

NUECES COUNTY LANDSCAPE PLANT LIST

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	HABIT	LIGHT	WATER	SALT TOL.	TX. NATIVE	COMMENT
GROUND COVER							
Asparagus fern	<i>Asparagus sprengeri</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	N	Perennial
Spider Plant, Airplane Plant	<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>	Perennial	F/P/S	M	N	N	May freeze
Fig Ivy	<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Perennial	F/P/S	M	N	N	Creeping Vine
Shore Juniper	<i>Juniperus conferta</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Trailing Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis.</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Bar Harbor, Blue Rug Tam
Trailing Lantana	<i>Lantana montevidensis</i>	Simi - Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	Trailing Purple or White Lighting
Lily Turf, Liriope, Big Blue	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	
Mondo Grass, Monkey Grass	<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	
Trailing Rosemary	<i>Rosemarinus prostrata</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L/M	N	N	Needs drainage
Purple Heart	<i>Setcreasea pallida</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	
Arrowhead plant	<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	Vine
Asiatic Jasmine	<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	Evergreen	F/S	L	Y	N	
Verbena	<i>Verbena spp.</i>	Perennial	F	L	N	Y	
Wedelia	<i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	Perennial	F/P	M	Y	N	
PALM							
Cocus Plumosa, Queen Palm	<i>Arecastrum romanzoffanum</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Half-hardy/25' Fast Grower
Mexican Blue Palm	<i>Brahea armata</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	Not for the island
Pindo, Cocos Australis, Jelly	<i>Butia capitata</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	

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Mediterranean Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Hardy, bushy to 10'
Sago Palm	<i>Cycas revoluta</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Cycad - to 8', give plenty of space
Mexican Sago	<i>Dioone edule</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Cycad - to 5'
Chinese Fan Palm	<i>Livistona chinensis</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Canary Island Date Palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Susceptible to Texas Phoenix Palm Decline
True Date Palm	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Dwarf Palmetto	<i>Sabal minor</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	to 4'
Cabbage Palm / Florida Sabal	<i>Sabal palmetto</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Texas Sabal	<i>Sabal texana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	Y	
Windmill Palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	Evergreen	F	M	Y	N	Small ornamental palm to 10'
California Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia Filifera</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Mexican Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia Robusta</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Fast growing
PERENNIAL / SHRUB							
Copper Plant	<i>Acalypha wiokesiana</i>	Deciduous	F/P	M	N	N	May freeze
Lily-of-the-Nile	<i>Agapanthus orientalis</i>	Evergreen	P	M	N	N	Blue, white flower
Century Plant	<i>Agave americana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Variegated Dwarf Ginger	<i>Alpinia vittata</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	May freeze, grows back
Shell Ginger	<i>Alpinia zerumbet</i>	Evergreen	F/P/S	M	Y	N	May freeze, grows back
Artemesia / Wormwood	<i>Artemesia X "Powis Castle"</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	Fast growing, gray foliage
Aspidistra, Cast Iron Plant	<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Evergreen	S	M	N	N	Herbaceous perennial
Agarita, Agarito	<i>Berberis (Mahonia) trifoliata</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	Berries for jelly / bird attractor
Bougainvillea	<i>Bougainvillea glaoca</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	Y	N	

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American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Deciduous	F/P	M	N	Y	Purple or white berries
Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Tall and dwarf varieties, may freeze back
Chillipiquin	<i>Capsicum annuum</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	Y	Simi-perennial, fruiting / bird attractor
Natal Plum	<i>Carissa grandiflora</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	Y	N	Fast growing up to 12'
Texas Bird of Paradise	<i>Casalspinia gilliesi</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	N	May freeze back, Native shrub with yellow flowers
Candlestick Tree	<i>Cassia alata</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	May freeze
Pampas Grass	<i>Coraderia selloana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	Dwarf and tall varieties
Italian Cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	N	N	Tall, columnar to 30'
Holly Fern	<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	Evergreen	P/S	H/M	N	N	
Sotol	<i>Dasylirion texanum</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Brazilian Sky Flower	<i>Duranta repens</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Silverberry	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Coppertone Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya</i> X 'Coppertone'	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Golden Shrub Daisy	<i>Euryops pecinatus</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	N	Needs excellent drainage, winter color
Rice Paper Aralia	<i>Fatsia japonica</i>	Evergreen	S	H	N	N	
Pineapple Guava	<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	
Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	Herbaceous perennial
Red Yucca	<i>Hesperaloe paryiflora</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	Y	
Heartleaf Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus cardiophyllus</i>	Deciduous	F/P	H	N	Y	Herbaceous perennial
Texas Star Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus coccineus</i>	Deciduous	F/P	H	N	Y	Herbaceous perennial
Hibiscus (Tropical or Chinese)	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Evergreen	F	H	N	N	May freeze / single tend to be hardier

