native bees, butterflies, and insects. Granivorous birds eat seeds. DR



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Meadow Pink <i>Sabatia campestris</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Sandy prairies; cedar-oak flats; woodland edges; stream banks	to 20"	S-PS	A	Apr-Jul	Pink or white flowers	M	Dry or moist sandy soils. Sandy, sandy loam, medium loam	In early fall sow seed in raked area, don't cover	1-1.5" flower with pink or rose petals and yellow central star. Leaves are opposite and clasp stem. Reseeds readily and can form large colonies. Guards against self pollination by covering stigmatic surface until its own pollen is gone, then opens for cross pollination. FACU
Missouri Ironweed <i>Vernonia missurica</i>	FP, FW, GP, prairies, open woodlands	2-5"; 1-3'	S-PS	P	Summer- fall	Purple magenta disc flowers	L	Sand, loam, clay	May require thinning, dormant in winter.	Leaves alternate and lanceolate. Bright purple flower. Larval host for several moth species; nectar source for butterflies, skippers and native bees. Tough stems. Spreads by underground rhizomes. DR
Partridge Pea <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Open woodlands, prairie, plains, meadows, pastures, savannahs	1-3'; 1-2'	S-PS	A	Jun-Oct	Yellow flowers marked with red in center	M	Dry to moist soils, clay, sandy loam, well-drained soils		Legume family. Leaves are pinnately compound (single) and fold when touched. Flowers are followed by narrow seed pod. Use as border in native plant gardens. Important honey plant. Nectar attracts native bees, bumble bees, butterflies and other insects. Seeds eaten by bobwhite, quail, prairie chickens, other terrestrial birds and small mammals. Larval host: Cloudless Sulphur and Orange Sulphur butterflies.
Plains Coreopsis, Goldenwave, <i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, prairies, pond banks, roadsides	1-2'	S-PS	A	Apr-Jun	Yellow flowers with maroon centers	M	Moist sand, loam, clay	Allow seeds to mature before mowing or cutting down to ensure reseeding	Common Houston wildflower begins blooming in Apr- May, yellow daisy flowers with brown center, sometimes petals are red. Nectar source for butterflies and bees; birds eat seeds. DR
Prairie Gerardia <i>Agalinis heterophylla</i>	West FP, GP, Prairies, plains, grasslands or open woodlands	1-3'	S-PS	A	Aug-Nov	Lavender to reddish pink flowers	M	Moist sand, loam, clay; poor drainage ok	Allow seeds to mature before mowing or cutting down to ensure reseeding	Trumpet flowers are pink or lavender with spotted throat. Attracts butterflies and bees with ultraviolet nectar guides. Larval host plant for Buckeye butterfly. Good in mass plantings with other wildflowers and grasses





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Rattlesnake Master, Button Snakeroot <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	FW, GP, CM Wet or dry prairies; sandy roadsides; open woods	3-6'	S	E	May-Aug	Greenish-white flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Remove spent bloom stalks if desired	Important prairie indicator. Looks like a thistle but is in the carrot family. Leaves are blue-green, long, narrow, yucca-like, with parallel veins and soft prickles widely spaced. Spherical flower heads made of many small white flowers with whitish bracts; honey fragrance. Makes an excellent focal point in a garden. Nectar attracts Monarch, skipper and other butterflies; soldier beetles eat pollen; pollinators include bees, wasps and flies. FAC
Sanguine Purple Coneflower <i>Echinacea sanguinea</i>	FW, GP, CM	3'; 1-1.5'	S-PS	P	April-July	Rose-pink to purple flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, moist but well drained	Leave seeds for wildlife. Cut spent flower stalks in winter or early spring	Graceful, drooping rose-pink to pale purple rayflowers are 2 inches long surrounding raised purplish-brown disc flowers. Plant grows to 3 feet tall and attracts native bees and butterflies.
Seaside Goldenrod <i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	FP, GP, CM Saline places along the coast	2-8'	S	P	Aug-Oct	Yellow flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, well drained	Pinch the growing tips in June for a more compact plant. Leave stems throughout winter for wildlife.	This goldenrod does not spread by rhizomes or become invasive. It is resistant to salt spray. Use in dune restoration, as wildlife habitat and in pollinator gardens. Major food source for fall migrating Monarch butterflies. Attracts native bees, honey bees, and other insects. FACW
Sharp Blazing Star <i>Liatris acidota</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Upper Texas coast, Coastal prairie, dry prairie, savannah	2-3'	S	D	Jul-Sep	Purple flowers	L-M	Prefers moist sandy soils		Grows from a bulb-like corm, dormant in winter. Delicate compared to <i>L. pycnostachya</i> (Kansas Blazing Star). It is only found along the upper Texas coast and far southeast counties. Attracts butterflies and other beneficial insects.
Showy Evening Primrose <i>Oenothera speciosa</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, open areas, prairies, woodland openings	to 1.5 ft	S-PS	P, SE	Mar-July, occ in fall	Pink-white flowers	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained; Can't withstand complete soil dryness	If planted in lawn, don't mow until blooming has finished.	Abundant Houston spring wildflower with 4 pink petals, sometimes white, carpets large areas. Some call it "buttercup" because of abundant yellow pollen (true buttercup is different family). Benefits birds, small mammals, native bees. Hardy, drought resistant; Rich soil yields large leaves, small flowers.



