

## Kerrville Recommended Plant List

The local environment in Kerrville presents a variety of challenges to successful landscaping, including shallow, alkaline soils, high variability in rainfall from year-to-year, and wide temperature extremes. This plant list has been developed as a guideline for the public to assist in the creation of attractive, sustainable landscapes that are drought-tolerant, pest and disease resistant, and long-lasting. These recommended varieties have been carefully selected to ensure compatibility with the local soil and climate conditions, and they include a mix of both native plant species and some non-native plant species which have proven themselves particularly well adapted to the Kerrville area.

The plant varieties selected reflect a strong emphasis on drought-tolerance in order to reduce the need for supplemental watering, helping to conserve limited water resources and aiding in the preservation of the community's lakes, streams, and aquifers. These species are well adapted to Kerrville's rocky, alkaline soils, reducing the need for various soil amendments, fertilizers, and chemical treatments and making the plants more resistant to stresses that can result in disease and plant failure. The recommended species are as follows:

Large Trees	Native/Adaptive	Usual Height (FT.)	Foliage	Comments
Cedar Elm	Native	50	D	Upright growth habit, makes good shade trees
Chinese Pistache	Adaptive	45	D	Fantastic fall color, relatively fast grower, drought tolerant, insect/disease resistant. As of 2019, the non-native is on the official state invasive species list
Cypress	Native	100	D	For moist areas, fall color
Montezuma Cypress	Near-Native	100	D	Cousin to River Cypress, faster grower
Bald Cypress	Native	100	D	For moist areas, fall color
Escarpment Black Cherry	Native	60	D	Spring flowers, golden orange fall color
<i>Maple</i>				
Big Tooth Maple	Native	45	D	Only maple for area, fantastic fall color
Shantung Maple	Adaptive	25	D	A Texas superstar™ tree, red fall color
Mexican Sycamore	Adaptive	50	D	Upright form, attractive green foliage with silvery undersides, round seed balls
<i>Oak Trees</i>				
Bur Oak	Near-Native	80	D	Large, beautiful tree
Chinquapin Oak	Native	50	D	Beautifully shaped shade tree
Lacey Oak	Native	45	D	Attractive blue/gray foliage
Mexican White Oak	Adaptive	75	S	Semi-evergreen, fast growing
Shumard Red Oak	Native	80	D	Outstanding red/crimson fall color, drought tolerant
Southern Live Oak	Native	50	S	Beautiful branch structure, grows well in shade
Pecan	Native	70	D	Need well draining soil, pyramidal crowns, nut producing
Texas Ash	Native	30	D	Strong, long life, good shade tree, attractive fall color

Ornamental Trees	Native/Adaptive	Deer Resistant	Usual Height (FT.)	Foliage	Comments
Crape Myrtle	Adaptive	No	Varies	D	Deciduous, smooth bark, summer flowers, various sizes & colors
Desert Willow	Native	Yes	30	D	Pink or burgundy Orchid-like flowers in summer, full sun
Eve's Necklace	Native	Yes	20	D	Good understory tree, pink spring flowers & interesting seed pods
<i>Holly</i>					
Possumhaw	Native	Yes	15	D	Red berries remain after leaf drop
Weeping Yaupon	Hybrid of Native	Yes	15	E	Pyramidal habit, pendulous branches
Yaupon	Native	Yes	25	E	Excellent small specimen tree, red berries in winter
Lavender Tree (VITEX)	Adaptive	Yes	20	D	Blue Flower Spikes in summer
Loquat	Adaptive	Yes	20	E	Tropical look, moderately drought tolerant
Mexican Buckeye	Native	Yes	20	D	Multitrunk understory tree, pink blooms in spring
Mexican Plum	Native	No	20	D	Understory, white blooms in spring, will need supplemental water during drought
Rusty Blackhaw	Native	Yes	15	D	White flowers, blue/black fruit, understory tree, great fall color
<i>Sumac</i>					
Evergreen	Native	Yes	12	E	White flowers in late summer, red berries in fall
Flame leaf	Native	Yes	20	D	Red fall color, suckers a lot
Texas Madrone	Native	No	30	E	Multi-trunk, understory, slow growing, red berries in fall
Texas Mountain Laurel	Native	Yes	25	E	Purple spring flowers, watch for caterpillars, unusual bark
Texas Persimmon	Native	Yes	30	D	Smooth bark makes interesting specimen, small black edible fruit
Texas Pistache	Native	Yes	20	E	Red berries in fall, multi-trunk
Texas Redbud	Native	Yes	20	D	Pink spring flowers, good understory tree, best if protected from west sun
Vasey Oak	Native	No	25	S	Good specimen tree for small areas, semi evergreen, Holly-like leaves
Wax Myrtle	Adaptive	Yes	12	E	Can tolerate wet areas, but also somewhat drought tolerant

