Landscape Recovery Series: Part II Shrubs and Screening Options

Soil Considerations and Ornamental Non-Natives

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9 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

1. Right Plant, Right Place
2. Water Efficiently
3. Fertilize Appropriately
   4. Mulch
5. Attract Wildlife
6. Manage Yard Pests Responsibly
7. Recycle Yard Waste
8. Reduce Stormwater Runoff
9. Protect the Waterfront
Post Hurricane Soil Issues

• Damage directly from storm
  • Holes from toppled trees
  • Wind blown soil loss
  • Erosion
  • Loss of leaf litter, other natural soil covering

• Other factors
  • Excessive rainfall this fall/winter

• Cleanup/recovery process
  • Ground stumps
  • Compaction and ruts from heavy equipment
  • Stripping ground during cleanup
  • Lack of resources (supply and money) for quality soil replacements
  • Change in grade and stormwater flow
Post Hurricane Soils

- Return as much of the native soil to the site as possible.
  - Soil clinging to roots can be knocked off back into the hole
  - Move soil back into place where practical
  - Although labor intensive it will provide best option for replanting and no out of pocket cost
Post Hurricane Soil Issues
Post Hurricane Soil Issues

Soil stabilization
- Vegetation that will anchor soil
- Mulch or small size debris for cover

Above: Annual ryegrass is a cool season grass
Right: Small leaves and sticks can serve as mulch to help protect soil from erosion.
Post Hurricane Soil Issues
Evergreen Shrubs
Abelia spp.
Glossy Abelia, Abelia

- Height ranges from 3’ to 10’*
- Spread 3’ to 10’*
- Semi-evergreen to evergreen
- Upright then cascading growth habit
- Part shade to full sun
- Acidic to slightly alkaline, well drained soils
- Masses of tiny flowers attractive to bees, butterflies, other pollinators
- *Many cultivars for size, foliage color, flower and bract color

‘Rose Creek’ Abelia is a prolific flowering, compact growing Abelia
Abelia

Left: Miss Lemon™ (formerly Lemon Zest)
Middle: Kaleidoscope
Right: Ed Goucher
**Acca sellowiana**

**Pineapple guava**

- Evergreen shrub, green leaves with silvery underside
- 8-15’ tall and wide
- Flowers are white with prominent red stamens, edible fruit attracts wildlife
- Hedge or pruned as small tree
- Well drained soil but high drought tolerance once established
- Slightly acid to slightly alkaline pH
Camellia japonica
Japanese Camellia

- Height ranges from 5-20 ft
- Spread 3-8’
- Evergreen upright shrub or small tree
- **Part shade** to shade
- Acidic, well drained soils
- Large dark green leaves, showy flowers in many forms and colors in the winter or early spring
- Prefer part shade but established plants may be able to adapt to full sun
**Camellia sasanqua**
Sasanqua Camellia

- Height 3-20’
- Spread 5-15’
- Evergreen shrub or small tree, some cultivars stay low and spread horizontally
- Shade, **part shade**, full sun (typically tolerates full sun better than *C. japonica*)
- Acidic, well drained soils
- Many flower colors in the fall/winter, petals fall as flower ages
- Attracts pollinators when few flowers available
**Cephalotaxus harringtonia**
Japanese Plum Yew

- Evergreen shrub
- Usually wider than tall, habit depends on cultivar
  - ‘Fastigiata’ – 10’ x 6’
  - ‘Prostrata’ – 2-3’ x 3’
  - ‘Duke’s Garden’ – 2-3’ x 3-4’
- Flat, dark green needles
- **Part shade** to shade
- Moist, well drained soil
- Slow growing
Gardenia jasminoides
Gardenia

- Evergreen shrub, dark green glossy leaves
  - ‘Mystery’ or ‘August Beauty’ average 4-8’ tall x 4-8’ wide
  - ‘Radicans’ or ‘Prostrata’ low growing and spreading; 2-3’ x 3-4’ wide
- Full sun to part shade
- Acid, moist, well drained soil
- Fragrant white flowers in the spring
**Loropetalum chinense**  
Green Loropetalum, Chinese Fringeflower

- Evergreen shrub
- Green cultivars range from 3-6’ x 3-5’ wide
  - ‘Emerald Snow’ pictured
- Well drained soils, slightly acid to alkaline
- Performs best in **sun** to part shade
- Moderate drought tolerance after establishment
Loropetalum chinense rubrum
Purple Loropetalum, Chinese Fringe Flower

- Evergreen shrub or small tree
- Sizes range from 3’x3’ to 15’ x 8’
- Rubrum are red leaf and pink flower forms
- Well drained soils, slightly acid to alkaline
- Performs best in **sun** to part shade
- Moderate drought tolerance after establishment
- Can lose foliage color in shade and low fertility

Upper Right: ‘Purple Diamond’ will get 4-6’x4-6’
Bottom Right: ‘Purple Pixie’ 3’x3’ mature size

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Osmanthus fragrans
Tea Olive

