



# **NATIVE PLANTS**

**FOR A TEXAS-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE**

**A Guide to Gardening and Landscaping in the Brazos Valley**



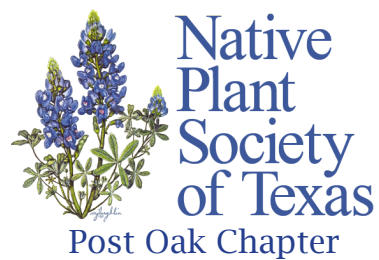


## PRODUCED BY:



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
PARKS & RECREATION

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:



# Introduction: What is a “Texas-Friendly” Landscape?

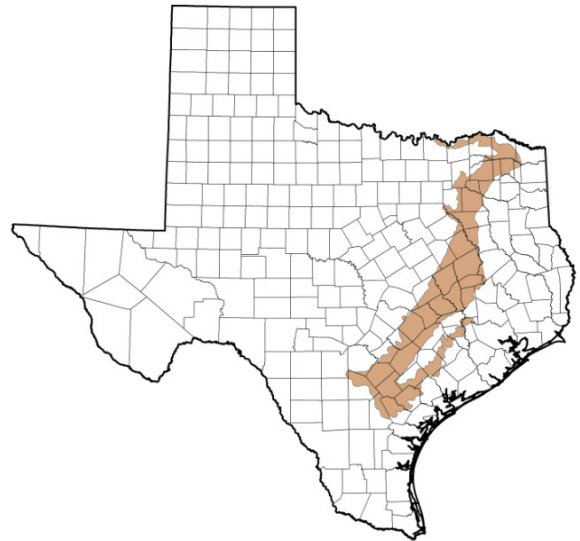
A “Texas-friendly” landscape consists primarily of native plants adapted to the ecoregion of Texas in which you reside. College Station is located in the Post Oak Savannah ecoregion of Texas, and our native plants are adapted to the soils, rainfall, and climate of the Brazos Valley. Native plants require less watering, less maintenance, and are better at providing food and shelter to local wildlife than non-native plants. If you would like to reduce the cost and time required to maintain your yard, this booklet contains over 100 native plants to consider adding to your landscape. There are far too many native plants to list them all here, but we hope it will inspire you to make changes to your landscape to benefit local wildlife, the environment, and future generations of Texans.

## Dwight Bohlmeier

*Current President,*

*Texas Master Naturalist - Brazos Valley Chapter Member,*

*Native Plant Society of Texas - Post Oak Chapter*



The Texas Post Oak Savannah bioregion stretches from the Red River to the Hill Country, with the Brazos Valley at its center.

*Image courtesy of Texas Parks and Wildlife*

## Contents

### Wildflowers

Perennials.....	4
Annuals.....	8
Biennials.....	10

### Groundcovers

Grasses, Vines, Herbs, and Groundcovers.....	12
--	----

### Trees and Shrubs

Large Trees.....	14
Small Trees.....	16
Shrubs.....	18

## Acknowledgements

All photos and descriptions in this guide were graciously provided by Dwight Bohlmeier, Current President of the Brazos Valley Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist and member of the Post Oak Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas

Special thanks to the Brazos Valley Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist and the Post Oak Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas for all they do to protect and preserve our area’s precious native landscape and wildlife.

This guide is produced by the College Station Parks and Recreation Department and should not be copied or distributed without express written consent.

**Updated 2024**



# WILDFLOWERS

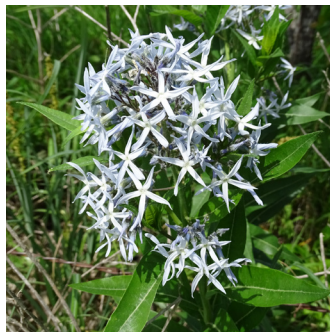


**Spring Spiderlily**

*Hymenocallis liriosme*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers white,  
bloom time March-April

*Ideal for rain gardens*



**Creeping Bluestar**

*Amsonia repens*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers pale  
indigo, bloom time March-April



**Zizotes Milkweed**

*Asclepias oenotheroides*

1-2' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers  
pale yellow, bloom time  
March-November



**Butterfly Milkweed**

*Asclepias tuberosa*

1-2' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers  
orange, bloom time May-September