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Athea, Rose-of-Sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	
Dwarf Chinese Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta 'Rotunda'</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	N	N	
Possumhaw	<i>Ilex decidua</i>	Deciduous	F/P	M	N	Y	Small Tree to 12'
Yaupon	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	Y	Small Tree to 15'
Dwarf Yaupon	<i>Ilex vomitoria Nana</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	N	Y	
Bush Morning-Glory	<i>Ipomea fitulosa</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	N	Fast growing, may freeze
Primrose Jasmine	<i>Jasminum mesnyi</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Mounding, yellow flowers
Juniper	<i>Juniperus spp.</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Hollywood, Seagreen, Robusta green, Blue vase
Shrimp Plant	<i>Justicia brandegeana</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	
Mexican Honeysuckle	<i>Justicia suberecta</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	Native to Mexico; Orange Flowers
Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	L	N	Dwarf forms to 5'
Texas Lantana	<i>Lantana horrida</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	Y	
New Gold Lantana	<i>Lantana X Hybrid 'New Gold'</i>	Deciduous	F	L	n	N	Blooms after rain
Texas Silverleaf/Sage/Cenizo	<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Wax leaf Ligustrum	<i>Ligustrum japonicum 'Texanum'</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	
Barbados Cherry	<i>Malpighia glabra</i>	Evergreen	P	L	N	N	
Turk's Cap (Tropical & Native type)	<i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i>	Evergreen	P	M/L	N	Y	Perennial
Butterfly Iris	<i>Moraea iridiodies (Dietes vegeta)</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	Hebaceous perennial
Banana Plant	<i>Musa sp.</i>	Deciduous	F/P	H	N	N	
Nandina	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Evergreen	F/S	M/L	N	N	
Dwarf Nandina	<i>Nandina domestica 'Nana'</i>	Evergreen	F/S	M/L	N	N	
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	

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Brazilian Fire Spike	<i>Odontonema strictum</i>	Evergreen	P	M	N	N	May Freeze
Prickly Pear Cactus	<i>Opuntia engelmannii</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	Y	
Philodendrum (Tree or split leaf)	<i>Philodendron selloum</i>	Evergreen	P/S	H	N	N	
Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Evergreen	F/S	M	Y	N	Green and variegated
Blue Plumbago	<i>Plumbago auriculata (P. Capensis)</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M/N	N	N	Blue white flowers
Japanese Yew	<i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	Y	N	
Mexican Oregano	<i>Poliomenantha longiflora</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	N	N	
Pomegranate (Regular & Dwarf)	<i>Punica granatum</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	N	
Firethorn, Pyracantha	<i>Pyracantha spp.</i>	Evergreen	F	M	Y	N	
Indian Hawthorn	<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M/L	Y	N	Disease resist varieties Snow White or Clara
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	Needs drainage
Blue Shade Ruellia	<i>Ruellia coroliniensis 'Blue Shade'</i>	Evergreen	P/S	M	N	N	
Firecracker Plant	<i>Russelia equisetiformis</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	Y	N	Red Flowers
Tropical or Scarlet Sage	<i>Salvia coccinea</i>	Perennial	F	L	N	Y	
Blue Sage / Mealy Sage	<i>Salvia faranaceae</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	Y	
Mexican Bush Sage	<i>Salvia leucantha</i>	Perennial	F	L	N	Y	
Mountain Sage	<i>Salvia regla</i>	Deciduous	P	L	N	Y	Good drainage/don't fertilize
Bird of Paradise	<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	Y	May Freeze
Giant Bird of Paradise	<i>Strelitzia nicolai</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	Y	Y	May Freeze
Cape Honeysuckle	<i>Tecoma capensis</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M/L	Y	N	
Yellow Plumbago / Rain of Gold	<i>Thyrallis glauca</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M/L	N	N	

