

Recommended Easy to Grow Native Plants for the Kerrville Area

Plants	Height	Spread	Light	Evrgrn/ Decid	Seasonal Interest	Special Features	Water	Maintenance	Comments
Desert willow <i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	15-25'	15-20'	Sun/ part shade	D	Spring- Fall	White, pink, or burgundy flowers	Very low	Prune only to maintain shape; remove suckers	Requires good drainage; Foliage is airy and allows for planting beneath the tree; increase blooming by pruning seed pods. Deer resistant.
Possumhaw holly <i>Ilex decidua</i>	12 - 20'	12'	Sun/ part shade	D	Dec. to Feb.	Red berries	Low- Med	Prune only to maintain shape or raise canopy	Female trees have red berries; fruits best in full sun; can tolerate wet feet; Deer resistant.
Texas mountain laurel <i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	10 - 20'	8-10'	Sun/ part shade	E	Spring	Purple flowers	Very low	Prune only to maintain shape or raise canopy	Flowers have grape bubble gum fragrance; seeds are poisonous ; can have caterpillar problems, if so use BT; especially deer resistant.
Cenizo <i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	4-5'	4-5'	Sun	E	Spring- summer	Lavender, purple, pink or white flowers	Low	Do not shear! Pruning should not be obvious. Does not need fertilizer.	Blooms after rains; will not tolerate wet feet; some green-leafed varieties; avoid over-watering; Deer resistant.
Texas lantana <i>Lantana urticoides</i>	3-5'	4-5'	Sun	D	Spring- frost	Orange/ yellow flowers	Very low	Prune to maintain desired size and encourage bloom; cut to ground in winter	Older stalks have small thorns. Attracts butterflies and pollinators. Mulch roots in winter. Cream/pink flowered lantana is not native and invasive, as are any named plant such as "Dallas Red". All prostrate lantana is non-native and invasive. Do not plant non-native or hybrids. Deer resistant.
Gayfeather <i>Liatris mucronata</i>	8-10'	6-8'	Sun/ part shade	E	Late summer; winter	White flowers; burgundy fall foliage	Low	Prune as necessary	Glossy foliage; fuzzy, orange or red berries are good bird food; requires good drainage; deer resistant.
Flame acanthus <i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus</i> var. <i>wrightii</i>	3-4'	3-4'	Sun/ part shade	D	Summer- fall	Orange flowers	Very low	Can be pruned to form hedge. Cut back by 1/3 - 1/2 before new growth begins.	Forms shrub shape naturally. Tubular flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies; can reseed prolifically; especially deer resistant.
Red yucca <i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	2-3'	3-4'	Sun/ part shade	E	Spring to frost	salmon pink flowers on tall stalks	Low	Cut off bloom stalks when bloom is done; can leave until seeds form	Be careful not to mulch too close to the plant or it will cause disease problems. Deer don't eat the plant but love the flowers.
Rock rose <i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	2'	3'	Sun/ shade	D	Summer	Pink flowers	Low	Prune to maintain shape; cut back 1/3 in winter	Short lived--3 to 4 years, but reseeds freely; Deer resistant.

