



# Xeriscape Landscaping

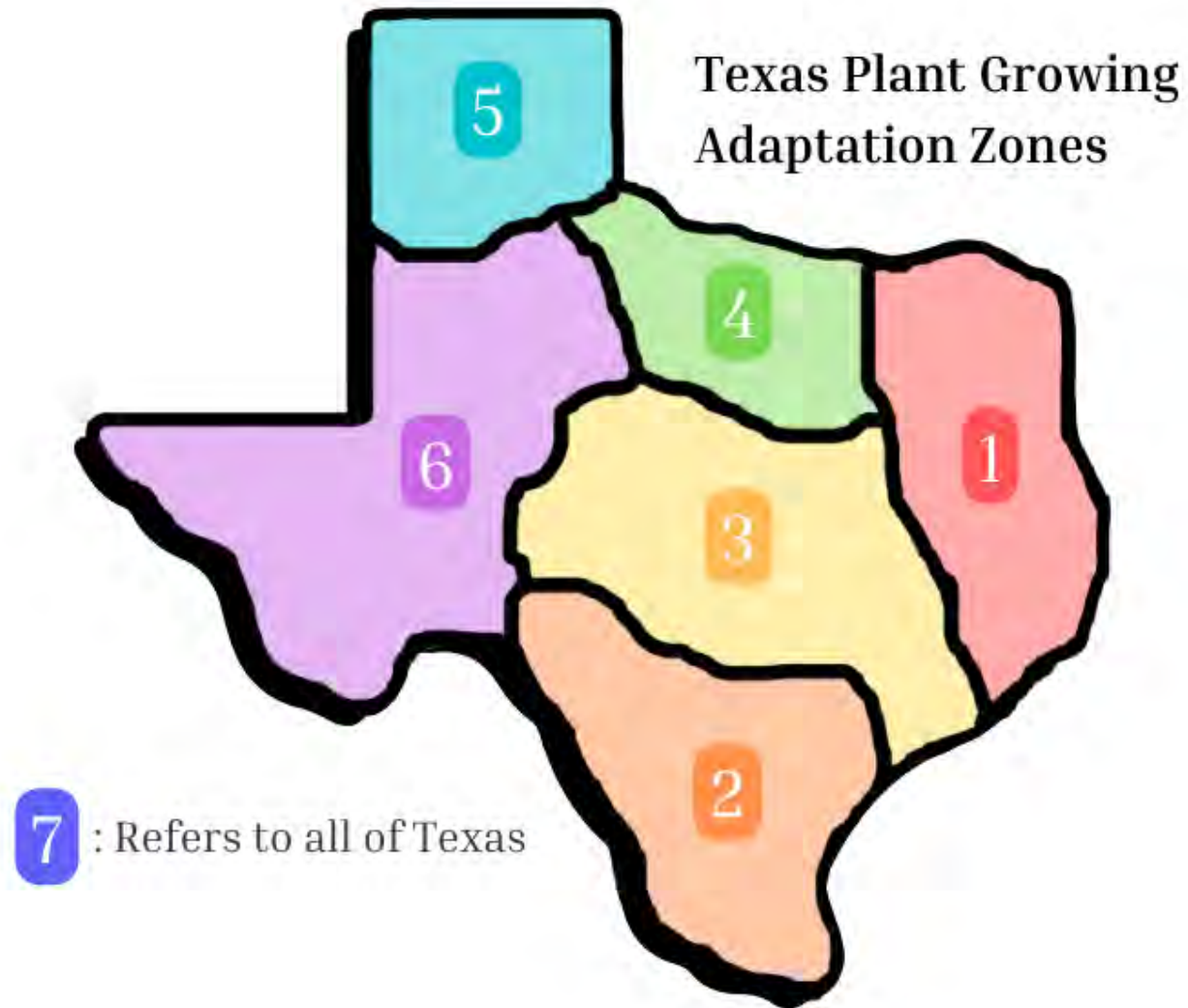
*Benefits and Comparisons*

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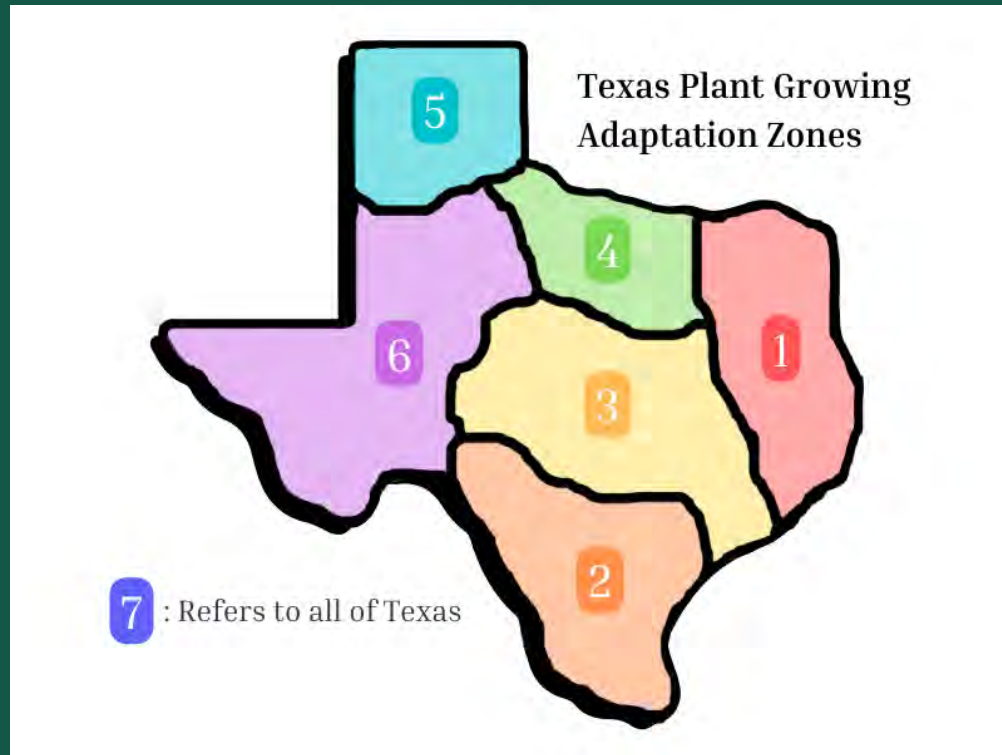
# There are many ways that individuals can contribute to water conservation:

- Rainwater Harvesting
- Brush Control
- Limiting domestic water use
- Controlling invasive plant species on property
- **Xeriscape Landscaping:** The practice of landscaping with minimal water use. This can be by keeping drought-resistant plants, limiting lawn surface area, and more.



This is a model of zones in Texas based on different growing conditions for various plant species. Later, I'll introduce plants that thrive in Guadalupe County and its surrounding areas.

# Where are we?



*Guadalupe County  
is marked in red*

