

Resource List – Native Landscape Certification Program Montgomery County and Surrounding Areas

Websites

Benny Simpson's Texas Native Shrubs:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamentals/nativeshrubs>

Houston Audubon - Bird Friendly Landscapes www.BirdFriendlyHouston.org

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center - Native Plant Database <http://www.wildflower.org/plants>

Invasive Plants: www.texasinvasives.org

www.invasive.org

<https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov>

Texas A&M Forest Service <http://texastreeid.tamu.edu/> (How to ID native trees)

Texas Tree Planting Guide <http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/index.html>

Texas Wildscapes: A Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/wildscapes/

Soil Food Web: www.grow-it-organically.com/soil-food-web.html

<https://www.nps.gov/whsa/learn/nature/soil-food-web.htm>

www.soilfoodweb.com

Web Soil Survey. National Resource Conservation Survey <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Doug Tallamy's Bringing Nature Home website: www.bringingnaturehome.net

Organizations

Native Plant Society of Texas <http://www.npsot.org/> Houston Chapter <http://npsot.org/wp/houston/>
Clear Lake Chapter <http://www.npsot.org/clearlake/>

Botanical Research Institute of Texas <http://www.brit.org/>

Houston Audubon Society <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/>

Master Gardeners <http://mastergardener.tamu.edu/>

Master Naturalists <http://txmn.org/>

Native Prairies Association of Texas (NPAT) www.texasprairie.org

Books

Native Texas Plants: Landscaping Region by Region, Wasowski, Sally, and Andy Wasowski. 1997., 2nd ed. Lanham, MD: Lone Star Books. This is a must-have book for Texas native plant lovers, 435 Texas natives, photo + all details, landscape plans for every region.

Landscaping with Native Plants of Texas, Miller, George Oxford. 2013. 2nd ed. St. Paul, MN: Voyageur Press. Covers lots of natives, photos + info but more West Texas oriented.

Habitat Gardening for Houston, Bowen, Mark. 1998. Houston, TX: River Bend Company. Features 125 natives specifically for Houston area. Out of print but used copies available, Kindle version has fewer plants, no pictures.

Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife, Bender, Kelly Conrad. 2009. Texas A&M University Press. How to create backyard habitat to attract wildlife using native plants, step by step garden design; installing ponds, nest boxes, feeders. Searchable DVD covers birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and plants native to Texas.

Wildflowers of Houston and Southeast Texas, Tveten, John and Gloria. 1993. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press. Over 200 Houston-area wildflowers photos, arranged by color, interesting facts/folklore.

Butterflies of Houston and Southeast Texas, Tveten, John and Gloria. 1996. 270 Houston-area butterflies, color photos of adults, caterpillars.

Bringing Nature Home, How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens, Tallamy, Douglas W. Portland OR: Timber Press. A must-read book explaining why native plants are necessary to wildlife. Our insects can't eat exotic non-native plants. Affecting arguments, extensive research, great insect photos and descriptions. General tree guide.

Nature's Best Hope, A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard, Tallamy, Douglas W. Portland OR: Timber Press. He is suggesting the establishment of Homegrown National Park – Another Must-Read book.

The Living Landscape, Designing for Beauty And Biodiversity In The Home Garden, Darke, Rick and Doug Tallamy. 2014. Portland OR: Timber Press. Fantastic photos! Authors explain & illustrate the layers (horizontal, vertical, cultural, temporal) in wild landscapes and what role plants play, interrelationships of living organisms, what landscapes do ecologically.

Trees of Texas: An Easy Guide to Leaf Identification, Stahl, Carmine et al. 2003. Austin, TX: UT Press. Life-size photos of leaves.

Butterfly Gardening for Texas, Ajilvsgi, Geyata. 2013. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press. Covers everything: behavior, life span, life cycle with pictures of egg, caterpillar, chrysalis; Creating Butterfly Garden has color coded plans, photos, plant lists & substitutions; Larval Food Plant Profiles; Nectar Plant Profiles; 50+ Butterfly Profiles.

Invasive Plants: Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species, Kaufman, S.R. et al. 2007. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books. Extensive coverage of invasive plants with good id photos, how to control.

A Field Guide for Identification of Invasive Plants in Southern Forests, Miller, James H. et al. 2010. SRS119, Great free book from USDA Forest Service, So. Research Station, www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ To download: Search by Publication ID (right side of screen), type in GTR SRS 119.

Remarkable Plants of Texas, Uncommon Accounts of our Common Natives, Turner, Matt Warnock, 2009, Austin: UT Press. Cultural history of 80 common Texas natives: noteworthy facts, historical role, usefulness, unusual biological features, importance to wildlife & humans.

Teaming with Microbes, Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Lowenfels Jeff et al, 2010. Portland OR: Timber Press.

Explains how microbes function to form soil food web, how nutrients are held & released, root exudates attract microbes. Life story of each soil inhabitant: Bacteria, Archaea, Fungi, Algae, Slime Molds, Protozoa, Earthworms. Fascinating inter-relationships; difference between fungal & bacterial dominated soils & which plant thrives in each.

Attracting Beneficial Bugs to Your Garden, Walliser, Jessica, 2013, Portland OR: Timber Press. Plant a Pollinator Garden to attract: assassin bugs, big-eyed bugs, fireflies, beetles, lacewings, lady bugs, parasitic wasps, predatory mites, robber & syrphid flies, spiders, tachinid flies, rove beetles, predatory stink bugs, praying mantids. Fascinating profile, color pictures, what pests they eat, garden benefits, how to attract.

Garden Revolution, How our Landscapes can be a Source of Environmental Change, Weaner, Larry et al, 2016. Portland OR: Timber Press. Traditional gardening can be counterproductive – a primer on landscaping and gardening ecologically!