

Suggested Landscape Plants for Brazos County

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- * Brazos County's physical features are predominantly alkaline, loamy, dark surface soils and clay subsoils.
- * The climate includes 39.1 inches average annual rainfall, average January minimum temperature of 39° F, average July maximum temperature of 94° F, average first freeze date is November 29, average last freeze date February 27.
- * The county is in USDA Hardiness Zone 9a, with 120-150 days at or above 88° F.
- * Water, whether municipal or well, is typically alkaline and has a Total Dissolved Solids averaging 500-550 parts per million, of which ~ 200 parts per million is dissolved sodium.
- * Criteria: 1) selection of plants is based on availability. 2) Shrubs that have dwarf varieties are listed separately. 3) Selection assumes that user has alkaline soil and does not include plants requiring acidic soil. 4) Size is average for the species based on local weather conditions. 5) Water needs assume that plant is established.
- * Native plants are indicated by an asterisk (*) after the common name. Light: S=Sun; PS=Part Sun; Sh=Shade.

Water Needs: L=Low; M=Medium; H=High

Edging and Groundcover

Common Name(s)	Botanical Name	Size	Light	Water Needs	Flower Color	Blooms	Description/Notes
Ajuga, Carpet Bugleweed	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	4" - 6"	PS Sh	M-H	blue	spr	Evergreen matlike groundcover. Bronze leaf varieties: 'Bronze Beauty', 'Caitlin's Giant' (8" flower spikes), 'Burgundy Glow' (cream, pink foliage)
Asiatic Jasmine	<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	12" - 18"	S PS Sh	L	white	spr	Small, dark green, leathery leaf; creates a dense, fast growing, evergreen groundcover
Asparagus Fern	<i>Asparagus</i> spp.	1' - 2'	PS Sh	M	white	sum	Long arching stems with airy, light green foliage. Not a true fern. Cold tender groundcover
Aztec Grass	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	1' - 2'	PS Sh	L	white	sum	Evergreen perennial; grass-like edging/groundcover; green and silver variegated foliage
Dalea, Gregg *	<i>Dalea greggii</i>	6" - 12"	S	L	purple	sum-fall	Silver-green airy foliage. Useful on slopes; winter hardy; well-drained dry soils; open growth
Juniper	<i>Juniperus conferta</i>	18" x 6'	S PS	L	NA	NA	Spreading evergreen shrub. Dense blue-green needled foliage; cold tolerant. Variety: 'Blue Pacific'.
Juniper 'Nana'	<i>Juniperus procumbens</i>	1' x 6'	S PS	L	NA	NA	Dwarf evergreen shrub like a groundcover. Spiny blue- or gray-green needles. Variety: 'Green Mound'.
Liriope	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	10" - 18"	PS Sh	M	purple spikes	sum	Grass-like evergreen edging/groundcover. Shear in spring. Varieties: 'Majestic', 'Variegata', 'Big Blue'. <i>Liriope spicata</i> is aggressive.
Mondo Grass	<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	8" - 16"	PS Sh	M	white	sum	Grass-like edging/groundcover; requires fertile, well-drained soil. Dwarf form available.

