Baker County Extension Service



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FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING™ PLANTS FOR WET AREAS OF BAKER COUNTY

The list of plants below is intended to be a starting point for making landscape decisions, and not an all-inclusive list of plants suitable for Florida-Friendly Landscapes. As long as a plant isn't invasive, and is planted in the right location (right plant, right place) it could be considered for use in a Florida-Friendly Landscape. In some cases, these plants only tolerant occasional flooding.

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Species Name	Native	Growth Rate	Flower/Color Season	Attracts Wildlife	Sun/Shade Tolerance (Optimum Light)	Evergreen/ Deciduous	Notes
River Birch Betula nigra	Yes	Fast	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows best with high soil moisture; tolerates periodic flooding but not long periods of drought
Weeping Willow Salix babylonica	No	Fast	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Attractive weeping branches; sheds branches; roots clog pipes
Florida Maple Acer saccharum var. floridum	Yes	Fast	Excellent fall color	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows to 50 to 60 feet tall
Red Maple Acer rubrum	Yes	Fast	Good spring color; excellent fall color	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows 50 to 80 feet tall
Sweet Bay Magnolia virginiana	Yes	Medium	White flowers in spring	N/A	Sun or shade	Evergreen	Leaves silver on underside; grows 50 to 60 feet tall
Southern Magnolia Magnolia grandiflora	Yes	Medium	Large, fragrant white flowers late spring	N/A	Sun or shade	Evergreen	Large course leaves and large fruit cause clean up problems; grows 60 to 80 feet tall
Black Gum Nyssa sylvatica	Yes	Slow	Good fall color	Bees	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Comes out late and shed leaves early; great honey source

Bald Cypress Taxodium distichum	Yes	Medium	Fair fall color	N/A	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Produces "knees" that protrude out of soil up to 2 feet; can grow up to 100 feet tall
Pond Cypress Taxodium ascendens	Yes	Medium	Fair fall color	N/A	Sun or shade	Deciduous	No knees; grows 50 to 60 feet tall
Sycamore Platanus occidentalis	Yes	Fast	Poor fall color	N/A	Full sun	Deciduous	Large leaves and fruit cause clean-up problems; lace bugs bad on leaves; grows up to 150 feet tall
Live Oak Quercus virginiana	Yes	Medium	N/A	Acorns are food source	Sun or shade	Evergreen	Makes long-lived spreading tree with attractive form up to 80 feet tall
Shumard Oak Quercus shumardii	Yes	Fast	Good fall color	Acorns are food source	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Grows 80 to 100 feet tall
Florida Elm Ulmus americana var. floridana	Yes	Fast	Fair fall color	Seeds are food source	Sun or shade	Deciduous	No problems with Dutch elm disease; grows 60 to 80 feet tall
Winged Elm Ulmus alata	Yes	Fast	Poor fall color	N/A	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Interesting bark protrusions (wings) on smaller branches; Grows 40 to 50 feet tall
Green Ash Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Yes	Fast	Fair fall color	Seeds are food source	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Grows to 60 feet tall
Tulip Tree <i>Liriodentron tulipifera</i>	Yes	Fast	Good fall color	N/A	Sun or shade	Deciduous	Grows 100 to 150 feet tall
American Holly Ilex opaca	Yes	Medium	Red berries in winter	Berries are food source	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Numerous cultivars are available; grows 20 to 30 feet tall
Fringe Tree Chionanthus virginicus	Yes	Slow	Frilly clusters of white flowers in spring	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows 20 to 25 feet tall
Red Buckeye Aesculus pavia	Yes	Slow	Showy red flower clusters in very early spring	N/A	Partial to full shade	Deciduous	No fall color; grows 15 to 20 feet tall

Shrubs

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Fern Leaf Bamboo Bambusa multiplex	Yes	Slow	N/A	N/A	Sun or shade	Evergreen	Clumping type (not invasive); grows to 6 to 8 feet tall	
Silverthorn Eleagnus pungens	No	Fast	N/A	Fruits are food source	Sun or shade	Evergreen	Good screening plant; fragrant flowers; grows 8 to 12 feet tall	
Japanese Fatsia Fatsia japonica	No	Medium	N/A	N/A	Partial shade	Evergreen	Large, deeply lobed attractive leaves; grows to 5 to 7 feet tall	
Chinese Holly Ilex cornuta	No	Medium	Red berries in fall	Berries are food source	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Dark green glossy foliage; grows 3 to 20 feet tall, depending on variety	
Inkberry or Gall berry Ilex glabra	Yes	Slow	Black berries in fall	Berries are food source	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Good foundation plant or low screen; grows 2 to 8 feet tall	
Yaupon Holly Ilex vomitoria	Yes	Medium	Red berries in fall	Berries are food source	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Smaller varieties respond well to shearing; grows 4 to 15 tall depending on variety	
Deciduous Holly <i>Ilex decidua</i>	Yes	Slow	Red berries in fall	Berries are food source	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Good to use in a natural woodland setting; grows 12 to 15 feet tall	
Oak Leaf Hydrangea Hydrangea quercifolia	Yes	Medium	White flowers in spring; bronze fall color	N/A	Partial shade to full shade	Deciduous	One of the best native shrubs; grows 6 to 7 feet tall	
Sweetshrub Calycanthus floridus	Yes	Fast	Maroon red fragrant flowers in spring	N/A	Partial shade	Deciduous	Tends to spread aggressively; grows 6 to 9 feet tall	
Glossy Privet Ligustrum lucidum	No	Fast	Clusters of tiny white flowers in spring	Bees	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Glossy green foliage: grows 12 to 15 feet tall	
Southern Wax Myrtle Myrica cerifera	Yes	Medium	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Produces spreading clumps unless kept pruned	

Needle Palm Rhapidophyllum hystrix	Yes	Slow	N/A	N/A	Partial to full shade	Evergreen	Produces clumps with glossy green leaves: grows 6 to 8 feet tall with very little trunk		
Tea Olive Osmanthus fragrans	No	Medium	Very fragrant flowers fall and winter	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Grows 10 to 15 feet tall		
Swamp Hibiscus Hibiscus coccineous	Yes	Fast	Large, dark red flowers in summer	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows to 4 to 6 feet tall before flowering		
Titi Cyrilla racemiflora	Yes	Medium	Showy white flowers in spring	Attracts bees and butterflies	Full sun to partial shade	Deciduous	Grows 8 to 10 feet tall		
	Grasses								
Fakahatchee Grass Tripsacum capillaris	Yes	Medium	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Forms spreading clumps to 4 feet tall or more		
Dwarf Fakahatchee Grass Tripsacum floridanum	Yes	Medium	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Forms spreading clumps to 3 feet tall		
Muhly Grass Muhlenbegria capillaris	Yes	Medium	Pink flowers late summer to fall	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Slowly forms clumps to 4 feet tall		
Sand cordgrass Spartina bakeri	Yes	Medium	N/A	N/A	Full sun to partial shade	Evergreen	Forms very large clumps to 4 feet tall		

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Full sun to partial shade

Evergreen

Forms clumps to 2 feet tall

N/A

N/A

Medium

Yes

Saltmeadow cordgrass

Spartina patens