

(The basis for the following list is a publication of the Native Plant Society of Texas- Houston Chapter. www.npsot.org. Modifications were made by the Pines and Prairies Chapter.)

Native Plants to Use for Exotics/Cultivars Attract Birds and Butterflies!

Grasses/Groundcover:

Native Big Muhly (*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*), instead of Pampas grass

Evergreen Lyreleaf Sage (*Salvia lyrata*) instead of Ajuga

Perennials/Annuals:

Native Indian blanket (*Gaillardia puchella*), instead of dahlias

Native Lanceleaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), Wild Blue Fall Aster (*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*), instead of daisies

Native Lilies: Crinum Lily (*Crinum americanum*), Craig Lily (*Echeandia flavescens*), Rain Lily (*cooperia pedunculata*), Texas Spider Lily (*Hymenocallis liriosme*); instead of Day, Louisiana, or other lilies

Use Native White Gaura (*Oenothera lindheimeri*) in white and pink, Virginia Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*), Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), Tickseed Sunflower (*Bidens aristosa*), or Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) for cut flowers

Vines:

Native Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*); instead of Star Jasmine, Japanese Honeysuckle, or Coral Vine (invasive plant)

Small Shrubs:

Evergreen Native Shrubs: Dwarf Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), Dwarf Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*)

Deciduous Native Shrubs for Sun: Texas Lantana or Calico Bush (*Lantana urticoides*), Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Deciduous Native Shrubs for Shade: American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa*)

americana), Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), Turk's Cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii*),

Instead of Exotics: Wax Leaf Ligustrum, Indian Hawthorn, Boxwood, Privet, Variegated Privet, Chinese Abelia, Oleander, Eleagnus, Nandina, Vitex, Buddleia, Lantana Camara

Large Shrubs:

Evergreen Native Shrubs: Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*, can be shaped into a hedge or topiary see photo), Wax Myrtle (*Morella cerifera*), or Carolina Cherry Laurel (*Prunus caroliniana*, requires pruning to keep it low and bushy)

Deciduous Native Shrubs for Sun: Flame Leaf Sumac (*Rhus copallinum*), Southern Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*, sun to shade, moist soil), Mapleleaf Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*, sun to shade, moist to dry soil), Palmetto (*Sabal minor*, sun to shade, dry to moist soil), Texas Acacia (*Acaciella angustissima*),

Deciduous Native Shrubs for Shade: American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *canadensis*), Strawberry Bush (*Euonymus americanus*), Carolina Buckthorn (*Frangula caroliniana*), Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum (*Viburnum rufidulum*), Black Willow (*Salix nigra*)

Instead of Exotics: Wax Leaf Ligustrum, Red Tip Photinia, Privet, Variegated Privet, Oleander, Eleagnus, Chinese Fringe Tree

Small Trees:

Native Evergreen Trees: Carolina Cherry Laurel (*Prunus caroliniana*), American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)

Native Deciduous Trees: Texas Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* v. *texensis*), Green Hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*), Deciduous Holly (*Ilex decidua*), Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*), Sweet Bay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), Farkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*), Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*), Flame-Leaf Sumac (*Rhus lanceolata*), Hercules Club or Tooth-Ache Tree (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*, spines on bark)

Instead of Exotics: Bradford Pear, Crape Myrtle, Wax Leaf Ligustrum, Red tip Photinia

Medium Sized Trees:

Native Evergreen Trees: American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)

Native Deciduous Trees: Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*), American Hop Hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*), Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*), Common Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), Gum Bumelia (*Sideroxylon lanuginosum*), Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Rough-leaf Dogwood (*Cornus drummondii*), Texas Redbud (*Cercis canadensis v. texensis*, sun, dry soil), Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis v. canadensis*, part-shade, dry soil), Carolina Buckthorn (*Frangula caroliniana*), Drummond Red Maple (*Acer rubrum v. drummondii*), Green Hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*)

Instead of Exotics: Bradford Pear, Chinese Elm (also known as lacebark, Drake, Allee, Bosque Elm), Crape Myrtle, Red tip Photinia, Chinese Tallow, Goldenrain Tree, Chinese Umbrella Tree (also known as Chinaberry Tree or Melia), Mimosa, Nonnative Palm Trees, Zelkova

Tall Trees:

Native Evergreen Trees: Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*), Long Leaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*), Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)

Native Deciduous Trees: Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), Sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*), Water Tupelo (*Nyssa aquatica*), American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), Winged Elm (*Ulmus alata*), Cedar Elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*), Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*), Post Oak (*Quercus stellata*), Shumard Red Oak (*Quercus shumardii*), Southern Red Oak (*Acer rubrum v. drummondii*), Swamp Chestnut Oak (*Quercus michauxii*), Turkey Oak (*Quercus incana*), White Oak (*Quercus alba*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), Nutmeg Hickory (*Quercus incana*), Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*), Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*), Green Swamp Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*)

Instead of Exotics: Chinese Elm (also known as lacebark, Drake, Allee, Bosque Elm), Eucalyptus, Nonnative Palm trees, Goldenrain Tree, Nonnative Sycamore Trees, Sawtooth (Chinese) Oak

Note: Many exotic plants are also invasive plants when introduced into new areas. Invasive plants are environmentally destructive and introducing them to our area can best be avoided by planting native plants, i.e., those that have adapted to our area over thousands of years.