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Purple Heart	<i>Setcreasea pallida</i>	12" - 18"	S Sh	L	pale pink	spr-fall	Sprawling cold tender groundcover; deep purple foliage; small flowers.
Rain Lily	<i>Zephyranthes candida</i>	8" - 10"	S PS	M	white, pink	sum-fall	Evergreen edging or border plant; long, thin foliage. Blooms after rain. Planted as bulbs that naturalize with some re-seeding.
Silver Ponyfoot *	<i>Dichondra argentea</i>	2" x 3'	S PS	L	NA	NA	Silver, round-leaved foliage on runners; requires good drainage; can grow aggressively; can over winter in mild years, otherwise perennial.
Verbena	<i>Verbena x hybrida</i>	1' x 3'	S	L	purple	spr-sum	Perennial evergreen trailing groundcover. 'Homestead Purple' is a Texas Superstar.
Vinca, Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	6" - 12"	PS Sh	L	purple, white, blue	spr-sum	Dark green-leaved groundcover. Spreads by trailing rooting shoots. <i>Vinca major</i> is aggressively growing form (pink, red, white flowers)
Wedelia	<i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	1' - 3'	S PS	L	yellow	sum-fall	Vigorous creeping evergreen groundcover; forms thick mat that can be maintained at 2'-3' tall.
Wooly Stemodia *	<i>Stemodia lanata</i>	1' x 2'	S PS	L	lavender	spr-fall	Evergreen groundcover with silvery whitish grey foliage. Needs good drainage. Delicate tiny blooms.
Ornamental Grasses							
Bluestem, Little *	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	2'	S	L	tan	fall	Bunchgrass with slender blue-green foliage; fine textured, finger-like seed heads; striking, mahogany fall color.
Feathergrass, Mexican	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	1' - 2'	S	L	tan	NA	Bunching grass with hairlike foliage that yellows with age. Re-seeds summer to fall.
Fountain Grass, Dwarf	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>	2' - 3'	S	L-M	tan	sum, fall	Small, tender; for mass plantings, borders. Needs moisture in dry periods. Varieties: 'Hameln', 'Little Bunny' (1'x2'), 'Piglet' (2'x3').
Fountain Grass, Purple	<i>Pennisetum setaceu</i>	3' - 4'	S PS Sh	L	tan	fall	Lush, deep-purple foliage; in ground or container; cold tender perennial.
Inland Sea Oats *	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	2' - 4'	PS Sh	M	green	sum	Graceful drooping oat-like seed heads; freely re-seeds; useful in woodland areas; tolerates moisture.
Maiden Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	varies	S PS	L	varies	sum-fall	Clump-forming; slender, 1/2" wide leaves arch from the ground. Varietal heights range from 2' to 8'.
Muhly, Bamboo	<i>Muhlenbergia dumosa</i>	4' - 5'	S PS	L	tan	late sum-win	Delicate, light green, airy foliage. Attractive, tall mounding shape. Cold tender. Fine textured seed stalks.
Muhly, Deer*	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	3' - 4'	S PS	L	yellow	late sum-fall	Robust, drought tolerant grass; upright blooms, resembles pampas grass.
Muhly, Gulf*	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	18" - 3'	S PS	L	pink seed heads	fall	Narrow blade foliage with wispy, pink plumes in late summer to fall. Re-seeds.
Muhly, Lindheimer's *	<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	2' - 6'	S PS	L	tan	fall	Blue-green foliage. Purplish flower spikes that age to silvery beige. Cold tolerant.
Napier Grass	<i>Pennisetum x</i>	4' - 6'	S	L	maroon		Wide deep-purple leaves. No seeds. Heat/drought tolerant. Texas Superstar 'Princess Caroline' - no bloom.
Switchgrass *	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3' - 8'	S	L	beige	fall	Tall blue- or olive-green foliage. Delicate flower spike. Can grow aggressively. Tolerates wet conditions.

