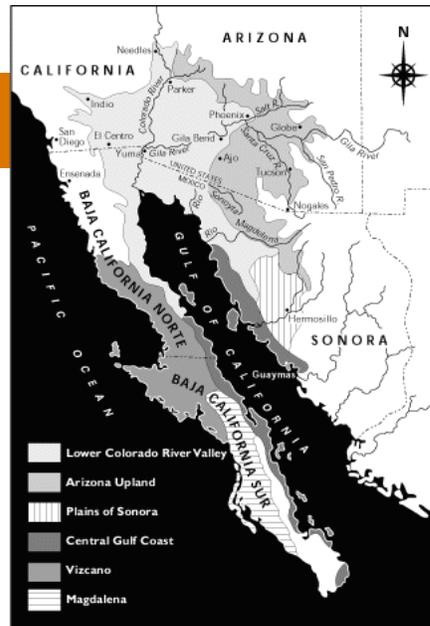


What you need to know to be a plant pro

- ▣ Benefits of native plants
- ▣ Planning your space
- ▣ Strategies for selecting plants
- ▣ Plant review
- ▣ Additional resources

What is native?



Why native plants?

1. Long and thoughtful observation
2. Start at the top of your watershed
3. Always plan an overflow
- 4. Start with small and simple strategies**
5. Spread, slow and sink
6. Maximize living/organic groundcover
7. Stack functions
8. Continually evaluate

Less Irrigation

This is your Creosote



This is your Creosote on irrigation



Less Maintenance

- Select the right location and your native plants will need little to no maintenance
- Less irrigation also means less maintenance
- Leave debris to become mulch and have even less maintenance!



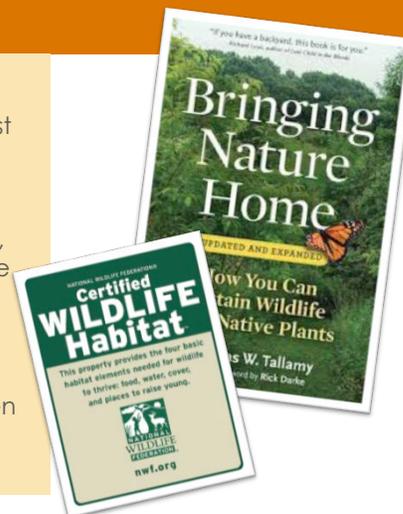
Less Fertilizer

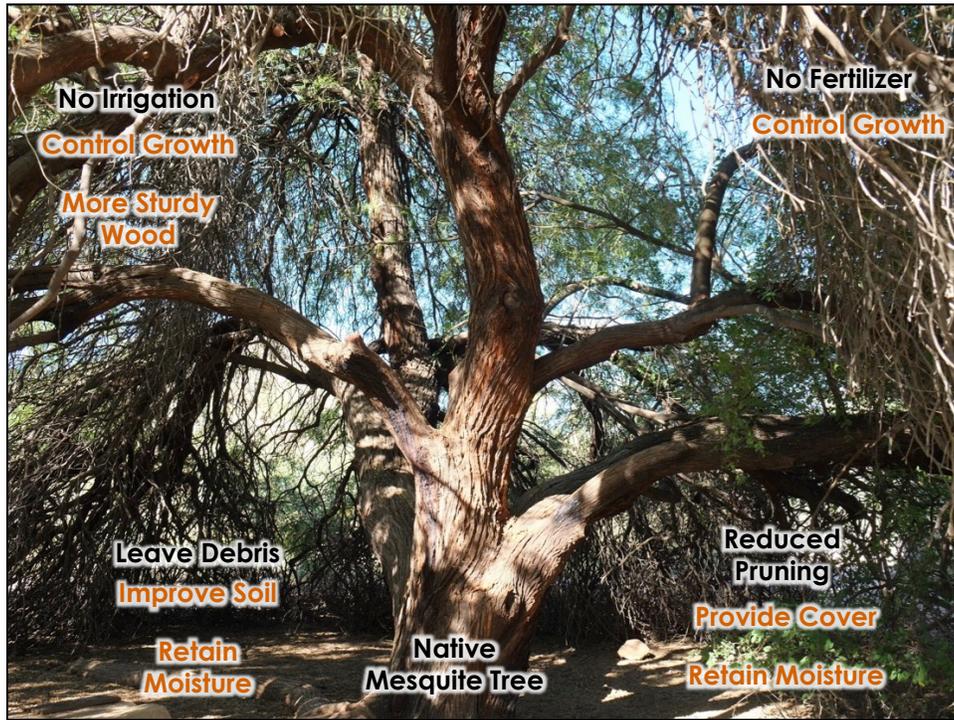
Native plants have evolved in native soil conditions



More Habitat

- Native plants are essential to preserve biodiversity as specialist species depend on them for survival
- To create habitat provide: food, water, cover, and places to raise young
- National Wildlife Foundation
- City of Glendale, Wildlife Garden Guide





Strategies for Selecting Your Plants

Understand your space

- What does the yard look like, including any existing features?
- Are there utilities to avoid? (Bluestake – Arizona 811)
- Are there any grading/drainage concerns?
- Do you have any soil issues, such as caliche?
- Where are shaded areas? Exposed areas? East? West?
- Can you provide irrigation? If so what methods are available?
- Are there any views you want to maintain or screen?
- What positive aspects do you want to maintain?