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Spiderwort, Ohio Spiderwort <i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	FW, GP, CM, prairies, open woodlands	1-3'; forms colonies	S-PS	P	Feb-May, then Sep- Nov	Blue or violet flowers	M	Sandy well drained; can tolerate loams and clays	Cut back bloom stems when they fall over	Long narrow leaves, three-petaled flowers make this an attractive garden border. Flowers in shades of blue and purple; Good nectar source; attracts bumble bees and other pollinators. May go dormant in summer heat. Hybridizes easily. Easy to grow. DR
Texas Coneflower <i>Rudbeckia texana</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Upper Texas coast	4-5'	S	E	May; Sep- Nov	Yellow flowers	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained to moist	Trim back after spring bloom to promote fall blooming	Found only along the upper Texas coast. Tolerates low wet areas as well as upland sites. Blooms twice a year--once in late spring/early summer and, if trimmed back, again in the fall. Nectar attracts butterflies; small songbirds eat seeds.
Texas Prairie Parsley <i>Polytaenia texana</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Prairies, open woodlands	2-4'	S	B	Apr-Jun	Yellow flowers	L-VL	Sand, loam, clay, well drained		Biennial--lives 2 years, only flowers in 2nd year. In the celery family, its leaves resemble parsley. Seeds are flat, resembling rolled oats. Important nectar plant. Host plant for Black Swallowtail butterfly. Moderate DR
Tropical Sage, Scarlet Sage <i>Salvia coccinea</i>	GP, CM (mainly Galveston and west)	1-3'; forms colonies	S-PS-SH	A	Feb-Oct	Red flowers, also in pink or white	M	sand, sandy loam, clay, moist. Can tolerate some saline	Pinch off stalks after blooming. Lanky stems can be cut back. Cut dead stalks to ground after freeze.	Spikes of red tubular blooms from spring until frost. Attracts hummers and butterflies. Reseeding annual. Pinch off flower spikes after blooming for faster reblooming and throw back in bed for reseeding. Easy. DR
White Prairie Clover <i>Dalea candida</i>	FP, GP, POS Prairies, open woodlands	1-2'	S	D	May-Sep	White flowers	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained		Tiny, individual flowers cluster around a cylinder-like cone. Bright, white flowers start as a ring around the base of the cone and work upward as the season advances. Attracts native bees, bumble bees and honey bees. Host for Southern Dogface butterfly.
Whorled Milkweed <i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	GP Prairies, open woodlands	1-3'	S-PS	P	Jun-Sep	Greenish- white flowers	L	Sand, clay, rocky, well drained		Narrow leaves are arranged in whorls around the stem--3 or 4 leaves emerge from each node. Toxic to livestock. Attracts native bees, bumble bees, honey bees and beneficial insects. Larval host: Monarch butterfly.