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Small Shrubs (1ft to 3ft)							
Boxwood, Small-leaved	<i>Buxus sinica</i> var. <i>insularis</i>	2' - 4'	S PS	M	yellow	spr	Glossy evergreen; tolerates pruning; best sited in morning sun. Avoid disturbing shallow roots. Varieties: 'Wintergreen', 'Winter Gem', 'Baby Gem'. Japanese and Korean cultivars are suggested.
Indian Hawthorne	<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	2' - 3'	S PS	M	pink, white	spr	Mounding evergreen with dark green leathery foliage. Varieties: 'Minor', 'Georgia Petite'; 'Indian Princess'.
Juniper, Japanese 'Nana'	<i>Juniperus procumbens</i>	1' x 8'	S PS	L	NA	NA	Evergreen, with needled blue-green foliage; slow, horizontal growth. Varieties: 'Blue Shore', 'Blue Creeper'.
Nandina, Dwarf	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	1' - 3'	PS Sh	M	NA	NA	Attractive foliage, grows densely. Varieties: 'Harbour Dwarf', 'Nana Purpurea', 'Nana', 'Fire Power' colorful evergreen foliage.
Rosemary, Prostrate	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	1' - 3'	S	L-M	blue, lavender	sum	Evergreen with aromatic, needle-like foliage, trailing growth habit. Many varieties.
Yaupon Holly, Dwarf *	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	3' - 4'	S PS	L-M	NA	NA	Dense evergreen with round form; some size variation among varieties: 'Compacta', 'Bordeaux'-aka-'Condeaux', 'Nana', 'Stokes'-aka-'Schillings'.
Shrub-like:							
Aspidistra or Iron Plant	Cast- <i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	2' - 3'	PS Sh	L	NA	NA	Evergreen perennial, grows in clumps of long 18-20", dark green, broad, erect leaves.
Holly Fern	<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	2' - 3'	PS Sh	L-M	NA	NA	Evergreen fern with dark-green shiny fronds of holly-like leaflets; cold hardy.
Red Yucca*	<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	2' - 3'	S	L	pink, red, salmon	NA	Evergreen, dark green rosette of long, thin leaves rising fountain-like from the base; long bloom spikes.
Foxtail Fern 'Myersii'	<i>Asparagus densiflorus</i>	2' - 3'	PS Sh	L-M	white	NA	Semi-evergreen, erect, bottlebrush-like stems hold soft, needle-like leaves; red berries in fall; useful in containers.
Medium Shrubs (3ft to 6ft)							
Abelia	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	3' - 6'	S PS	M	pink, white	sum - fall	Evergreen or variegated. Light pruning required. Varieties: 'Frances Mason', 'Edward Goucher', 'Sherwoodii', 'Canyon Creek', 'Mardi Gras', 'Compact'.
American Beautyberry *	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	4' - 6'	PS Sh	L	pink	sum	Attractive, light green, deciduous; magenta-colored berries in fall. Small, delicate flower clusters. Prefers dependable moisture.
Barbados Cherry, dwarf *	<i>Malpighia glabra</i>	3' - 6'	S PS	L	pink	spr - fall	Delicate, semi-evergreen foliage grows in mound-like form. Small pink flowers are followed by bright red fruits favored by birds.
Bottlebrush, dwarf	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	3' - 4'	S	L-M	red	spr, sum, fall	Cold-tender; whorled blue-green foliage. Variety 'Little John' is small version of standard size. Cold hardy with some leaf damage below freezing.
Cotoneaster, Grey Leaf	<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	3' - 5'	S PS	L-M	white	spr	Evergreen, with small greyish green leaves; very small flowers; red berries persist through winter.

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Holly, dwarf Burford	<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	4' - 6'	S PS	M	white	spr	Compact form of 'Burford Holly', dark evergreen foliage with red berries.
Indian Hawthorn	<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	3' - 5'	S PS Sh	L-M	white, pink	spr	Rounded form evergreen. Compact growth habit. Varieties with some disease resistance: 'Clara', 'Snow White', 'Ballerina', 'Pinkie', 'Springtime'.
Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	4' - 6'	S PS	L	NA		Compact, evergreen with fountain-like form. Arching branches of dark, mint-green foliage. Variety: 'Sea Green'.
Nandina	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	3' - 5'	PS Sh	L-M	white	spr	Evergreen; bronze-colored new growth turns reddish in winter. Varieties: 'Compacta' (red berries) and 'Gulf Stream'. Procure sterile varieties.
Palmetto, Texas dwarf *	<i>Sabal minor</i>	4' - 5'	PS Sh	M	white	spr	Ground-hugging, rugged palm; pale green to bluish fan-like evergreen leaves on spineless stems.
Pittosporum, dwarf	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	3' - 4'	S PS	M	cream	spr	Evergreen compact shrub, with a low, rounded form, 'Wheeler's Dwarf'. Variegated form available.
Rose, Earth-Kind ®	<i>Rosa</i>	3' - 5'	S PS	M	varies	spr, sum, fall	Disease- & pest-resistant. Varieties to prune to size: 'Knock Out', 'Marie Daly', 'The Fairy', 'Belinda's Dream', 'Perle d' Or'.
Rosemary, upright	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	3' - 5'	S	L	blue, white	spr - fall	Woody perennial herb, fragrant evergreen, needle-like leaves; well-drained soil; cold tolerant. Varieties: 'Arp', 'Hill Hardy'.
Texas Sage or Cenizo *	<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	4' - 6'	S	L	purple, pink	sum - fall	Flowers periodically. Silver foliage. Evergreen; drought tolerant; well-drained soil. Varieties: 'Compacta', 'Silverado'; <i>L. langmaniae</i> 'Lowery's Legacy'.
Thyallis 'Golden Showers'	<i>Galphimia glauca</i>	4' - 5'	S	M	yellow	spr - frost	Semi-evergreen; handsome bronzy foliage. Upright, open form. Cold hardy
Viburnum, Walter	<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	4' - 5'	PS Sh	M	white clusters	late winter	Semi-evergreen to deciduous; dense small leaves; flower clusters followed by shiny red to black berries. 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight' 2-4 feet
Wax Myrtle, dwarf *	<i>Morella pusilla</i>	4' - 5'	S PS	L	white	spr	Airy, aromatic evergreen, with yellow-green foliage. Variety: 'Don's Dwarf'.
Large Shrubs (6ft to 20ft)							
Abelia	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	6' - 8'	S PS	M	white with pink tinge	spr to sum	Semi-evergreen; glossy dark green leaves. Fragrant funnel-shaped flowers. Variety: 'Glossy Abelia'. Persistent ornamental sepals.
Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	10' - 15'	S	M	red	spr, sum	Drought tolerant in well drained soil. Blue-green whorled, semi-evergreen foliage. Many varieties. Some foliage damage in sub-freezing temperatures.
Cleyera	<i>Ternstroemia gymnanthera</i>	6' - 8'	PS Sh	M	white	spr	Glossy, evergreen leathery leaves with new growth turning from red to bronze as the leaves age.
Elaeagnus or Silverberry	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	8' - 12'	S PS	L	silver-white	fall	Evergreen, olive-gray leaves, on long arching branches in a mounded form; grows aggressively.
Holly	<i>Ilex</i> x	10' - 12'	S PS	M	white	spr	Dark green serrated evergreen leaves and loads of red berries. More berries with a male pollenizer. Look for: 'Patriot Red', 'Liberty', or 'Robin'.

