

NWF Texas Do-not-Buy/ Do-not-Plant List

Texas Non-Native Plant to Avoid		Notes	Plant Instead	
Common Name	Latin Name		Common Name	Latin Name
Grasses				
Bermudagrass	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	This tough and challenging grass forms sod with its many rhizomes and stolons that spread easily along with its seed. It can become established in many types of habitats and is especially challenging for landscape and agricultural settings.	Buffalograss	<i>Bouteloua dactyloides</i>
Chinese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	This tall grass escapes from ornamental plantings, displaces native plants in areas of disturbance such as fields, edge of woodlands, and roadsides, also highly flammable increasing fire risk where it invades.	Switchgrass Indian Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Weeping Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	Originally planted for erosion control and ornamental use, this spreads along roadsides and other disturbed areas, and escaped plants reported in dozens of Texas counties.	Sideoats Grama Little Bluestem	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Golden Bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i> <i>Bambusa sp.</i>	Available for sale online and in garden centers, this towering plant quickly spreads by underground rhizomes and escapes cultivation.	Switchgrass Eastern Gamagrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>
Herbaceous Perennials				
Tropical Milkweed	<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>	When planted in areas where it does not die back in the winter, this plant helps to sustain high levels of parasites called OE that are highly detrimental to the health and migration success of Monarch butterflies.	Butterfly Milkweed Whorled Milkweed Spider/Green Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> <i>Asclepias verticillata</i> <i>Asclepias viridis</i>
Vines				
Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Available at garden centers, this vine with a highly aggressive habit girdles and shades out native vegetation, forms dense thickets, and stems can become like tree trunks.	Coral Honeysuckle American Wisteria	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> <i>Wisteria frutescens</i>

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English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	This vine can kill trees that it climbs and smother vegetation along the ground. It also hosts Bacterial Leaf Scorch, a disease problematic to some native trees and shrubs.	Carolina Jessamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>
Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	This vine quickly outcompetes native trees and shrubs by pulling them down, makes it easier for other invasives to invade.	Coral Honeysuckle Carolina Jessamine	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> <i>G. sempervirens</i>
Shrubs				
Brazilian Pepper	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> (<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>)	Texas Noxious Weed , highly aggressive and wide-spread plant that invades both wet and dry habitats, the dense vegetation shades out all other plants, causes skin reaction similar to poison ivy and pollen can cause respiratory problems for sensitive individuals	Yaupon Holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	This deciduous shrub easily invades riparian areas and areas that have been disturbed. Although it provides nectar, it is not a source of food for butterflies and moths, so wildlife is impacted when it is planted instead of or when it displaces native host plants.	False Indigo-Bush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
Chinese Ligustrum European Ligustrum Glossy Privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> <i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	It grows into dense thickets due to extensive root suckers, large quantities of fruit are produced and dispersed by birds and deer, tolerates heavy shade and poor soil, fruits and leaves poisonous to livestock and people.	Wax Myrtle	<i>Morella cerifera</i>
Heavenly Bamboo	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Widely available in garden centers and nurseries, this ornamental shrub spreads quickly from seed and root parts, forms dense thickets.	American Beauty-Berry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i> (<i>Lantana aculeata</i>)	This popular garden plant has escaped freely and become a noxious weed in areas without frost. It has invaded a variety of habitats and can form dense thickets that outcompete	Texas Lantana	<i>Lantana urticoides</i>

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		native vegetation. It can tolerate all sorts of conditions and is spread by birds who have eaten the seeds. Its hybridization with native lantana species has reduced their natural populations. This plant is also problematic due to its toxic properties affecting children, livestock, and domestic animals. All parts of the plant are poisonous if ingested. Handling the plant may cause skin irritation or allergic reaction.		
Lilac Chastetree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	This widely used ornamental plant has escaped in Texas as well as parts of the southeast and southwest. It can survive drought, salt, and a wide range of soil conditions. Its seeds spread readily as well.	False Indigo-Bush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Although attractive, all parts of this plant are highly toxic and can be fatal to humans, pets, and birds if ingested. Contact with the skin causes dermatitis. Oleander attracts pollinators with its flowers and scent, however offers no nectar reward, which wastes the pollinators' energy. Seeds of this plant are spread by wind, making it easy to spread to natural areas.	Texas Ranger White Prairie Rose	<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i> <i>Rosa foliolosa</i>
Silverthorn Olive, Autumn and Russian	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i> <i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	This once heavily-planted shrub hybridizes with native <i>Elaeagnus sp.</i> , displaces native species, is tolerant of a wide range of stressors including salt, drought, and shade, and its seeds are widely dispersed by wildlife.	Stretchberry/ Spring Herald West Indian Shrub- Verbena	<i>Forestiera pubescens</i> <i>Lantana urticoides</i>

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Trees				
Chinaberry Tree	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	This tree outcompetes native plants. Its roots will sprout new trees and seeds are dispersed widely by birds. Additionally, the plant is poisonous.	Mexican/Bigtree Plum	<i>Prunus mexicana</i>
Chinese Tallow Tree	<i>Triadica sebifera</i> (<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>)	Texas Noxious Weed This tree has naturalized throughout much of Texas, displaces native species throughout a wide range of habitats, its seeds are spread by birds, and trunks resprout when cut.	Texas Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> <i>var. texensis</i>
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	This tree can resprout and quickly form a thicket taking over an area, produces large numbers of seeds as well, produces toxins that make it hard for other plants to survive, and its roots can damage building and water infrastructure.	Pecan American Basswood	<i>Carya illinoensis</i> <i>Tilia americana</i>

→ on Noxious Weed List (regulated)

denotes plants that have been specified on landscape plans (or planted) for Taylor Morrison

References:

TexasInvasives.org [Texas Invasive Plant Inventory](#)

Texas Invasive Species Institute [Plant List](#)

Native Plant Society of Texas Collin County Chapter [The Dirty Dozen Invasive Plants of North Texas](#)

TexasInvasives.org [City of Austin – Top 24 Invasive Plant Species](#)

University of Florida UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants [Plant Directory](#)

[Federal Noxious Weed List](#)

(In addition to the plants listed above, species listed as noxious weeds may not be planted in Texas under any circumstances.)