

Gardens
for Texas 

**Xeriscaping
with Natives**

Gardens for Texas

- **Woman-owned business**
- **15 years in business**
- **Serving North Dallas areas**
- **Organic approach**
- **Design / Installation**
- **Xeriscaping / Landscaping**
- **Hardscaping**



Meet the Team

- **Jamie Klingenberg, Designer & Project Manager**
- **Sandra Hutchens, Project Manager**
- **Together, we take a “hands on” approach to all our installations**
- **We both share a passion for nature, organic gardening and tranquil landscaping design**



Sandra

Jamie

Our Approach

- Initial consultation
- Evaluate garden goals
- Select plant pallet
- Hardscaping consideration
- Design layout
- Installation and execution
- Enjoy!



What is Xeriscaping?

- Conserves water and protects the environment
- Uses a combination of drought-resistant and water-retaining plants
- Reduces the need for supplemental water from irrigation
- Results in a beautiful garden, not a thirsty one



Xeriscaping is NOT:

- ZEROscaping
- Just a garden with cacti
- Overabundance of rocks
- Old collection of wheels and driftwood chunks
- Nerdy garden art



Modern Water-Conscience Gardens

Nature first with contemporary elegance



Modern Water-Conscience Gardens

Update your craftsman cottage with a colorful xeriscape



Xeriscaping Benefits

- Reduces water consumption
- Reduces maintenance and costs
- Takes advantage of rainfall retention
- Reduces fertilizer use
- Reduces waste and pollution



Xeriscaping Key Elements

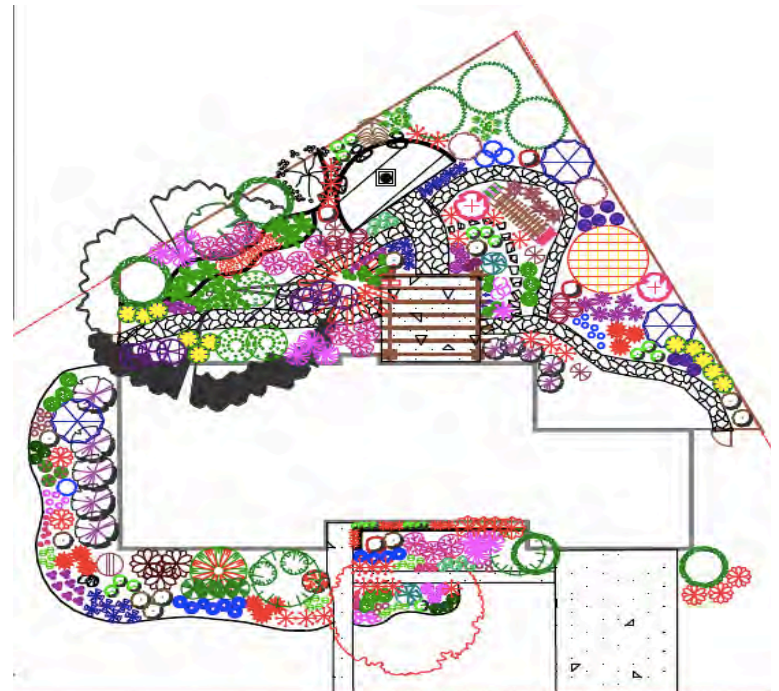
- Sound landscape planning and design
- Soil amendments
- Use of water efficient plants
- Practical turf areas
- Efficient irrigation and water retention
- Sustainable maintenance



Sound Planning & Design

Gardens consist of many different micro climates

- Evaluate your area
- Desired look and function
- Patios, decks, arbors, pergolas and paths
- Group plants that have similar moisture requirements
- Ground slope
- Water retention methods



