

Washington County Plant List

Updated April 13, 2006

LARGE TREES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
☼	Orange County Ash	<i>Fraxinus 'Orange County'</i>	fast growing, tolerates all kinds of soil	Low
	Arizona Ash	<i>Fraxinus veluntina</i>	Withstands hot, dry conditions, Lows - 10°	Low
☼	Bloodgood Sycamore/London Plane Tree	<i>Plantanus acerifolia</i>	Large tree, heavy trunk, large hairy leaves	Moderate
☼	Bottle Tree	<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	evergreen, use for shade tree or high, wide windbreak	Low
☼	Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Fast growing, will handle wide range of climates	Moderate
☼	Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Moderate grower, handles alkaline soils	Low
	Common Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	tolerates strong winds, desert heat, and dry alkaline soils; Upright growth habit, may exceed 40-50'; good choice for street or lawn tree	Moderate
☼	Coolibah	<i>Eucalyptus microtheca</i>	Wind resistant, blue-green ribbon-like leaves	Low
	Cork Oak	<i>Quercus suber</i>	May see cold injury in less than Zone 5	Low
☼	European White Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Most common variety, Susceptible to aphids & birch bore	Regular
	Fan-Tex Ash	<i>Fraxinus veluntina 'Rio Grande'</i>	Foliage resistant to wind burn	Low
☼	Fruitless Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>		Moderate
☼	Hankow Willow	<i>Salix matsudana</i>	popular in high desert	Low
☼	Holly Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	May be trained or sheared	Low
☼	Honey Locust, Shademaster	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis 'Shademaster'</i>	fast growing, <i>G. t. inermis</i> are thornless and have less litter	Moderate
☼	Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	fast growing	Moderate
	Italian Alder	<i>Alnus cordata</i>	Handles wide range of zones, needs water	High
	Lace Bark Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Fast-growing; long life-span; drought and disease tolerant; flaking bark adds character	Moderate
	Live Oak	<i>Quercus virginia</i>	Adapted well to low desert areas	Low
	Modesto Ash	<i>Fraxinus veluntina 'Modesto'</i>	Subject to heat scorch, not as hardy as others	Low
	Montebello Ash	<i>Fraxinus veluntina 'Coracea'</i>	Native of Southern California	Low
	Mt. Atlas Pistache	<i>Pistacia atlantica</i>	Slow to moderate growth, water deep & infrequent	Low

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☼	Raywood Ash	<i>Fraxinus veluntina 'Raywood'</i>	Foliage sensitive to high wind	Low
☼	Red Push Pistache	<i>Pistacia 'Red Push'</i>	Needs well drained soil, water deep & infrequent	Low
	Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Not good in alkaline soils	Moderate
☼	Texas Red Oak	<i>Quercus buckleyi</i>	Takes the alkaline soil	Low
☼	Texas Umbrella/Chinaberry	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Tolerates heat, wind, poor soil, drought	Moderate
	Tulip Tree (Poplar)	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Requires slightly acid soil, good shade tree	Regular
☼	Western/Fremont Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Fast growing, roots are aggressive	Regular
SMALL TREES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Acacia	<i>Acacia sp.</i>	Not adapted to colder areas	No-Low
☼	Silk Tree, Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Not long-lived	Low
☼	Yellow Bird of Paradise	<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	Attracts hummingbirds	Low
	Netleaf Hackberry	<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	Tolerates strong winds, desert heat, and dry alkaline soils. Canyon/wash small tree	Moderate
	Hawthorne	<i>Crataegus Sp.</i>	Tolerant of any soil, with good drainage	Moderate
	Little Leaf Ash	<i>Fraxinum anomala</i>	Native to canyons and stream beds	Low
	Golden Raintree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Well adapted to St. George, famous for Japanese lantern-like papery fruit	Moderate
	Glossy Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	May suffer in full sun, shrub or tree	Regular
	Loquat	<i>Loquat japonica</i>	Not good in full sun, Produces edible fruit	Regular
	Redtip Photinia	<i>Photinia Fraseri</i>	Sensitive to iron deficiency, good espalier	Moderate
	Honey Mesquite	<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>	Good desert tree	No-Low
	Screwbean Mesquite	<i>Prosopis torreyana pubescens</i>	spirally twisted seedpods, bluish green foliage	No-Low
	Western Mesquite	<i>Prosopis torreyana</i>	thornless variety of Honey Mesquite	No-Low
☼	Southern Live Oak	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Evergreen, best oak for low desert	Low
☼	Sumac	<i>Rhus</i>	Brilliant fall leaf color, tolerates all soils, but soggy soils can kill them	Low
	Texas Red Oak	<i>Quercus texana</i>	Small Oak tree, tolerates alkaline soil; drought tolerant; vivid red and orange fall color	Low
FLOWERING TREES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Indian Bean Tree	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Large pods hang in late summer, soil tolerant, does not tolerate wind well	Moderate
☼	Desert Museum Palo Verda	<i>Cercidium 'Desert Museum'</i>	fast growing, best of this specie	Low
☼	Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Early blooming tree	Moderate
☼	Desert Willow	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Native desert species, blossoms attract humming birds	Low
	Chitalpa	<i>Chitalpa tashkentensis 'Pink Dawn'</i>	Struggles with mid-summer heat	Low