Shrubs	Native/Adaptive	Deer Resistant	Usual Height (FT.)	Foliage	Comments
<i>Abelia</i>					
Dwarf Abelia	Adaptive	Yes	4	E	Medium evergreen with pink flowers in summer
Glossy Abelia	Adaptive	Yes	8	E	Large shrub with white flowers in summer
Acuba	Adaptive	Yes	4	E	Best with variegated leaves, shade
Agarita	Native	Yes	6	E	Holly-like foliage, red berries, yellow flowers in spring, needs good drainage
American Beautyberry	Native	Yes	5	D	Medium shrub, purple fruit in late summer, early fall
Bird of Paradise Bush	Adaptive	Yes	10	D	Large shrub or small tree, spectacular red & yellow flowers in summer
Bridal Wreath Spirea	Adaptive	Yes	6	D	White spring flowers, sprawling growth
Cherry Sage	Native	Yes	3	S	Many colors, prune back in winter
Chile Pequin	Adaptive	Yes	2	D	Grows in sun or shade, hot peppers
Cholla Walking Stick	Native	Yes	5	E	Fast grower, pink flowers in May/June
Crape Myrtle	Adaptive	No	Various, 2-30	D	Summer blooming, various colors

Flame Acanthus	Native	Yes	4	D	Orange/red flowers in summer and fall
Grey Leaf Cotoneaster	Adaptive	Yes	5	E	Large sprawling shrub, dusty gray foliage, xeric
<i>Holly</i>					
Dwarf Burford	Adaptive	Yes	5	E	Compact, red berries in winter, might need iron & sulfur supplements
Dwarf Chinese	Adaptive	Yes	4	E	Compact round shape, red berries in winter, prickly leaves
Dwarf Yaupon	Dwarf form of Native	Yes	3	E	Compact mounding, excellent heat and drought tolerance
"Mary Nell"	Adaptive	Yes	12	E	Upright, heavy berry producer, interesting foliage, may need acid/iron
"Nellie Stevens"	Adaptive	Yes	12	E	Upright, heavy berry producer, may need acid/iron
"Will Fleming" Yaupon	Hybrid of Native	Yes	12 to 15	E	Thin, columnal-shaped, compact, shrub
Honeysuckle (Lonicera albiflora)	Native	No	4	S	White blooms in spring, red berries in fall hard to find in nurseries
Italian Jasmine	Adaptive	Yes	5	E	Sprawling, with yellow flowers
Japanese ligustrum	Adaptive	No	20	E	Very tall shrub for screening
Japanese Yew	Adaptive	Yes	14	E	Tall and graceful, needs shade, may need supplemental water in summer
Juniper	Adaptive	Yes	Various	E	Many varieties, sizes and growth habits, tough
Mexican Silk Tassel	Native	Yes	10	E	Purplish berries into winter, sun to part shade, xeric
<i>Nandina</i>					
Compact	Adaptive	Yes	3 to 5	E	Resembles standard
"Gulf Stream" Nandina	Adaptive	Yes	2 to 4	E	Very compact, attractive hybrid of compact Nandina
Nana	Adaptive	Yes	2	E	Morning sun only, needs good soil, no berries
Standard	Adaptive	Yes	6 to 8	E	Layered look, red/bronze foliage in winter, red berries
Oleander	Adaptive	Yes	10	E	Summer bloomer, red is mostly cold hardy, poisonous
Prickly Pear Cactus	Native	Yes	3	E	Yellow flowers, rosy purple fruit, prickless variety also
Red Leaf Barberry	Adaptive	Yes	5	D	Bronze foliage spring to fall, dwarf available also
Red Yucca	Adaptive	Yes	3	E	Red flower spikes, dark green gras-like leaves, xeric
Rosemary Uprigh	Adaptive	Yes	5	E	Medium to large round shrub, xeric, light blue flowers in spring
Spring Bouquet Viburnum	Adaptive	Yes	6	E	Pinkish white flowers in spring, morning sun best
Texas Barberry	Native	Yes	4	E	Holly-like foliage, yellow flowers in spring, yellow blushed with red berries and bronze foliage in fall
Texas Sage (Compact)	Native	Yes	5	E	Lavender flowers, several varieties exist, very xeric (drought tolerant)
Texas Sotol	Native	Yes	3	E	White flower spikes, xeric
Wax Myrtle Dwarf	Adaptive	Yes	6	E	Can tolerate wet areas but somewhat drought tolerant
Yucca	Native	Yes	Varies	E	Several different varieties and sizes, very xeric

