# Learn More !

## REFERENCES

AgriLife Extension Aggie Horticulture
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu

AgriLife Research & Extension
http://dallas.tamu.edu

USDA
www.plants.usda.gov

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
www.wildflower.org

Native Plant Society of Texas
www.npsot.org

National Wildlife Federation
www.nwf.org

Texas Parks & Wildlife
www.tpwd.state.tx.us

## RESOURCES

Wildseed Farms
www.wildseedfarms.com

Native American Seed
www.seedsource.com

North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven Rd, **Dallas**, **TX**
www.nhg.com

Redenta's
2001 Skillman St, **Dallas**, **TX**
www.redentas.com

Petal Pushers Garden Emporium
813 Straus Rd, **Cedar Hill**,**TX**

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

10056 Marsh Lane, Ste B-101
Dallas, TX 75229-0071
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/

TEXAS MASTER GARDENER
DALLAS COUNTY

**Horticulture • Education • Community**

To ask a gardening question,
request a speaker,
or find out how to become a
Certified Master Gardener

**CALL THE MG HELP DESK**
**214.904.3053**
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Email: dallasmg@ag.tamu.edu

Dallas County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers supporting Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Dallas County Horticulture programming.
www.dallascountymastergardeners.org

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Certified Dallas County Master Gardener

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

# Native & Adapted Plants in the Landscape

BLUEBONNET
TEXAS

**Dallas County Master Gardener**

# Why Native & Adapted Plants?

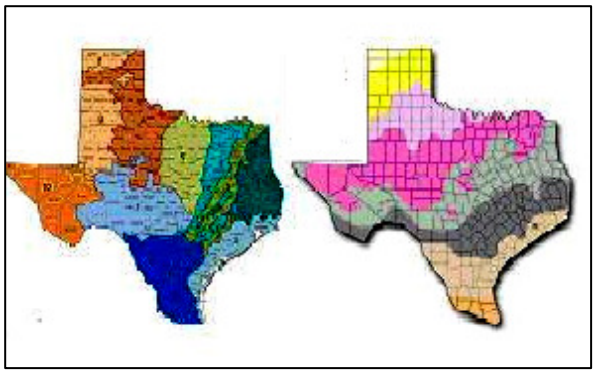
***WaterWise***
***Heat & Drought Tolerant***
***Enduring***

## Native & Adapted plants

- Use less water
- Need less soil modification
- Require little or no fertilizer
- Are less susceptible to pest problems

## The Basics:

**Know Your Soil Type & Hardiness Zone**



**DALLAS COUNTY**

**SOILS**: Blackland Prairie (black clay), Caliche, with some fingers of Sandy Loam reaching down from the Red River.

**HARDINESS ZONE**: Zone 8

**RAINFALL**: average 24 inches per year

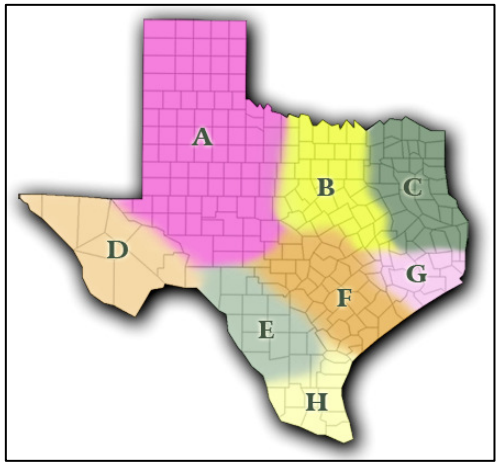
**TEMPERATURE VARIATION:**
Mininum: 10 to 20 degrees F
~120-150 days with temperatures >86 degrees F

**Average first frost date: Nov 15**
**Average last frost date: March 15**

An alternate way of looking at this is to know your

## ADAPTABILITY REGION

**This is also called a BIOME**




**Dallas County is in Biome Region B**

- A *biome* is a major region of distinctive plant and animal groups that are well-adapted to the physical environment of its distribution area.
- The *biome concept* embraces the idea of community interaction among vegetation, animal populations and soil.
- *TX biomes* reflect rainfall levels, temperature variation, wind and soils. These conditions vary widely and affect the way plants grow.

## Native & Adapted Plants

- Solve landscape problems that many other plants cannot.
- Provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators
- Offer food and shelter for many species all year long.

# CONSERVATION ISSUES

**Water is a precious, fragile and limited resource.**
25% of the available water supply in Texas
is used for landscapes. The use of native and adapted plants helps to conserve this precious resource.

**Native and adapted plants have proven sustainability**.
This means fewer replacement costs and waste of plant materials.

**Many of our native plants are at risk of extinction.**
The World Conservation Union assessed the status of plant populations worldwide. The initial findings state that 29% of our nation's flora could be at risk. Planting native plants lessen that risk.

*This silent crisis, the quiet erosion of our nation's plant diversity, has begun to reach public consciousness and to spur serious national debate about what can and should be done.*

***Do your part by combining Texas natives and well-adapted non-native plants into your landscape.***