



Hummingbird Plants for Central Texas

Learn more about many of the plants listed here at the City of Austin Grow Green web site, www.austintexas.gov/department/plants or from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Native Plants Database at www.wildflower.org

Small Trees / Large Shrubs

- Coral Bean (*Erythrina herbacea*)
- Mexican Buckeye (*Unghadia speciosa*) – early spring bloomer
- Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) – bright red flowers
- Desert Willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) – airy foliage

Shrubs

- Yellow Bells, Esperanza (*Tecoma stans*) – flashy yellow blooms
- Flame Acanthus (*Anisacanthus quadrifidus* var. *wrightii*) – orange blooms
- Mountain Sage (*Salvia regla*) – from west Texas – red to orange fall bloomer
- Native Lantana (*L. horrida*, *L. urticoides*) – other birds like the fruits, too. The original lantana, not a cultivar; very drought tolerant
- Ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*) – good for desert gardens
- Red Yucca (*Hesperaloe parviflora*) – coral spike
- Rock Rose (*Pavonia lasiopetala*) – reseeds freely; blooms pink
- White Honeysuckle (*Lonicera albiflora*) – small shrub for full sun to dappled shade
- Texas Sage, Cenizo (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) – good as a cover shrub
- Turk's Cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus*) – might bloom all year in mild winters; attracts large butterflies, too
- Prickly Pear (*Opuntia* spp.)
- Claret Cup Cactus (*Echinocereus triglochidiatus*) – grows west of here, colonizes
- Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*) – deciduous, good for moist areas

Perennials

- Salvias – Most native salvias will attract hummingbirds. This is not a comprehensive list:
 - Cherry Sage (*Salvia greggii*) – cut back in mid-summer
 - Lyre-Leaf Sage (*Salvia lyrata*) – seeds out prolifically, blooms early; blue flowers are not showy
 - Cedar Sage (*Salvia roemeriana*) – good for shade; red blooms
 - Big Red Sage (*Salvia penstemonoides*) – good for deeper soils; burgundy blooms
 - Tropical Sage (*Salvia coccinea*) – reseeds freely; good groundcover in shade; red blooms
 - Mealy Blue Sage (*Salvia farinacea*) – blue flowers
- Columbine, Red (*Aquilegia canadensis*) – good for woody areas; not as eye-catching as yellow (below)
- Columbine, Yellow (*Aquilegia chrysantha* var. *hinckleyana*)
- Texas Star Hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*) – native to southeast U.S.
- Heart-leaf Hibiscus (*Hibiscus cardiophyllus* and *H. martianus*) – to three feet; shrubby; red flowers
- Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) – likes feet in water; red
- Four-o'clocks (*Mirabilis* spp.) – there are several native four-o'clocks
- Fall Obedient Plant (*Physostegia* spp.) – colonizes; likes moisture; situate where it gets extra water, for example next to gutter runoff; lavender color



Perennials (continued from reverse side)

- American Germander (*Teucrium canadense*) – colonizes; likes moist soils
- Texas Betony (*Stachys coccinea*) – coral to red; native west of here
- Penstemons – it is probable that hummingbirds use all of the penstemons
 - Harvard Penstemon (*Penstemon harvardii*) from Trans-Pecos
 - Scarlet or Hill Country Penstemon (*Penstemon triflorus*)
 - Cut-leaf or Rock Penstemon (*Penstemon baccharifolius*)
- Drummond Phlox (*Phlox drummondii*)
- Prairie Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*)

Other Natives

- Purple Horsemint (*Monarda citriodora*) – annual to biennial; other Monardas will also attract hummingbirds. Common name may include “beebalm”.
- Standing Cypress (*Ipomopsis rubra*) – biennial; blooms May and June
- Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja spp.*) – annual

Native Vines

- Alamo Vine (*Ipomoea sinuate*) – perennial; blooms white with red center
- Carolina Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) – evergreen native east of here; yellow early spring blooms
- Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) – evergreen; good fence cover in sun; plant with roots in shade as likes cool roots; slow to establish
- Cross Vine (*Bignonia capreolata*) – evergreen; cardinals have been seen nesting in this. Please let us know if you have seen hummingbirds nectaring.
- Morning Glory (*Ipomoea lindheimeri*) – perennial; light blue to lavender blooms; full sun and dry conditions
- Purple Bindweed (*Ipomoea trichocarpa*) – perennial; likes disturbed areas such as flower beds so you may already have it.
- Snapdragon Vine (*Maurandya antirrhiniflora*) – perennial; purple and white flowers; looks delicate
- Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*) – deciduous; aggressive

Non-natives (For those of you who are having trouble finding the natives)

- Majestic Sage (*Salvia guaranitica*) – hummingbirds will fight over this plant
- Cypress Vine (*Ipomoea quamoclit*) – annual vine
- Mexican Honeysuckle (*Justicia spicigera*) – semi-evergreen; orange flowers
- Shrimp Plant (*Justicia brandegeana*) – copper/bronze; blooms spring to fall
- Cigar Plant (*Cuphea spp.*) – blooms orange and yellow from summer to fall
- Mexican Oregano (*Poliomintha longiflora*) – lavender blooms in summer
- Hamelia/Firebush (*Hamelia patens*) – blooms orange/red from summer to fall
- Mexican Bush Morning Glory (*Ipomoea fistulosa*)
- Wild or Tree Tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*)
- Pineapple Sage (*Salvia elegans*)
- Firecracker plant (*Russelia equisetiformis*)
- Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) – understory tree or shrub
- Abelia (*Abelia grandiflora*) – shrub
- Pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*)
- Scarlet Runner Bean (*Phaseolus coccineus*)