

# Shrubs, Groundcovers & Vines



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**RESEARCH & EXTENSION**

*University of Arkansas System*



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# Select shrubs based on needs:

- Should the plant be evergreen or deciduous?
- How large does it need to be to do the intended job in the landscape?
- What are the environmental limitations of the site?
- Does the plant have any serious pests?
- What special feature do I want such as flowers, berries, fall color, etc.

# Evergreen Shrubs



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# The Hollies

- Evergreen trees and shrubs - over 300 species and thousands of cultivars
- Most are dioecious and require a male for pollination.
- Good for massing and screening.



# Foster Holly

- *Ilex x attenuata*  
'Foster'
- Height - 35 feet
- Spread - 10 feet
- Growth rate - moderate
- Hardy zones 6 - 9
- Beautiful specimen plant; needs a male for pollination. Good for screening or hedging.



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# Foster Holly



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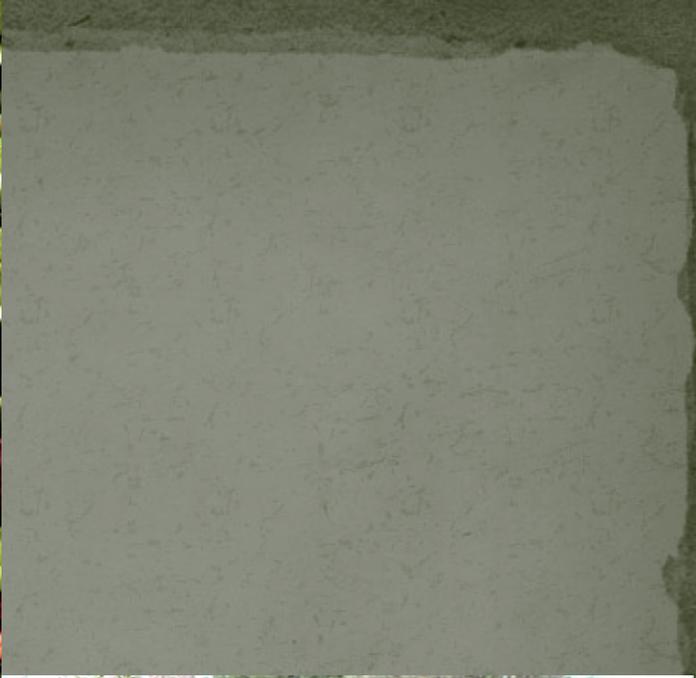


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# Burford Chinese Holly



- *Ilex cornuta*  
‘Burford’
- Height - 20 ft.
- Spread - 15 ft.
- Growth rate - fast
- Hardy zones 6 - 9
- Big screening plant





# Nellie R. Stevens Holly

a hybrid between the Chinese holly and the American holly. It is hardy through zone 6 and makes a nice upright screen planting or specimen. Plants mature at 15 feet tall and naturally maintain a pyramidal form.

# Japanese Holly



- *Ilex crenata*  
'Compacta'
- Height - 5 to 6 feet
- Spread - 6 to 10 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zones 6 to 8
- Need good drainage in order to flourish. Berries on this holly are black. Stands clipping well.

# Compact Holly

*Ilex crenata 'Soft Touch'*



# Yaupon Holly

- *Ilex vomitoria*
- Height - to 20 feet
- Spread - 10 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zones 6 - 9
- Native small evergreen tree that grows in wet or dry soils. Very well adapted.



# Yaupon Holly versus boxwood



# Dwarf Yaupon Holly

The perfect filler “meatball” shrub for wet soils.



# Deciduous Hollies



# *Ilex verticillata* and *I. decidua*



# All Azaleas are Rhododendrons

- Rhododendrons
  - Often tree-like in habit
  - Leaves evergreen -up to 6 inches long
  - Flowers in trusses in late spring -- larger than azaleas
  - Native to cooler climates than azaleas
- Azaleas
  - Shrub-like in habit
  - Leaves evergreen or deciduous -- to 3 inches long
  - Flowers smaller and borne singly
  - Widely distributed and more heat tolerant

Over 10,000 different azalea plants  
have been registered



# To Grow Azaleas Successfully

- Plant hardy azalea classes such as the Kurumes, the Gurrard's and the Glenn Dale azaleas.
- Plant in acidic soil with a pH of 5 to 5.5
- Use a highly organic potting amendment such as peat moss or composted pine bark
- Raised beds improve drainage and keep plants alive
- Water before the plants become too stressed
- Fertilize after bloom on established plants. Young plants may be fertilized again 6 weeks later.

# Flower Forms



single



Double



Hose in hose



Semi double



Double hose in hose

# Encore Azaleas



- Not all species are reliably hardy in the northern 1/3 of the state.
- Bloom well spring & fall, with scattered blossoms in summer.