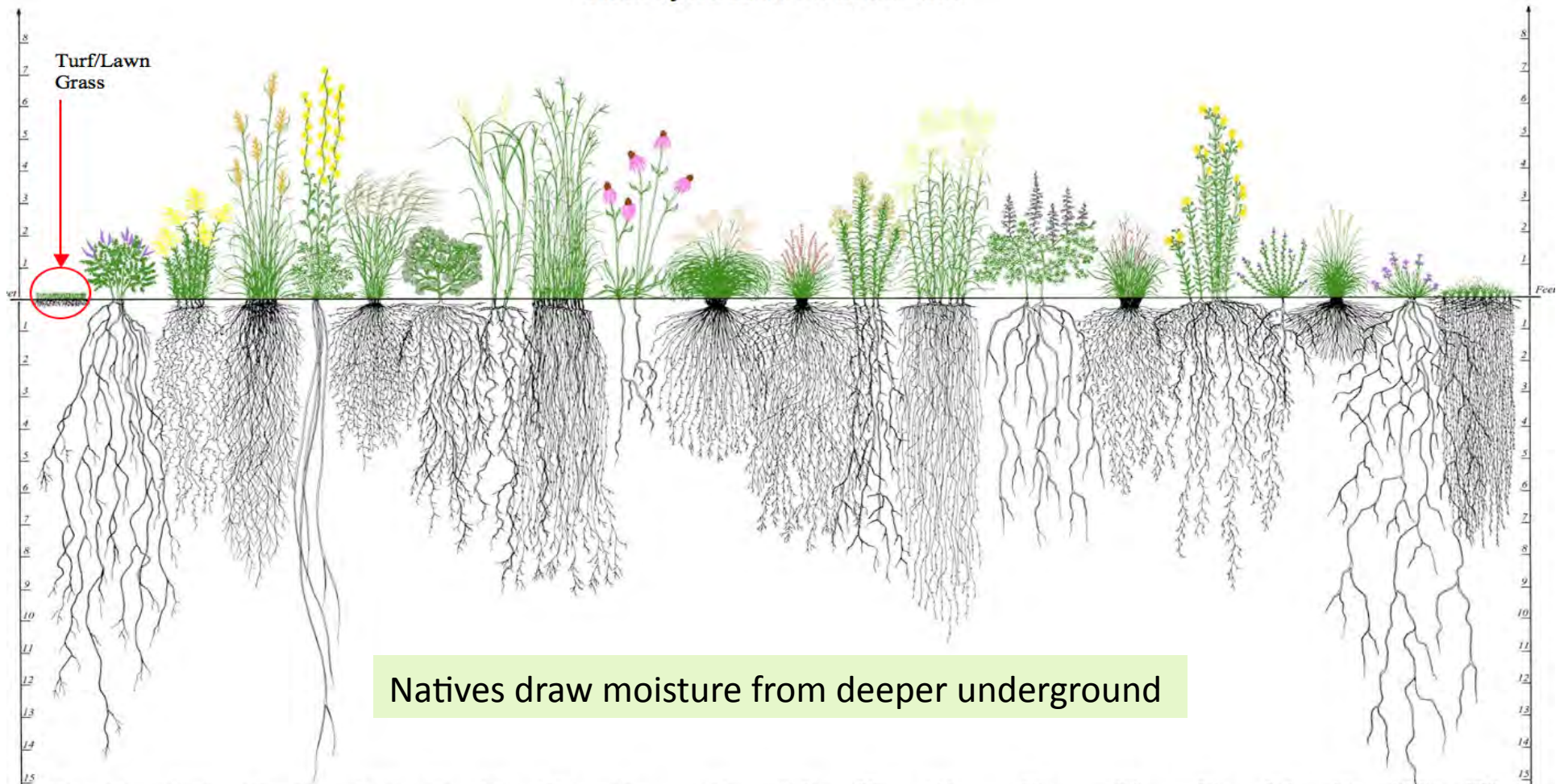
Soil Improvement

- Your soil affects the amount of water available to plants
- Moisture retention is crucial to xeriscape design
- Soil must not drain too fast, losing all moisture
- Hard compact soil does not allow water to penetrate to the root system
- Improvement of your native soil structure allows plants an adequate supply of moisture and oxygen

Root Systems

Native Plant Root Systems vs. Traditional Landscaping

Root Systems of Native Plants



Natives draw moisture from deeper underground

Selective Turf Areas

Turf grasses require more frequent water and maintenance

- Reduce landscape area devoted to turf
- Install practical turf areas
- Efficient round compact shape design
- Separate irrigation zone
- Choose turf appropriate for the location
- Avoid slopes
- Use alternatives: patios, decks, beds, mulch, stone and gravel



Water Usage in Dallas

- About 25% of Dallas water goes to landscape irrigation
- Dallas residential customers use average of 100,000 gal/yr
- Save 25,000 gal/yr by switching to xeriscape with native & drought-resistant plants



Efficient Irrigation

- Create efficient system
- Use low-flow irrigation
- Monitor system regularly
 - Broken sprinkler heads
 - Leaks / inappropriate coverage
- Irrigation when needed and at proper time
- Irrigation method
 - Drip irrigation
 - Traditional
 - Hand watering



Rainwater Retention

- Dry creeks
- Water swales
- Rain Barrels
- Store water in soil
- Reduce surface evaporation
- Manage runoff
- Mulch, lots of mulch!



Rainwater Retention

Dry creek



Rainwater Retention

Rain barrels



Sustainable Maintenance

- Use robust and longer lasting plants
- Mulch, Mulch and Mulch!
- Reduce watering
- Reduce weeding
- Reduce mowing
- Decrease amount of pollutants in the water supply



Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Source: Native Plant Society of Texas

- Texas has over 5,000 species of native plants
- Texas is one of the most biologically diverse states
- Natives are natural to their ecosystem
- Native plants don't need special pampering or fertilizing



Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

- Select and group plants by their needs for sun, shade, and moisture
- Create dimension and color by selecting a variety of native grasses, shrubs, trees, ground cover, and perennials
- Make the most effective use of your water
- Native plants attract butterflies, bees, and birds who rely on them as habitat and food source

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Online resources

- Native Plant Society of Texas npsot.org/wp/
- Lady Bird Johnson Center wildflower.org/plants
- Texas A&M wateruniversity.tamu.edu/design/plant-database/
- TexasSmartScape txsmartscape.com/plant-search/
- Audobon audubon.org/native-plants

Xeriscaping

Dos:

- Use imagination
- Think beyond colorless vista of cactus
- Use perennial flowers in close groupings
- Install drip irrigation
- Group plants by watering needs

Don'ts:

- Skimp on your soil prep
- Overplant woody shrubs
- Be afraid to keep a small patch of grass
- Bother to start with large specimens
- Be too quick to trim perennials in winter

Let's talk about the plants!



Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Blossoming Perennials – Attract Pollinators



Autumn sage
Salvia greggii



Black-eyed Susan
Rudibeckia hirta

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Blossoming Perennials – Attract Pollinators



Texas Lantana
Lantana horrida



Tickseed
Coreopsis

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Sun-Loving Perennials



Texas Rock Rose
Pavonia lasiopetela



Russian Sage
Perovskia atriplicifolia

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Sun-Loving Perennials



Need common name
Sedum spp.