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Common Name Scientific Name	Native Region <sup>1</sup>	Height (ft.); Spread (ft.)	Light <sup>2</sup>	Evergreen <sup>3</sup>	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water <sup>4</sup>	Soil Type	Maintenance	Comments
Winecup <i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	FP, GP	8-12 inches; 1-3'	S-PS	P	Mar-June	Red-Purple flowers	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	Winter rosette	Reddish-purple cupped flowers in spring. Sprawling plant great for filling in between plants; will go dormant in summer without water, drought-tolerant; larval host: Gray Hairstreak butterfly.
Zizotes Milkweed <i>Asclepias oenotheroides</i>	Western FP Sandy or gravelly ground, prairies, ditches and fields	1-3'	S	D	Mar-Sep	Green flowers	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained		Unique among milkweeds, the long, slender hoods extend beyond the stigmatic groove and flare or bow outward at the top. Attracts native bees, bumble bees, honey bees and beneficial insects. Larval host: Monarch butterfly. High DR
<b>Grasses and Sedges</b>										
Big Bluestem <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	FW, FP, GP Tallgrass prairies	4-8'	S-PS	P	Aug-Nov	Red, blue, brown flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained	May cut back in winter if desired	"Big 4" prairie grass. Warm season bunchgrass with blue-green stems. Seedhead is usually branched into three parts and resembles a turkey's foot. Fall color is maroonish-tan. Moderately tolerant of salinity. Can withstand periodic flooding and high water tables. High wildlife value--birds, mammals and insects use for cover and nesting, songbirds and prairie chickens eat seeds, deer and bison graze.
Brownseed Paspalum <i>Paspalum plicatulum</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, POS open woodlands, savannahs	2-4'	S-PS	P	May-Jul	bluish green leaves, distinctive seedheads	M	Moist sandy, sandy loam, some clay loam	Divide in early winter. New growth begins late winter, early spring	May see emerging and mature seedheads simultaneously. Bluish green leaves, slightly purple at base. Seeds are brown when mature. Spreads by seeds and rhizomes. Provides food and cover for wildlife.
Bushy Bluestem <i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, low lying grasslands and open ditches	4-6' 2-5'	S	P	Fall-winter Aug-Nov	golden foliage, silvery white cottony seedheads	H	Sand, loam, clay. Often found in disturbed soils. Poor drainage ok; tolerates salinity.	Divide in winter, may become root-bound in pots	Ornamental grass with blue-green spring foliage. Blooms silky white with leaves turning copper-colored. Provides food and cover for wildlife (birds, mammals, bees). Larval host for skipper and satyr butterflies. Seeds out heavily. Dormant in winter and in drought. Highly DR
Cherokee Sedge <i>Carex cherokeensis</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1-2'; to 1'	S-PS	E	Spring	green bloom	M	Sand, loam; moist, wet	Cutting back optional	Clumping sedge and one of the tallest with attractive hanging flower/seed stalks. Use as groundcover or border. Food for birds. DR



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Eastern Gamagrass <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Borders of salt marshes; stream banks; mesic, upland, tallgrass prairies	4-8'	S-PS	P	Apr-Jun	Brown flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, well drained. Tolerates poor drainage.	Cut back in winter to 8". Be careful as leaf edges are sharp	Interesting because of its separate male and female flowers--stamens are orange and stigmas are purple. Tolerates extended flooding. Related to corn; deer and granivorous birds gobble up its seeds. Provides cover, nesting site and graze. Attracts butterflies. FAC
Gulf Muhly <i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1.5-3'; 1-3'	S-PS	P	Fall	Purple, pink feathery seed heads	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, moist, poorly drained ok	Cut back to 6" in February	Airy bunch grass with much-branched seed heads that form feathery pink to lavender blooms in October. Striking combined with other forbs and/or grasses DR
Indiangrass <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	FW, GP, CM	3-8'; 2-4'	S-PS	P	Fall	Golden red seed heads	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, moist, poorly drained ok; drought tolerant	Low. Can divide root when dormant	Deep yellow flowers, red/rust awns, and broad blue-green blades make a nice accent. Larval host Black+White skipper butterfly. Seeds for wildlife DR
Inland Sea Oats <i>Chasmanthium latifolia</i>	FW, GP, CM	2-4'; 2-3'	PS-SH	P	Summer-Fall	Ivory seeds	M	Sand, loam, clay, moist, acidic, poorly drained ok. Juglone tolerant	Cut back to 6" in February	Graceful, drooping wheat-like seed heads; spreads freely by seed, can be used as a tallish groundcover for woodland; good understory plant; prefers moist shady areas. Easily transplanted. Larval host for skippers. Wildlife eat seeds. DR
Little Bluestem <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	FW, GP	2-5'; 1-2'	S-PS	P	Spring Fall	Bluish stems turning to Copper leaves in fall	L	Sand, loam, clay, well drained; Drought tolerant	Cutting back optional	Fine-textured bluish foliage turns copper colored in fall, columnar clumps. Fluffy tufted seed heads. Needs good drainage, little watering, un-enriched soil. Larval host: multiple skippers.
Purple Lovegrass <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Sandy or disturbed sites; plains; open woods	8"-18"	S	P	Aug-Oct	Red, purple flowers	L-M	Moist sandy soil; well drained medium to coarse textured soils		Grows in dense tufts. Airy, finely-textured inflorescence is bright purple. It eventually breaks off and tumbles around, hence the plant's nickname "petticoat-climber". FACU