# Deciduous Azaleas

*R. austrinum*

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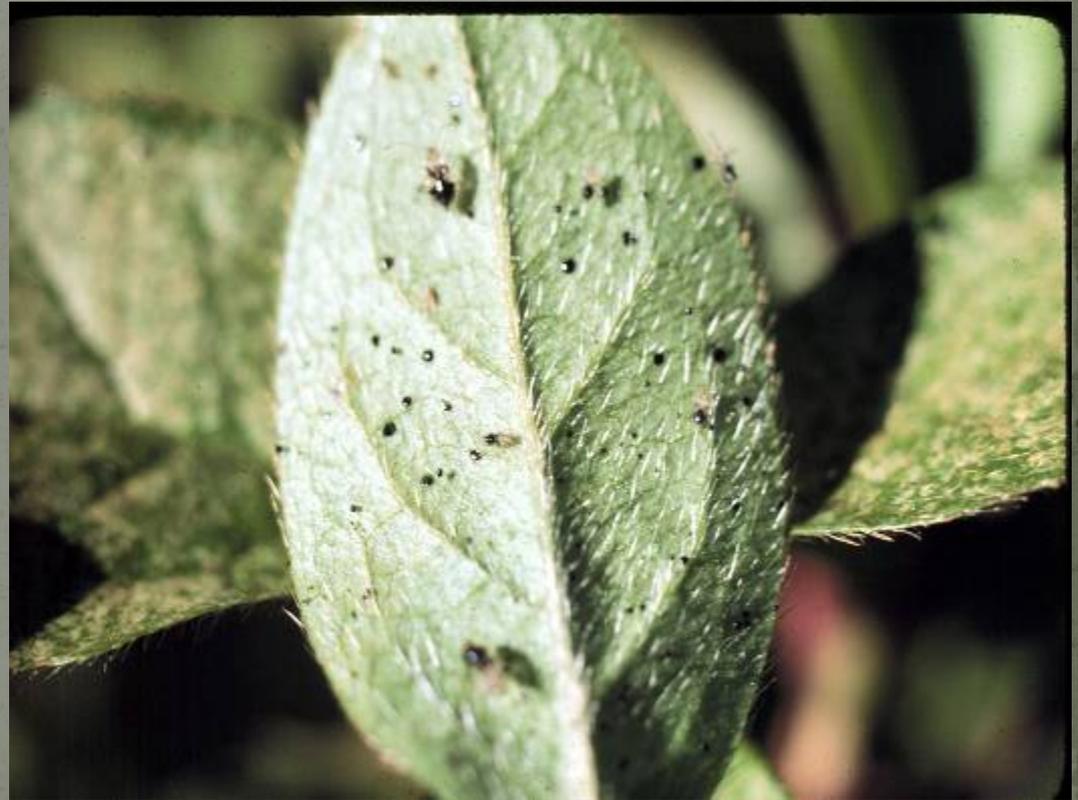
*R. canescens*

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- Damage can be severe enough to kill plants
- Plants can turn white by late summer
- Scout for insects in May; if found spray to prevent population explosion with systemic insecticide such as Orthene.
- Or use prevention: Bayer Advanced Tree & Shrub Insecticide or Merit

## Azalea Lacebug



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# Yellowing of Old Leaves



- *Rhododendron catawbiensis*
- Height - 12 feet
- Spread - 10 feet
- Growth rate -medium
- Hardy zones 5 - 7
- Considered more difficult to grow than azaleas. Drainage more critical so use bark for soil mix. Give afternoon shade.

## Catawba Rhododendrons





# Camellias

*Camellia japonica*



*Camellia sasanqua*



# Care of camellias

- Fertilize once a year after bloom.
- Water when dry.
- Pick up fallen flowers
- Monitor for pests.



## Loropetalums



Purple Diamond®  
Compact Loropetalum



Purple Pixie®  
Weeping Loropetalum



Emerald Snow®  
Loropetalum

# Heavenly Bamboo

- *Nandina domestica*
- Height - 6 feet
- Spread - 3 feet
- Growth rate - slow
- Hardy zones 6 to 10
- Tough plant that will survive about anything. Native to Japan but long planted in the southern landscape.





Nandina fruit cluster  
Harbor Dwarf  
Nandina



# Mahonia



- *Mahonia bealei*
  - Height - 7 feet
  - Spread - 8 feet
  - Growth rate - slow
  - Hardy zones 6 - 9
  - Strong structural element in the shade garden.
- Blooms in February with gray fruit in July.



Soft Caress

# Glossy Abelia



- *Abelia grandiflora*
- Height - 6 feet
- Spread - 6 feet
- Growth rate - fast
- Hardy zones 6 - 9
- Summer flowering semi-evergreen shrub which gives an impression of red in the landscape. Blooms most of the summer if watered.



