

Recommended Native & Adapted Plants for Hill Country Landscapes
Provided by Fredericksburg Chapter - Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)

| Common Name | Texas Native | Height (ft) | Spread (ft) | Light | Water | Seasonal Interest | Deer Resistance: 1/Least - 4/Most | Comments |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Trees | Deer will browse young trees and/or rub trunks. Cage all new trees. | | | | | | | |
| Bald Cypress | Y | 60-100 | 25-50+ | S/P Sh | L | F | 3 | Requires deep, moist soil |
| Bur Oak | Y | 50-70 | 50+ | S | VL | F | 2 | Oak wilt resistant; slow-growing majestic tree; needs deep soil |
| Chinquapin Oak | Y | 50-70 | 30-40 | S | L | F | 2 | Oak wilt resistant; stately form; needs extra water until established |
| Elm, Cedar | Y | 25-50 | 25-35 | S/PSH | VL | F | 1 | Substitute for oaks; adapted to poor soil conditions |
| Lacey Oak | Y | 20-30 | 25 | S | VL | | 2 | Oak wilt resistant; ideal for smaller spaces; tolerates shallow soils |
| Live Oak | Y | 30-50 | 50+ | S | VL-L | | 2 | Oak wilt susceptible; use Escarpment species |
| Maple, Bigtooth | Y | 20-50 | 20-30 | PSh/Sh | VL | F | 2 | Needs extra water until established; fall color; best species for limestone soils; grows best when protected from west sur |
| Monterey Oak | Y | 30-40 | 30-40 | S | VL | | 2 | Oak wilt resistant; handsome alternative to Live Oak; prefers deep soil |
| Pecan | Y | 60-75 | 60-75 | S | L | | 2 | Needs deep soil; slow growing |
| Texas Ash | Y | 40-50 | 40-50 | S | VL | F | 1 | Fast-growing; only speices appropriate to Hill Country; needs good drainage; good tree for birds |
| Texas Palmetto | Y | 45 | 15 | S/P Sh | L | Sp | 3 | Native Palm that will tolerate moist soil; slow growing |
| Texas Red Oak | Y | 20-50 | 20-50 | S | L | F | 2 | Oak wilt susceptible; adapted to rocky soils |
| Small Trees/ Large Shrubs | Deer will browse young trees and shrubs and/or rub trunks. Cage all new trees and shrubs. | | | | | | | |
| Anacacho Orchid Tree | Y | 6-12 | 6-12 | S/P Sh | L | Sp | 4 | Showy flowers attract bees & butterflies |
| Carolina Buckthorn | Y | 12-20 | 15 | S/PSH | L | F | 1 | Attractive understory tree; birds love red berries |
| Crape Myrtle | | 6-25 | 10-20 | S | L-M | Su | 1 | Showy flowers; choose mildew resistant varieties; note mature size when choosing variety |
| Desert Willow | Y | 15-25 | 15-20 | S | VL | Sp-F | 3 | Very drought tolerant; trumpet shaped flowers; multi-trunk form |
| Evergreen sumac | Y | 8-10 | 6-8 | S/PSH | L | Su-F | 1 | Attractive evergreen glossy leaves turn deep red in winter; birds love red berries |
| Goldenball Leadtree | Y | 12-20 | 12-25 | S/PSH | VL | Sp-F | 1 | Fragrant yellow blossom; light, airy foliage |
| Mexican Buckeye | Y | 12-20 | 12-20 | S/PSH | L | Sp | 2 | Pink blossoms; multi-trunk understory tree |
| Mexican Plum | Y | 15-20 | 15-20 | S/P Sh | L | Sp | 1 | Fragrant white blossoms; Needs good soil & drainage |
| Possumhaw Holly | Y | 12-20 | 12 | S/PSH | L-M | W | 1 | Red winter seeds for color and wildlife |
| Red Buckeye | Y | 10-15 | 10-15 | P Sh | M | Sp | 2 | Funnel shaped flowers attract hummingbirds |
| Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum | Y | 15-20 | 10-15 | S/Sh | L | Sp,F | 2 | Fall color; Understory tree needs good soil & drainage |
| Texas Mountain Laurel | Y | 10-20 | 8-12 | S/PSH | VL | Sp | 4 | Fragrant purple blossoms, interesting seed pods yield poisonous seeds; needs good soil |
| Texas Persimmon | Y | 12-20 | 8-12 | S/PSH | VL | Sp | 4 | Attractive smooth, gray bark; likes rocky soils; Fruit makes for good wildlife food |
| Texas or Mexican Redbud | Y | 15-20 | 12-15 | S/PSH | L | Sp | 1 | <u>Not Eastern redbud</u> ; Attractive understory tree with purple blossoms in early spring |
| Yaupon Holly | Y | 12-20 | 10-15 | S/PSH | L-M | W | 2 | Evergreen; Red winter seeds for color and wildlife |
| Shrubs | | | | | | | | |
| Agarita | Y | 3-6 | 3-6 | S/P Sh | VL | Sp | 4 | Holly-like foliage; Red berries attract birds |
| American Beautyberry | Y | 4-6 | 6 | PSh/Sh | L-M | Sp | 1 | Purple berries attract wildlife; understory shrub |
| Cenizo (Tx./Purple Sage) | Y | 4-5 | 4-5 | S | L | Sp-Su | 3 | Lavender blooms; Needs good drainage |
| Dwarf Yaupon Holly | N | 2-4 | 2-4 | S/Sh | L | | 3 | Low mounding shrub has formal shape |
| "Earthkind" Roses | N | Varies | Varies | S | L | Sp-F | 1 | Choose "Earthkind" or Antique varieties that are drought tolerant & disease resistant |
| Flame Acanthus | Y | 3-4 | 3-4 | S/PSH | VL | Su-F | 4 | Great hummingbird & butterly plant |
| Flowering Senna | Y | 6-8 | 6-8 | S | L-M | Su-F | 3 | Dark green leaves: Showy yellow blooms |
| Fragrant Sumac | Y | 6-9 | 4-6 | S/PSH | L | F | 2 | Fragrant foliage when leaves crushed |
| Rosemary | Y | 4 | 4-6 | S | M | Sp-F | 4 | Trailing & upright varieties; needs good drainage; Culinary herb is drought tolerant, deer resistant |
| Turk's Cap | Y | 2-6 | 3-5 | PSh/Sh | L | Sp-F | 1 | Great hummingbird & butterly plant |
| White Mistflower | Y | 3-4 | 2-3 | S/P Sh | L | F | 1 | Fragrant bloom attracts hummingbirds & butterflies |
| Woolly Butterfly Bush | Y | 5-6 | 5 | S/PSH | M | Su-F | 2 | Interesting bloom; gray, fuzzy foliage; Butterfly plant |
| Perennials | | | | | | | | |
| Autumn or Cherry Sage | Y | 2-3 | 2-3 | S | L | Sp-F | 4 | Flowers attract hummingbirds; Very hardy |
| Big Red Sage | Y | 3-4 | 1-2 | S/P Sh | L | Su-F | 1 | Evergreen rosette in winter; Hummingbirds love tall, spiked blooms; Attractive glossy leaves |
| Blackfoot Daisy | Y | .5-1 | 1-2 | S | VL | Sp-Su | 3 | Requires dry conditions; great for rock gardens |
| Calylophus (Texas Primrose) | Y | 1-2 | 1-2 | S/P Sh | VL | Sp-Su | 3 | Showy yellow blooms; great for rock gardens |
| Cedar Sage | Y | 1-2 | 1-2 | PSh/Sh | VL | Sp-Su | 4 | Red bloom spikes bring color to shady spots |
| Chile Pequin | Y | 2-4 | 2-4 | S/PSH | L | Su-F | 2 | Edible red HOT peppers are loved by birds |
| Copper Canyon Daisy | N | 3 | 4 | S | L | F | 4 | Yellow daisy-like flower; leaves are scented |
| Damianita | Y | 1 | 1.5-2 | S | VL | Sp-Su | 3 | Showy yellow blooms; great for rock gardens |
| Esperanza | Y | 4-8 | 4-6 | S | L-M | Sp-F | 3 | Showy yellow blooms; plant in spring |
