



Natives Instead of Common Exotics (NICE)

Bird and Butterfly Habitat Plants- Shrubs & Trees



Small Shrubs:

Use:

Evergreen Native Shrubs: Dwarf Yaupon Holly, Yaupon Holly, Dwarf Wax Myrtle, Wax Myrtle, or
Deciduous Native Shrubs: Beautyberry, Fragrant Sumac, Buttonbush, Turk's Cap, Texas Lantana

Instead of Exotics:

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

Large Shrubs:

Use:

Evergreen Native Shrubs: Yaupon Holly, Carolina Cherry Laurel, Wax Myrtle or Deciduous Native Shrubs:
Beautyberry, Elderberry, Texas Acacia, Strawberry Bush, Carolina Buckthorn, Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum, Arrow
wood Viburnum, Flame Leaf Sumac, Palmetto, Black Willow

Instead of Exotics:

Wax Leaf Ligustrum, Red Tip Photinia, Privet, Variegated Privet, Oleander, Eleagnus, Chinese Fringe Tree

Small Trees:

Use:

Mexican Plum, Redbud, Green Hawthorn, Deciduous Holly, Cherry Laurel, Wild Crab Apple, American Holly,
Dahoon Holly, Ink-berry Holly, Red Buckeye, Sweet Bay Magnolia, Farkleberry, Smooth Sumac, Flame-Leaf
Sumac, Tooth-Ache Tree

Instead of Exotics:

Bradford Pear, Crape Myrtle, Wax Leaf Ligustrum, Red tip Photinia

Medium Sized Trees:

Use:

Red Buckeye, American Hop Hornbeam, Hornbeam, Gum Bumelia, Flowering Dogwood, Rough-leaf Dogwood,
Mexican Plum, Redbud, Carolina Buckthorn, Drummond Red Maple, Green Hawthorn, American Holly

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:

Use:

Loblolly Pine, Long Leaf Pine, Sweet Gum, Sugarberry, Southern Magnolia, Water Tupelo, American Elm, Winged
Elm, Cedar Elm, Live Oak, Water Oak, Willow Oak, Post Oak, Drummond Red Oak, Southern Red Oak, American
Beech, White Oak, American Sycamore, Bald Cypress, Sweetgum, Swamp Chestnut Oak, Turkey Oak, Pecan,
Nutmeg Hickory, Shagbark Hickory, Black Cherry, Green Ash, White Ash

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

Many exotic plants are also invasive plants. Plants from other areas may become invasive when introduced into new areas. For many reasons, it can take hundreds of years for an exotic plant to be recognized as invasive. Planting invasive plants is environmentally destructive and can best be avoided by planting plants native (adapted over thousands of years) to your location. This is a publication of the Native Plant Society of Texas- Houston Chapter www.npsot.org