Twist of Lime

# Glossy Abelia

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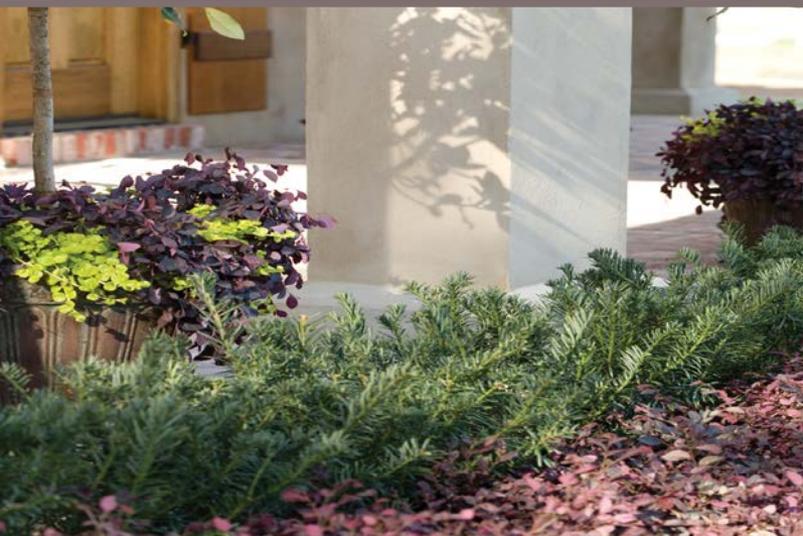


**Kaleidescope**



**Edward Goucher**

# Cephalotaxus – Plum Yew 'Yewtopia'



# Cleyera



Bigfoot™ Cleyera



LeAnn™ Cleyera



Bronze Beauty™ Cleyera

# Illicium – Florida Anise



Woodland's Ruby

# Chinese Junipers

- *Juniperus chinensis*
- Height - 5 feet
- Spread - 10 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zones 4 - 8
- Drought tolerant shrub. Susceptible to blight but usually a landscape survivor.



# Blue Rug Juniper

*Juniperus horizontalis*



# Deciduous shrubs lose their leaves ut:

- Give the landscape a seasonal rhythm
- Have interesting forms and textures
- Often have multiple seasons of interest
  - good bloom display
  - colorful foliage
  - good fall color
  - berries or habitat for wildlife

# Forsythia

- *Forsythia intermedia*
- Height - 7 feet
- Spread - 12 feet
- Growth rate - fast
- Hardy zones 4 - 8
- Easily grown but needs plenty of room to spread. Give full sun. Prune hard every other year.





# Yellow Rose of Texas

- *Kerria japonica*
- Height - 6 ft.
- Spread - 6 ft.
- Growth rate - fast
- Hardy zones
- 4 - 8
- Flowers well in the shade.
- Open form plant that is good filler shrub.





# Bridal Wreath Spirea

- *Spiraea prunifolia*
- Height - 6 feet
- Spread - 6 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zone 4 - 8
- Good filler shrub in the border.  
Blooms appear in early spring.  
Drought and pest tolerant.





# Bridalwreath Spirea



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# Van Houtte Spirea



# Summer Blooming spireas

**Anthony Waterer**

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**Little Princess**

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# Goldflame Spirea

Gold Flame



Magic Carpet



# Doublefile Viburnum



- *V. plicatum* 'Mariesii'
- Height - 12 ft.
- Spread - 12 ft.
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zone 4 - 9
- Spring flowering with masses of blooms. Best in full sun.



# Burkwood viburnum



# Hydrangea



- *Hydrangea macrophylla*
- Height - 5 feet
- Spread - 6 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zone 5 - 9
- Blooms in the summer. Best in moist shade. In acid soil flowers are blue; alkaline they turn pink.



# Oakleaf Hydrangea



- Hydrangea quercifolia
- Height - 8 feet
- Spread - 10 feet
- Growth rate - medium
- Hardy zones 5 - 9
- Summer flowers on this large, coarse textured shrub with great fall color and nice bark in the winter.



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# Althea – Rose –of-Sharon



- *Berberis thunbergii*
- Height - 5 feet
- Spread - 5 feet
- Growth rate - slow
- Hardy zone 4 - 9
- Colors most vivid in full sun. Tolerate drought well; tough plant.
- Green, purple and yellow foliage forms available.

## Barberry



# barberry



# Why use groundcovers?

- Hard to grow grass—  
too much shade
- Steep slope
- Rocky soil or exposed  
roots
- Living mulch
- Don't want to mow!