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Yellowbells / Esperanza	<i>Tecoma stans capensis</i>	Evergreen	F/P	L	N	Y	Freezes/Comes back from roots
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum sp.</i>	Evergreen	F/S	M	N	N	
Soft-tip Yucca	<i>Yucca gloriosa</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Multi trunk, may freeze, grows back
Pendula or Soft leaf Yucca	<i>Yucca pendula</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	
Thompson Yucca	<i>Yucca thompsonia</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	Y	
Spanish Dagger	<i>Yucca treculeana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	Y	
TREES							
Berlandier Acacia/Guajillo	<i>Acacia berlandieri</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Huisache	<i>Acaria famesiana</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	Considered a scrub brush in pastures
Wright's Acacia	<i>Acacia wrightii</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	
Norfolk Island Pine	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Evergreen	M	M	N	N	May freeze
Orchid Tree	<i>Bauhinia spp.</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	May freeze
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	Y	
Australian Pine	<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	Y	N	Freezes @ 15° / Salt Tolerant
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Leaf & seed capsule litter
Hackberry or Sugarberry	<i>Celtis spp.</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	
Redbud, Texas or Mexican	<i>Cercis canadensis var Texensis</i>	Deciduous	F/P	M/L	N	Y	
Desert Willow	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	
Camphor tree	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	Hardy at 20°F
Wild Olive	<i>Cordia boissierei</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Arizona Cypress	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	
Japanese Persimmon	<i>Diospyros japonica</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	

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Texas Persimmon	<i>Diospyros texana</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	
Anaqua	<i>Ehretia anacua</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Fireman's Cap, Coral Tree	<i>Erythrina crista-galli</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Freezes / May come back
Coral Bean	<i>Erythrina herbacea</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	Y	Needs good drainage
Eucalyptus, Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus rostrata</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	N	Freezes/Comes back from root
Rio Grande Ash	<i>Fraxinus berlandieriana</i>	Deciduous		M	N	Y	
Arizona Ash	<i>Fraxinus velutina</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	
Goldenrain Tree	<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Heavy seeder, weak wood
Crape myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica, L. x fauriei</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	N	N	
Sweetbay	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Evergreen	P	L	N	N	Needs good drainage/aromatic
Japanese Ligustrum	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Susceptible to freeze damage
Bois D'Arc/Osage Orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>		F	L	N		Fruitless, thornless 'Fan D' Arc'
Chinaberry, Texas Umbrella Tree	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	N	Fast growing, weak wood
Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Red / White Fruiting
Retama, Palo Verde	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	Official Corpus Christi City tree
Afghan Pine	<i>Pinus eldarica</i>	Evergreen	F	L	Y	N	Well drained soil
Slash Pine	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	Evergreen	F	M/H	N	N	Sandy (well-drained) acidic soil
Japanese Black Pine	<i>Pinus thumbergiana</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Good Drainage
Texas Pistachio	<i>Pistacia texana</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	Needs drainage

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Texas Ebony, Ape's Earring	<i>Pithecellobium flexicaule</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	
Mexican Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Deciduous	F	M/H	N	N	
Cottonwood	<i>Populus spp.</i>	Deciduous	F	H	N	N	Invasive, litter
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis spp.</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	Y	
Bradford Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Prone to Iron Chlorosis / Fire Blight
Kawakami Pear, Evergreen Pear	<i>Pyrus kawakami</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	Prone to Iron Chlorosis / Fire Blight
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	Y	
Mexican Oak	<i>Quercus polymorpha</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	Y	Protect from wind
Southern Live Oak	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Evergreen	F	M/L	N	Y	
Flame Leaf Sumac	<i>Rhus lanceolata</i>	Deciduous	F/P	L	N	Y	Suckers/Full color(fruit/leaves)
Western Soapberry	<i>Sapindus drummondii</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	
Chinese Tallow Tree	<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	Weak wood, brittle, prone to iron chlorosis
Texas Mountain Laurel	<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	Evergreen	F	L	N	Y	Good drainage / slow grower
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	Y	
Cedar Elm	<i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	N	Y	
Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	N	N	
Chaste Tree, Lavender Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Deciduous	F	M/L	N	N	Suckers
Chinese Date, Jujube	<i>Zizphus jujuba</i>	Deciduous	F	L	Y	N	
VINES							