FLOWERING TREES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
☼	Jujube	<i>Jujube</i>	takes well to desert conditions, edible fruit	Moderate
	Chinese Flame Tree	<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	adaptable to different soils, flowers produce little Japanese lanterns	Moderate
	Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Adapted well to St. George, flowers bloom on new wood	Moderate
	Flowering Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	can grow well in clay soils, but struggle if soil is shallow	Moderate
	Idaho Locust	<i>Robinia ambigua idahoensis</i>	Bright purple showy flowers, tolerates poor soil and drought tolerant, fast growth but wood brittle	Low
	Texas Mountain Laurel	<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	Evergreen or deciduous, tree or shrub, provide good drainage	Moderate
	Japanese Pagoda (Chinese Scholar Tree)	<i>Sophora japonica</i>	Small yellow flowering tree, moderate growth up to 70 ft.	Moderate
	Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Tree or shrub, well adapted to desert , spreading habit	Moderate
CONIFERS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Blue Atlas Cedar	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	drought tolerant, nice specimen tree	Moderate
	Deodar Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	May get spider mites easily	Moderate
	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	fast growing screen tree, tolerant of soils, climate and strong wind	Moderate
☼	Arizona Cypress	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	Adapted to the cooler area of the county, mass for windbreak or screen	Low
	Aleppo Pine	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Handles poor soil and desert heat	No-Low
	Italian Stone Pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Slow growing, large rounded shape	No-Low
	Japanese Black Pine	<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	Slow growing, irregular shape	Moderate
	Mondel Pine/Afghan Pine	<i>Pinus eldarica</i>	Best desert pine, upright growth habit	No-Low
Palm				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Pindo Palm	<i>Butia capitata</i>	winter hardy for brief periods, slow growing, produces edible fruit	Regular
	Mediterranean Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	winter hardy for brief periods, slow growing, tolerates poor soil and wind	Moderate
	Canary Island Palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	not for small city lots	Regular
	Date Palm	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	does well in desert, too large for most home gardens	Regular
	Windmill Palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	hardy, moderate to fast growth	Regular
	California Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	fast growing, too tall for most home gardens	Low
	Mexican Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	slimmer than California Fan	Low
SHRUBS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Agave species	<i>Agave</i>	may shrivel during drought, but plump up with moisture	No-Low

