



Water Wise Plants

For Ottawa and Saline Counties

Tall Deciduous Trees (over 45')

American Elm -(use only dutch elm disease tolerant varieties)
ie. Jefferson, Princeton, Prairie Expedition, New Harmony,
American Sycamore –Platanus Occidentalis (adaptable, but
more susceptible to foliar disease than London Planetree
Baldcypress-Taxodium distichum (decent drought tolerance)
Bur Oak -Quercus macrocarpa, also Urban Pinnacle (upright
Bur oak with only 25' spread and smaller acorns)
Caddo Sugar Maple-Acer saccharum 'Caddo', 'John Pair' or
'Autumn Splendor'
Common Hackberry -Celtis occidentalis
English Oak (Quercus robur). Also available: cv. 'Fastigiata',
(upright form only 10-15 feet wide).
Ginkgo-Ginkgo biloba: 'Autumn Gold', 'Princeton Sentry' use
MALE cultivars only
Honey locust -Gleditsia triacanthos inermis 'Skyline',
'Shademaster' and other thornless cultivars
Hybrid Elms- Patriot, Triumph, Accolade, New Horizon, others
Japanese Pagodatree-Sophora japonica
Kentucky Coffeetree -Gymnocladus dioica 'Espresso', others
London Planetree (Platanus x acerifolia) Cultivars -
'Bloodgood' or 'Exclamation' have best disease resistance
Northern Catalpa-Catalpa Speciosa
Oregon Trail Sugar Maple-native maple from Hiawatha KS
Sawtooth Oak -Quercus acutissima
Shumard Oak-Quercus shumardii
Texas Red Oak-Quercus buckleyi, good red fall color

Medium Deciduous Trees (30 to 45')

Amur Maackia-Maackia amurensis, tough, summer flowers
Chinkapin Oak -Quercus muehlenbergii
Narrow upright oaks: 'Crimson Spire', 'Skinny Jeans'
Shantung Maple -Acer truncatum
Ornamental Pear -Pyrus calleryana 'Aristocrat', 'Capital'
'Cleveland Select', 'Autumn Blaze', 'Chanticleer'
Goldenrain Tree -Koeleruteria paniculata, summer flowers
Hardy Rubber Tree-Eucommia ulmoides
Hedge maple-Acer campestre, tolerant of tough conditions
Lacebark Elm -Ulmus parvifolia (many, some can get large)
Frontier Elm -Ulmus frontier, some red fall color
Osage Orange-Maclura pomifera, use thornless & fruitless
varieties such as Whiteshield
White Mulberry -fruitless Morus alba
Western Soapberry -Sapindus drummondii

Small Deciduous Trees (under 30')

Amur Maple -Acer ginnala
Eastern or Oklahoma Redbud -Cercis sp.(15-20 year life)
Flowering Crabapple -Malus, various cultivars
Chinese Fringe Tree-Chionanthus spp
Hawthorns -Crataegus sp.(Washington, Thornless Cockspur)
Jack Pear – Pyrus Calleryana 'Jackzam'
Smoketree- Cotinus sp.
Seven Son Flower -Heptacodium miconioides (can be grown
as small tree or a large shrub)
Serviceberry – Amelanchier spp. 'Spring Flurry' and others

Large Deciduous Shrubs (over 8')

Beauty Bush -Kolkwitzia amabilis
Blackhaw Viburnum – Viburnum prunifolium
Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum – Viburnum rufidulum
Common Chokecherry -Prunus virginiana
Elderberry- Sambucus Canadensis, good colonizer
Lilacs -Syringa vulgaris
Ninebark -Physocarpus opulifolius
Peking Cotoneaster - Cotoneaster acutifolia
Rough-leafed Dogwood -Cornus drummondii
Rose of Sharon - Hibiscus syriacus
Seven Son Flower – Heptacodium miconioides (very tough)
Siberian Pea Shrub- Caragana arborescens
Staghorn Sumac -Rhus typhina
Western Sandcherry -Prunus besseyi
Winter Honeysuckle -Lonicera fragrantissima
Chastetree – Vitex spp.

Medium Deciduous Shrubs (4 to 8')

Butterfly Bush Buddleia davidii
Burning Bush-Euonymus alatus
Dwarf Ninebark Physocarpus opulifolius Nanus or 'Tiny Wine'
Flowering Quince Chaenomeles speciosa
Forsythia-Forsythia spp.
Fragrant Sumac Rhus aromatic
Japanese Barberry-Berberis thunbergii
Korean Lilac-Syringa meyeri
Crapemyrtle –Lagerstroemia indica (may die back in winter)
Mockorange-Philadelphus spp.
Oakleaf Hydrangea -Hydrangea quercifolia
Sandhill Plum -Prunus angustifolia
Three Leaf Sumac -Rhus trilobata
Privet-Ligustrum spp.
Spirea-Spirea spp. (Vanhoutte Spirea)
Shrub rose– Rosa spp.
Viburnum-Viburnum spp. (Several types, some prefer shade)

Small Deciduous Shrubs (under 4')

Alpine Currant -Ribes alpinum
Bluemist Spirea -Caryopteris spp.
Butterfly Bush (dwarf types like 'Blue Chip')
Common Snowberry-Symphoricarpos albus
Coralberry, Buckbrush -Symphoricarpos orbiculatus
False Indigo -Amorpha fruticosa
Golden Currant -Ribes odoratum
St. Johnswort -Hypericum spp. Such as 'Sunburst' and others
Japanese Barberry-(dwarf types like Crimson Pygmy
or Kobold)
Leadplant -Amorpha canescens
Purple Beautyberry – Callicarpa dichotoma
Spirea - Spirea spp. (Bumald, smaller types)
Shrub Rose -Rosa spp.