We're between zones 2 & 3, but before we get to better options for yards, let's look at what might be influencing your water bill...



# What's in your yard?



**Bentgrass** is a common creeping grass that is typically used in golf courses.



**Centipede** grass is common in Texas, sometimes called "Lazy Man's Grass".



**Fine Fescue** grass can be found in Texas but is more adapted to cool climate.



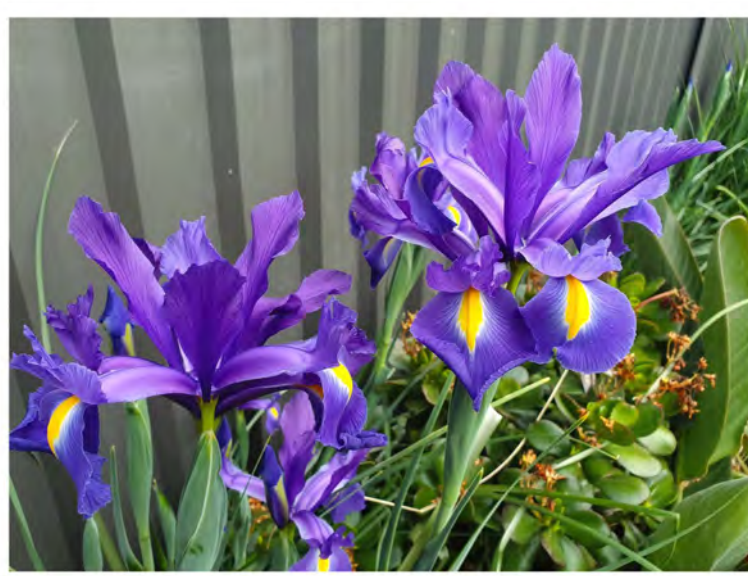
**St. Augustine's** grass is very similar to Centipede grass but has larger blades.



# What's in your yard?



Daylilies are a common garden-bed favorite and have lots of varieties.



Irises bloom in the springtime and are a popular seasonal flower in Texas.



Trumpet flower vines are very common and can often overtake a garden space.



Elephant Ear is an attractive plant that needs lots of water to thrive.