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Coral Vine/Rosa-de-Montana/Queens Wreath	<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	N	
Cross Vine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	Y	Yellow flowers
Trumpet Vine	<i>Campsis radicans</i> “Madame Galen”	Deciduous	F	L	N	Y	Orange flowers, rampant
Creeping Fig / Fig Ivy	<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	
Carolina Jassamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Evergreen	F/S	M	N	Y	
Cypress (Cardinal) Vine	<i>Ipomoea quamoclit</i>	Annual	S/P	M	N	N	
Japanese or Purple Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica chinensis</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	N	
Coral Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	N	Y	
Catclaw Vine	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cacti</i>	Deciduous	F	L	N	N	
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Deciduous	F/S	M	N	Y	
Passion Vine	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>		F	M	N		
Woody Banksia Rose	<i>Rosa banksiae</i>	Evergreen	F	M	N	N	
Mexican Flame or Love Vine	<i>Senecio Confusus</i>	Deciduous	F/P	M	N	N	
Butterfly Vine	<i>Stigmaphyllon littorale</i>	Evergreen	F/P	H	N	N	
Confederate Jasmine/Star Jasmine	<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Evergreen	F/P	M	Y	N	
Wisteria	<i>Wisteria spp.</i>	Deciduous	F	M	N	N	

Column Light F = Full Sun; P = Partial Sun; S = Shade
 Column Water Water Requirements; H = High; M = Medium; L = Low (Drought Tolerant)
 Column Salt Tol Salt Tolerance; N = No; Y = Yes
 Column Native Texas Native; N = No; Y = Yes

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PLANTS FOR SHADE

Common Name	Scientific Name	Type	Height	Comment
<u>DRY SHADE</u>				
Shrimp Plant	Justicia brandegeana, tomentosa	Perennial	3-4'	Fawn and orange-red colored flowers
Mexican Petunia	Ruellia squarrosa	Perennial	2'	Mass plant/Spreads rapidly/Purple-gray leaf
Katy's Dwarf Ruellia	Ruellia brittoniana	Perennial	1'	White - Good border, Not as invasive
Nandina	Nandina domestica	Evergreen Shrub	2-4'	Orange, red foliage - Red berries
Pittosporum	Pittosporum tobira	Evergreen Shrub	3-6'	Not cold hardy
Boxwood	Buxus macrophylla	Evergreen Shrub	1-2'	Easily pruned
Bamboo	Bamboo sp.	Evergreen Shrub	4-8'	Very invasive - Use with care
Turk's Cap	Malvaviscus drummondii	Perennial	3-5'	Orange-red color
Rock Rose	Pavonia lasiopetala	Perennial	2-3'	Pink flowers
Salvia	Salvia regia	Perennial	1'	Scarlet color - Summer Bloom
Mexican Oregano (Summer/Evergreen)	Poliomintha longiflora	Annual/Perennial	1½'	Lavendar/pink flowers
Texas Aster	Aster texanus	Annual	6-8"	Lavendar daisy flowers in October
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Ground Cover/Vine	4-6"	Wet and dry areas; variegated
Mondo Grass/Monkey Grass	Ophiopogon japonicus	Ground Cover	4-6"	Variegated and dwarf species
Liriope-Big Blue/Majestic/Monroe White	Liriope muscari	Ground Cover	1'	Lavendar/white flower spikes
Liriope - Silver Dragon	Liriope spicata	Moist Shade	1'	Spreads by underground runners

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Tropical Sage	Salvia coccinea	Perennial		Colonizes - Pink, white, crimson
Texas Aster	Aster texanus	Evergreen	8-12"	Wet/Dry, small lavender daisies, blooms late October
Asiatic Jasmine	Trachelospermum asiaticum	Groundcover	8-12"	Varigated and dwarf
<u>MOIST SHADE</u>				
Wood Fern	Thelypteris kunthii	Perennial	1-1½'	Dies back in winter
Maidenhair Fern	Adiantum capillus-veneris	Perennial	1-1½'	Susceptible to cold
Holly Fern	Cyrtomium falcatum	Evergreen	2-3'	Slow growing - Constantly moist
Chinese Ground Orchid	Bletilla striata	Perennial	1'	Pink/white April blooms
Calla Lily	Zantedeschia aethiopica	Perennial	1-1½'	Great for ponds - White
Spider Lillies	Lycoris radiata	Bulb	1-1½'	Leaves fall through summer
Crinum Lily	Crinum sp.	Bulb	2-3'	Hardy, naturalizes - Rose, Pink, White
Ginger	Zingiberaceae sp.	Tropical	4-6'	Will freeze back in cold winters
Cast Iron Plant	Aspidistra elatior	Evergreen	2'	Shady Borders, Very tough
Japanese Silver-Painted Fern	Athyrium nipponiolum 'Pictum'	Fern	1'	
Phlox	Phlox paniculata	Annual	1-1½'	Showy/long-flowering, magenta-pink, white
Gold Dust Plants	Aucuba japonica (variegata)	Hardy Evergreen	2-4'	Yellow varigated foliage
Japanese Aralia	Fatsia japonica	Tropical	2-3'	Freezes below 20°F, Glossy palemate leaves
Strawberry Begonia	Saxifraga stolonifera	Annual	8"	Strawberry rosettes/short runners/airy sprays/white blooms

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Caladiums	<u>Caladium sp.</u>	Bulb		Showy, colored foliage, summer bedding

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Four Rights of Every Plant

The average homeowner often forgets that plants are living creatures, not an inanimate object like a stone or bench that is added to a garden without worry about success or failure. They have specific needs to survive properly. The key to success is knowing not only what to plant, but also where, how and when to plant it. *The Four "Rights" of Plants* are planting the right plant in the right place in the right way at the right time of year.