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Side Oats Grama <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	GP, Western (Brazos) FP	1-3'; 6-12"	S-PS	P	Summer-Fall	Attractive fruit	VL	Sand, loam, clay, well drained; drought tolerant	Cut back to 6" in February	Attractive grass good for meadows, prairies, and as a garden accent. Light-green to purplish oat-like spikelets line one side of stem. State grass of Texas. Food for birds. Larval host: Green, Sheep and Dotted Skipper butterflies. DR
Splitbeard Bluestem <i>Andropogon ternarius</i>	FP, FW, CM POS plains, meadows, open woodlands	1.5-4'	S-PS	P	Aug-Nov	Silvery white seed tufts	L	Sand or sandy loam; well drained	Dormant in winter, may cut back or divide	Attractive warm season bunchgrass, a good addition to landscape or wildscape. Leaves/stem may be purplish-reddish green. Striking white seed tufts. Provides food and cover for birds, native bees and small mammals.
Virginia Wild Rye <i>Elymus virginicus</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Shaded banks, fence rows, open woodlands	2-3'	S-PS	P	Mar-May	Yellow flowers	M	Moist clay, loam, sand; prefers heavier soils		Cool season grass in shaded, wooded or riparian areas. Provides seed and forage for birds and small mammals; used for denning and nesting material. FAC
<b>Groundcovers</b>										
Cinnamon Fern <i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	FW boggy areas, shaded ledges, bluffs	2-3'	PS-SH	SE	Feb-Dec	Lacy green fronds	H	Any, poor drainage ok; Does best in acidic soupy muddy areas	Cut off dead fronds in late winter if desired.	Fertile fronds appear first as silvery, furry fiddleheads, ultimately becoming stiff, erect, and covered with specialized pinnae, which turn their upper portions into a thick spike of fruit dots - turning from green to chocolate brown. Sterile fronds bend outwards forming a vase-shaped circle enclosing the cinnamon fronds. Superficial roots vulnerable to drying out in summer. Soil stabilization.
Common Blue Violet, Missouri Violet <i>Viola sororia var. missouriensis</i>	FW, GP Rich, moist woods; swamps	6"-10"	PS-SH	A, SE	Mar-May	White, pink, blue, purple flowers	M	Moist, rich soils		Easy to grow. Self-seeds freely; lovely mixed in lawns. Violet leaves are high in vitamins A and C and can be used in salads or cooked as greens. The flowers can be made into candies and jellies. FAC; High DR.
Coralberry <i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	FP, FW	1.5' to 6'; 1-2'	PS-SH	D	Dec-May	Green flowers, Coral berries	L-M	Sand, loam clay, well drained	Cut off runners to contain	Mound-shaped shrub, stems root to form colony; clusters of coral-red to purple berries remain through winter. Birds and small mammals use for nesting, cover, winter food. Good for erosion control DR



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Creeping Spottedflower <i>Acmella oppositifolia</i> <i>var. repens</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM Ditches, swales, edges of streams, bayous, ponds, lakes	<1'	S	P	May-Nov	Orange, yellow, green flowers	M	Moist loam, clay		Excellent groundcover, providing dark green foliage and golden flowers throughout summer and fall. FACW
Fall Obedient Plant <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	FP, FW, GP	2-4'; to 1'	S-PS	P	August- October	Pink or purple blooms	M	Humus-rich loam clay, poorly drained ok; drought tolerant	Low, easy	Spikes of lavender or pink trumpet flowers last a long time. Flower can be moved and will stay obediently where placed. Will spread in wet area for groundcover. Attracts nectaring hummingbirds, butterflies. DR
Frogfruit <i>Phyla incisa</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM, low moist disturbed areas	3-6"	S-PS-SH	P	Warm months May-Oct	small white flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, poorly drained and saline ok	Can be cut back to 3" late winter. Do not mow when blooming.	Spreads rapidly; small flower provides nectar for butterflies; Larval host: Phaon Crescentspot, Buckeye and White Peacock. Attracts numerous pollinators.
Horseherb, Lawnflower <i>Calyptocarpus vialis</i>	West FP, GP woodlands, fields lawns-disturbed areas	8-10"	S-PS-SH	P	Mar-Nov green in mild winters	Small yellow flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay; well drained or tolerates poor drainage	Low, can be mowed	Forms dense mats in the shade with little or no water, can be mowed, and can take moderate amounts of foot traffic. Great for dry shade. Attracts small butterflies, nectar source.
Lizard's Tail <i>Saururus cernuus</i>	FW, GP Still water, wet lowlands, stream and lake edges	2-4'	PS-SH	P	Apr-Aug	White flowers	H	Loam, clay, can grow in shallow water to 6" or moist soil, mud		Slender, drooping bloom spike of tiny white flowers. Crushed foliage has a pleasant, sassafras aroma. Great spreading groundcover for moist soils, shallow water, and containers. Good for wetland gardens and habitat. Colonizes large areas. Accepts up to 4" inundation. Valued by wood ducks. OBL; High DR
Lyreleaf Sage <i>Salvia lyrata</i>	FW, FP, GP, CM, but not East FP Sandy soils of open woods and meadows	1-2'	S-PS-SH	P	Blooms Mar-Jun; purple tinged rosette in winter	Lavender flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay, acid, well drained or tolerates poor drainage	Can be mowed. Winter purplish basal rosette. Thin unwanted seedlings	Attractive leaves in basal rosette (ground-level clump) deeply 3-lobed. With winter cold or frost leaves sport purple veins or purple leaves. Dainty lavender bell flowers in spring. If massed looks like a sheet of blue from a distance. Prolific seeder - bird food. Medicinal uses. Nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds. DR



