

Water Conscious Landscaping for the Cow Creek GCD

Part 2 - Trees

Trees are the most prominent feature in any landscape and should be chosen carefully. When young they may be injured or killed by deer rubbing the velvet off of their antlers in late summer and fall. Protect them to a height of 6' with boards, "T" posts, or pipe tied loosely around the trunk, or surround them with wire cages. Trees may also be killed by livestock or porcupines (common in Kendall County) which eat tree bark. Remember to keep overhead utility lines in mind and plant only small trees under or near them. Note: This is not meant to be a complete list of plants, but a list of those usually available in local nurseries. Other suitable native trees exist.

Large Trees

Bald Cypress - use in moist areas along and around perennial streams and ponds. Plant only trees grown from local seed.

Bois d' Arc (Osage Orange)

Bur Oak - resistant to oak wilt

Cedar Elm

Chinquapin Oak - resistant to oak wilt

Escarpment Cherry

Green (Texas) Ash - Native and much better than Arizona Ash

Lacey's Oak - resistant to oak wilt

Mexican Live Oak (Monterrey Oak) - resistant to oak wilt

Maples - Bigtooth and hybrids like Shantung are best. Avoid Silver Maple

Mexican Sycamore - Fast growing, but somewhat water demanding. Best along perennial creeks

Montezuma Cypress - Somewhat water demanding

Native Live Oak - avoid new plantings due to oak wilt susceptibility

Pear - plant only fireblight resistant varieties

Pecan

Red Oak (Spanish Oak) - Avoid new plantings because of Oak Wilt susceptibility. Shumard variety is very poorly adapted to our area

Small Trees

Carolina Buckthorn

Chitalpa

Desert Willow

Eve's Necklace

Mexican Buckeye

Mexican Plum

Mountain Laurel

Redbud

Red Buckeye

Sabal Palm

Texas Persimmon - can become invasive

Windmill Palm