# What do these plants have in common?

## Why should you care?

While some of these plants are drought-tolerant, none of them are *drought-resistant*. Most, if not all of them, need a regular supply of water, especially the grasses. In fact, much of the water that people use ends up being wasted on their lawns, especially if the lawn is susceptible to heat and lack of water. The average size of a lawn in San Antonio and Austin is roughly 8,000 square feet. To find the number of gallons needed to produce one inch of water, we can multiply the area by .623 and get **4,984** gallons. This is about how much water it would take to water a lawn in a week's time. However, this does not include the water needed for surrounding plants.

# How much is this costing you?

Lawns are expensive, and if you're mowing every week, you're not just spending money, but you're spending *time*.

If it takes nearly 5,000 gallons per week to water a lawn, and every 1,000 gallons of water costs \$1.50, then every week, you're paying \$7.50 on your lawn. That doesn't seem like much, but when I tell you that you could be spending nearly **\$400** per year on your lawn alone, then maybe I can convince you to consider Xeric plants and Xeriscape Landscaping so you can save money and time.

Here are some beautiful examples:





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# Disclaimer!

In the next slides, I'll be listing Texas-native plants and grasses that grow best in zones 2 & 3

These plants are not equipped for cold weather! We've been going through a few cold spells this year, so if you have potted succulents or flowers, bring them into the garage or the house.



# What should be in your yard:



*Zoysia Grass*, although not native to Texas, grows well in all regions of Texas. It produces dense turf, and has very good drought tolerance

*Bermuda Grass* is non-native but thrives in all regions of Texas as well. It has good drought tolerance compared to many grasses.



Though neither of these grasses are native to Texas, they are the most well equipped to handle our intense heat. Water Zoysia AND Bermuda grass deeply and infrequently, and keep them in full sun to sustain their lives.



# What should be in your yard:

Hinckley's Columbine



Autumn Sage

Lantana



Now for some perennials that do best in our climate. Hinckley's Columbine does best in partial shade with water at the driest part of the year. Water 1 inch every 10 days. Autumn Sage prefers full sun. Water no more than 1 inch per week. Lantanas are heat resistant, but might not do their best in full sun. Water one inch per week.



# What should be in your yard:

Pavonia



Mealy cup Sage

Perennial Verbena

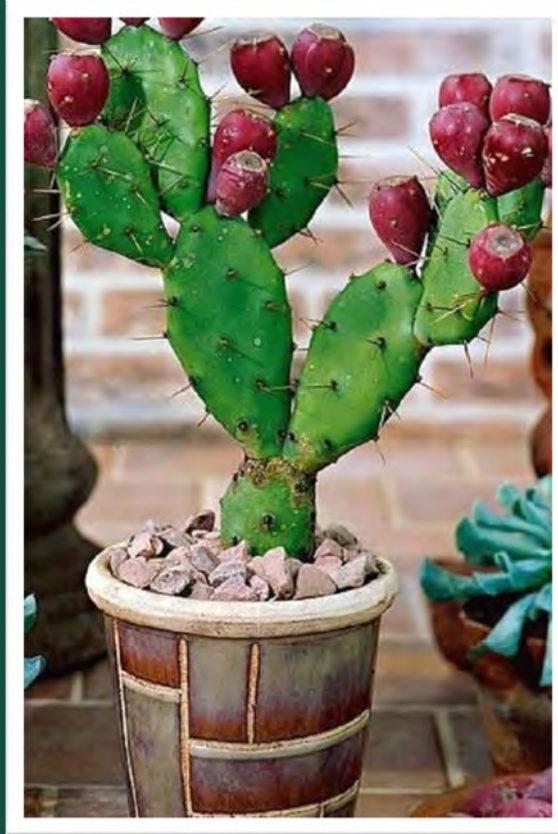


Pavonias do well in sunny areas. Water about 1 inch weekly. Mealy cup sage does great in the sun, but would be best kept with partial afternoon shade. Give less than 1 inch of water per week. Perennial Verbena can handle full sun exposure. Water 1 inch every week.



# What should be in your yard:

Jade Plant



Prickly Pear Cactus

Christmas Cactus



Now let's look at some beautiful sturdy succulents! If you have a young Jade plant, try to keep it in partial sun until its mature, then it can handle full sun. Water once per 3 weeks. Prickly pear cacti like it dry and hot. Water lightly every 2-3 weeks. It's best to keep your Christmas Cactus in a pot so you can move it in and out according to the weather. Keep it indoors with full sun in the winter, and outside in warm weather with shade. Water thoroughly when the top soil mix is very dry. Otherwise, once every two weeks should keep it healthy.



# What should be in your yard:

Kiwi Aeonium



Lady of the Night Cactus

Blue Chalk Sticks



Kiwi Aeoniums require the same sun care as Christmas Cacti. You can water this one monthly.