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Pigeonberry <i>Rivina humilis</i>	West FP, GP, POS Moist alluvial soils or hilly chaparral	1-1.5'	S-PS	SE	May-August	Pink and white flowers; red berries	M	Well-drained sand, loam, or clay	Cut back unwanted suckers. Remove brown tops after frost	Spreads rapidly; tolerates moist; pink flowers turn white with age and attractive red berries are prized by birds. Prefers light shade and moist but well-drained soil.
Royal Fern <i>Osmunda regalis</i>	East FP, FW, GP, POS Swamps, marshes, stream banks, moist depressions in prairies and savannahs	3-6'	PS-SH	P	Feb-Dec	Large bright green fronds with golden pinnae	H	Any acidic soil, poor drainage ok	Cut off dead fronds in spring	The fronds are cut twice into large rounded leaflets, resulting in foliage resembling the pea family. Delicate, bright green fronds, often with a silvery cast, are crowned with golden, fruiting pinnae on wine-colored petioles. Fronds are 2-5 ft. high and 19 in. wide. Bristly crown of rootstock a source of osmunda fiber. Good for erosion control and soil stabilization, shelter for wildlife.
Spider Lily <i>Hymenocallis liriosme</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	1-2', to 1'	PS	D	Feb-Sep	Fragrant white flowers	M-H	Sand, loam, clay, poorly drained ok; prefers wet soils	Low. Blooms best with a little sun	Fragrant white blooms up to 7 inches across consist of a cup surrounded by straps. Leaves also strap-like and glossy. Multiplying bulb
Turk's Cap <i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i> <i>var. drummondii</i>	FP, FW, GP, CM	3-5'; 3-5'	PS-SH	SE	Spring to fall	Red flowers, red fruit	L-M	Sand, loam clay, prefers moist soils; poorly drained ok	Cut back stems to live wood in spring; prune to maintain size and shape	Cheery red blooms even in shade. Hummingbird, bird and butterfly magnet. Larval host shite skipper and scrub hairstreak. Red fruit in fall enjoyed by wildlife. Very adaptive to wide variety of habitats-Spreads easily. May be deciduous further north. DR
Wood Fern, Virginia Chain Fern <i>Thelypteris kunthii</i>	FP, FW, GP	1-3'; 2'	PS-SH	D	Feb-Dec	Lacy green fronds, fiddleheads	L-M	Any, poor drainage ok	Cut off dead fronds in early spring	Fern with graceful arching fronds of tapered light-green leaves. Tough fern that can take some sun. Goes dormant without water - will green up again with moisture. DR
Zigzag Iris <i>Iris brevicaulis</i>	Eastern FP, FW Swamps, shaded woods, marshes; bottomlands; damp woods	1-2'	S-PS-SH	P	Mar-Apr	Blue, lavender, white flowers	M-H	Loam, clay, can grow in shallow water or moist soil		Glossy leaves and showy flowers. Flowers are made up of dark-veined petals and sepals. The sepals are longer than the petals and have a yellow patch toward the base. Will grow in bog, water garden or soil. If kept moist, will stay evergreen. OBL; High DR