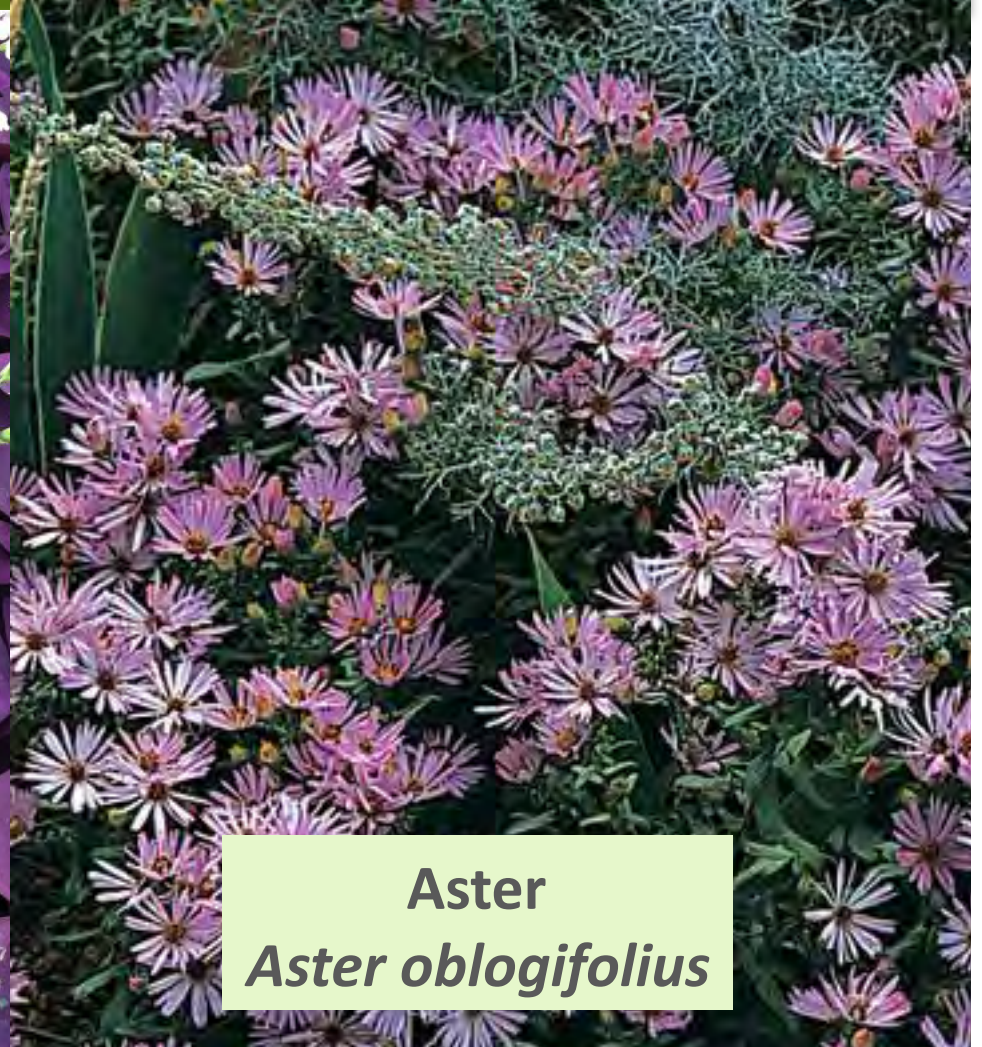
Texas Scullcap
Scutellaria wrightii

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Shade-Loving Perennials



Purple Oxalis
Oxalis regnellii



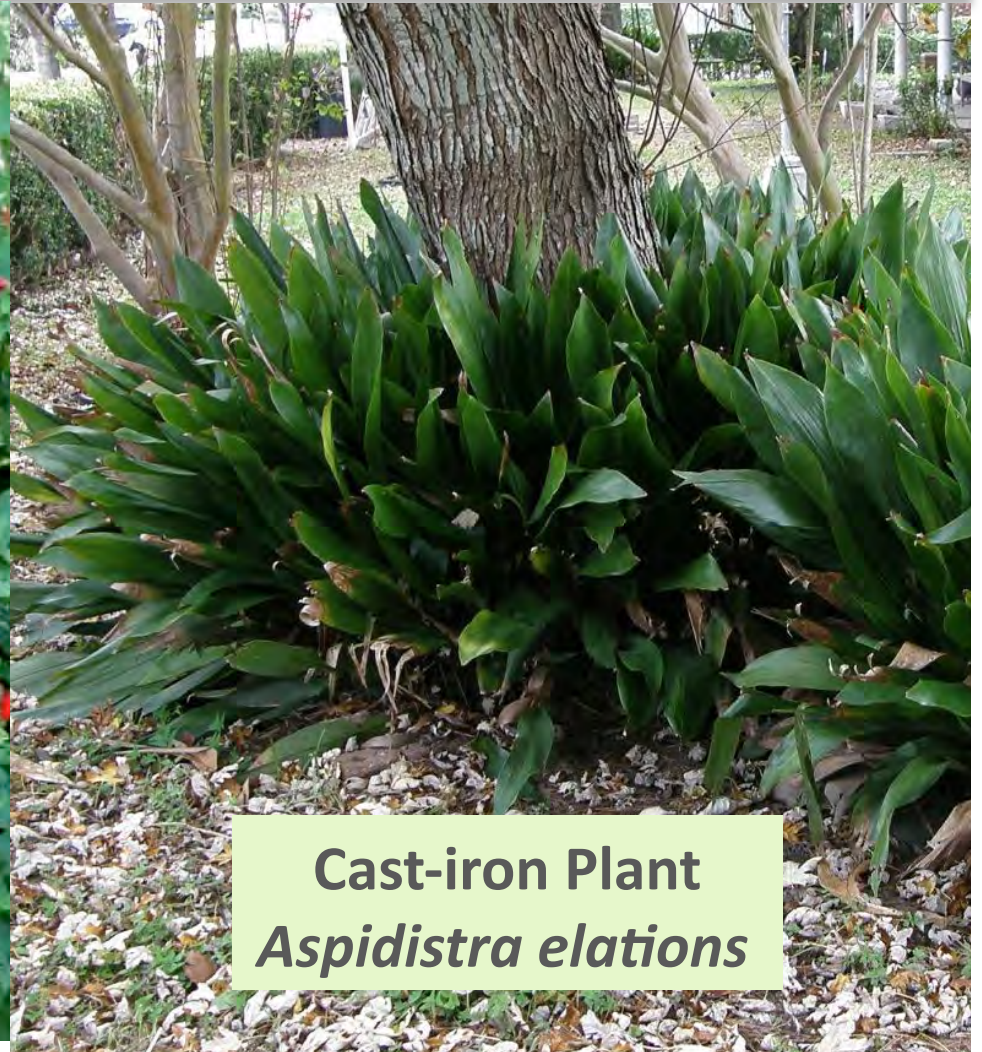
Aster
Aster oblogifolius

