



## Drought Tolerant Plants Suitable for Arkansas Landscapes

Below are groups of plants that should survive our dry Arkansas summers. Some may be included in more than one list. If you choose some of these plants to use in your landscape, research further in a good garden reference book to discover individual characteristics such as the type of soil needed and the degree of drought tolerance a plant has. Several plants are identified as “native plants.” These, in addition to others you may see growing along the side of roadways and in fields throughout central

Arkansas, have proven they can withstand the climate we experience in Pulaski County. When you reference garden books, keep in mind that the term “dry” means something different to western gardeners than to those in other areas of the country. In central Arkansas we usually have adequate water in winter and spring but we suffer more from drought in summer and early autumn. Experience and experimentation will reveal those plants that will work for you.

### TREES

Arborvitae  
 Arizona Cypress  
 Chaste Tree (Vitex)  
 Crapemyrtle (tree)  
 Ginkgo  
 Golden Raintree  
 Hawthorne (native)  
 Honeylocust (native)  
 Pin Oak (native)  
 Redbud (native)  
 Red Maple  
 Russian Olive  
 Shortleaf Pine (native)  
 Shumard Oak (native)  
 Smoketree Native)  
 Smooth Sumac (native)  
 Southern Red Oak (native)  
 Oak Species  
 Elm Species

### PERENNIALS

Artemisia  
 Baby’s Breath  
 Bearded Iris  
 Candytuft  
 Daffodils  
 Daylilies  
 Dianthus  
 Gaura “Siskiyou Pink”  
 German Stative  
 Lamb’s Ear  
 Penstemon (native)  
 Phlox - Downy (native)  
 Russian Sage  
 Sedum  
 Snow in Summer  
 Stoke’s Aster  
 Torch Lily  
 Yarrow

Groundsel (native)  
 Holly Species  
 Hydrangea - Peegee  
 Huckleberry (native)  
 Japanese Garden Juniper  
 Mugo Pine  
 Nandina  
 Red Chokeberry (native)  
 Barberry  
 Shore Juniper  
 Spicebush (native)  
 Spirea  
 Thorny Elaeagnus  
 Variegated Privet  
 Wax Myrtle  
 Yaupon Holly  
 Yucca

Over for more ideas.

### ANNUAL FLOWERS

Cleome  
 Cosmos  
 Globe Amaranth  
 Gloriosa Daisy  
 Purslane  
 Lantana  
 Marigolds  
 Moss Rose  
 Periwinkle

### SHRUBS

Beauty Berry (native)  
 Beautybush  
 Blue Rug Juniper  
 Burford Holly  
 Chinese Juniper  
 Crimson Pygmy Barberry  
 Crapemyrtle  
 Arborvitae  
 Flowering Quince  
 Forsythia  
 Santolina

## **VINES**

American Bittersweet  
Cypress Vine (annual)  
Hyacinth Bean (annual)  
Trumpet Honeysuckle  
Morning Glory (annual)  
Silver Lace  
Yellow Jessamine

## **GROUNDCOVERS**

Asian Jasmine  
Boston Ivy  
Carolina Yellow Jessamine  
Creeping St. John's Wort  
Creeping Thyme  
Junipers, all cultivars  
Liriope, all cultivars  
Mondo grass  
Nandinas (dwarf)  
Sedums  
Showy Evening Primrose  
Yaupons, all cultivars

## **GRASSES**

Bermuda (lawn)  
Bluestem Grass (ornamental)  
Fountain Grass (ornamental)  
Gulf Muhly Grass (ornamental)  
Love Grass (ornamental)  
Pampas Grass (ornamental)  
Miscanthus Grass (ornamental)  
Ravenna Grass (ornamental)  
Reed Grass (ornamental)  
Ribbon Grass (ornamental)

## **WILDFLOWERS**

Bee Balm  
Bird Foot's Violet  
Black Eyed Susan  
Butterfly Weed  
Coreopsis  
Evening Primrose  
False Indigo  
Gaillardia  
Hardy Ageratum  
Joe Pye Weed  
Liatris  
Ox-eye Daisy  
Purple Coneflower  
Queen Anne's Lace  
Sundrop  
Verbena  
Yarrow

## **HERBS**

Artemesia  
Bee Balm  
Cone Flowers  
Dill (annual)  
Fennel  
Garlic  
Hyssop  
Lavender  
Oregano  
Ox-eye Daisy (native)  
Rosemary  
Sage  
Santalinas  
Savory  
Sweet Marjoram  
Tansy  
Thyme  
Verbena Canadensis  
Veronica (native)  
Wild Aster (native)  
Wild Mints (native)

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