Lady of the Night Cacti should avoid direct sunlight. During summer, water every two weeks, and once per month in winter.

Blue Chalk Sticks like full heat and sun. Water lightly every 2-3 weeks.



# What should be in your yard:



This is an oriental tall grass that can work as a beautiful hedge. Muhly grass will flourish in absolute full sun. Water every two weeks in the summer, and monthly in the winter.

Muhly Grass



# What should be in your yard:



Dwarf Palmetto

Central Texas Sage



Agarita

Now let's look at some shrubbery. All of these plants absolutely thrive when exposed to full sun, and can go without watering for up to 3-4 weeks.



# What should be in your yard:

Mountain Laurel



Cherry Laurel

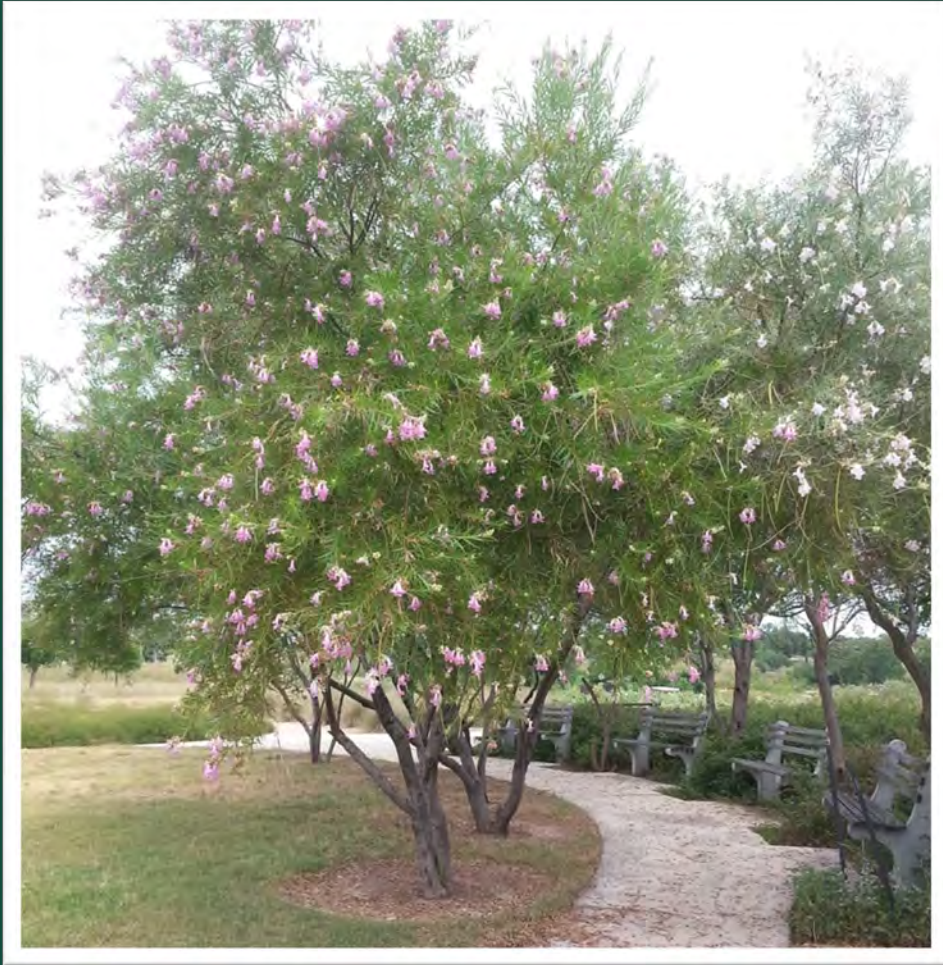


Texas Persimmon

These are some examples of small, hardy trees. To conserve water, Keep Mountain Laurels in shade. Water every two weeks. Cherry Laurels will thrive in partial shade. Water them heavily every 3 weeks. The Texas Persimmon will love full sun. Water 1 inch every 2 weeks.



# What should be in your yard:



Desert Willow



Redbud

Desert Willows love full sun exposure. Water deeply every month. Keep Redbuds in full sun. Water 1-2 inches every two weeks.





Questions?

These suggested changes can be overwhelming, but we believe in engaging the community in impactful ways that can conserve water and improve our future. Now that you have information about Xeriscape Landscaping, will you make any changes to your yard?

Thank you for your time

# Contact Us



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# *Sources*

TexasMap

NonNativePlants

WaterHoarders

BestPlants

Lawn

TexasGuadalupe