Perennials	Botanical Name	Native/Adaptive	Deer Resistant	Color	Bloom Period	Size
Bitterweed	Hymenoxys Scaposa	Native	Yes	Yellow	Spring to Fall	1'
Blackfoot Daisy	Melampodium leucanthum	Native	Yes	White	Spring to Fall	1'
Brown-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia goldsturm	Native	Yes	Yellow	Spring to Summer	2'
Butterfly Bush	Buddlei davidii	Adaptive	Yes	Purple/blue/yellow	Spring to Fall	3-6'
Butterfly Weed	Asclepias tuberosa	Native	Yes	Orange	Summer to Fall	2-3'
Copper Canyon Daisy	Tagetes lemmonii	Adaptive	Yes	Yellow	Fall	3'
Coreopsis	Coreopsis sp.	Native	Yes	Yellow, orange	Spring to Fall	1'
Fall Aster	Aster sp.	Native	No	Purple	Fall	3-4'
False Plumbaginoides	Ceratostigna plumbaginoides	Adaptive	No	Blue	Summer to Fall	2'
Gaura lindheimeri	Gaura lindheimeri	Native	Yes	White/pink	Spring to Fall	3'
Hill Country Penstemon	Penstemon triflorus	Native	Yes	Magenta	Spring	1-2'
Hinckley's Columbine	Aquilegia hinkleyana	Native	Yes	Yellow	Early Spring	18"
Indian Blanket	Gaillardia sp.	Native	Yes	Red, yellow	Spring to Fall	18"
Iris	Iridaceae sp.	Adaptive	Yes	Various	Spring	2'
Lantana	Lantana sp.	Adaptive/Native	Yes	Many colors	Spring to Fall	1-4'
Lily of the Nile	Agapanthus sp.	Adaptive	Yes	Blue/white	Summer	2'
Lindheimer Butterflies	Lindheimer Butterflies	Native	Yes	White/pink	Spring to Fall	3'
Mexican Mint Marigold	Tagetes lucida	Adaptive	Yes	Yellow	Fall	2'
Mexican Oregano	Poliomenantha longiflora	Native	Yes	Pink	Summer	1-2'
Mexican Petunia	Ruellia brittoniana	Adaptive	No	Blue/pink/or white	Summer to Fall	3'
Dwarf Mexican Petunia	Ruellia brittoniana "Katie"	Adaptive	No	Blue/pink/or white	Summer to Fall	6"-1'
Narcissus	Amaryllidaceae sp.	Adaptive	Yes	White/yellow	Spring	18"
Powis Castle Artemesia	Artemesia pontica	Adaptive	Yes	Silver foliage	N/A	3-4'
Purple Coneflower	Echinacea angustifolia	Native	No	Pink	Spring to Fall	2'

Rock Rose	Pavonia lasiopetala	Native	No	Pink	Spring to Fall	3-4'
Russian Sage	Perovskia atriplicifolia	Adaptive	Yes	Blue/lavender	Summer to Fall	3-4'
<i>Sage (Salvia)</i>						
Mealy Blue Sage	Salvia farinacea	Native	Yes	Blue/purple	Spring to Fall	2'
Mexican Bush Sage	Salvia leucantha	Adaptive	Yes	Blue/purple	Spring to Fall	3-4'
Scarlett Sage	Salvia coccinea	Native	Yes	Red	Spring to Fall	2'
<i>Skullcap</i>						
Pink	Scutellaria sufrutescens	Adaptive	Yes	Pink	Spring to Fall	1'
Purple	Scutellariawrightii	Native	Yes	Purple	Spring to Fall	1'
Society Garlic	Tulbaghia violalea	Native	Yes	Lavender	Spring to Fall	1'
Square-bud Primrose	Calylophys berlandieri	Native	No	Yellow	Spring to Fall	1-2'
Turk's Cap	Malvaviscus arboreus	Native	Yes	Red	Spring to Fall	3-5'
Verbena	Verbena sp.	Native	Yes	Many colors	Spring to Fall	6"-1'
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	Native	Yes	White/yellow	Spring to Summer	1-2'
Zexmania	Wedelia hispida	Native	Yes	Orange	Late Summer to Fall	1-2'

Ornamental Grasses	Botanical Name	Color	Bloom Period	Size
Pampas Grass	Cortaderia selloana	White	Summer to Fall	5-8'
Maiden Grass	Miscanthus sinensis	Copper	Summer to Fall	4-5'
Purple Muhly Grass	Muhlenbergia filipes	Violet/tan	Summer to Fall	2-3'
Lindheimer's Muhly Grass (Native)	Muhlenbergia lindheimeria	Straw	Summer to Fall	3'
Bear Grass (Native)	Nolina texana	White/straw	Summer to Fall	1'
Blue Fescue	Festuca glauca	Blue foliage	N/A	6-12"
Side Oats Grama (The State Grass of Texas)	Bouteloua curtipendula	Purple tinted	Spring to Fall	1-2'