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Shade-Loving Perennials



Turk's Cap
Malvaviscus drummondii



Cast-iron Plant
Aspidistra elatior

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ornamental trees



Texas Redbud
Cercis canadensis



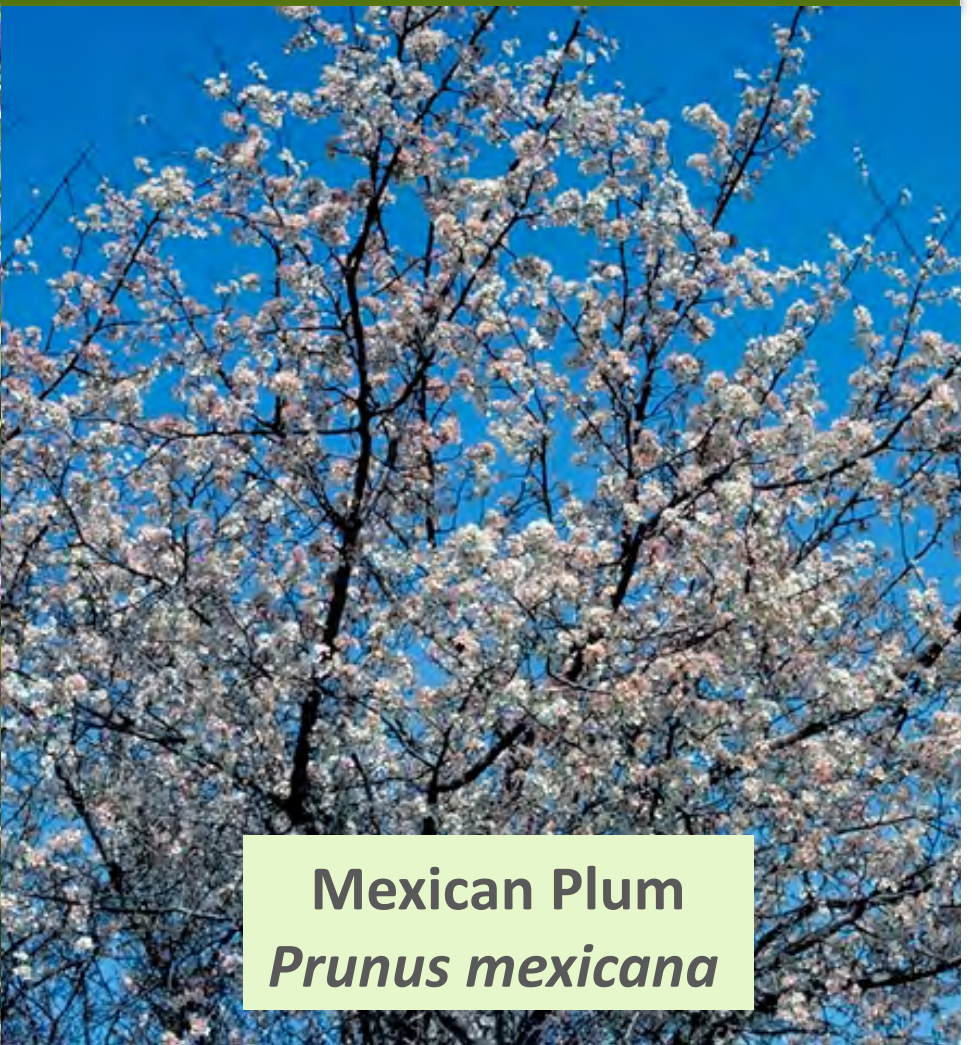
Magnolia
Magnolia grandiflora

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ornamental trees



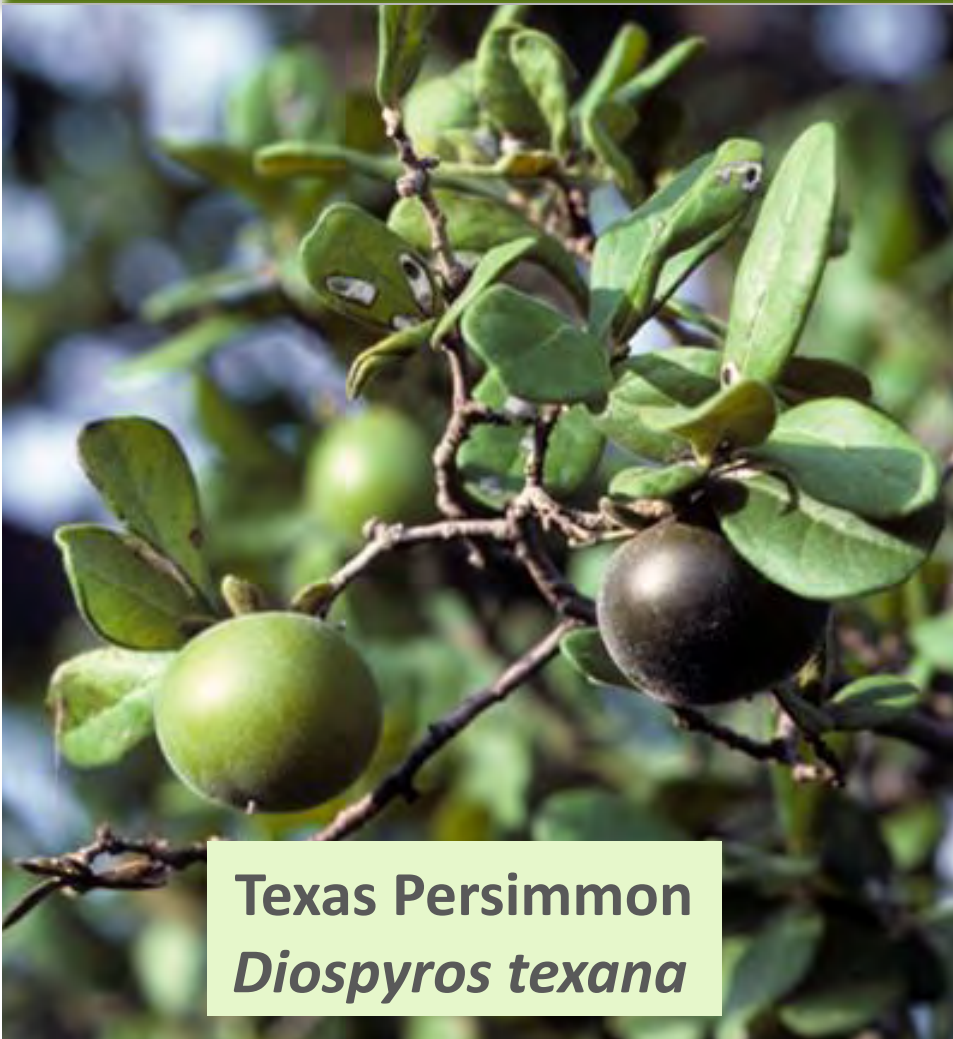
Texas Mountain Laurel
Sophora secundiflora