THE RIGHT PLANT

All plants are not alike! Some plants species are much better adapted to surviving in the harsh environmental conditions of our area. Even within the plant species, there are some varieties that perform better than others. It is important to know what works for this area.

Here are some resources that might help you choose the right plant for this area:

- Local, full-Service Garden Center Staff (look for Texas Certified Nursery Professionals)
- Local Newspaper Columns
- Texas Cooperative Extension (programs, publications, local plant lists)
- "Best of Texas" published by Texas Landscape and Nursery Association (formerly Texas Association of Nurserymen)
- "Xeriscape-To-Go" published by the Corpus Christi Xeriscape Coalition
- "A Guide to Growing Healthy Trees In The Corpus Christi Area" (a.k.a. "The Tree Book") published by the Tree Awareness Council
- The Garden Book published by the Corpus Christi Area Council of Garden Clubs

Also look at established yards and gardens and note what plants seem to do well in conditions similar to yours. Most gardeners and homeowners take great pride in their landscapes and are more than willing to answer questions about their plants

THE RIGHT PLACE

Too often people go to a garden center, see a pretty plant, buy it and take it home and place it in the first available spot. Many times these selections die because it was planted in the wrong place or in a spot with environmental conditions that do not match the growing requirements of the plant. It is actually better to look at an area where you wish to add plants and evaluate the environmental conditions, *then* go to the garden center and find the right plant for that particular place.

Environmental factors to consider include the following:

- Light requirements (full sun, partial shade, heavy shade)
- Exposure (north vs. south exposure will affect temperature as well as light conditions)
- Soil type (clay vs. sand; note the amount of compost or organic material is in the bed)
- Drainage (does water stand after a heavy rain in the area)
- Space (consider not only the height, but the width and depth of the space available)
- Surrounding Structures (note positions of doors, window, sidewalks, driveways, etc.; consider how plants will affect their function.)

THE RIGHT WAY

There is more to planting than digging a hole and throwing a plant in it. Here are some tips to help you plant the right way:

- Water soil a few days *in advance* to make int more pliable when you go to dig
- Prepare the soil in the entire bed in advance for shrubs and flowers with *plenty* of compost
- Always consider the *mature size* of plants and space them accordingly (Over crowding can produce weak plants with more insect and disease problems. Books and local nursery professionals can help you know how large a plant will get.)
- Dig your hole twice the diameter of the pot, and the same depth
- Always plant at *the same soil level* as in the pot (Planting deeper will stunt plant growth

- and invite disease and insect problems at the base.)
- Pack soil somewhat firmly around the plant
- Water well immediately after planting
- Note that trees need to be planted in a hole twice the diameter and the same depth as the tree's root ball (backfill with the native soil that has been broken up into a loose mixture)

THE RIGHT TIME

Know when to plant which shrubs, flowers and trees. A "container grown" plant has lived its entire life in a pot and can usually be planted almost anytime depending on the plant species. Container grown plants are generally your best bet when landscaping because the root ball has not been damaged by digging. Bare-root as well as balled-and-burlapped (B&B) trees are primarily available in the late winter and early spring and need to be planted immediately.

Here are some tips about when to plant specific plant types.

- Trees should be planted between late October and mid April (This allows for better root establishment during mild days and traditionally wetter condition for South Texas.)
- Tropicals like hibiscus and bougainvillea should be planted in the spring (This allows them to get well established before winter. Don't plant them after early October in our area.)
- Palms should be planted in the late spring or summer when they are actively growing.
- Grass should be sodded or seeded in mid to late spring whenever possible (We use warm-season grasses that grow vigorously from April-mid October. That is when they should be planted)
- Annuals typically are replaced three times each year (early fall, early spring, early summer) with different types of flowers depending on the weather (Look at what's readily available at garden center and as the Texas Certified Nursery Professional on duty if you are unsure of what to plant.)

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