**Green Antelopehorns**

*Asclepias viridis*

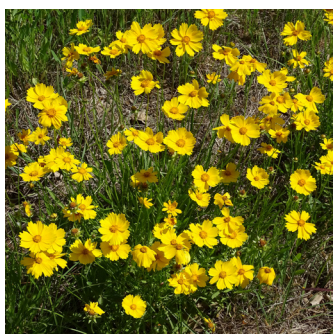
1-3' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers pale green,  
bloom time April-October



**Prairie Indian Plantain**

*Arnoglossum plantagineum*

3-5' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers pale cream,  
bloom time May-July



**Lanceleaf Coreopsis**

*Coreopsis lanceolata*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers yellow,  
bloom time March-May



**Blue Mistflower**

*Conoclinium coelestinum*

1-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers pale  
purple, bloom time July-November



**Engelmann's Daisy**

*Engelmannia peristenia*

3-5' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers yellow,  
bloom time March-June  
*Readily eaten by livestock and deer.*



# PERENNIALS



Attracts Butterflies



Deer Resistant



Nectar Plant



Attracts Birds



Toxic to Humans & Pets



Bee Friendly



Attracts Hummingbirds



Butterfly Larval Host



**Dotted Blazing Star**

*Liatris punctata*

1-3' tall, full sun, dry soils,  
flowers pink to purple,  
bloom time August-October



**Scaly Blazing Star**

*Liatris squarrosa*

1-3' tall, full sun, dry soil, flowers  
purple, bloom time June-September



**Late Boneset**

*Eupatorium serotinum*

3-5' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers white,  
bloom time September-November



**Bushy Goldentop**

*Euthamia leptoccephala*

1-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers yellow,  
bloom time September-November



**Maximilian Sunflower**

*Helianthus maximiliani*

6-10' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers yellow, bloom time  
September-November



**Texas Skeleton Plant**

*Lygodesmia texana*

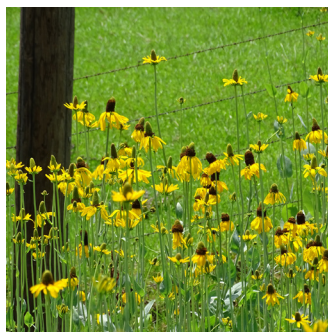
1-2' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers  
pale purple, bloom time April-August



**Upright Prairie Coneflower**

*Ratibida columnifera*

2-3' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers yellow and brown,  
bloom time May-August



**Giant Coneflower**

*Rudbeckia maxima*

6-8' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers yellow,  
bloom time May-June



**Tall Goldenrod**

*Solidago altissima*

3-6' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers yellow,  
bloom time September-November





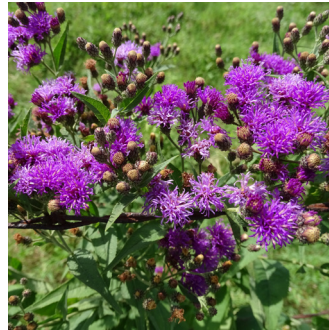
# PERENNIALS CONT.



**Frostweed**

*Verbesina virginica*

4-8' tall, partial sun to shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers white,  
bloom time September-November



**Western Ironweed**

*Vernonia baldwinii*

3-5' tall, full sun, moderate soil  
moisture, flowers purple,  
bloom time July-August



**Fringed Puccoon**

*Lithospermum incisum*

1-2' tall, full sun, dry soil, flowers  
yellow, bloom time March-April



**Cardinal Flower**

*Lobelia cardinalis*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers red,  
bloom time September-October



**Downy Lobelia**

*Lobelia puberula*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers red,  
bloom time September-October



**Multi-bloom Hoarypea**

*Tephrosia onobrychoides*

1-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers pink-  
white, bloom time May-June



**Purple Pleatleaf**

*Alophia drummondii*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers purple,  
bloom time May-June



**Prairie Nymph**

*Herbertia lahue*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers purple,  
bloom time April-May



**Roadside Blue-eyed Grass**

*Sisyrinchium pruinosum*

1' tall, sun to partial shade, moderate  
to dry soils, flowers purple,  
bloom time March-May





Attracts Butterflies



Deer Resistant



Nectar Plant



Attracts Birds



Toxic to Humans & Pets



Bee Friendly



Attracts Hummingbirds



Butterfly Larval Host



### Showy False Dragonhead

*Physostegia pulchella*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers pink,  
bloom time April-May



### Spotted Horsemint

*Monarda punctata*

2-3' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers pink, white, and yellow,  
bloom time April-July