Understand your goals

What do you want your landscape to do for you?

- Shade
- Screening (visual or sound)
- Dining, living, playing, relaxing
- Wildlife habitat
- Support water harvesting features
- Beauty/Aesthetics

Make yourself a diagram

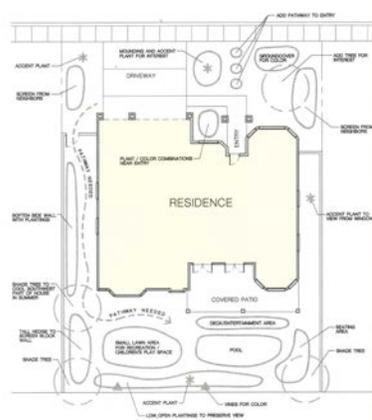


Image from: Xeriscape: Landscaping with Style in the Arizona Desert by AMWUA

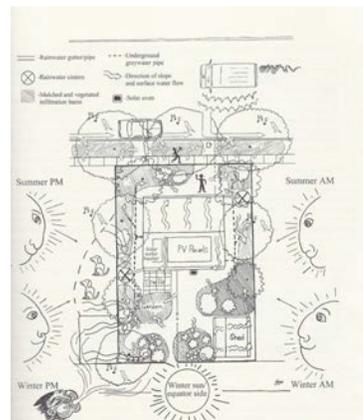


Image from: Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond Vol 1 by Brad Lancaster

Trees
Shrubs
Accents
Grasses
Annuals/Perennials

What to consider...	
Origin and/or native habitat	Soil
Foliage form and characteristics	Watering
Size	Pruning and maintenance
Flowering and fruiting	Disease and pests
Temperature hardiness	Pros/cons
Sun exposure	

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Temperature hardiness	Pros/cons
Sun exposure	

Trees

Blue Palo Verde

Parkinsonia florida

Form: Partially deciduous; rounded

Size: 30' H & W

Flowers: Yellow flowers; April

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Slight blue tint

Pro/con: Fast growing, large canopy, good for habitat



Blue Palo Verde (*Parkinsonia florida*)



Desert Museum Hybrid



Little Leaf (*Parkinsonia microphylla*)



Mexican Palo (*Parkinsonia aculeata*)



Blue Palo Verde



Desert Museum Hybrid



Palo Brea (*Parkinsonia praecox*)



Mexican Palo Verde

Arizona/Velvet Mesquite

Prosopis velutina

Form: Partially deciduous; sprawling

Size: 20'-50' H & 15'-25' W

Flowers: Inconspicuous; late May

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Thorns, rounded leaflets

Pro/con: Fast growing, large canopy, edible pods, good for habitat



Image By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants

Mesquite hybrids



Prosopis x 'Phoenix'
-thornless hybrid
-Mountain States Nursery



Prosopis x 'AZT Seedless'
-seedless hybrid
-Arid Zone Trees Nursery

Desert Willow

Chilopsis linearis

Form: Deciduous; upright

Size: 15'-35' H&W

Flowers: White-pink; late spring-fall

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Long leaves, trumpet flowers

Pro/con: Attracts pollinators, many cultivars, smaller patio tree



Image By: Mountain States Wholesale Nursery

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Image By: Mountain States Wholesale Nursery

Trees

Screwbean Mesquite

Prosopis pubescens

Desert Ironwood

Olneya tesota

Little Leaf Palo Verde

Parkinsonia microphylla

Feather Bush Tree

Lysiloma watsonii

Shrubs

Chuparosa

Justicia californica

Form: Loose, spreading

Size: 2'-6' H & W

Flowers: Salmon; cool season

Exposure: Full sun, partial shade

Distinct trait: Tubular flower, green succulent stems

Pro/con: Attracts hummingbirds, brittle, lush with irrigation



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Form: Loose, spreading

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Brittlebush

Encelia farinosa

Form: Rounded

Size: 3'-5' H & W

Flowers: Yellow; late winter-spring

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Triangular, silver foliage

Pro/con: Fast growing, easy color



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Creosote

Larrea tridentata

Form: Irregular, varying density

Size: 3'-8' H & W

Flowers: Yellow; spring, with rains

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Smell, fuzzy seed pods

Pro/con: Consistent once established, drought tolerant



Image By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants

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Image By: UofA Campus Arboretum

Shrubs

Triangle-Leaf Bursage
Ambrosia deltoidea

Hop Bush
Dodonea viscosa

Fairy Duster
Calliandra eriophylla

Desert Hackberry
Celtis pallida

Turpentine Bush
Ericameria laricifolia



Accents

Desert Milkweed

Asclepias subulata

Form: Upright, rigid green stems

Size: 2'-4'

Flowers: Pale yellow, spring-fall

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Thin green stems, branching

Pro/con: Monarch host, sparse appearance, no shade



Parry's Agave

Agave parryi.

