

1. ***"DON'T BAG IT" TEST AREAS***

Each of the beds are maintained with the "Don't Bag It" plan of yard care. The grass clippings are left on the lawn, it is watered infrequently - but deeply, and fertilization is kept at a minimum. This reduces run-off water containing high amounts of nitrogen that can cause algae problems in local streams and ponds.

A variety of grasses are on display. From left to right (area nearest the gate) the types are: Palmetto St. Augustine, Buffalo Grass, Emerald Zoysia and El Toro Zoysia.

2. ***BUTTERFLY AREA***

Bright flower clusters attract butterflies due to the close proximity of the nectar source. New Gold Lantana, Black Knight Buddleia, Lochinch Butterfly Bush, Dubonnet Butterfly Bush, Tall Tale Fountain Grass, Red Yucca, Society Garlic, Mexican Green Sedum, Cherry Red Penta

3. ***ANTIQUER ROSES***

These plants have been propagated from cuttings taken from old roses that have naturalized in the Texas environment. Because of this, they require very little in the way of extra water, fertilizer or pesticides. Again, we see the benefit of reduced run-off. Not just nitrogen run-off, but also run-off of insecticides and fungicides necessary for the healthy growth of hybrid roses. Varieties from left to right closest to the fence:

Red Cascade, New Dawn
Ma Perkins, Mutabilis, Belinda's Dream-
2 Martha Gonzales (foreground)

Belinda's Dream - Cmap 2001 Rose of the Year Texas A&M developed this disease resistance rose that has abundant light pink fragrant blooms from spring to fall.

4. ***SEVEN SISTERS CLIMBING ROSES***

These roses are fast climbers and prolific bloomers in the spring. The blooms change colors as they age. Hardy in this area, yet require little extra water, fertilizer or pesticide.

5. ***ORNAMENTAL GRASSES***

Ornamental grasses make a lovely addition to any landscape. They are hardy and quickly form a dense screen for privacy or a wind break. Another benefit is the lack of trimming and pruning - reducing disposal amounts.

Tall Tales Fountain Grass (background)
Cabaret Variegated (foreground)

6. ***DRUMMOND RED MAPLE***

Fast growing shade tree with lots of color in the fall. This tree was chosen for the hardiness it displays in this area.

7. ***SHADE GARDEN***

Living at the edge of the Piney Woods means that many yards have a profound lack of sunshine. This area demonstrates hardy plants for a shaded area. Ginger is along the back fence with various ferns (Asparagus, Sword, Southern Wood, Maidenhair, Japanese) and flowering perennials (Purple Ginger, Wandering Jew and Oxalis) in the front.

8. ***COMPOST DEMONSTRATION SITE***

This area is dedicated to backyard composting. Various bins are on display, however the easiest to set up is the homemade wire round bin. A ten foot length of kennel wire is curled around with one foot overlap. The cut ends of the wire hold it together. More information on composting is available in the [Green Guide to Yard Care](#).

9. ***FLORIDA MUHLY - ORNAMENTAL GRASSES***

This easy to grow ornamental is native to the gulf coast area and therefore very hearty. Fall plumes give the appearance of pink smoke. (November Sunset at west end)

10. ***WILDFLOWER AREA***

Wild flowers seeded in the fall will bloom in spring and summer. The many varieties will demonstrate the beauty of native vegetation. Most will re-seed themselves.

11. ***SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA***

A very popular shade tree, this southern magnolia has already graced the garden with many fragrant, creamy blooms.

12. ***CONTAINER HERB GARDEN***

Plants requiring a little more water are placed together for easy maintenance. This is also a great idea for a backdoor or balcony garden. Keeping these plants together avoids the need to add extra water to a large area, thus conserving this valuable resource. The containers can be easily moved for accessibility to available sun.

13. **PERENNIAL MIXED BORDER**

These plants were chosen because they are extra tough and can withstand exposure to wind, sun and the heat of the parking lot.

Yellow Flag Irises, White Ruellia, Blue Plumbago, White Mexican Heather and purple Katie's Ruellia and are in front of the ramp. Native Indigo Spires are between the ramp and porch with shade loving Pink Buttons nestled under ramp edges. Pineapple Guava at the inside corner of the ramp with its delicate pink edible blooms is excellent to decorate food dishes. The soaker hose embedded in the mulch shows an efficient method of irrigation without wasted water.

14. **FRONT RIGHT OF WAY**

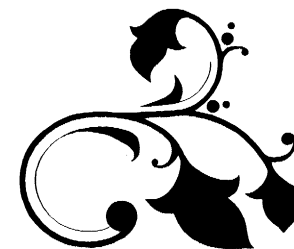
An easy to maintain roadside supports Common Bermuda, Little Business Daylily (red), Aztec Gold Daylily, Dwarf Burford Holly and Dwight D. Eisenhower Green Ash Tree (grown from seed gathered from his birthplace in Denison, TX)

Ornamental Grass Varieties: Cabaret Variegated (gatepost), November Sunset, Cabaret Variegated, Miscanthus Porcupine, Cabaret Variegated, Miscanthus 'Little Big Man' (fenceline)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- PCT 3

YARD WISE

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN



MONTGOMERY COUNTY - PRECINCT 3

YARD WISE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

**partially funded by grants from:
Houston-Galveston Area Council
and TNRCC**

2/02

Follow the numbered path through the garden. The numbered stops have accompanying information.

YARD WISE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Yard Wise is a program promoted by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission that encompasses every facet of home lawn maintenance. The main components are: "Don't Bag It", Composting, Mulching, Xeriscaping, and Integrated Pest Management. Following this program allows residents to enjoy an easy care, healthy, and less toxic home environment. The yard wise manual *A Green Guide to Lawn Care* is available free in the office.