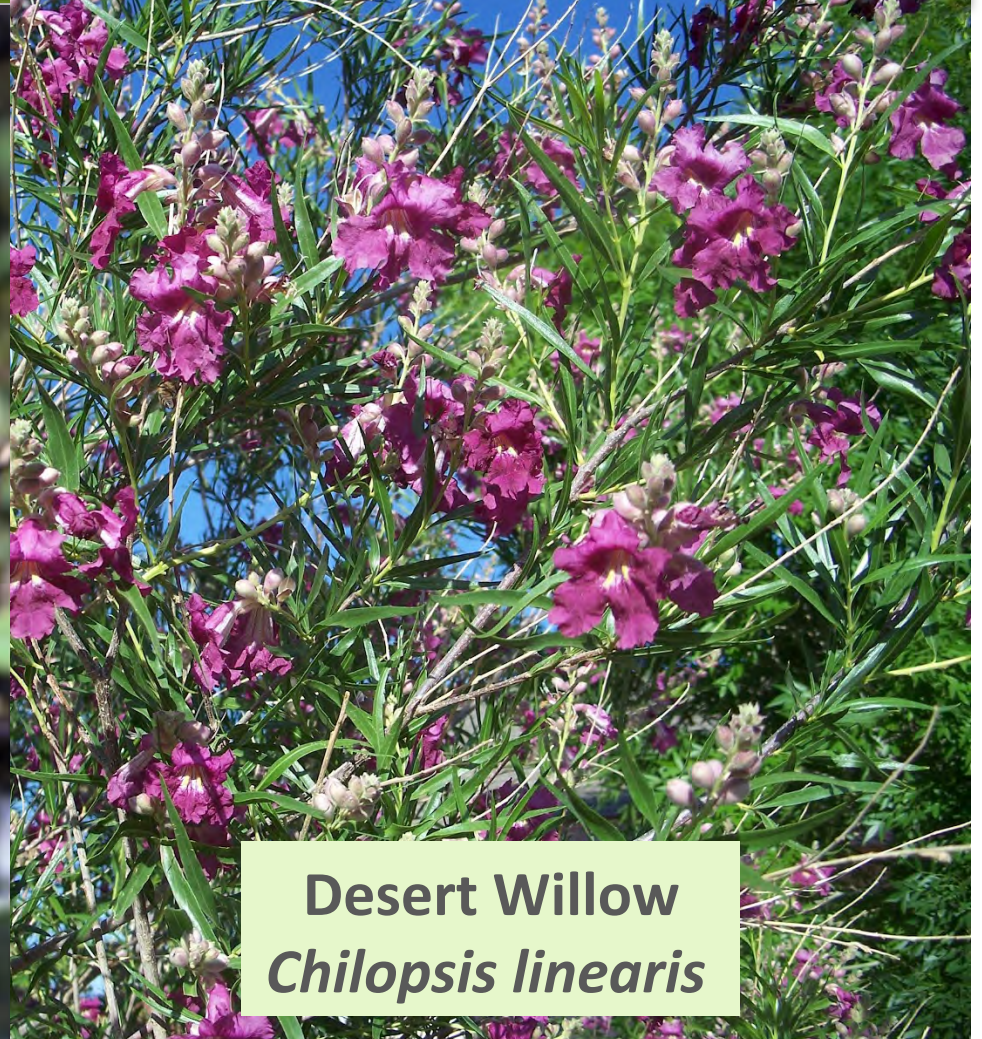
Mexican Plum
Prunus mexicana

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ornamental trees



Texas Persimmon
Diospyros texana



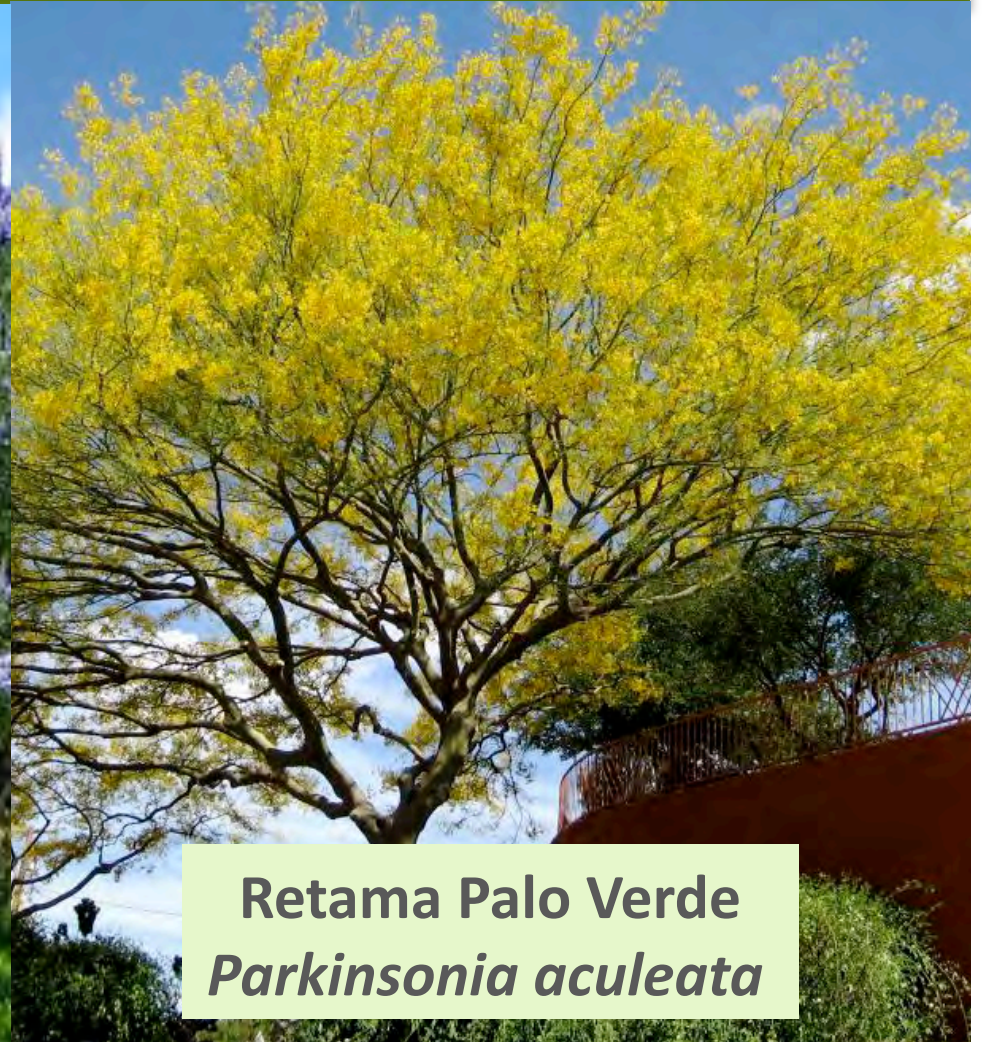
Desert Willow
Chilopsis linearis

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ornamental trees



Texas Lilac
Vitex agnus



Retama Palo Verde
Parkinsonia aculeata

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Succulents



Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ornamental Grasses



Maiden Grass
Miscanthus sinensis



Mexican Feather Grass
Nassella tenuissima

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ground Covers



Silver Falls
Dichondra argentea



Hardy Plumbago
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Ground Covers