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<b>Vines, Climb trees and fences with tendrils or twining</b>										
Carolina Jessamine <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	FW, GP, CM, eastern FP	10-20' vine	S-PS	E	Jan-Mar,	Fragrant Yellow flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay; Acidic; poorly drained ok	All parts poisonous - keep away from children	Yellow trumpet flowers with a spicy fragrance start blooming in late January and sometimes last into March. Evergreen groundcover or vine, glossy leaves; Hummingbirds, butterfly nectar source. DR
Carolina Snailseed <i>Cocculus carolinus</i>	West FP, GP, POS moist rich woods	3-15'	PS	SE	Sep-Nov Jun-Aug	bright red berries, green heart shaped leaves	L	Sand, loam, clay	Propagate from seed. Prune to maintain size or bulk.	Leaves ovate to heart-shaped; climbs by twining. Ornamental, non-thorny vine. Interesting coiled seeds. Birds eat berries. Larval host Moonseed moth. Strong grower, can become an aggressive colonizer. DR
Coral Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	FW, GP, eastern FP	High climbing vine	S-PS	P	Spring-Fall	Coral tubular flowers with yellow stamens	M	Sand, clay; well drained -saline okay	Low, may provide structure for twining. Prune after flowering to shape and control. May have aphids in spring; hose off or allow ladybugs and lacewings to eat.	Coral tubular blooms attract hummingbirds; berries attract birds. Long bloom period. Host plant: Spring Azure butterfly, Snowberry Clearwing moth. Fruits attract quail, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Hermit Thrush, American Robin
Crossvine <i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Eastern FP, FW, GP Forested floodplains and uplands, hammocks, fencerows	up to 70'	S-PS	P-SE	Mar-Jun	Bloom can be brick red with yellow throats, vice versa, combination or all brick red	L-M	Sand, loam, clay, poor drainage okay	Training to avoid crowding of stems will aid in the formation of flower shoots. Branches can be cut back in the spring to encourage flowering	Showy, fragrant, trumpet-shaped flowers. Glossy dark green semi-evergreen leaves turn reddish-purple in winter. Climbs by tendrils, has claws at the end of the tendrils. Some shade is tolerated, but flowers best in full sun. Drought tolerant; tolerates brief flooding. Can spread aggressively, so needs pruning to reduce growth. A great nectar source, it attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. FAC
Leatherflower, Blue Jasmine <i>Clematis crispa</i>	Western FP, GP, CM Wet woods and prairies; marshes	up to 10'	S-PS	D	Mar-Sep	White, pink, blue, purple flowers	M	Rich, moist or wet, acidic soils. Sand, loam, clay	May twine on a lattice for longer growth or let it sprawl	Mildly fragrant flowers grow on naked stem and hang upside down. Twines on fences, screens, & other plants. Has no petals--the petal-like sepals are joined, then split into 4 lobes at the rim and curl back. Nectar attracts butterflies and other insects; birds eat seeds. FACW

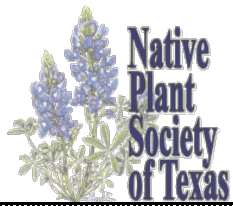




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Muscadine Grape <i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	West FP, FW GP, POS, open woods	72-100'	PS-SH	D	Sep Oct	Purple black to bronze berries, attractive toothed leaves	M	Moist rich, well draining soils, especially fertile sandy loam and alluvial soils	Prune in winter to maintain shape and enhance fruit production by limiting number of canes and buds	These large-seeded, non-bunched grapes make good jams, juice and rustic wines. Simple, alternate, toothed leaves. Birds and mammals eat fruit; deer and rabbits eat foliage. Thickets provide wildlife shelter. Plants not self-fertile, whereas many cultivars (sold in nurseries) are.
Passionflower Vine, Maypop <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	FW, GP	6-25' vine	S-PS	SE	May-August	Purple flowers	M	Well-drained sand, loam, or clay. Can tolerate light saline	Cut back unwanted suckers	Intricate purple flowers with numerous wavy petals. Leaves have 3 lobes. Larval host plant for Gulf Fritillary and other butterflies. Large yellow-orange fruit has edible pulp. DR
a. Dutchman's Pipe <i>Aristolochia serpentaria</i>	FW, GP Prairies, pastures, open brushlands	1-3'	SH	D	Apr-Jun	Yellow, purple flowers	M	Sand, loam, clay		Unusual, showy, pipe-shaped flowers. Grows from taproot, thus is difficult to transplant, but grows easily from seed. Aristolochia species produce the toxin aristolochic acid, which makes butterfly larva distasteful to predators. It is also toxic to humans, but there is a long history of medicinal use. Larval host: Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly. FACU
b. Woolly Pipevine <i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>	FP, GP Stream banks, floodplains, bottomlands	72-100'	S-PS	D	Mar-May	Yellow, purple flowers	M	Sand, loam		Unusual, pipe-shaped flowers. Dark green leaves are downy and whitish underneath. See 45a. for comments on taproot and toxicity. Larval host: Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly. FAC
Virginia Creeper Parthenocissus quinquefolia	West FP, FW, POS open woodlands, shaded woods, streamsides, riverbanks	3-40'	S-PS-SH	D	May-Jun Sep-Nov	gorgeous fall color	M	Sand, loam clay well drained	Propagation by cuttings more successful than seeds. Occasional pruning if desired; Trim away from walks.	Woody deciduous vine. Best foliage color and berry production in full sun. Tendrils are adhesive so won't damage buildings. Palmately compound leaves with 5 leaflets. Larval host for sphinx moths; Many birds enjoy fruit which is toxic to people. Very ornamental in fall, can be used as groundcover; Many birds compete for the berries.
Yellow Passionflower <i>Passiflora lutea</i>	GP, CM moist shady woods and thickets	to 15'	PS	D	May-Sep	1" greenish-yellow flowers, yellow fall leaves	L	Sand and loams well drained	Prune to direct size and growth as necessary	Bluntly three-lobed alternate leaves. Host plant for multiple butterflies and passionflower bee. Good nectar source for bees. Birds and small mammals eat fruit. Climbing as well as trailing vine. DR