### Giant Blue Sage

*Salvia azurea*

3-5' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers blue,  
bloom time September-October



### Indian Mallow

*Abutilon fruticosum*

2-4' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers pale orange,  
bloom time June-September



### Winecup

*Callirhoe involucrata*

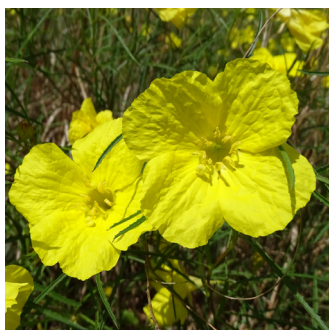
1' tall, sun to partial shade, moderate  
to dry soils, flowers magenta,  
bloom time March-October



### Pink Evening-primrose

*Oenothera speciosa*

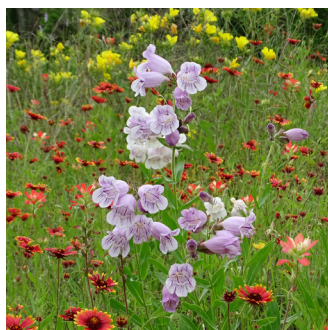
1-2' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers pink,  
bloom time March-July



### Berlander's Sundrop

*Oenothera berlandieri*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers yellow,  
bloom time March-July



### Prairie Penstemon

*Penstemon cobaea*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers white-  
purple, bloom time April-May



### Scarlet Beardtounge

*Penstemon murrayanus*

3-5' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers red,  
bloom time April-May





# PERENNIALS CONT.



**Carolina Larkspur**  
*Delphinium carolinianum*  
 2-4' tall, sun to partial shade,  
 moderate to dry soils, flowers white-  
 blue, bloom time March-June

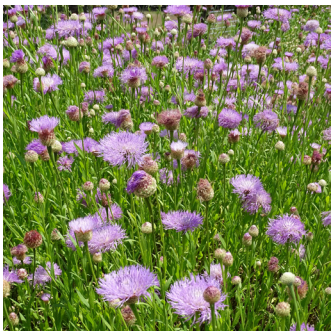


**Large Buttercup**  
*Ranunculus macranthus*  
 1-3' tall, full sun, moderate to wet  
 soils, flowers yellow,  
 bloom time March-May



**Gulf Vervain**  
*Verbena xutha*  
 3-6' tall, sun to partial shade,  
 moderate to dry soils, flowers pale  
 purple, bloom time March-September

# ANNUALS



**American Basketflower**  
*Plectocephalus americanus*  
 3-8' tall, sun to partial shade,  
 moderate to dry soils, flowers pink,  
 bloom time April-June



**Maroon Blanketflower**  
*Gaillardia amblyodon*  
 1-2' tall, full sun, dry, sandy soils,  
 flowers reddish-orange,  
 bloom time May-July



**Indian Blanket**  
*Gaillardia pulchella*  
 1-2' tall, sun to partial sun, dry soils,  
 flowers orange and yellow,  
 bloom time March-October  
*Reseeds readily*

Attracts Butterflies

Deer Resistant

Nectar Plant

Attracts Birds

Toxic to Humans & Pets

Bee Friendly

Attracts Hummingbirds

Butterfly Larval Host



# ANNUALS CONT.



**Texas Yellow Star**

*Lindheimera texana*

2-3' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers yellow, bloom time March-May

Reseeds readily



**Sand Palafox**

*Palafoxia hookeriana*

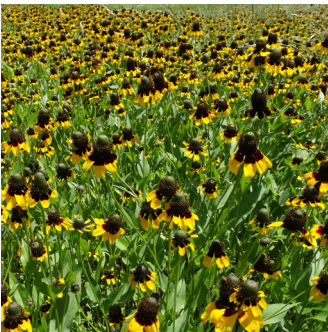
2-4' tall, sun to partial sun, dry, sandy soils, flowers pink, bloom time September-October



**Black-eyed Susan**

*Rudbeckia hirta*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade, moderate to dry soils, flowers yellow, bloom time April-June



**Clasping Coneflower**

*Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade, moderate to wet soils, flowers yellow, bloom time April-June



**Stiff Greenthread**

*Thelesperma filifolium*

1-2' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers yellow, bloom time April-June



**Cowpen Daisy**

*Verbesina encelioides*

2-4' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers yellow, bloom time April-November