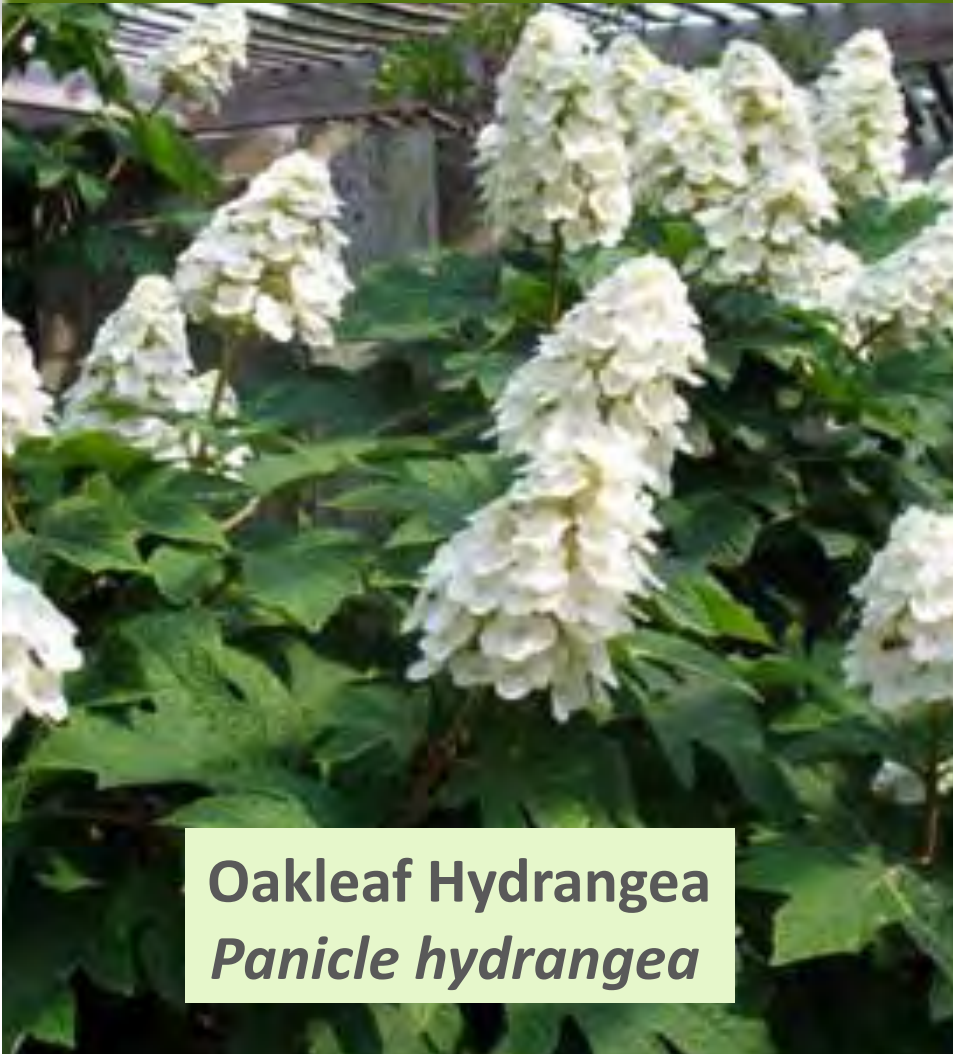
Frogfruit
Phyla nodiflora



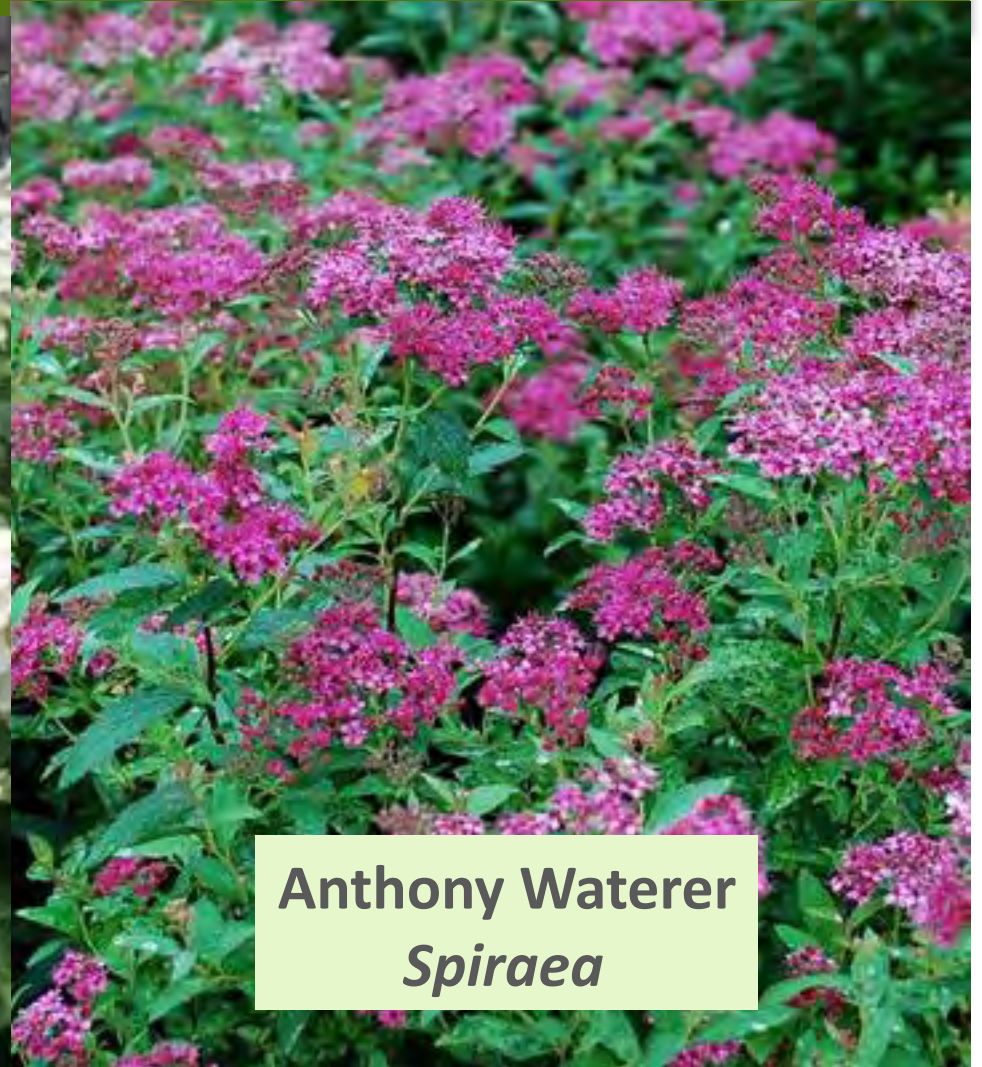
Horseherb
Calyptracarpus vialis

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Flowering Shrubs



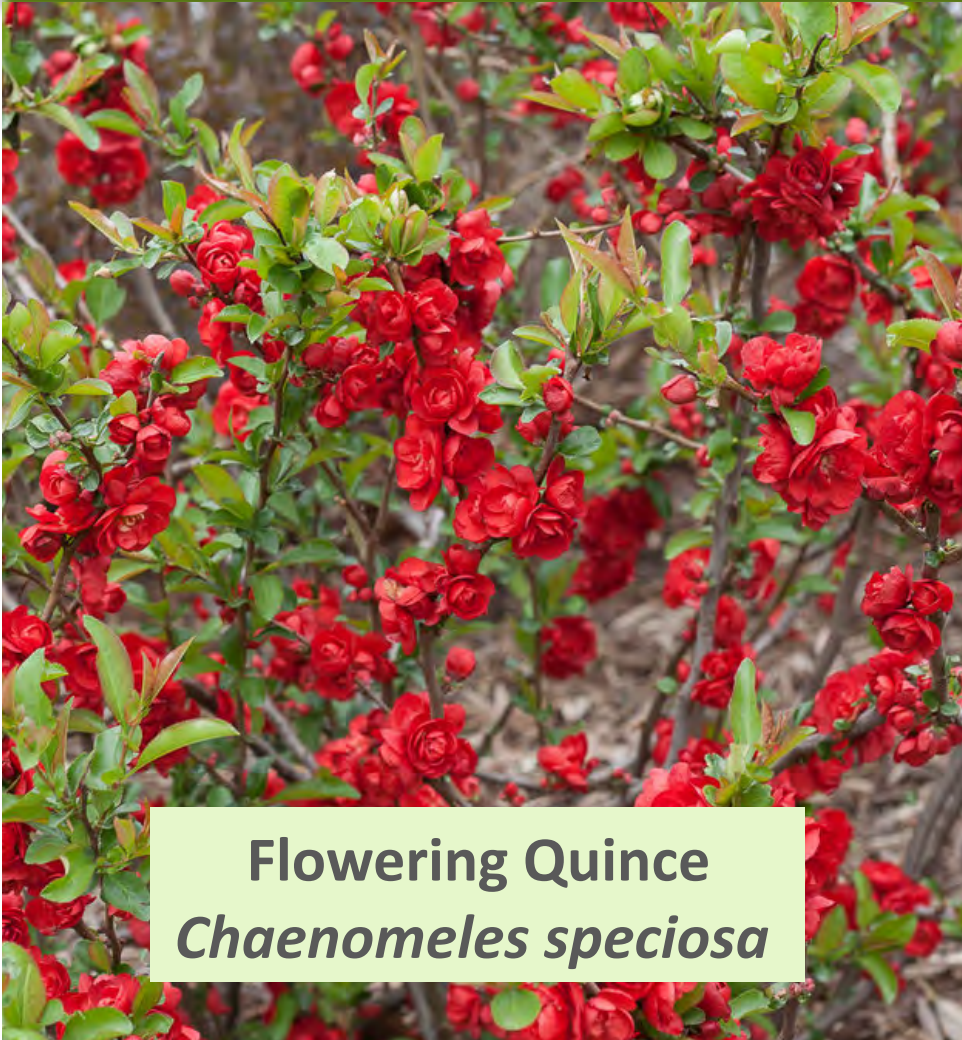
Oakleaf Hydrangea
Panicle hydrangea



Anthony Waterer
Spiraea

Native/Drought-Tolerant Plants

Flowering Shrubs



Flowering Quince
Chaenomeles speciosa



Mapleleaf Viburnum
Virburnum acerifolium

Thirsty Plants

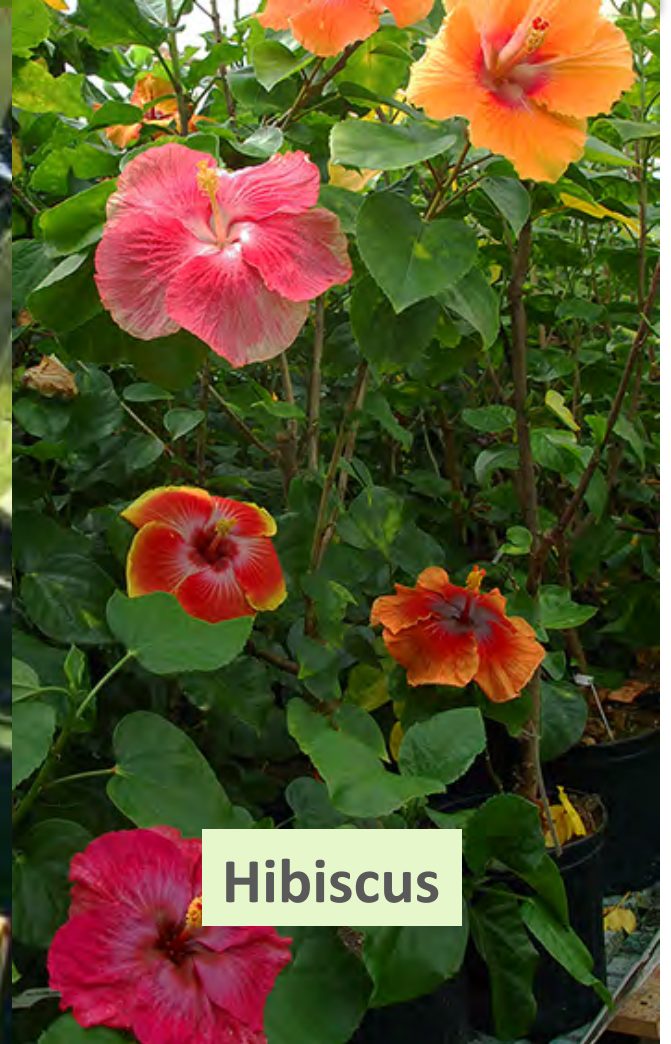
Tropicals and Exotics



Azalea



Texas Star Banana
90% water!



Hibiscus

GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



Meandering Sidewalk

GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



Japanese Raking Garden

GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



Labyrinth

GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



GFT Xeriscaping Portfolio



Xeriscaping Inspiration



Xeriscaping Inspiration



Xeriscaping Inspiration



Xeriscaping Inspiration



Xeriscaping Inspiration



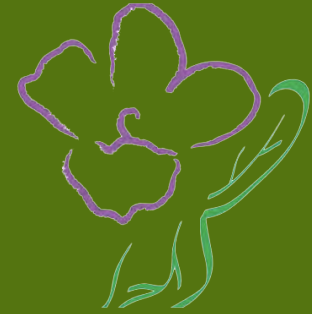
Xeriscaping Inspiration



Discussion / Questions



Keep in Touch



Gardens for Texas

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Serving North Dallas Neighborhoods

Addison, Dallas, Highland Park,
Lake Highlands, Lakewood,
Oak Cliff, Plano, Preston Hollow,
Richardson, University Park,
White Rock Lake

