

# Water Wise Landscaping For South Texas

These plants require irrigation or rainfall once a month or less to maintain good health and attractive appearance, after a one year establishment period.

## Palms

Chinese Fan  
Mediterranean Fan  
Pygmy Date  
Queens  
Sago  
Texas Sabal  
Washingtonia Robusta  
Windmill

## Trees

Anaqua  
Ash  
Cassia  
Cedar Elm  
Desert Willow  
Huisache  
Junipers (all varieties)  
Lavender (Vitex)  
Live Oak  
Mesquite  
Mexican Plum  
Mountain Laurel  
Orchid Tree  
Poinciana  
Pomegranate  
Redbud  
Retama  
Soapberry  
Southern Wax Myrtle  
Texas Persimmon  
Wild Olive  
Yaupon Holly

## Shrubs

Argarita  
Beauty Berry  
Bird of Paradise  
Bottlebrush  
Bougainvillea  
Cape Honeysuckle  
Compact Myrtle  
Compact Nandina  
Compact Texas Sage  
Cortaderia - Pampas  
Eleagnus  
Esperanza  
Firebush (Hamelia)  
Ginger  
Green Cloud Texas Sage  
Heartleaf Hibiscus  
Hummingbird Bush  
Indian Hawthorn  
Japanese Yew  
Juniper (all varieties)  
Muhly Grass  
Nandina  
Oleander  
Philodendron Selloum  
Pineapple Guava  
Pyracantha  
Red Yucca  
Rock Rose (Pavonia)  
Russelia - Firecracker Bush  
Salvia greggi  
Salvia 'Lady in Red'  
Salvia 'Mexican Bush Sage'

## Shrubs cont'd

Saw Tooth Yucca  
Shrimp Plant  
Soft Tip Yucca  
Spanish Bayonet  
Turks Cap  
Wax Myrtle  
Weeping Yucca  
Yaupon Holly (dwarf)  
Yellow Alder (Turnera)

## Vines

Butterfly Vine  
Carolina Jessamine  
Coral Vine  
Mexican Flame Vine  
Mexican Love Vine  
Sweet Autumn Clematis  
Trumpet Vine  
Virginia Creeper

## Groundcovers

Asian Jasmine  
Asparagus Fern  
Cast Iron Plant  
Daylily  
Dahlberg Daisy  
Foxtail Fern  
Gazania  
Ice Plant  
Junipers  
Lantana  
Mexican Oregano  
Natal Plum  
Oyster Plant  
Rosemary  
Ruellia  
Wandering Jew

### **Plan Your Landscape**

Start by looking at opportunities and potential problems in your landscape, rather than just, “a pretty picture.” Consider play areas, vegetable gardens, shady areas, drainage issues, etc.

### **Soil Preparation**

Plants and turf will always benefit from addition of compost; clay soils will soak up water faster but drain better, and sandy soils will hold on to moisture and nutrients longer when organic material is added.

### **Plant selection**

Choose primarily drought –tolerant and locally adapted plants; cluster desired higher water usage plants together in limited higher maintenance, higher impact areas.

### **Practical turf areas**

Turf is your thirstiest landscape plant, avoid the highest water-requiring varieties and the highest water-requirement areas, e.g. south facing slopes, or curb strips which could be brick pavers instead.

### **Mulch**

Bark mulches, pine straw or other organic mulches slow water loss during drought, increase water percolation during rains or watering, limit weed growth, cool soil temperatures and increase beneficial biological activity in the soil.

### **Watering**

Once plants are well established, water infrequently but deeply. Training roots to go deeper pays dividends in healthier plants and water is saved.

### **Maintenance**

Mow lawns frequently but at a higher level. Fertilize as needed, but not excessively and organic fertilizers will improve moisture retention. Weed control will leave more moisture for desired plants. Keep irrigation systems in good repair and watering schedule appropriate to the season.



**The Plant Professionals**