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Holly, Nellie R. Stevens	<i>Ilex cornuta x aquifolium</i>	10' - 15'	S PS	L-M	white	spr	Dense evergreen, pyramidal form, red berries with pollinator, May be pruned as a tree form or used as hedge.
Holly, Chinese / Burford	<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	8' - 10'	S PS	M	white	spr	Dense evergreen with dark green leaves. Bright red berries, last into winter. Some varieties do not reliably produce berries.
Holly, Foster's	<i>Ilex x attenuata</i>	15' - 20'	S PS	M	white	spr	Vigorous spreading evergreen. Bears abundant, large, orange-red berries. 'Savannah' or 'East Palatka'.
Jasmine, Primrose	<i>Jasminum mesnyi</i>	6' - 7'	S PS	L	yellow	late winter to spr	Old-fashioned evergreen, with fountain-like, long, slender arching stems. Fast growing.
Juniper, Chinese	<i>Juniperous chinensis</i>	7' - 10'	S PS	L	NA	NA	Pyramidal form, extremely dense branching, blue-green, needle and scale-like foliage 'Blue Point'.
Myrtle, Southern Wax *	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	10' - 15'	S PS	M	white	sum	An evergreen, upright shrub with small leaves. Ideal for hedge and may be pruned.
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	varies	S	L	varies	sum	Typically large, rounded, dense evergreen, semi-upright shrubs. Some dwarf varieties available. Heat and drought tolerant. All parts poisonous.
Photinia, Redtip	<i>Photinia x fraseri</i>	10' - 15'	S	L	white	spr	Evergreen shrub with bright red new growth. Susceptible to fungal disease. Useful as hedge; may be pruned.
Pineapple Guava	<i>Acca sellowiana</i>	8' - 12'	S PS	L-M	pink	spr or early sum	Handsome evergreen, with grey green foliage; can be trained as a small tree; edible fruit.
Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	8' - 12'	S PS	L	white	spr	Tough, evergreen shrub growing in a mounded form with whorled foliage; salt tolerant; well drained soil.
Pomegranate	<i>Punica granatum</i>	12' - 15'	S PS	M	orange	sum	Semi-evergreen, dense shrub. Some varieties bear edible fruit. Dwarf and non-fruiting varieties available.
Senna, Flowering	<i>Cassia corymbosa</i>	5' - 6'	S	M	yellow	sum to fall	Semi-evergreen, dark green leaves. Showy bloomer. Attracts butterflies. Cold hardy. Re-seeds.
Viburnum, Walter	<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	8' - 20'	PS Sh	L	white	late winter	Evergreen. Handsome foliage can be pruned or sheared; many cultivars.
Yew, Japanese	<i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	10' - 20'	S PS Sh	M	light yellow	spr	Evergreen, columnar form shrub that takes well to shearing. Flat, needle like, dark green leaves. Height varies: 'Maki' does not grow as tall as species.