- Evergreen shrub/small tree
- 15-30’ x 8-15’ wide
- Small, fragrant flowers in leaf axils
- Medium drained to moist soils, pH range of 6.0-7.2
- Moderate drought tolerance
- High salt tolerance
- Orange and yellow flower varieties occasionally found
**Podocarpus macrophyllus**

*Podocarpus*

- Evergreen upright shrub/small tree
- 30-40’ tall by 20-25’ wide
  - ‘Pringles Dwarf’ 3-5’ x 6’
- Gymnosperm/conifer with flat needles
- Females have fruit
- Well drained fertile soil, slightly acidic to alkaline (pH 6.0-8.0)
- Moderate to high salt and drought tolerance
- Can be sheared into hedge or columnar form

Left: Pringles Dwarf
Right Podocarpus macrophyllus
Rhaphiolepis indica
Indian Hawthorne

• Height 2-10’
• Spread 2-6’ wide
• Evergreen shrub or small tree
• Drought tolerant once established – most problems when overwatered or in shade
• Full sun
• White or pink flowering varieties, blue/black fruit
Rosa spp.
Rose

- Semi-evergreen to evergreen shrubs
- Many cultivars available with different size ranges
  - ‘Knockout Rose’ shrub roses 4-8’ x 4-8’ wide
  - ‘Drift’ series 2-4’ x 3-4’ wide
- Roses are heavy feeders and require pruning
- **Full sun** to part shade
- Moderate salt and drought tolerance

Above: Coral Drift Rose
Right: Knockout Rose
**Rosmarinus officinalis**

Rosemary

- Perennial/Evergreen shrub
- **Sun**; 3-5’ x 3-5’
- Well drained, low fertility soil
- Tolerates a wide range of pH’s 4.5-8.0
- **Sun** to part-shade
- Drought tolerant once established
- High salt tolerance
Viburnum luzonicum

- Height 8-15’
- Spread 8-15’
- Semi-evergreen
- Light green leaves that emerge with slight orange tint
- Clusters of tiny white flowers occur along stems in the spring
- **Full sun** to part shade
- Moderate to fast grower
- Not common in garden centers
Viburnum odoratissimum var. awabuki
Awabuki Viburnum

• Large evergreen shrub
• Dark green leaves with dark underside
• Small white flowers in spring followed by berries that attract birds
• Height 15-20’
• Spread 15-20’ wide
• Well drained soil, tolerant of slightly acidic to alkaline pH (6.0-8.0)
Viburnum tinus
Laurestinus Viburnum

- Height 6-12’
- Spread 2-4’ wide
- Dense, upright growth habit
- Showy pink buds open to white flowers then transition to blue/black fruit
- Attracts butterflies and birds
- ‘Spring Bouquet’ common cultivar available
- Salt spray tolerant
Deciduous Shrubs
Galphimia glauca
Thryallis, Rain of Gold

• Height 5-9’
• Spread 4-6’
• Semi-evergreen to deciduous weeping shrub (may die back to roots in winter)
• **Full sun** to part shade, moderate drought tolerance
• Bright yellow flowers
• Drought tolerant
**Hydrangea macrophylla**  
Bigleaf or French Hydrangea

- Height 6-10’
- Spread 6-10’
- Deciduous shrub
- Part shade to **shade**
- Large flower clusters blue, pink, purple dependent on soil properties
- Prune right after bloom (old wood)
- Great coastal plants if shade available, wind tolerant, moderate salt tolerance
Hydrangea macrophylla
Bigleaf or French Hydrangea

H. macrophylla ‘Felicity’ at the UF/IFAS Extension North Florida Research and Education Center Gardens
Hydrangea macrophylla
Bigleaf or French Hydrangea
Hydrangea paniculate
Panicle Hydrangea

- Height 6-20’
- Spread 6-20’
- Deciduous shrub or small tree
- **Part shade** to sun
- Large panicles of white flowers, transition from green to white to rose
- Can prune fall/winter (new wood)
- Traffic stopping summer color
- Deer browse
- ‘Limelight’ compact grower with showy flowers
Spiraea spp.
Bridal Wreath Spirea

- Deciduous shrub with weeping habit
- 3-5’ x 3’-5’
- Tiny white flowers in the spring, soft green foliage
- Sun to part shade
- Well drained to moist soils
Keep Learning!

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http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bayco/2019/01/14/2019 Landscape/

Landscape Recovery Series:
January 17, Part I Trees
February 21, Part II Shrubs and Screening
March 14, Part III Groundcovers, Perennials, and Annuals
April 18 Part IV Turfgrass Renovation with Dr. Bryan Unruh
Non-profit Plant Sales

Dothan Area Botanical Gardens [www.dabg.com](http://www.dabg.com)
- Spring Plant Sale March 29-30, 2019
- 5130 Headland Ave
- Dothan, AL

UF/IFAS Extension Leon County Open House and Plant Sale [http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/leon/](http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/leon/)
- May 11, 2019
- 615 Paul Russell Rd
- Tallahassee, FL
Gardening Friends of the Big Bend Spring Plant Sale TBA
http://www.thegfbb.com/

- Gardens of the Big Bend at UF/IFAS Research & Education Center
- 155 Research Rd Quincy, FL