

**Information on Native Plants available at Buchanan's Native Plants:
How and Why to Garden for Wildlife in Your Own Backyard**

B. Forbs, Vines, Grasses: all native to our eco-region

#	Plant Name	Sun Needs	Soil Requirements	Water Use	≈ Height	Bloom Time (our region) + (A/P)	Wildlife Value
1	<p>Blue Mistflower (Conoclinium coelestinum)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aster Family • Perennial • Spreads aggressively, by rhizome and seed • Beautiful blue-purple flowers loved by Monarch and Queen butterflies 	Full sun-part shade	Loam, sandy, clay; prefers moist, humus-containing soils that are well-drained	Medium	Up to ≈ 3' tall	Blooms late summer-fall	Nectar + pollen source
2	<p>Butterflyweed a/k/a Butterfly Milkweed (Asclepias tuberosa)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milkweed Family • Perennial; reemerges from taproot • Vibrant orange flowers • All milkweeds are toxic to humans and pets if ingested; sap can irritate eyes and skin. • Highly drought-tolerant • Highly deer-resistant 	Full sun	Prefers well-drained, sandy soils	Low	≈ 1-2' tall	Blooms spring-fall	Nectar + pollen source; host plant for Monarch and Queen butterflies
3	<p>Carolina Jessamine (Gelsemium sempervirens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logania Family • Perennial • Evergreen, climbing vine • Fragrant, yellow flowers • Highly toxic if ingested • Highly deer-resistant • Great substitute for non-native, invasive Japanese Honeysuckle 	Prefers full sun for best blooms	Well-drained, moist, humus-containing soil	Medium	(climbing vine)	Usually blooms in early spring; sometimes begins blooming as early as December, and sometimes blooms again in early fall	Nectar + pollen source
4	<p>Coral Honeysuckle (Lonicera sempervirens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honeysuckle Family • Perennial • Evergreen, climbing vine • Red flowers attract hummingbirds and other pollinators. • Great substitute for non-native, invasive Japanese Honeysuckle 	Prefers full sun for best blooms	Well-drained, moist, rich soil preferred	Medium	(climbing vine)	Late spring-summer	Nectar + pollen source; fruits for birds; host plant for Spring Azure butterfly (Celastrina ladon) and Snowberry Clearwing moth (Hemaris diffinis)

5	<u>Drummond's Turkscap</u> (<i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i> var. <i>drummondii</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mallow Family • Perennial • Deciduous shrub • Striking red flowers and fruits 	Part shade to shade; can grow in sun, but becomes very leggy	Prefers well-drained, moist soil	Medium	Usually \approx 2-3' tall, but can grow up to 9' tall	Blooms late spring-fall	Nectar + pollen source; fruits for birds and small mammals
6	<u>Green Milkweed</u> (<i>Asclepias viridis</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milkweed Family • Perennial; reemerges from taproot • Unusual greenish-white flowers • All milkweeds are toxic to humans and pets if ingested; sap can irritate eyes and skin. • Highly drought-tolerant • Highly deer-resistant 	Full sun	Sandy to rocky, can be poor or rich, must be well-drained	Low	\approx 1-3' tall	Blooms spring-fall	Nectar + pollen source; host plant for Monarch and Queen butterflies
7	<u>Lemon Beebalm</u> (<i>Monarda citriodora</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mint Family • Annual • Beautiful purple flowers • Highly deer-resistant 	Full sun to part shade	Various loams, sandy, clay (dry soil)	Low	\approx 1-2' tall	Blooms late spring-summer or fall	Nectar + pollen source
8	<u>Pigeonberry</u> (<i>Rivina humilis</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pokeweed Family • Perennial, deciduous • White/pink flowers, scarlet berries • Toxic if ingested • Moderately deer-resistant 	Part shade	Various moist, well-drained soils, e.g., clay, loam, sandy, calcareous	Medium	Usually \approx 1.5' tall	Blooms spring-fall	Fruit for birds
9	<u>Scarlet Sage</u> (<i>Salvia coccinea</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mint family • Perennial • Bright red, tubular flowers • Reseeds aggressively • Fairly deer-resistant 	Full sun to part shade	Caliche, sandy, various loams, clay (moist to dry soil)	Medium	\approx 1-3' tall	Blooms spring-fall (first freeze)	Nectar + pollen source
10	<u>Switchgrass</u> (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass Family • Perennial • Can be toxic to horses, sheep, goats • Reddish-purple seedhead in fall 	Prefers full sun, but can grow in part shade	Various soils, dry to moist, e.g., sandy, loam, clay, limestone	Medium	\approx 3-6' tall	Blooms in purple stigmas in late summer-fall	Seeds for birds; host plant for various Skipper and Satyr butterflies; cattle grazing

11	<p>Tall Blazing Star (<i>Liatriis aspera</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aster Family • Perennial; reemerges from corm (≈ root ball) • Conspicuous purple flowers in fall • Drought-tolerant 	Full sun	Sandy or rocky, dry	Low	≈ 1-4' tall	Blooms late summer-early fall	Nectar + pollen source
12	<p>Texas Frogfruit (<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbena Family • Evergreen, perennial groundcover • Tiny white flowers • Tolerates both drought and flooding • Aggressive growth habit • Capable of being mowed + light foot traffic 	Full sun to part shade	Loam, sandy, clay, limestone, caliche; can handle poor drainage	Low	≈ 1' tall	Blooms summer-fall	Nectar + pollen source; host plant for three butterfly species, including Phaon Crescent (<i>Phyciodes phaon</i>) and Common Buckeye (<i>Junonia coenia</i>)
13	<p>Texas Lantana (<i>Lantana urticoides</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbena Family • Perennial shrub • Bright yellow and orange flowers • Highly drought-resistant • Highly deer-resistant • Fruits toxic • Leaf oils may irritate some skin; use gloves + sleeves, if so. 	Full sun	Poor, well-drained soil	Low	≈ 3-4' tall	Blooms spring-fall, even early winter	Nectar + pollen source
14	<p>Virginia Creeper (<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: native to counties surrounding Harris • Grape Family • Deciduous, woody vine; climbing or trailing • Extremely toxic berries 	Full sun to part shade; can tolerate full shade	Prefers moist, well-drained soils, though tolerates most soils and conditions	Low to medium	(climbing or trailing vine)	Blooms late spring-early summer	Fruit for birds; host plant for several Sphinx Moths (a/k/a Hummingbird Moths)

Primary source: Lady Bird Johnson Wildlife Center's Native Plant Database

Note: toxicity information not guaranteed to be complete; always independently research plant toxicity before installing in areas with pets and young children.