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<b>Invasives* (non-native, Do Not plant &amp; remove if found)</b>										
Alligator Weed <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	South America	35-40 horizontal feet	S	P	Summer	White flowers	H	Shallow water or wet soils, ditches, marshes, edges of ponds and slow- moving watercourses	Chemical means are the most effective	Reproduces by stolons. Invades aquatic areas throughout the southern portions of the United States. Listed as a Federal Noxious Weed due to its negative impacts on waterways. Mechanical removal without careful removal of all plant parts can facilitate spread.
Catclawvine <i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i>	Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, Guatemala	20-50'	SH	P	Spring	Yellow flowers, long seedpods	L	Wooded and riparian areas	Mowing; chemicals; Remove underground tubers	High climbing woody vine; typically found in wooded and riparian areas. Clings tenaciously to any surface with adventitious roots and clawed tendrils. Can also form dense mats on a forest or woodland floor. Flowers in spring, with high seed production. Seeds dispersed by wind.
Chinaberry <i>Melia azedarach</i>	Asia	up to 60'	S-PS	D	Spring	Lavender flowers, yellow poisonous berries	L-H	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	Cut and paint with 20% glyphosate or triclopyr herbicides, or dig up by roots. Cut down existing trees and have stump ground or it will resprout.	Fast growing tree tolerates any soil, rapid spreader from copius seeds and root sprouts. Leaves alternate, compound. Seeds viable more than 2 years. <b>Native alternatives</b> Black cherry, Mexican plum, Drummond red maple, Fringetree
Chinese Privet <i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	China	Up to 15'	S-PS-SH	D	Spring-fall	White flowers spring, black berries fall	M	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	Dig up by roots or cut and paint with herbicide	Shrub with opposite leaves, invades woodlands. Unpleasantly scented white flower clusters, large clusters of purplish black berries which persist through winter, also spread by root sprouts. Native alternatives: Yaupon, Wax myrtle, Virginia sweetspire
Chinese Tallow Tree <i>Triadica sebifera</i>	China	to 60'; 30-50'	S-PS-SH	D	Fall	red fall color	L-H	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	After trees cut down, stump must be ground for control	Fast growing tree can take any conditions (flooding, drought, saline), rapid spreader, allelopathic (poisons soil to inhibit other plants from growing), messy blooms, copius seeds, fall color. Cut down existing trees and have stump ground or it will resprout. Native alternatives: River birch, Redbud, Mexican plum, Red buckeye



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Elephant Ears, Taro <i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	Asia and India	4-6'	S-PS	P	Spring-Fall	Large ornamental leaves	H	Wet, mildly acidic, and rich in organic material	Chemical; mechanical	Invades wetland areas and colonizes lake banks. Forms dense stands along lakes and rivers where it completely eliminates native plant species. Reproduces vegetatively. Disturbance greatly encourages its spread. Keep plant intact when removing, as fragments will readily reroot and grow.
Golden Rain Tree <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	China	30-40'	S-PS-SH	D	Spring-fall	Yellow flowers, reddish fruit, fall color	L-H	Thrives in all soils, including alkaline	Cut and paint with 20% glyphosate herbicide, or dig up by roots	Reproduces by seeds which may germinate in 6-8 days. Leaves pinnate with deeply serrated margins. Drought tolerant. <b>Native alternatives:</b> Western soapberry, Shining sumac
Japanese Climbing Fern <i>Lygodium japonicum</i>	Asia, tropical Australia	up to 90'	S-PS-SH	D	Spring-fall	Lacy leaves, green/black or orange stems	M-H	Adaptable, thrives in many soils but especially in disturbed or swampy areas	Pull by hand if small. Cut or mow for larger, paint with 2% glyphosate with surfactant	Fern that climbs into trees as well as on ground, smothering native vegetation. Spreads by spores and rhizomes. Fertile and non-fertile leaves are vinelike. <b>Native alternatives:</b> Southern maidenhair fern, Wood fern, Turk's cap, American beautyberry
Japanese Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japan	20-50'; to 20'	S-PS	D	Spring	white flowers	M	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	Pull vines. Cut and paint stumps with herbicide	Rampant vine twists around tree trunks, smothers everything in its path by climbing up and over them, fragrant flowers, seeds. Native alternative: Coral honeysuckle, Carolina Jessamine
Lantana, West Indian Lantana <i>Lantana camara</i>	West Indies	6'	S-PS-SH	D	Warm months	Yellow & pink flowers	L-H	Adaptable, thrives in many soils	Cut and paint with 20% glyphosate herbicide, or dig up by roots	Non-native lantana usually has yellow flowers that fade to pink. Leaves opposite, ovate. Nursery trade has developed cultivars in all colors (always check botanical name). Berries spread by birds. <b>Native alternative:</b> Texas lantana
Nandina, Heavenly bamboo, Sacred bamboo <i>Nandina domestica</i>	Asia, India	6-10'	S-PS-SH	E	Fall-winter	red tinged foliage in fall, clusters of red berries	L-H	Rich soil but not sand	Do not burn; remove as much as possible then treat cut stalks with herbicide. Destroy seeds	Multiple bushy cane like stalks resembling bamboo. Spreads both vegetatively through underground sprouts from roots and by seeds; deep taproot and extensive root system. Bi-Tri pinnately compound leaves. Multiple cultivars still sold commercially. <b>Native alternatives:</b> Yaupon or possumhaw hollies, Barbados cherry, coralbean, strawberry bush



