

## Go Native in Your Landscape - Plant Information Handout

Plant Species	Availability/ Source*	Landscape Value	Function for Wildlife
<b>Trees</b>			
Ashe Juniper <i>Juniperus ashei</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed	Keep some if you have it in landscape! Prune to a desirable size & shape removing unwanted branches and trunks; Excellent evergreen screen; remove unwanted smaller plants easily with loppers or pruners, very drought tolerant; pollen from male tree an allergen to many	Host plant for several butterfly species, particularly the Juniper Hairstreak; bark of older trees used for nesting material of endangered Golden Cheek Warblers and fruits consumed by numerous birds and mammals
Hackberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed	Commonly called a "trash tree" planted by birds along fencelines, under powerlines and in gardens. Some years with heavy aphid infestation will drop dew below canopy, but aphids and leaf galls do not permanently damage tree. If located in a desirable location prune to desirable shape (can be maintained as a hedge) or remove unattractive foliage and maintain away from structures and driveways	Fruits are favorite foods of many native songbirds; leaves are preferred by all butterfly and moth larvae because of the softness of the growth; Stooled specimens (pruned back to create shrubs) allow for function of the plant to provide for fauna without allowing a large tree to form.
Texas Persimmon <i>Diospyros texana</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed Nursery	Prune for shape; Female trees may be undesirable close to sidewalks, driveways and patios due to dark staining fruit; will resprout readily at base if cut; Refrain from pruning late in winter as blooms form on old wood in spring	Early bloom of plant is important to pollinators; In Fall fruit is eaten by birds and mammals; Larval host for Henrys Elfin and Gray Hairstreak butterflies.
<b>Shrubs</b>			
Agarita <i>Mahonia trifoliolata</i>	Nursery Existing Transplant	Use in an area to block access due to the spiny, evergreen leaves (don't plant near walkways) or use as a specimen plant. Prune to control height and thicken growth. Little maintenance required.	Good habitat providing for protection of birds; early spring flowers important for pollinators as a nectar source and berries consumed by birds and mammals; Native Americans also found good for medicinal purposes and berries used for jellies.
Aromatic Sumac <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Nursery Existing Transplant	Prune to desirable shape; regrows readily from base so can be reshaped as a multi-trunk shrub although can grow to form thickets; Considered deer resistant; blooms in spring before leaves emerge and only on female plants; has good fall color; reported to be deer resistant	Attracts birds and butterflies to blooms and is host plant for the Red-banded hairstreak butterfly; Female plants provide berries when ripe
Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Nursery Existing Seed	Spreading, multi-branched shrub; selectively prune to shape with the expectation that this plant will have a craggy, irregular, leaning, form; Attractive white flowers resembling pincushions during summer months, and buttonlike balls of fruit; good ornamental for <b>wet</b> soils and drought tolerant once established	Good nectar plant for honey production and seeds for birds; larval host for several species of sphinx moths;
Condalia <i>Condalia hookeri</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed Transplant	Not easily found in nurseries, but common on undeveloped land, prune for shape and transplant in winter or plant from seed; Evergreen with thorns makes a useful privacy planting	Nesting/cover and fruits eaten by birds and mammals; continuous blooming provides nectar and seeds all season; Though not in Bexar County range, this is a host plant for the Condalia silk moth ( <i>Tamaulipan agapema</i> ). It is a host for Snout butterflies too.
Kidneywood <i>Eysenhardtia texana</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed Transplant Nursery	Fast growing shrub with a light, airy appearance; can maintain as tree or natural looking, arching shrub, prune undesired suckers on stems/trunks; deer will browse leaves, leaving it in a bonsai appearance	White spikes of blooms all season attract bees and butterflies and larval host for dogface butterflies;