Evergreen Trees

Juniper -Juniperus spp. (many cultivars in different sizes
and shapes available--look for Juniperus virginiana,
Juniperus chinensis, communis, horizontalis, and others.
Avoid Juniperus 'scopulorum' varieties

Evergreens Continued...

Eastern Red Cedar (native Juniper) is recommended for wind break plantings

Pines (use sparingly due to pine wilt and diseases) Pinyon, Ponderosa, Limber, Lacebark, Southwestern White

Work is being done to identify other evergreens for Kansas

Large Evergreen Shrubs

Juniper-Juniperus spp. (many types)

Leatherleaf Viburnum-V. rhytidophyllum (leaves hang on)

Pragense Viburnum-V. x pragense (leaves hang on)

Pyracantha-Pyracantha spp. (tough, has thorns)

Medium Evergreen Shrubs

Junipers- Juniperus various species

Manhattan Euonymus-Euonymus kiautschovicus

Nandina- Nandina domestica

Small Evergreen Shrubs

Juniper-Juniperus various species

Soapweed- Yucca glauca

Yucca -Yucca filamemntosa

Groundcover for Shade (beneath trees, north walls)

Bergenia -Bergenia cordifolia

English Ivy-Hedera helix

Mahonia, Creeping Mahonia repens

Liriope - Liriope spp.

Periwinkle -Vinca minor

Solomon's Seal-Polygonatum odoratum

Wintercreeper Euonymus-Euonymus fortune 'Coloratus'

Woodland Phlox-Phlox divaricata

Groundcovers for Full Sun

Catmint -Nepeta x faassenii, look for low growing types

Creeping Junipers -Juniperus various species

Daylily -Hemerocallis various species

Evergreen Candytuft -Iberis sempervirens

English Ivy-Hedera helix (better on East or North if in full sun)

Gro-Low Fragrant Sumac Rhus aromatica 'GroLow'

Lambs Ears -Stachys byzantina

Lilyturf -Liriope spicata

Periwinkle -Vinca minor

Phlox (Creeping) -Phlox subulata

Ribbon Grass -Phalaris arundinacea var. picta

Rock Soapwort -Saponaria ocymoides

Sedum, -Stonecrop Sedum various species

Silvermound -Artemisia schmidtiana

Snow in Summer -Cerastium tomentosum

Thyme (Creeping) -Thymus serpyllum

Virginia Creeper-Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Wintercreeper -Euonymus fortunei var. coloratus

Ornamental Grasses

Ornamental grasses are a great choice for Kansas, there are many varieties in different sizes and shapes. **Examples:**

Big Bluestem, Blue Oat Grass, Blue Grama, Fountain Grass,

Dwarf Fountain Grass, Feather Reed Grass, Maiden Grass,

Hardy Pampas Grass, Indiangrass, Little Bluestem,

Lovegrass, Northern Sea Oats, Prairie Dropseed, Switchgrass

Sideoats Grama

Perennials—all grow in full sun (**) tolerates part shade
(*) plants that do not tolerate wet sites

*Agastache/Hummingbird Mint – Agastache

*Artemesia - Artemisia spp.

*Aster – Aster spp.

*Blue Indigo – Baptisia sp.

*Blue Star Amsonia -Amsonia hubrichtii

*Black-eyed Susan/Rudbeckia - Rudbeckia spp.

*Butterfly Milkweed - Asclepias tuberosa

*Coreopsis - Coreopsis, various cultivars

*Creeping Phlox - Phlox subulata

*Catmint -Nepeta spp.

Daylily - Hemerocallis spp. **

Coneflower-Echinacea spp.

Euphorbia - Euphorbia spp.

*Evening Primrose - Oenothera missouriensis

*False Indigo - Amorpha fruticosa

*Gaillardia - Gaillardia puchella

*Leadplant - Amorpha canescens

*Mexican Primrose – Oenothera speciosa/berlandieri

*False Sunflower – Heliopsis helianthoides

*Garden Phlox – Phlox paniculata

*Gaura - Gaura spp.

*Globe Thistle - Echinops spp. **

Goldenrod – Solidago spp. **

*Geranium (Perennial)

Cranesbill – Geranium sanguineum **

Wild Geranium – Geranium maculatum

Hibiscus, hardy - Hibiscus moscheutos **

*Hosta – Hosta spp. (shade only) **

*Ice Plant - Delesperma

*Iris - Iris spp. **

Joe Pye - Eupatorium purpureum

*Lambs' Ear - Stachys byzantine **

*Lavender - Lavandula angustifolia

*Liatris - Liatris spp. **

Liriope - Liriope spp. **

Lily-of-the-Valley - Convallaria majalis**

*Meadow Sage – Salvia nemorosa

*Mexican Hat – Ratibida columnifera

Monarda/Beebalm – Monarda didyma **

*Mullein - Verbascum spp. **

*Oriental Poppy - Papaver orientale **

*Penstemon – Penstemon spp.

*Pitcher's Salvia - Salvia pitcheri

*Peony – Paeonia

*Phlox – Phlox spp.

*Poppy Mallow - Callirhoe involucrate

*Purple Coneflower - Echinacea spp.

*Red Yucca - Hesperaloe parviflora

*Rock Soapwort - Saponaria ocymoides

*Russian Sage - Perovskia atriplicifolia

*Salvia – Salvia nemosa

*Sea Lavender - Limonium latifolium

*Sedum - Sedum spp. **

Spiderwort – Tradescantia tharprii

*Maximilian Sunflower – Helianthus maximilianii

*Woolly Yarrow - Achillea tomentosa

*Yarrow - Achillea spp.