Houston Area Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP)  
 Plant List Spreadsheet  
 Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)

Common Name Scientific Name	Native Region <sup>1</sup>	Height (ft.); Spread (ft.)	Light <sup>2</sup>	Evergreen <sup>3</sup>	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water <sup>4</sup>	Soil Type	Maintenance	Comments
Pampas Grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	South America	12-14'; up to 12'	S	P	Late summer- fall	Feathery white/silvery blooms	VL	Damp soils; along river margins	Combine physical and chemical control	Forms dense stands that exclude other plants and that can become a fire hazard. Sharp leaves can cut skin and limit recreational use. Female plants are capable of producing up to 100,000 seeds per flowerhead.
Privet, Glossy <i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> ; also Japanese Privet <i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> looks similar	Japan, Asia	10-20'; 8-12'	S-PS-SH	D	Spring-fall	White flowers spring, black berries fall	M	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	Pull seedlings and cut down and grind stump	Trees invade woodlands, opposite leaves are thick and leathery; copius berries spread by birds, forming dense thickets by root sprouts. Unpleasantly scented white flower clusters, large clusters of purplish black berries persist through winter. Native alternatives: Cherry laurel, Swamp Privet, Yaupon
Trifoliolate Orange, Sour Orange, <i>Poncirus trifoliata</i>	China, Korea	6-20'; 3-6'	S-PS-SH	D	Fall	Sour oranges	M	Adaptable - thrives in all soils	Cut and paint with herbicide	3 leaved citrus rootstock invades woodlands, forest edges, urban areas - can form aggressive thorny hedges. Spreads by basal and root sprouts.
White Mulberry <i>Morus alba</i>	China	30-50'	S-PS	D	Summer	Black-to pink to white fruit	M	Sand, loam clay; well drained	Mechanical; chemical	Leaves similar to red mulberry but smooth on top and hairless on both sides. Fruit is white or pink. Displaces native species, possibly hybridizing with and transmitting a root disease to the native red mulberry.



**Houston Area Native Landscape Certification Program (NLCP)  
Plant List Spreadsheet  
Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)**

Greater Houston Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native Region <sup>1</sup>	Height (ft.); Spread (ft.)	Light <sup>2</sup>	Evergreen <sup>3</sup>	Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water <sup>4</sup>	Soil Type	Maintenance	Comments
<b>Key</b>											
<b>Native Region<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>FP:</b> Floodplains; <b>FW:</b> Flatwoods; <b>GP:</b> Gulf Prairies				<b>CM</b> Marshes - both Mid-coast Barrier islands & marshes + TX-La Coastal marshes unless indicated					
<b>Light<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>S:</b> Sun (in full sunlight for 6 hours),				<b>PS:</b> Part sun (in sunlight 2-6 hours or lightly shaded all day), <b>SH:</b> Shade (in the sun less than 2 hours per day)					
<b>Evergreen<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>E:</b> Evergreen, <b>SE:</b> Semi-Evergreen (evergreen in mild winters, loses leaves in cold winters); <b>Deciduous</b>				<b>P:</b> Perennial; <b>A:</b> Annual <b>B:</b> Biennial					
<b>Deer Resistant</b>		<b>DR</b>									
<b>Water<sup>4</sup></b> Refers to water needs after establishment (first 2 or 3 years)		<b>VL:</b> Very Low (Plant in a raised bed and water occasionally during drought conditions), <b>L:</b> Low (Water occasionally during drought conditions)				<b>M:</b> Medium (Water thoroughly every 3-4 weeks if no rainfall), <b>H:</b> High (Water thoroughly every 7-10 days if no rainfall)					
<b>Developed by the Native Plant Society for the Native Landscape Certification Program - use with permission as a pdf only.</b>											
*Texas Department of Agriculture required disclaimer: <i>"This (NLCP Invasives) 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."</i>											