





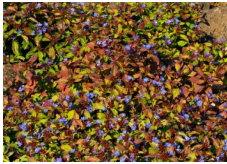









**Waterwise Ground Covers
Lubbock Master Gardeners**

Common Name	Picture	Height	Width / Spread	Light	Evergreen / Deciduous	Seasonal Interest	Color/ Feature	EarthKind™ I	Maintenance	Botanical Name & Comments
Aegopodium		Up to 1'	Indefinite	Partial shade	D	June	Small white flowers that spike up to 1.5'. Leaves are pale gray-green with white- or cream-edged variegation		Flower stalks can be cut off during or after the flowering period to encourage the observer's eye to focus on the attractive variegated foliage, and to prevent seed set	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i> Can be used for edging, border, foundation, raised planter, or focal point groundcover. Can be invasive. Also known as Snow-on-the-mountain or Bishop's Weed.
Ajuga		2-6"	Spreading	Shade	E, SE	Spring	green leaves that turn metallic in cold weather. Flowers are usually blue, sometimes white to pink, mildly attractive on some	5	Deadhead flowers after bloom. Thin out beds if they become overcrowded. Mow or trim old flower spikes annually;	<i>Ajuga reptans</i> A good shade ground cover but can be short-lived in our area.
Artemisia, Silver Brocade		6-12"	24-30"	Sun / partial sun	E	Early Summer	Felt-like white foliage. Yellow flowers.	10	Prompt deadheading of the white flower spikes in midsummer will maintain its rug-like look.	<i>Artemisia stelleriana</i> Adds dramatic contrast to a perennial garden.
Bouncing Bet / Soapwort		1-3'	D	Sun		Summer to early fall	White to pink		Can be invasive.	<i>Saponaria officinalis L.</i> Hummingbird and butterfly attractor. Also known as Soapwort. The crushed leaves or roots have been used as a soap since the Renaissance. Can be poisonous to animals, especially the seeds.
Frog Fruit		3-6"	Spreading	Sun / shade	D	Spring-fall	Flower is white		Fertilize heavily in early spring. Cut back to 3" in early spring.	<i>Phyla nodiflora</i> Leaves are 3/4" long and rounded. Small flowers are composed into tiny heads. Spreads rapidly. Good nectar plant for butterflies and is the larval food plant for the Phaon Crescent Spot, Buckeye, and White Peacock butterflies.

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Ice Plant		4-6"	Indefinite spread	Sun / partial sun	E	Spring to Fall	Yellow, white or purple or pink flowers	9	Plant is drought tolerant once established. Low maintenance that requires little pruning.	<i>Delosperma spp.</i> Delosperma cooperi has purple flowers and silver-green succulent foliage, while Delosperma nubigenum has yellow flowers; D. cooperi is more heat and drought tolerant than D. nubigenum, but is the least cold hardy of the two species. Good as groundcovers for hot dry sites and in rock gardens.
Leadwort, Hardy Plumbago		6-12"	3-5'	Sun / part shade	D	Summer	Bright blue flowers		Cut back the plant when spring returns, so that it will produce fresh foliage.	<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> It will grow in a rock garden, between rocks in a wall or on a difficult-to-landscape bank.
Liriope	 <small>Copyright © Michael Arnold</small>	8-18"	8-18"	Sun / part sun / shade	E	Summer	Blue purple to white spikes above foliage	10	Mow back to 3" in February if foliage looks ragged	<i>Liriope muscari</i> Forms a dense evergreen clump. Can be used on tight spacings as a groundcover or for edging or specialty work. Very versatile plant.
Periwinkle	 <small>Copyright © Cynthia McKenney</small>	1-2'	Spreading	Partial sun / shade	D	Spring summer fall	Blue to purple blue flowers.	7	Cut back heavily each spring after danger of frost but before the new growth starts.	<i>Vinca major</i> A larger coarser version of Vinca minor. Sprawling mounding vine serving as an effective groundcover in shady to partly sunny locations. More vigorous than Vinca minor.
Purple Heart		16"	3'+	Sun / shade	E	Spring to fall	Purple leaves and flowers		Do not overwater as this will cause root rot. Pale foliage is a sign of too much fertilizer.	<i>Setcreasea purpurea</i> Rambling downy creeper. Can be used in hanging baskets.

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Rosemary, Trailing		1-2"	2.5-4'	Sun	E	Spring to summer	Blue flowers	10	Prune occasionally to encourage compact growth. Take care not to trim plants back beyond the last bit of foliage.	<i>Rosmarinas officinalis var. prostratus</i> Excellent groundcover for hot dry sites. Not long-lived.
Santolina		18-24"	18-24"	Sun	E	Spring / Fall	Yellow flowers. Deep green foliage which is finely divided.		Clip heavily to retain shape and size. Prune after flowering	<i>Santolina virens</i> Rounded bushy shrub. Leaves have the look of rosemary. Similar to Lavender Cotton.
Sedums		3-5"	Spreading	Sun / partial sun	E	Spring / summer	Pink Flowers	10	No pruning required	<i>Sedum spurium 'Dragon's Blood'</i> Succulent maroon foliage. Other species such as Gold Moss and Green are also available. Requires good drainage.
Strawberry, Mock	 <small>Copyright © Cynthia McKenney</small>	8"	14-18"	Sun / partial sun	E SE	Spring / summer	White		If growing for the fruit pinch off the runners.	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i> Other names are Wild Strawberry or Virginia Strawberry. Needs frequent soaking; well drained, rich soil.