Note: All Ornamental Grasses listed are deer resistant

Lawn Grasses	Comments
Bermuda (Common)	Non-native but acts like one. Will go dormant during drought and green up again with rain. Takes more water than Buffalo grass to stay green. Somewhat subject to housing chiggers. Some hybrids (ex. 419 Bermuda) make a better lawn than common. Biggest problem of all Bermudas is that they spread by underground rhizomes, therefore virtually impossible to keep out of beds.
Buffalo Grass	Native, spreading, most drought tolerant, requires less care than others
St. Augustine	Spreading non-native. Best variety here is Raleigh. Best planted in filtered to part shade. Least drought tolerant of all grasses in full sun. Subject to die back in cold weather. Numerous disease & insect problems.
Zoysia	Spreading non-native, number of varieties. Best is Jamur, which looks like a dwarf St. Augustine. Best in filtered or partial shade. More cold & drought tolerant, fewer insect problems than St. Augustine.

Groundcovers	Botanical Name	Deer Resistant	Native/Adaptive	Foliage	Comments
"Harbor Dwarf" Nandina	Nandina "Harbor Dwarf"	Yes	Adaptive	E	Red/bronze color in fall
Ajuga	Ajuga reptans	No	Adaptive	E	Best in shade, blue/purple flowers
Asian Jasmine	Trachelospermum asiaticum	No	Adaptive	E	Makes dense 'carpet'
Blue Shade	Ruellia caroliniensis	No	Adaptive	D	Blue petunia-like flowers spring to fall, part sun to shade
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Yes	Adaptive	E	Shade loving vine
Green Santolina	Santolina virens	Yes	Adaptive	E	Drought tolerant, green lacy foliage, yellow flowers
Grey Santolina	Santolina chamaeopyrissus	Yes	Adaptive	E	Drought tolerant, gray lacy foliage, yellow flowers
Gregg Dalea	Dalea greggii	Yes	Native	D	Beautiful silvery blue foliage, purple flowers May to Sept., very xeric
Liriope	Liriope muscari	No	Adaptive	E	Grass-like, variegated and giant varieties exist
Mondo/Monkey grass	Ophiogon japonicus	Yes	Adaptive	E	Narrow grass-like foliage for shade, dwarf variety too
Moss Pink/Thrift	Phlox subulata	Yes	Adaptive	D	Pink/blue flowers in early spring
Prostrate Juniper	Juniperus horizontalis	Yes	Adaptive	E	Rugged, several varieties, will not tolerate wet sites, not for shade
Prostrate Rosemary	Rosemarinus officinalis	Yes	Adaptive	E	Drought tolerant, blue flower, marginal in unusual cold
River Fern	Dryopteris normalis	Yes	Native	D	Needs shade and moist soil
Southern Wood Fern	Thelypteris sunthii	Yes	Native	D	Needs shade and moist soil
Trailing Silver Germander	Teucrium cossonii	Yes	Adaptive	E	Creeping, blue silver foliage, purple flowers in spring
Vinca	Vinca major	Yes	Adaptive	E	Loose airy evergreen, blue flowers, shade, occasional caterpillars

Vines	Botanical Name	Deer Resistant	Native/Adaptive	Foliage	Comments
Carolina Jessamine	Gelsemium sempervirens	Yes	Adaptive	E	Yellow spring flowers, watch for leaf spot
Confederate Jasmine	Trachelospermum jasminoides	No	Adaptive	E	Fragrant spring flowers, don't plant on north side
Coral Honeysuckle	Lonicera sempervirens	No	Native	S	Coral/red flowers except in winter
Crossvine	Bignonia capreolata	No	Native	S	Red/yellow tubular flowers in spring
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Yes	Adaptive	E	Shade, can be used as a groundcover too

Lady Banksia rose	Rosa banksia	No	Adaptive	S	Spring blooming white or yellow, quite drought tolerant, huge, can be trained
Trumpet Vine	Campsis radicans	Yes	Native	D	Orange/red tubular flowers in summer, suckers a lot
Virginia Creeper	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Yes	Native	D	Clings to walls easily, red/orange fall color
Westeria	Wisteria sp.	No	Adaptive	D	Aggressive vine, blue flowers in spring, may need acid/iron

Legend: D = Deciduous, E = Evergreen, S = Semi-Evergreen