SHRUBS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
☼	Utah Century Plant	<i>Agave utahensis</i>	Rock/outcrops succulent	No-Low
	Big Sagebrush	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	Rock/outcrops medium shrub	No-Low
	Sand Sagebrush	<i>Artemisia filifolia</i>	Sand desert large shrub	No-Low
	Fourwing Saltbush	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Sand desert large shrub, fire resistant	No-Low
	Prostrate Baccharis	<i>Baccharis centennial</i>	able to grow in difficult conditions	No-Low
	Fremont Barberry	<i>Berberis fremontii</i>	Canyon/wash large shrub	Moderate
	Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	attracts butterflies	Moderate
	Barrel Cactus	<i>Cactacea sp.</i>	Slow growth, needs little water	No-Low
	Prickly Pear var.	<i>Cactacea sp.</i>	Native to desert, flowers in spring, edible fruit	No-Low
	Mountain Mahogany	<i>Cercocarpus sp.</i>	Evergreen shrub/tree suited to dry rock slopes	No-Low
	Mock Orange	<i>Choisya ternata</i>	Luscious green leaves, doesn't like alkaline soil or high-salt water	Moderate
	Rabbitbrush	<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	has yellow flowers	No-Low
	Bush Morning Glory	<i>Convolvulus cnerorum</i>	evergreen shrub, fast spreading	Moderate
	Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	Low-growing, prefers poor, dry soil	No-Low
	Cliff Rose	<i>Cowania mexicana stansburiana</i>	tree or shrub, flowers resemble single roses	Moderate
	Fremont' Indigobush	<i>Dalea pulchra</i>	Low, trailing desert shrub	No-Low
	Desert Spoon	<i>Dasyllirion wheeleri</i>	very drought tolerant, good drainage	No-Low
	Brittlebush	<i>Encelia frutescens</i>	Deciduous medium shrub, yellow flowering	No-Low
	Mormon Tea	<i>Ephedra viridis</i>	will tolerate dry, exposed conditions and poor soils, but must have good drainage, has small flowers and leaves	No-Low
	Winter Creeper	<i>Euonymus sp.</i>	With out support will be a foot high ground cover, or with support will cover a wall completely	Moderate
	Apache Plume	<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	Canyon/wash large shrub, flower resemble single white roses	No
☼	Pineapple Guava	<i>Feijoa</i>	blossoms attract bees and birds, produces fruit	Regular
	Ocotillo	<i>Fouquieria splendens</i>	Whip-like stems, thorny, orange flowers, need good drainage	No-Low
	Snake Weed	<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>	blooms profusely with sunflower yellow flowers	No-Low
	False Bird of Paradise	<i>Heliconia sp.</i>	Small blooming ornamental	Regular
	Red Yucca	<i>Hesperolae parviflora</i>	Especially heat tolerant.	No-Low
	Rose of Sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Deciduous shrub, upright growth habit, prefers heat and tolerates some drought,	Regular
☼	Junipers	<i>Juniperus sp.</i>	Many forms of this evergreen shrub	Varies

SHRUBS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Creosote Bush	<i>Larrea tridentata</i>	Native low desert large shrub, tolerates wind, can be used as a formal hedge	No-Low
	Texas Ranger	<i>Leucophyllum sp.</i>	Green-grey foliage shrubs with colorful blooms	No-Low
	Japanese Privet	<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>	great hedges or screens and for shaping	Regular
	Heavenly Bamboo	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Small shrubs, bamboo-type plant	Low
☼	Oleander	<i>Nerium sp.</i>	Tolerant of heat, blooms most of the summer	Low
	Indian fig	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	plant bears prickly pears you see sold in grocery stores.	Low
☼	Pyracantha	<i>Pyracantha sp.</i>	Evergreen shrub with bright orange berries	Low
	Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Foliage turns red in fall; Canyon/wash large shrub	Low
	Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus species</i>	Evergreen feathery shrub, fragrant	Low
	Trailing Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Evergreen feathery shrub, fragrant	Low
	Dorr Sage	<i>Salvia Dorrii</i>	Evergreen flowering shrub, needs good drainage, drought tolerant	Low
	Mexican Bush Sage	<i>Salvia leucantha</i>	Evergreen flowering shrub, tolerant of heat and cold	Low
	Red Autumn Sage	<i>Salvia greggii</i>	Evergreen or deciduous flowering shrub	Low
	Santolina	<i>Santolinas virens</i>	grow in any well drained soil, low growing	No-Low
	Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Handles poor soil, yellow blooms, 6-10 ft. high	No-Low
	Arizona Rosewood	<i>Vauquelinia californica</i>	somewhat reminiscent of oleander in habit	No-Low
	Mojave Aster	<i>Xylorihiza tortifolia</i>	perennial shrub, low growing	No-Low
	Datil Yucca, Banana Yucca	<i>Yucca baccata</i>	Medium shrub, 3' high x 5' wide, fleshy, edible banana-like fruits to 6" long	No-Low
	Joshua Tree	<i>Yucca brevifolia</i>	Difficult under ordinary garden conditions, Spiny simple branched, slow growth	No-Low
	Narrowleaf Yucca	<i>Yucca angustissima</i>	Best in well drained soil	No-Low
	Pendulous Yucca	<i>Yucca recurvifolia</i>	not as stiff and metallic looking as most yuccas	No-Low