**Redwhisker Clammyweed**

*Polanisia dodecandra*

2-4' tall, full sun, dry soils, flowers white, bloom time June-September



**Sandyland Bluebonnet**

*Lupinus subcarnosus*

1-2' tall, full sun, moderate to dry soils, flowers blue-purple, bloom time March-April



**Meadow Pink**

*Sabatia campestris*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade, moderate to dry soils, flowers pink, bloom time April-June



# ANNUALS CONT.



**Basil Beebalm**

*Monarda clinopodioides*

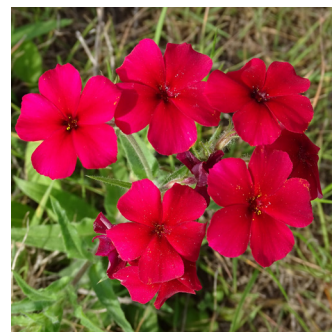
1' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers white,  
bloom time April-June



**Lemon Beebalm**

*Monarda citriodora*

2-3' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers pink,  
bloom time April-July



**Annual Phlox**

*Phlox drummondii*

1-2' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils,  
flowers red, pink and white,  
bloom time March-June



# BIENNIALS



**Texas Bluebells**

*Eustoma russellianum*

2-3' tall, full sun, moderate soil  
moisture, flowers purple,  
bloom time June-July



**Standing Cypress**

*Ipomopsis rubra*

3-6' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers red-  
orange, bloom time May-June



Attracts Butterflies



Deer Resistant



Nectar Plant



Attracts Birds



Toxic to Humans & Pets



Bee Friendly



Attracts Hummingbirds



Butterfly Larval Host



A photograph of a lush garden filled with tall, thin purple flowers. Several monarch butterflies with orange and black wings are seen fluttering among the blossoms. The background is a soft-focus green field.

**Need more *inspiration***  
**for your garden?**

## **Visit our demonstration gardens:**

**Bee Creek Park**

1900 Anderson Street

**Richard Carter Park**

1800 Brazoswood Drive

**Gabbard Park**

1201 Dexter Drive

**Lick Creek Park**

13600 Rock Prairie Road

**Brison Park**

400 Dexter Drive



# GROUNDCOVERS



**Maritime Bluestem**

*Andropogon tenuispathus*  
Perennial clumping grass  
3-6' tall, full sun,  
moderate to wet soils



**Inland Wood Oats**

*Chasmanthium latifolium*  
Perennial clumping grass  
1-3' tall, partial to full shade,  
moderate soil moisture



**Gulf Muhly**

*Muhlenbergia capillaris*  
Perennial clumping grass  
1-3' tall, sun to partial shade  
moderate to dry soils,  
pink seed heads



**Switchgrass**

*Panicum virgatum*  
Perennial clumping grass  
4-8' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils



**Little Bluestem**

*Schizachyrium scoparium*  
Perennial clumping grass  
3-6' tall, sun to partial shade  
moderate to dry soils



**Yellow Indiangrass**

*Sorghastrum nutans*  
Perennial clumping grass  
3-7' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils



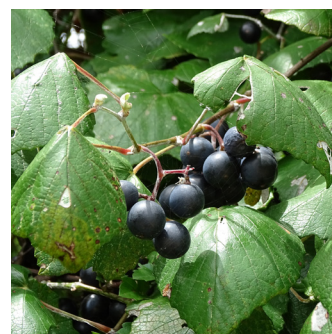
**Longspike Tridens**

*Tridens strictus*  
Perennial clumping grass  
3-6' tall, sun to partial shade  
moderate to dry soils



**Eastern Gamagrass**

*Tripsacum dactyloides*  
Perennial clumping grass  
2-5' tall, full sun, moderate to wet soils



**Mustang Grape**

*Vitis mustangensis*  
Perennial woody vine  
30-50' length, partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils





# GRASSES, VINES, HERBS & GROUNDCOVERS



**Purple Passionflower**  
*Passiflora incarnata*

Perennial herbaceous vine  
10-15' length, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers pale  
purple, bloom time March-October



**Virginia Creeper**

*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

Perennial woody vine or ground cover  
30-40' length, sun to partial shade to  
shade, moderate soil moisture



**Pigeonberry**  
*Rivina humilis*

Perennial herb  
1-3' length, partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers white,  
bloom time March-November