| Fall Aster | Y | 2-3 | 2.5-3 | S/PSH | L | F | 1 | Profuse fall blooms are nectar source |
| Gregg's Blue Mist | Y | 1-2 | 5-6 | S | L | Sp-F | 2 | Lavender blooms loved by Queen Butterflies |
| Hymenoxys (4 Nerve Daisy) | Y | 1 | 1 | S/PSH | VL | Sp-F | 3 | Very hardy; Evergreen; great for rock gardens |
| Indigo Spires (Salvia) | N | 3-4 | 5-7 | S/PSH | L-M | Sp-F | 3 | Showy indigo bloom; leave space to sprawl |
| Lindheimer's Gaura | Y | 2-3 | 3 | S/PSH | L | Sp-Su | 2 | Butterfly like flowers attract butterflies |

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|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mexican Bush Sage | N | 4-5 | 4-5 | S | L | Su-F | 4 | Silver green foliage; great for butterflies |
| Mexican Mint Marigold | N | 3-5 | 4-5 | S | L | F | 3 | Tarragon flavored culinary herb with yellow blooms |
| Mexican Oregano | N | 3 | 4 | S/P Sh | L | Su | 4 | Aromatic, culinary foliage; pink blossoms |
| Pink Skullcap | N | 1 | 3 | S/P Sh | L | Su | 3 | Low growing mounding plant with pink blooms; evergreen |
| Prairie Verbena | Y | .5-1 | 2 | S | L | Sp-F | 4 | Vivid purple bloom attracts butterflies; Adapted hybrids available |
| Plumbago | N | 3-4 | 4-6 | S/P Sh | L-M | Su | 2 | Sky blue or white blooms attract hummingbirds |
| Purple Coneflower | Y | 1-3 | 1-1.5 | S/PSH | L | Sp-Su | 2 | Large daisy-like flower attracts butterflies; hybrids are available |
| Red Columbine | Y | 1-2 | 1-2 | PSh/Sh | M | Sp | 2 | Likes dry shade; Attracts hummingbirds |
| River Fern | Y | 1.5-2.5 | 3 | PSh/Sh | M-H | | 1 | Evergreen cover likes moist, shady areas |
| Rock Rose (Pavonia) | Y | 2 | 3 | S/PSH | L | Su | 2 | Small hibiscus-like flowers attract butterflies |
| Russian Sage | N | 3 | 3 | Sun | L | | 3 | Silver-green, lacy foliage with blue spiky blooms |
| Skeletonleaf Goldeneye | N | 3-4 | 4-6 | S/PSH | VL | Su-F | 2 | Mound of daisy-like flowers & fine foliage |
| Texas Betony | Y | 1-1.5 | 2-3+ | S/PSH | L | Su-F | 4 | Gray-green leaves; hummingbirds like red blooms |
| Texas Lantana | Y | 3-5 | 4-5 | S | VL | Su-F | 3 | prolific bloomer attracts hummingbirds; many varieties available in various colors; deer may eat blooms but not foliage |
| Tropical Sage | Y | 2-3 | 1-2 | S/Sh | L | Sp-F | 3 | Red blooms attract hummingbirds & butterflies |
| Winecup | Y | .5-1 | 4-5 | S/PSH | L | Sp-Su | 2 | Sprawling plant fills in spaces; Butterfly host |
| Yellow Columbine | Y | 1-3 | 1-2 | PSh/Sh | M | Sp | 2 | Prefers moist soil; Orchid-like yellow blooms |
| Zexmenia | Y | 1.5-2.5 | 2-3 | S/PSH | L | Sp-F | 3 | Hardy, constant bloomer |
| Ornamental Grasses | | | | | | | | |
| Bamboo Muhly | N | 4-5 | 4-5 | S/P Sh | L | Su-W | 4 | Bamboo-like stalks with silver green foliage |
| Gulf Muhly | Y | 2-3 | 2-3 | S/P Sh | L-M | F | 4 | Wispy seed heads provide purple fall color |
| Inland Sea Oats | Y | 2-4 | 3-6 | P Sh/Sh | L-M | Su-F | 3 | Understory cover plant prefers moist areas |
| Lindheimer or Big Muhly | Y | 3-4 | 3-4 | S | L-M | F | 4 | Clumping blue-green grass provides smaller alternative to pampas grass |