PERENNIAL FLOWERS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
☼	Ice Plant	(Various genera)	Low growing, succulent groundcover	Low
	Yarrow	<i>Achillea sp.</i>	Tall erect growth habit, most are yellow	No-Low
	Columbine	<i>Aquilegia sp.</i>	Likes well-drained soil	Regular
	Painted Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus ceramicus</i>	spiny leaves with large variegated pods; Native plant	No-Low
	Desert Marigold	<i>Baileya multiradiata</i>	Low desert perennial, yellow flowers	Low
	Chocolate Flower	<i>Berlandiera lyrata</i>	Fragrant chocolate yellow blooms, thrives well in clay soil	Moderate
	Sundrops	<i>Calylophus hartwegii</i>	Yellow flowering, does well in sunny, hot areas	No-Low
	Indian Paintbrush	<i>Castilleja chromosa</i>	Rock/outcrops perennial, red flowers	No-Low
	Morning Glory	<i>Convolvulus althaeoides tenuissimus</i>	can be invasive, good in rock gardens	Moderate
	Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis sp.</i>	Easy-to-grow; Yellow flowing, about 1-2 ft. tall	No-Low
	Desert Larkspur	<i>Delphinium scaposum</i>	Rock/outcrops perennial, purple flowers	Regular
	Euphorbia	<i>E. rigida</i>	Showy display plant in borders, rock gardens, containers. Full Sun. Tolerates drought.	Moderate
	Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple flowers, blooms most of summer	Moderate
	Gazania	<i>G. hybrids</i>	Low, clumping or spreading plants, long bloom season	Moderate
	Hopi Blanketflower	<i>Gaillardia pinnatifida</i>	Sand desert perennial, orange flowering	Moderate
	Pink Guara	<i>Guara lindheimeri</i>	multiple delicate flowers on one stem	Moderate
	Thrifty Goldenweed	<i>Haplopappus sp.</i>	Sunflower family	Low
	Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis sp.</i>	Perennials from tuberous roots	Regular
	Sundancer Daisy	<i>Hymenoxys acaulis</i>	gold daisy	Low
	Red Hot Poker	<i>Kniphofia sp.</i>	Dense foliage producing yellow-orange flowers	Moderate
	Lantana	<i>Lantana sp.</i>	Low growing, evergreen shrubs	Moderate
	Lavender	<i>Lavendula sp.</i>	Fragrant purple flowers	Moderate
	Fremont's Peppergrass	<i>Lepidium fremontii</i>	white delicate flowers	Low
	Blue Flax	<i>Linum sp.</i>	Drought tolerant	Moderate
	Big Blue Lily Turf	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	become ragged and brown with neglect, can show tip burn on leaves if soil contains excess salts or if plants are kept too wet where drainage is poor.	Moderate
	Giant Lily Turf	<i>Liriope gigantea</i>	become ragged and brown with neglect, can show tip burn on leaves if soil contains excess salts or if plants are kept too wet where drainage is poor.	Moderate
	Liriope	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	Green grass-like leaves in clumps-purple bloom	Moderate
	Four O'Clock	<i>Mirabilis multiflora</i>	Magenta colored flowers in clumps	Low