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Turks cap <i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i>	2-6'	3-5'	Sun/ shade	D	Spring- fall	Red flowers	Low	It can be mowed for groundcover or not cut for a bush. Prune if it gets leggy.	Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies; susceptible to freeze; can be aggressive. Leaves tend to be larger in a shady location but will bloom more in sunnier place.
Autumn sage <i>Salvia greggii</i>	2-3'	2-3'	Sun/ part shade	E	Spring- frost	Red, pink, white, coral flowers	Low	Prune by a third after summer bloom for more flowers	Attracts hummingbirds; can become leggy; some of the hybrids are not as hardy as native; very deer resistant
Blackfoot daisy <i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	6"-12"	1'-2'	Sun	E	Spring - frost	White flowers	Very low	Plant in gravelly, poor soil. Prune if it gets leggy; do not fertilize or overwater	Prefers dry area; must have good drainage; blooms freely; in garden soil it will grow about 2 years before burning itself out; good for rock gardens; deer resistant
Cedar sage <i>Salvia roemeriana</i>	1'-2'	1'-2'	sun/ part shade	D	Spring- summer	Scarlet red flowers	Very low	Often found growing under cedar trees. Prefers shady areas with leaf mulch.	Blooms brighten shady areas and attract pollinators. Freely reseeds. Drought resistant when established.
Damianita <i>Chrysactinia mexicana</i>	1'-2'	1.5'-2'	Sun	E	Spring- summer	Yellow flowers	Very low	Prefers gravelly, poor soil. Lightly shear after bloom to encourage reblooming	Prefers dry area; must have good drainage; foliage is aromatic; tolerates poor soil; good rock garden plant
Fall aster <i>Aster oblongifolius</i>	2-3'	2.5-3'	Sun/ part shade	D	Fall	purple/ lavender flowers	Med	Trim in mid-summer to encourage branching; do not trim after July	Very showy in bloom; attracts butterflies
Gayfeather <i>Liatris punctata var. mucronata</i>	1-3'	1-1.5'	Sun	D	August - December	Purple - rose pink flowers	Very low	Prefers well-drained limestone soil. Prune to ground before new spring growth.	Late summer bloom is a great nectar source for pollinators. Birds eat seeds. If plant is kept too wet, it gets top heavy and bloom spikes fall over.
Mealy blue sage <i>Salvia farinacea</i>	2'	1-1.5'	Sun/ part shade	D	Spring- summer	Blue or white flowers	Low	Prune top half at end of May; prune to 3" after killing frost	Reseeds freely; prefers to be a bit dry; too much water makes plants leggy; attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and small birds; deer resistant
Prairie verbena <i>Glandularia bipinnatifida</i>	6-12"	2'	Sun	E	Spring- frost	Lavendar flowers	Low	Prune as needed to encourage fullness	Good groundcover; attracts butterflies; can have red spider problem; deer resistant
Zexmenia <i>Wedelia acapulcensis var. hispida</i>	2-3'	3'	Sun/ part shade	E	Spring- frost	Golden yellow flowers	Very low	Prune as needed to keep in bounds	Blooms continuously; reseeds freely; needs good drainage; takes abuse; prune after bloom flush to control size and encourage more bloom. Deer resistant

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Frogfruit <i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	6-8"	1.5-2'	Sun/ part shade	D	Spring- fall	White flowers	Low- Med	Great groundcover. Spreads quickly and tolerates poor soils and poor drainage. Cut back to 3" in winter.	Particularly good for small pollinators and beneficial insects. Host plant for several butterflies. Can be hard to find in commercial nurseries.
Horseherb, Straggler Daisy <i>Calyptracarpus vialis</i>	8-10"	1'	Sun, part shade, shade	Semi- evergrn	Spring- fall	Tiny yellow flowers	Very low	Grows quickly. Can be mowed and edged. Tolerates some foot traffic. Does well in dry shade.	This plant is probably already growing in your landscape! Many complain they can't get rid of it. Very hardy and freely reseeds. Attracts small pollinators. Can be used in place of turf.
Inland Sea Oats, Wood Oats <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	2-4'	2-3'	Sun/ part shade	D	Fall	Green drooping seed heads in summer; brown drooping seed heads in fall	Low- Med	Cut back to 4" in Jan. before new growth	Reseeds easily; prefers moist areas; good for under trees as groundcover; birds like the seeds. Seed heads furnish movement in the garden with very little breeze blowing. Deer resistant
Yellow Indiangrass <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	3-5'	5'	Sun	D	Fall	Tall, bright gold seed heads held over blue-green leaves	Med- high	Use in a meadow or wetland as a mass planting. Cut back to 8" before new growth.	Grass readily reseeds. The seeds and green stems feed wildlife and also provides habitat.
Lindheimer's Muhly <i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	2-5'	3' - 4'	Sun	D	Fall	White, 6' seed heads	Low	Do not trim during growing season. Rake out dead leaves in late winter; do not trim back.	Blue-green grass; can be used in place of Pampas grass; dramatic when backlit by sun; does not cut flesh like Pampas grass will. Deer resistant