| Mexican Feathergrass | Y | 1-2 | 1-2 | S/P Sh | VL | Sp-Su | 4 | Feathery weeping seed head; very drought tolerant |
| Side Oats Grama | Y | 1-2 | 1-2 | S | L | Su-F | 4 | Texas state grass; interesting seed head |
| Vines | | | | | | | | |
| Coral Honeysuckle | Y | 6-8 | 6-12 | S/P Sh | L-M | Sp-Su | 2 | Coral tubular blooms attract hummingbirds; suitable for smaller structures |
| Crossvine | Y | 6-30 | 6-30 | S/P Sh | L | Sp | 2 | Tendrill vine will attach to walls; aggressive climber |
| Passion Vine | Y | 6-15 | 6-15 | S/P Sh | L-M | Sp-Su | 2 | Aggressive grower; host plant for butterflies; tendrill vine with exotic flower |
| Trumpet Vine | Y | 6-40 | 6-40 | S/P Sh | L | Su | 2 | Aggressive grower not recommended for wood structures |
| Virginia Creeper | Y | 2-40 | 2-40 | S/Sh | L | F | 2 | Cover vine or climber; birds love berries |
| Groundcover | | | | | | | | |
| Creeping Germander | N | .5 | 1-2 | S | L | Su | 2 | Low mounding form with silver or green foliage |
| Creeping Thyme | N | .5 | 1 | S | L | Su | 4 | Variety of culinary herb |
| Frogfruit | Y | 1 | 1-2 | S/Sh | L-M | Sp-F | 3 | Spreads rapidly; butterfly host plant |
| Gregg's Dalea | Y | 1 | 2-4 | S/P Sh | L | Sp-F | 2 | Silvery blue-green leaves; good for rock gardens |
| Mountain Pea | N | i | 2-3 | S/Sh | L | Sp-Su | 1 | Fast growing; evergreen; purple bloom |
| Pigeonberry | Y | 1-1.5 | 2 | P Sh/Sh | M | Sp-F | 2 | Spreads rapidly; birds love red berries |
| Santolina | N | 1-1.5 | 1-2.5 | S | VL | Su | 4 | Fine-textured, evergreen leaves: gray or green |
| Sedges - Berkeley, Cedar, or Meadow | Y | .5-1.5 | .5-1.5 | S/Sh | L | Sp | 3 | Clumping plant that grows in variety of soils & shade; good alternative to mondo grass or liriope |
| Sedum (Stonecrop) | Y | .5 | 1-2 | S/Sh | L | Sp | 2 | Succulent with many varieties and colors |
| Agaves/Yuccas/Cacti | | | | | | | | |
| Agave, Century Plant | Y | 6 | 6 | S | VL | Sp | 3 | Very drought tolerant; Pointed foliage is not friendly; other species available - check for cold hardiness |
| Nolina - Lindheimer or Texas | Y | 3-4 | 4-5 | S/P Sh | L | F | 3 | Clumping shape; bloom is tall spike that deer may eat |
| Paleleaf Yucca | Y | 1 | 2 | S/P Sh | L | Su | 2 | Pale, blue-green leaves; deer eat blooms only |
| Prickly Pear Cactus | Y | 3-8 | 3-6 | S | L | Sp-Su | 3 | Many varieties with different forms and bloom colors |
| Red Yucca | Y | 2-4 | 4 | S/P Sh | L | Sp-Su | 2 | Coral bloom stalk; colonizes; deer eat blooms only |
| Soft-leaf Yucca | N | 4-6 | 3 | S/P Sh | VL | Su | 2 | Soft, pliable foliage; deer eat blooms only |
| Sotol - Texas | Y | 3-4 | 3-4 | S/P Sh | L | Su | 3 | Blade-like leaves with sharp edges are not friendly |
|  Plant list provided courtesy of the Fredericksburg Chapter - Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT). For more information, go to www.npsot.org/Fredericksburg Many of these plants can be viewed at the Lipe Demonstration Garden located at the Gillespie County Agricultural Building at 1906 N. Llano in Fredericksburg. GO NATIVE! | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Revision: August 5, 2009 |