Small Trees (10ft to 20ft)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size	Light	Water Needs	Flower Color	Blooms	Description/Notes
Buckeye, Mexican *	<i>Ungnadia speciosa</i>	8' - 12'	S PS	L	pink, purple	early spr	Deciduous; open multi-stemmed. Interesting seed pods. Dry site preferred.
Chaste Tree or Vitex	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	10' - 20'	S PS	L	varies	sum	Deciduous; multi-trunk large shrub/small tree. Terminal spikes of fragrant flowers. Self-seeding.
Cherry Laurel *	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	25' - 30'	PS Sh	L	white, cream	late winter to spr	Evergreen; fast growing; clusters of small white flowers. Excellent tall hedge. May be pruned.
Chinese Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	15' - 20'	PS Sh	M	white	spr	Deciduous. Upright branching, deciduous "tree" with shrublike growth. Both male and females bloom, with small fruit on females.

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Crapemyrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> , <i>Lagerstroemia x fauriei</i>	<3' - >20'	S PS	M	many	sum	Deciduous. Multi-trunked. Bark exfoliates on some varieties. Long bloom period. Variety lists: http://www.clemson.edu/crapemyrtle ; http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/databases/crapemyrtle
Cypress, Arizona	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	15' - 20'	S	L	NA	NA	Evergreen. Tightly growing; silvery blue; conical. Widely adapted. Look for 'Blue Ice'.
Holly, Possumhaw *	<i>Ilex decidua</i>	10' - 15'	S PS	L	red berries	spr	Deciduous; multi-trunked, with leaves similar to yaupon holly. Persistent red berries on female plants from November to March.
Holly, Yaupon *	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	15' - 25'	S PS	L	red berries	spr	Evergreen; multi-trunked. Red berries during winter on female plants. Flowers are not notable.
Hop Tree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	15' - 20'	S PS	M	greenish-white	spr	Deciduous. Blooms have a citrus scent. Host plant for caterpillars. Adapted to most soils. Attracts butterflies.
Kidneywood, Texas	<i>Eysenhardtia texana</i>	up to 15'	S	L	white	sum	Deciduous. Open, airy, shrublike tree with finely divided leaves. Fragrant flowers of 3-4 inch bloom spikes. Attractive bark.
Mountain Laurel, Texas *	<i>Dermatophyllum secundifloru</i>	10' - 12'	S PS	L	purple	spr	Evergreen. Slow growing. Often multi-trunked, with shrublike form. Exceptionally fragrant, pendulous blooms. Requires well drained soil.
Plum, Mexican *	<i>Prunus mexicana</i>	15' - 20'	PS Sh	L-M	white	spr	Deciduous. Edible fruit. Needs good drainage. Best grown as an understory tree.
Redbud, 'Oklahoma'	<i>Cercis reniformis</i>	10' - 15'	PS Sh	M	pinkish purple	spr	Deciduous. Moderate grower. Blossoms cover the branches in spring. Attractive glossy leaves.
Redbud, Texas *	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>texensis</i>	10' - 15'	PS Sh	M	pink to magenta	spr	Deciduous. Vivid pink flowers cover the branches in spring. Very glossy, dark-green foliage has wavy edges.
Viburnum, Rusty Blackhaw *	<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	15' - 20'	PS Sh	L	white	late spr	Deciduous. Glossy leaves; fragrant flowers, blue berries, and fall color.
Whitebud, Texas *	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>texensis</i>	10' - 15'	PS Sh	L	white	spr	Deciduous. White flowering form of the Texas Redbud.
Large Trees							
Ash, Texas *	<i>Fraxinus texensis</i>	40' - 50'	S	L	N/A		Deciduous; relatively fast growing tree that requires good drainage. Note: 'Arizona Ash (<i>Fraxins velutina</i>) is not suggested.
Cedar, Eastern Red *	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	40' - 50'	S	M	N/A		Evergreen juniper with upright growth form. Good screen plant. Foliage turns bronze in cold weather.
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	50' - 60'	S PS	L	N/A		Deciduous; noted for fall color; moderately fast growth, with male specimens preferred for overall performance.
Cypress, Bald *	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	40' - 60'	S PS	L-H	N/A		Deciduous; likes deep, moist soils. Foliage may brown in heat and drought; notable fall color. Small conelike fruit.
Cypress, Montezuma	<i>Taxodium mucronatum</i>	40' - 60'	S PS	L-H	N/A		Semi-evergreen; likes deep, moist soils. Foliage may brown in heat and drought; notable fall color. Small conelike fruit.
Desert Willow *	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	15' - 30'	S PS	L	N/A	spr to fall	Deciduous airy foliage; trumpet-shaped 3" long flower; well-drained site; open form.
Elm, Cedar *	<i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	to 90'	S PS	L	N/A		Deciduous; upright growing; can withstand heavy, poorly drained or compacted clay soils. Fall color.

