

Texas Rain Garden Plant List

A rain garden is an attractive method for controlling stormwater damage and runoff. A rain garden captures and temporarily holds rainwater until the ground can absorb the water. The plants should compliment the rest of the landscape. The best plants for a rain garden are native and adapted plants that thrive in your area. Below is a short list of plants commonly recommended for Texas landscapes that will grow in a rain garden. To find a list created specifically for your region, contact the Extension office in your county. Many of the landscape plants recommended for your region will grow in a rain garden. Contact information for Texas AgriLife Extension Service county offices is available at <http://texasextension.tamu.edu/county/> or in the county government pages of the local telephone book. Visit Urban Landscape Guide at <http://urbanlandscapeguide.tamu.edu/> for a searchable plant list by zip code.

Plants in the depression or swale area of a rain garden must be able to tolerate wet roots for the amount of time the rainwater takes to drain, usually 18 to 24 hours. Soil preparation and mulch will help the plants grow and thrive. Provide irrigation and fertilizer for the rain garden as required.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height/Width	S/SH	W/D
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Perennials

<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	1'1'	S	D
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	Sweet Flag	4'2'	S	W
<i>Alstromeria pulchella</i>	Peruvian	3'2'	S/PSH	W/D
<i>Aquilegia hinckleyana</i>	Texas Columbine	12"/12"	S	W/D
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly Weed	3'6"	S	D
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Cast Iron Plant	24"/24"	SH	W/D
<i>Baptista australis</i>	Blue False Indigo	3' to 6'/24"	S	W
<i>Calyptocarpus vialis</i>	Horseherb	4"/18"	SH	W/D
<i>Canna generalis</i>	Canna	2' to 6'/2' to 6'	S	W
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Moonbeam'	Moonbean Coreopsis	1'1'	S/PSH	W/D
<i>Dichondra argentea</i> 'Silver Falls'	Silver Falls	2"/4"	S/PSH	D
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Cone Flower	2'2'	S	W/D
<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>	Blue Mistflower	8"/16"	S	W/D
<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	Joe-Pye Weed	4-4'2'	S/SH	W
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	Ox-eyed Sunflower	3-5"/30"	S	W
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	Rose Mallow	3-4'	S	W/D
<i>Hymenocallis liriosme</i>	Spider Lily	2'1'	S	W/D
<i>Ipomopsis rubra</i>	Standing Cypress	2' to 6'/6" to 12"	S	W
<i>Iris Breaded</i> spp and hybrids	Iris	12"/6"	S	D

<i>Iris brevicaulis</i> Louisiana spp and Hybrids	Louisiana Iris	Up to 40"/6"	S/PSH	W
<i>Kosteletzkya virginica</i>	Marsh Mallow	6'/6'	S	W
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Gayfeather	2'/18"	S	W
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal Flower	2' to 4'/2'	S/PSH	W
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Loosestrife	3'/3'	S	W/D
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Bee Balm	2'/2'	S	W/D
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	1-2'/1'	S	W/D
<i>Ruellia brittoniana</i> 'Katie's'	Ruella Katie	6"/12"	S	W/D
<i>Setcreasea pallida</i>	PurpleHeart	12"/24"	S/PSH	W/D
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Blue-eyed grass	6" to 12"/12"	S	W/D
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	Goldenrod	2' to 4'/3-5'	S	W/D
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	Lamb's Ear	6"/12"	S	D
<i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>	Spiderwort	2'/1'	SH/PSH	W/D
<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	Ironweed	4-6'	S	W
<i>Zephyranthes</i>	Rain Lily	6"-10"	S	W

Ornamental Grasses

<i>Carex</i> spp	Sedge	Varies	Varies	W/D
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Inland Sea oats	2'to 4'	SH	W
<i>Muhlenbergia reverchoni</i>	Seep Muhly	2-4'	S	W
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switch Grass	3-4'	S	W/D

Shrubs

<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American Beauty Berry	4' to 6'/5' to 8'	S/SH	W/D
<i>Ilex decidua</i>	Possumhaw Holly	20'/15'	S/SH	W/D
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon	20'/20'	S/SH	W/D
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Southern Wax Myrtle	15'/10'	S/SH	W/D
<i>Sabal minor</i>	Dwarf Palmetto	4'/5'	SH	W/D
<i>Spirea x bumalda</i> 'Anthony Waterer'	Anthony Water Spirea	2-3'/3'	S	D

Trees

<i>Acer rubrum</i> var. <i>drummondii</i>	Southern Swamp Maple	70'/30'	S	W/D
<i>Sophora affinis</i>	Eve's Necklace	30'/20'	S	W/D
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress	70'/30'	S	W/D

S – Sun SH – Shade PSH – Part Shade W – Wet D – Dry