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Texas Lantana <i>Lantana urticoides</i>	Nursery Transplant	Red, orange, and yellow blooms all growing season; Used as a low to medium, flowering ground cover for dry, exposed, poor sites. Crinkly leaves give off a sharp aroma when touched and they can cause a skin rash. Mature plants tend to form large mounds that may be separated into smaller plants in the winter.	Excellent nectar plant and reported to be deer proof.
Turk's Cap <i>Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii</i>	Transplant Nursery Seed	Prefers shady sites, will adapt to sun, but not as attractive; Blooms through spring into fall; easily transplanted or grown from seed, or will root from branch touching ground; responds well to pruning for size and shape	Red flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies; fruit eaten by birds
<b>Annual/Perennial Flowering</b>			
Frostweed <i>Verbesina virginica</i>	Existing Volunteer Seed Transplant	Fall blooming perennial; Prune dead material down to new growth in late February if desired and divide clumps to propagate; May keep cut to approx. 3' during growing season if not wanted too tall and to keep neat, good to use as understory beneath shade trees or in a transition between manicured and less managed areas.	Fall blooming perennial whose white clusters of flowers are extremely important nectar plants and a main staple for Monarch butterflies during Fall migration. Also serves as a host plant for Bordered Patch butterflies.
Horsemint <i>Monarda citriodora</i>	Nursery Existing Transplant Seed Volunteer	Will continue to bloom pale purple all summer with additional water; it often occurs in large masses and is very easy to grow. It can become aggressive if given optimum growing conditions; Several species of Horsemint/Beebalm available in nurseries; Since it is an annual plant, let go to seed before cutting back in fall or after blooming	Bees and butterflies are especially attracted to this plant
Indian Mallow <i>Abutilon fruticosum</i>	Existing Seed Volunteer	Pale yellow, long blooming annual from summer into fall; Sow seeds after last frost; Will add interest interspersed in garden allowing it to volunteer where it wants - it is extremely drought tolerant	Seeds eaten by bobwhite quail and larval plant for several species of butterfly;
Mealy Blue Sage <i>Salvia farinacea</i>	Nursery Seed Transplant	Upright or sprawling perennial, usually forms a mound as wide as the plant is tall. Dark-blue to white, tubular flowers are densely congested in whorls along the upper stems, creating a 3-9" spike. Gray[1]green, lance-shaped leaves are numerous, especially in lower portion of the plant. When new basal foliage appears, cut back existing flower stalks to keep plant lush and blooming	Visited by hummingbirds and bees and butterflies for nectar and seeds consumed by birds, particularly goldfinches.
Zexmenia <i>Wedelia acapulcensis var. hispida</i>	Nursery Seed Existing Transplant	Orange to yellow daisy-like flowers emerge early in spring on long stems extending vertically above leaves which literally cover plant from summer to frost. Blooms continuously though not profusely; reseeds readily; Periodic shearing encourages repeat blooming and fullness; easily pulled from areas where it is unwanted; Small shrub, woody at base and herbaceous in leafy parts, Rough-hairy, gray green foliage.	Birds, especially goldfinches, love the seeds of this plant; Also a host plant for several species of butterfly
Rock Rose <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	Nursery Transplant Seed	Long blooming perennial, small deciduous shrub that continues blooming through summer, prune for shape and more blooms; attractive pink blooms. Cut back each year in winter for fuller form. May need selective pruning during growing season to prevent from becoming leggy and falling over. Water intermittently to promote blooming during drought conditions. Mildew is unavoidable and should be tolerated.	Important nectar plant all summer for pollinators and hummingbirds; Also serves as a host plant for the Gray Hairstreak butterfly.
<b>Grasses</b>			
Lindheimer (Big) Muhly <i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	Nursery Transplant	Nice clumping grass used as a border or accent plant with beautiful flower/seed stalks blooming in late summer and keeps a nice form throughout winter; benefits from not being cut back - rake old leaves from the new growth in early spring. Allow 3' space from hardscape to avoid asymmetrical pruning.	Good habitat providing nesting materials or cover for moths and butterflies in winter. Also serves as host plant for grass skipper butterflies

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Inland Sea Oats <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Nursery Transplant Seed	Graceful, drooping wheat-like seed heads; spreads freely by seed, can be used as a tall groundcover for woodland; good understory plant; prefers moist areas. Easily transplanted.	Seeds eaten by small mammals and granivorous birds. Leaves provide graze for mammals. Stems and leaves used as nesting material by birds. Host plant for several species of skipper butterflies
<b>Vines</b>			
Snapdragon Vine <i>Maurandella antirrhiniflora</i>	Existing Seed Volunteer	Small, rose-purple flowers which look like snapdragons are charming, attractive and well worth cultivating as a small, dense vine or even a groundcover with each plant covering about a 3x3 area. It can be grown from seed and it will produce small, scrambling vines that die back to the ground each winter. Remove dead vines if desired and thin out for less aggressive growth in spring and prune to control direction;	Host plant for Common Buckeye butterfly.
<b>Groundcover</b>			
Frogfruit <i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Existing Nursery Transplant	Small white flower on stem above spreading branches. Spreads rapidly, rooting at nodes;	small flower provides nectar for skippers, larval host plant for butterflies
Straggler Daisy (Horseherb) <i>Calyptocarpus vialis</i>	Existing Nursery Transplant Volunteer	Small attractive yellow flower; 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. Found in Stream bottoms or slopes or cultivation	wonderful nectar source, particularly when many other plants are dormant.
References: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center - Native Plant Database ( <a href="http://www.wildflower.org/plants/">http://www.wildflower.org/plants/</a> ); Native Landscape Certification Program Level 3 Maintenance Matrix (Native Plant Society of Texas); "How to Availability/Source"			
Nursery= plants sourced in San Antonio retail nurseries or native plant sale			
Existing= plant may be found already existing in a landscape, particularly if new construction			
Transplant = Can be transplanted by digging from wild or an established cultivated planting			
Seed = Can be easily propagated by collect seed either in a pot or by sowing directly			
Volunteer = You could be lucky and it shows up as a volunteer in your yard!			