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Elm, Lacebark	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	40' - 50'	S	M	N/A	N/A	Deciduous; grows relatively fast; fall color. Draping shape requires formative pruning. Handsome bark. Variety 'Drake'.
Oak, Bur*	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	to 70'	S	L-M	N/A	N/A	Deciduous and very adaptable. Needs lots of space and deep soil. Moderate growth rate.
Oak, Chinquapin *	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	to 70'	S	M	N/A	N/A	Deciduous. Stately form. Good for deeper soils. Requires additional water until established. Moderate growth rate.
Oak, Live *	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	to 80'	S	M	N/A	N/A	Evergreen; best used in open spaces. Main leaf drop is in early spring.
Oak, Mexican/ Monterrey *	<i>Quercus polymorpha</i>	to 40'	S	M	N/A	N/A	Semi-evergreen with medium sized leaves. Prefers deep soil. Sheds some leaves in spring when new leaves emerge.
Pecan *	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	to 100'	S	H	N/A	N/A	Deciduous; nut-producing. Best in good, deep soils. Performs better with deep watering. State Tree of Texas.
Sycamore, Mexican	<i>Platanus mexicana</i>	50' - 60'	S PS	M	N/A	N/A	Deciduous; upright; fairly rapid growth. Handsome, peeling bark, large leaves with silvery underside and round, ping-pong ball sized fruit.
Agave-Cacti-Succulents							
Agave, Century Plant	<i>Agave americana</i>	6' - 10'	S PS	L	white	spr	Temperatures below 15° can cause damage. Plant blooms and dies. Watch out for leaf tip spines. Habitat for birds and small animals.
Hens and Chicks	<i>Graptopetalum paraguayense</i>	8" x 20"	S PS	L	white	spr	Silvery, blue-gray, fleshy foliage in a rosette form, grows at the tips of stems. Good as groundcover and in containers.
Cactus, Prickly Pear *	<i>Opuntia</i> spp.	3' - 4'	S	L	yellow	late spr to sum	Pads (edible flattened stems) covered in spines, grow in clumps or mounds. Prefers well-drained alkaline soil. Some species are spineless.
Iceplant	<i>Aptenia cordifolia</i> x <i>haeckeliana</i>	6" x 3'	S	L	red	late spr to fall	Mat-forming perennial. Heart-shaped green leaves; bright red multi-rayed flowers. Well-drained soil. Should be covered if frost is expected.
Sotol*	<i>Dasylirion wheeleri</i>	5' - 6'	S	L	yellow	sum	Drought tolerant desert plant. Rosette of arching, blue-green leaves with toothed margins. Requires good drainage. 10' flower spikes.
Yucca, Softleaf *	<i>Yucca recurvifolia</i>	3' - 4'	S PS	M	white, cream	sum	Soft, pliable foliage. Deer eat blooms but not foliage.
Vines							
Blue Sky Flower	<i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i>	to 20'	S PS	M	blue	sum	Vigorous evergreen. This plant can climb 20' onto supporting structures or trees.
Butterfly Vine	<i>Mascagnia macroptera</i>	6' x 12'	S PS	L	yellow	sum to fall	Thrives in the heat. Prefers well-drained soil; very drought tolerant. Semi-evergreen depending on winter temperatures.
Carolina Jessamine *	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	6' - 20'	S PS	L	yellow	early spr	Twining vine. Flowers in late winter-early spring. Attracts hummingbirds.
Clematis	<i>Clematis</i> spp.	4' - 30'	S PS	M	varies	spr to fall	Deciduous to semi-evergreen. Many species and cultivars. Keep roots cool in shade, top in sun. Provide a structure for climbing.
Coralvine	<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	6' - 30'	S PS	L	varies	late sum and fall	Rapidly growing climber that holds on by tendrils. Quickly covers a structure. Dies back in winter.