# What is the purpose of the groundcover?



# Cover large areas or accent plants



# Living Mulch or soften pathways



# Aegopodium- Bishop's Weed



# Ajuga - Bugleweed





587  
687  
689

687

BUGLEWEED  
'Catin's Giant'  
  
Allium  
reptans

# Ajuga 'Toffee Chip' & 'Chocolate Chip'



# Ardesia



# *Chrysogonum virginianum*

## Green and Gold



# Hypericum



# Ivy



# Liriope – Monkey grass



# Mondo grass - *Ophiopogon*



*Lysimachia nummularia* –  
Creeping Jenny



# Moss



# Pachysandra – Japanese Spurge



# Creeping phlox – *Phlox stolonifera*





# Phlox drummondii





*Pratia angulata*

# Sedums





# Vines



Carolina Jasmine –  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*



# Butterscotch



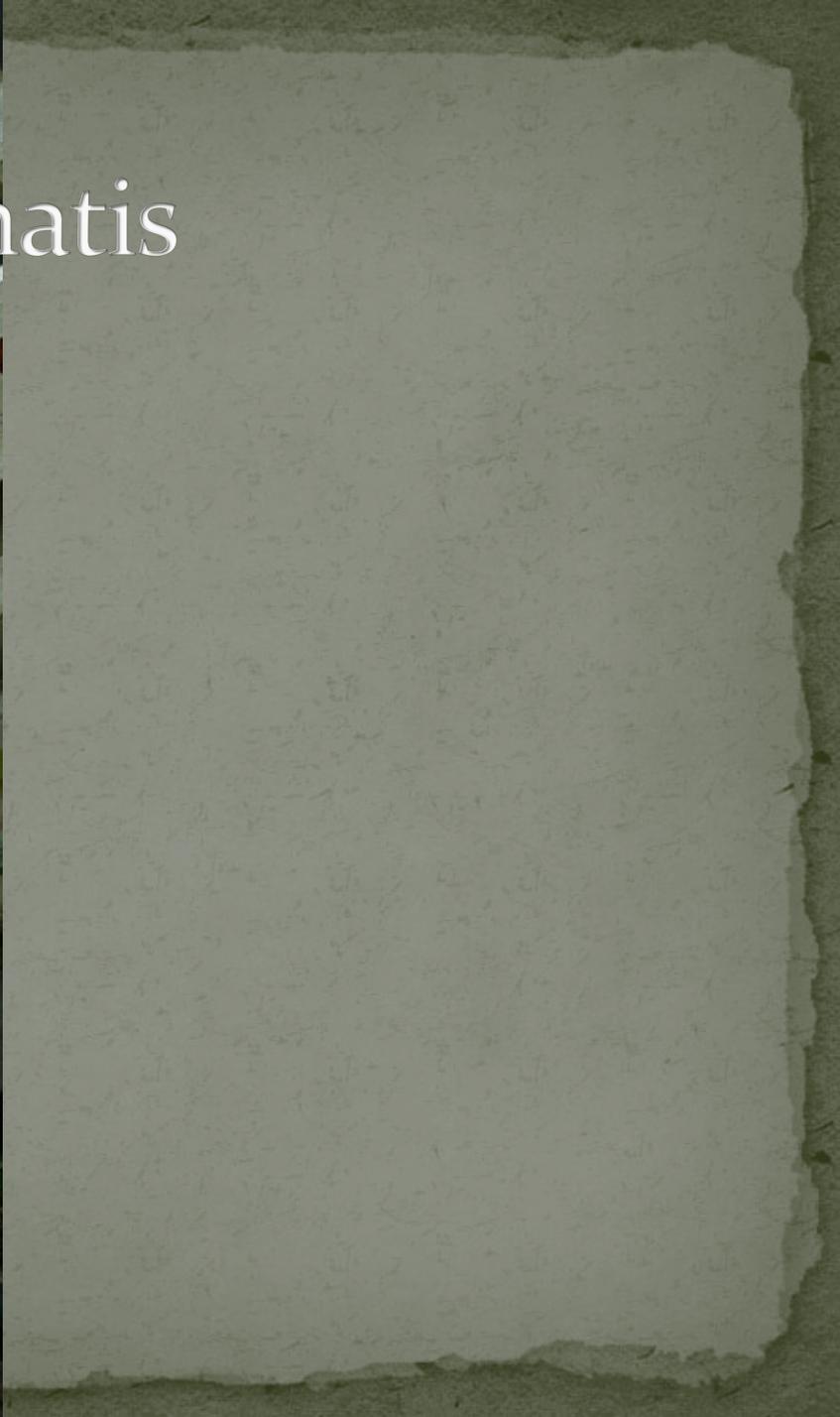
# Confederate Jasmine

*Trachelospermum jasminoides*





Clematis



# Crossvine - *Bignonia capreolata*



# Crossvine



# Trumpet Creeper – *Campsis radicans*



# Cypress vine



# Passionflower



# Porcelain berry vine

## *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*



# Trumpet honeysuckle



# Vinca major and minor



# Wisteria



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