**Trumpet Creeper**

*Campsis radicans*

Perennial woody vine, 30' length,  
partial shade, moderate to dry soils,  
flowers orange, bloom time June-  
September, aggressive growth

*Aggressive Growth: do not plant next to buildings*



**Frogfruit**

*Phyla nodiflora*

Perennial groundcover  
1' length, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers white,  
bloom time March-November



**Coral Honeysuckle**

*Lonicera sempervirens*

Perennial vine, 10' length, sun to  
partial shade, moderate to dry soils,  
flowers pale purple, bloom time  
February-June



Attracts Butterflies



Deer Resistant



Nectar Plant



Attracts Birds



Butterfly Larval Host



Edible Fruit



Attracts Hummingbirds



Bee Friendly



Toxic to Humans



# TREES & SHRUBS



## Blackjack Oak

*Quercus marilandica*

Perennial, deciduous tree

20-40' tall, 30-40' spread, full sun to partial shade, moderate to dry soils

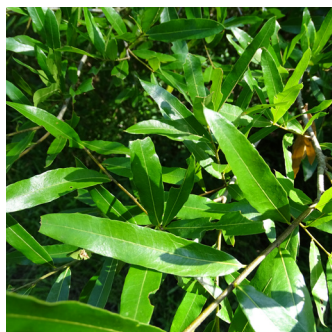


## Water Oak

*Quercus nigra*

Perennial, deciduous tree

50-75' tall, 30-40' spread, full sun to partial shade, moderate to wet soils



## Willow Oak

*Quercus phellos*

Perennial, deciduous tree

50-75' tall, 30-40' spread, full sun to partial shade, moderate soil moisture



## Post Oak

*Quercus stellata*

Perennial, deciduous tree

50-60' tall, 30-40' spread, full sun to partial shade, moderate to dry soils

*Does not tolerate disturbance or watering*



## Pecan

*Carya illinoensis*

Perennial, deciduous tree

50-75' tall, 50' spread, full sun, moderate soil moisture



## White Ash

*Fraxinus americana*

Perennial, deciduous tree

30-50' tall, 20' spread, sun to partial shade, moderate soil moisture





# LARGE TREES



## Green Ash

*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*

Perennial, deciduous tree,  
30-50' tall, 20' spread, sun to partial  
shade, wet to moderate to dry soils



## American Elm

*Ulmus americana*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
50-70' tall, 50' spread, sun to partial  
shade, moderate soil moisture



## Cedar Elm

*Ulmus crassifolia*

Perennial, deciduous tree,  
40-60' tall, 50' spread, sun to partial  
shade, moderate soil moisture



## Sugar Hackberry

*Celtis laevigata*

Perennial, deciduous tree,  
50-60' tall, 40' spread, sun to partial  
shade, moderate to dry soils



Attracts Butterflies



Deer Resistant



Nectar Plant



Attracts Birds



Reliable Fall Color



Edible Fruit



Attracts Mammals



Bee Friendly



Toxic to Humans



Attracts Hummingbirds



# SMALL TREES



**Shining Sumac**

*Rhus copallinum*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
15-30' tall, full sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture



**Smooth Sumac**

*Rhus glabra*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-20' tall, full sun to partial shade  
to shade, moderate to dry soils



**Possumhaw Holly**

*Ilex decidua*

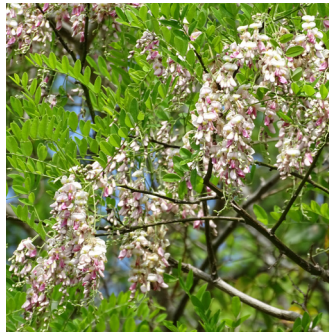
Perennial, deciduous tree  
15-30' tall, full sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture



**Yaupon**

*Ilex vomitoria*

Perennial, evergreen tree  
10-30' tall, full sun to partial shade  
to shade, moderate to dry soils



**Eve's Necklace**

*Sophora affinis*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
15-30' tall, partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, blooms pink,  
bloom time March-April



**American Persimmon**

*Diospyros virginiana*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-30' tall, full sun to partial shade,  
dry soils



**Flowering Dogwood**

*Cornus florida*

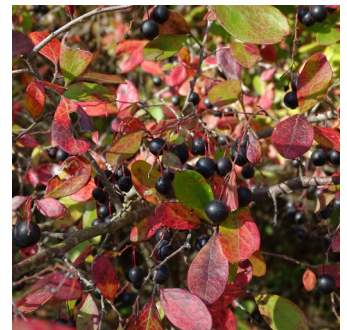
Perennial, deciduous tree  
15-30' tall, shade, moderate to wet  
sandy soils, white bracts surrounding  
green flowers, bloom time March-April  
*Only grows in sandy soils*