Suggested Landscape Plants for Brazos County

Common Name(s)	Botanical Name	Size	Light	Water Needs	Flower Color	Blooms	Description/Notes
Crossvine*	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	6' - 30'+	S PS	M	yellow or coral	spr	Tendrill vine attaches to trellis. Aggressive climber. Attracts hummingbirds. 'Tangerine Beauty'.
Fig Ivy	<i>Ficus pumila</i>	25' - 30'	S PS	M	N/A	N/A	Evergreen, self-clinging, vigorous dense foliage clings firmly to surface.
Honeysuckle, Coral *	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	6' - 12'	S PS	L	coral	spr to sum	Tubular blooms attract hummingbirds. Suitable for smaller structures. Semi-evergreen.
Jasmine, Confederate	<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	12' - 16'	S PS	L	white	spr to sum	Fragrant bloom. Glossy leaves. Aggressive in shady areas. Semi-evergreen.
Perennials							
Sage, Mexican Bush	<i>Salvia leucantha</i>	4' - 5'	S	L	purple, white, blue	late sum to fall	Silver-green, lance-like foliage. An all purple variety is available.
Shrimp Plant	<i>Justicia brandegeana</i>	2' - 3'	S PS	L - M	coral-red, yellow-green	sum-fall	Open growth form, with shrimp-shaped blooms borne above light green foliage.
Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria suffrutescens</i>	1' - 3'	S PS	L	varies	sum	Low growing covered in small blooms. Mounding plant with tidy appearance.
Sky Flower or Duranta	<i>Duranta erecta</i>	4' - 10'	S PS	M	blue, white, yellow	sum	Fine texture. Prefers well-drained soil. More flowers in full sun. Cold tender.
Society Garlic	<i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>	1' - 2'	S PS		pink, lavender, white	spr to sum	Dainty heads of flowers on stalks rise above clumps of foliage. Brushing against plants gives garlic fragrance.
Sweet Violet	<i>Viola odorata</i>	6" - 8"	PS Sh	L	violet	winter to spr	Evergreen, becoming semi-dormant during summer, but comes back in cool temperatures; prefer moist, well drained rich soil.
Spiderwort *	<i>Tradescantia</i> spp.	1' - 3'	PS Sh	M	purple, pink, white	spr	Clump forming sword-shaped leaves; flowers borne on talk stalks. Dormant summer to fall, with winter emergence.
Turk's Cap *	<i>Malvastrum arboreus</i> var. <i>drummondii</i>	3' - 4'	PS Sh	L	red, white	late spr to fall	Light, open growth form. Unique shaped flowers; spreads via underground rhizomes.
Verbena	<i>Verbena x hybrida</i>	8" - 10"	S PS	M	purple	spr- sum	Multi-stemmed, creeping plant. Hardy perennial. Foliage may last through mild winter. Variety: 'Homestead Purple'
Yarrow	<i>Achillea</i> spp.	1' - 2'	S PS	L	white, yellow, red, pink	late spr and sum	Forms solid mat groundcover with finely-cut, fern-like leaves. Attracts butterflies.
Bulbs							
Amaryllis, Johnson's or Hardy Amaryllis	<i>Hippeastrum x johnsonii</i>	24"	S PS	L	red with white	spr	Large trumpet shaped flowers with white star centers; semi-evergreen foliage; carefree.

Suggested Landscape Plants for Brazos County

Common Name(s)	Botanical Name	Size	Light	Water Needs	Flower Color	Blooms	Description/Notes
Crinum	<i>Crinum</i> sp.	2' - 3'	S PS	L	many colors	spr, sum, fall	Green, strap-like leaves 3-4' long, trumpet shaped flowers borne on single stalk rising above foliage. Most common form is 'Milk and Wine' - deep burgundy with white stripe.
Narcissus	<i>Narcissus</i> sp.	18" - 24"	S PS	L	white, yellow	winter	Easily grown varieties that naturalize in Zone 8b: 'Grand Primo' 'Ericheer' 'Italicus' 'Golden Dawn' 'Winston Churchill'.
Oxblood Lily	<i>Rhodophiala bifida</i>	12" - 16"	S PS	L	red, pink	late sum	Brightly colored red funnel-shaped flowers appear first, followed by long green, grass like foliage. Easily grown.
Snowflake	<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	18" - 24"	S PS	L	white	winter	Naturalizing bulb, bell shaped delicate flower of white petal with green dot; cut foliage when it yellows; prefer dryness in summer.
Spider Lily	<i>Lycoris radiata</i>	16" - 20"	S PS	L	coral, yellow, pink, white	late sum, early fall	Stems are topped with spider-like flowers with wavy-edged segments and long stamens. Wide, strappy foliage follows flowering. Easily grown.