PERENNIAL FLOWERS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Bear Grass	<i>Nolina microcarpa</i>	Accent plants with tough, grassy leaves	No-Low
	Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera sp.</i>	Sand desert perennial herb	No-Low
	Penstemon	<i>Penstemon sp.</i>	blossoms attract hummingbirds, do not over water, needs good drainage	No-Low
	Russian Sage	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	Woody low shrub, mass of purple flowers	No-Low
	Phlox	<i>Phlox sp.</i>	Many perennial types, most are yellow or white	Regular
	Rose	<i>Rosa species</i>	choose types suited to climate and mulch beds to conserve water usage	Regular
	Canaigre	<i>Rumex hymenosepalus</i>	Herb, some species used for medicinal	Moderate
	Salvia	<i>Salvia sp.</i>	Many types of this perennial	Low
	Mojave Globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	Low desert perennial, salmon color flowers	Low
	Prince's Plume	<i>Stanleya pinnata</i>	Rock/outcrops perennial herb, yellow plumelike flowers; tolerates alkaline soil	Low
	Verbena	<i>Verbena sp.</i>	Available in many colors	Moderate
VINES, GROUND COVERS				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Glossy Abelia	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	good ground cover, flower during summer and early fall	Regular
	Hearts & Flowers	<i>Aptenia cordifolia</i>	Ice plant relative, but looks less like ice plants than most	Low
	Cliff Sandwort	<i>Arenaria macradenia</i>	often used as lawn substitutes, between stepping stones, or for velvety green patches	Moderate
	Trumpet vine	<i>Campsis grandiflora</i>	Fast-growing vine to 40 ft., orange bell-shaped flowers	Moderate
	Common Winter Creeper	<i>Euonymus radicans</i>	Less vigorous, reddish-colored flowers	Moderate
	Carolina Jessamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Blooms most profusely in full sun.	Regular
	Hall's Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	takes dryness when establish, tolerates poor drainage	Moderate
	Bird's Foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	use as ground cover or coarse lawn substitute	Regular
	Mondo Grass	<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	an evergreen perennial, great for shady areas, use for ground cover or borders	Moderate
	Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i>	Vigorous vine with beautiful foliage	Moderate
	Climbing Rose	<i>Rosa species</i>	choose types suitable to climate; use mulch to conserve water use	Moderate
	Thyme	<i>Thymus sp.</i>	Use as filler between stepping stones, soft and fragrant underfoot	Moderate
	Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Plants will bloom in sun or considerable shade	Low
GRASSES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Purple Three Awn	<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	in summer seed heads form a cloud of purple	Low

GRASSES				
Loc	Common Name	Botanical Name	Description	Water Use
	Blue Grama	<i>Bouteloua sp.</i>	Native of dry climate, area, heat resistant	Low
	Red Grama	<i>Bouteloua hirsuta</i>	Rock/outcrops small bunchgrass	Low
	Buffalo Grass	<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>	Slow growing, low maintenance grass, uses little water once established	Low
	Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Tall ornamental grass, white plumes 8-12' high	Low
	Bermuda grass	<i>Cynodon</i>	invasive	Low
	Blue Fescue	<i>Festuca glauca</i>	Clumped ornamental type, 12" high	Moderate
	Fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	tolerant of compacted soils	Low
	Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Among the showiest and liveliest looking of ornamental grasses	Moderate
	Deer Grass	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	slender yellow or purplish flower spikes in autumn, clump grass	No-Low
☼	Indian Rice Grass	<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>	Sand desert bunchgrass	No-Low
	Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum species</i>	Growing in fountain-like mounds, among the most graceful of ornamental grasses, use in containers or in perennial or shrub borders	Moderate
	Big Galleta	<i>Pleuraphis rigida</i>	bunch grass, sandy rocky soils	Low
	Blue Grass	<i>Poa</i>	does not do well during hot summer months	Regular
	Alkali Scaton Grass	<i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	Extremely tough, showy pinkish plumes	Low
	Giant Feather Grass	<i>Stipa gigantea</i>	Native clump grass, very drought tolerant	Low

This list is a collaboration between Rick Heflebower, Extension Agent, Horticulture & Natural Resources and those plants that can be found in demonstration gardens around our community.

Loc: Plant material demonstrated at local gardens are indicated by the following:

* The Garden, 1851 Dixie Drive (in Tonaquint Park; , St. George UT

** Santa Clara Arboretum; Santa Clara UT

***Three Falls Elementary School Native Plant Society Garden; Hurricane UT