Form: Upright, rigid pineapple leaves

Size: Approx 3' x 3'

Flowers: Large, tall spikes, only flowers once

Exposure: Full sun, will take some shade

Distinct trait: Gray color, thorny margins

Pro/con: Hardy, unique accent





Oh baby it's hot outside...

Why is there cloth on some of the plants?

The cloth protects these plants from the intense summer sun and extreme heat. Some of our plants are from areas where the amount of direct sunlight is limited and temperatures are cooler. By placing shade cloth on the plants, it helps prevent sun-stress.

For more information on how to protect your plants at home, visit our website: www.dlog.org

DESERT LANDSCAPE GROUP



Agave attenuata



Queen Victoria Agave



Century Plant



Webber's Agave

Engelmann's Prickly Pear

Opuntia engelmannii

Form: Large pads, spreading habit

Size: 6'HT x 15W'

Flowers: Yellow/Orange/Pink

Exposure: Full sun, some shade

Distinct trait: Teardrop pads, glochids & spines

Pro/con: Edible fruit, large & thorny



Ocotillo

Fouquieria splendens

Form: Upright, tall, rigid branches

Size: Up to 15'

Flowers: Red flower spikes, Feb-Mar

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Thorny, upright branches

Pro/con: Unique accent, pollinators



Image By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants

Accents

Saguaro

Carnegiea gigantea

Englemann's Hedgehog Cactus

Echinocereus englemannii

Organ Pipe Cactus

Stenocereus thurberi

Ocotillo

Fouquieria splendens

Grasses

Deer grass

Muhlenbergia rigens

Form: Large, airy bunch grass

Size: 3'-5'

Flowers: Flower spikes

Exposure: Full sun, some part shade

Distinct trait: Leaves approx. 1/8"

Pro/con: Versatile, large grass



Image By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants



Deer grass



Muhly grass
(*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)

Images By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants

Blue grama

Bouteloua gracilis

Form: Short bunchgrass

Size: 2'

Flowers: Green-purple; spring-summer

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Comblike seedheads

Pro/con: Fast grower, small, stabilize slopes



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Bouteloua gracilis

Form: Short bunchgrass

Size: 2'

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Annuals/Perennials

Parry's Penstemon

Penstemon parryi

Form: Herbaceous rosettes

Size: 3'-4'

Flowers: Large, magenta spikes, Feb-Mar

Exposure: Full sun, part shade

Distinct trait: Tubular flowers

Pro/con: Pollinators, many varieties, reseeds,



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Globe mallow

Sphaeralcea ambigua

Form: Irregular, bush

Size: 2'-4'

Flowers: Orange/many colors, winter-spring

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Round, paper-like flowers

Pro/con: Color, pollinators, rangy



Globe mallow

Sphaeralcea ambigua

Form: Irregular, bush

Size: 2'-4'

Flowers: Orange/many colors, winter-spring

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Round, paper-like flowers

Pro/con: Color, pollinators, rangy



Images By: Chris Martin, Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants

Desert Marigold

Baileya multiradiata

Form: Clumping, rosette

Size: Up to 2'

Flowers: Yellow; winter-spring

Exposure: Full sun

Distinct trait: Curly, silver foliage

Pro/con: Hardy, reseeds,



Annuals/Perennials

Chocolate Flower
Berlandiera lyrata

Paperflower
Psilosrophe cooperi

Firecracker Penstemon
Penstemon eatonii

Mt. Lemon Marigold
Tagetes lemonnii

Where Can You Learn More?

- ▣ Virtual Library of Phoenix Landscape Plants (Dr. Chris Martin, ASU)
- ▣ ADWR Low Water Use Plant List
- ▣ AMWUA (www.amwua.org/plants)
- ▣ Sunset Western Garden Book
- ▣ Native Plants for Southwestern Landscapes (Judy Mielke)
- ▣ Mountain States Nursery (www.mswm.com)

Where Can You Find Native Plants?

- Get the most selection from local nurseries
- Arizona Nursery Association (www.azna.org)
 - Dig It Nursery (Phoenix, AZ)
 - Agave Farms (Phoenix, AZ)
 - Berridge Nursery (Phoenix, AZ)
 - Treeland Nurseries (Mesa, AZ)
- Desert Botanical Garden Plant Sales (Spring/Fall)

Thanks! Questions?

Kaylee Colter
kaylee@eightyeightacres.com
480-525-7880
www.eightyeightacres.com