**Roughleaf Dogwood**

*Cornus drummondii*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-15' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate to dry soils, blooms white,  
bloom time April-June



**Farkleberry**

*Vaccinium arboetum*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-20' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate to dry soils, blooms white,  
bloom time March-April







### Rusty Blackhaw

*Viburnum rufidulum*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-20' tall, partial shade, dry soil,  
blooms white, bloom time March



### Parsley Hawthorn

*Crataegus marshallii*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-20' tall, partial shade, dry soil,  
blooms white, bloom time March



### Dwarf Palmetto

*Sabal minor*

Perennial, evergreen tree  
4-8' tall, full sun to partial shade to  
shade, wet to moderate to dry soils



### Carolina Cherry Laurel

*Prunus caroliniana*

Perennial, evergreen tree  
10-30' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, blooms white,  
bloom time March



### Mexican Plum

*Prunus mexicana*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-30' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils, blooms white,  
bloom time February



### Red Buckeye

*Aesculus pavia*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-15' tall, partial shade,  
moderate soil moisture, blooms red,  
bloom time March-April



### Western Soapberry

*Sapindus drummondii*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-30' tall, partial shade, moderate  
soil moisture, blooms white,  
bloom time May-June



### Eastern Redbud

*Cercis canadensis*

Perennial, deciduous tree  
10-30' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate soil, blooms pink,  
bloom time February-March



Attracts Butterflies	Deer Resistant
Attracts Birds	Reliable Fall Color
Attracts Mammals	Bee Friendly
Nectar Plant	Attracts Hummingbirds
Edible Fruit	Toxic to Humans



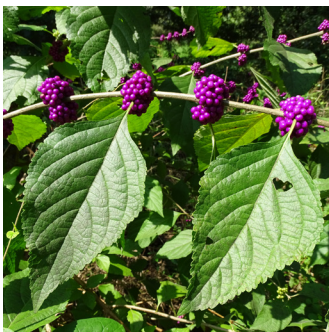
# SHRUBS



**Black Elderberry**

*Sambucus nigra*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
5-10' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate to wet soils, blooms white,  
bloom time May-June



**American Beautyberry**

*Callicarpa americana*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
3-10' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate soil moisture, flowers pink,  
bloom time May-June



**Coralberry**

*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
2-5' tall, partial shade,  
moderate to dry soils



**Coral Bean**

*Erythrina herbacea*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
3-5' tall, sun to partial shade,  
dry soils, blooms red,  
bloom time May-June



**Buttonbush**

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
5-10' tall, partial shade to shade,  
wet soil, flowers white,  
bloom time June-August



**Indigo Bush**

*Amorpha fruticosa*

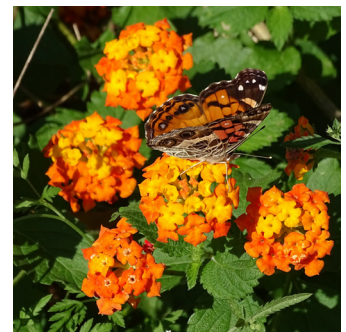
Perennial, deciduous shrub  
5-10' tall, sun to partial shade,  
moderate soil



**Turk's Cap**

*Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
3-6' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate to dry soils, flowers red,  
bloom time May-December



**Texas Lantana**

*Lantana urticoides*

Perennial shrub  
2-4' tall, full sun, moderate to dry  
soils, flowers orange-yellow,  
bloom time April-November






**Halberdleaf Rosemallow**

*Hibiscus laevis*

Perennial, deciduous shrub  
3-6' tall, partial shade to shade,  
moderate to wet soils, flowers white/  
maroon, bloom time May-October





 Attracts Butterflies	 Deer Resistant	 Nectar Plant
 Attracts Birds	 Reliable Fall Color	 Edible Fruit
 Attracts Mammals	 Bee Friendly	 Toxic to Humans
	 Attracts Hummingbirds	





CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**

**1000 KRENEK TAP RD. COLLEGE STATION, TX 77840**  
**CSTX.GOV/PARKS | 979.764.3486 | PARKS@CSTX.GOV**



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
*Home of Texas A&M University®*