Wilcox Nursery & LANDSCAPE

Designing a Hedge Using Florida Native Plants

When planning your hedge there are several things to thing about before you start buying. First, look at your conditions. Choose plants based on light and water needs. Many native shrubs are adaptable to varying conditions but will need water during their establishment times.

Next, think about the space you have available. Consider the mature size of trees or shrubs and how much regular trimming you are willing to do. Choose dwarf cultivars for low hedges. Use columnar species cultivars in narrow spaces, like between houses. Most shrubs take well to shaping. Many shrubs are available in "Standard," or tree form which work well near walkways.

Finally, think about how formal you want your hedges to be. Mixing shrubs with different colors, leaf shape, and form can give a more natural, relaxed feel. Using uniform plants in lines will give a more formal feel. A hedge doesn't have to be a straight line. Staggering plants to create an S-shape can add interest while blocking unwanted views from a particular direction.



Red-tipped Cocoplum in full sun



Dwarf Yaupon Holly hedge in full sun



Shiny coffee hedge in shade



10 foot high Seagrape Privacy hedge in full sun

Plant	Height	Width	Water	Sun	Pollinators	Birds	Salt	Larval Host
Dwarf Saltbush	4 ft	4-6 ft	Dry-Very Dry	Full Sun	X		Wi, S	
Fiddlewood	8-18 ft	5-12 ft	Dry-Very Dry	Full Sun	X	X		Coffee-loving Pyrausta
Horizontal Cocoplum	6 ft	6 ft	Avg - Very Dry	Full Sun	X	X	Br, Wi	Coffee-loving Pyrausta
Privet Cassia	4-8 ft	3-6 ft	Avg - Dry	Full Sun	X		Wi	Coffee-loving Pyrausta
Red-tipped Cocoplum	10-15	10 ft	Avg- Very Dry	Full Sun	X	X	Br, Wi	
Saltbush	7-15 ft	5-7 ft	Avg - Dry	Full Sun	X		I, Wi, S	
Silver Buttonwood	20 ft	20 ft	Avg - Very Dry	Full Sun		X	I, Wi, S	Fiddlewood leafroller
Southern Red Cedar	25-40	20-30	Avg - Very Dry	Full Sun		X	I, Wi, S	Pluto sphinx moth
Firebush	12 -15	12-15	Avg- Very Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X		
Florida Privet	5-15 ft	5-10 ft	Avg - Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X	I, Wi, S	Tantalus sphinx moth
Green Buttonwood	15-30	1--30 ft	Moist - Very Dry	Part - Full Sun		X	I, Wi, S	
Jamaica Caper	6-12 ft	6-10 ft	Moist - Very Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X	I, Wi, S	Florida White Butterfly
Sea Grape	15-30	10-30	Avg - Very Dry	Part - Full Sun	X		I, Wi, S	
Simpson's Stopper	10-15	8-10 ft	Moist-Avg	Part - Full Sun	X	X	Wi	Sulphur Butterflies
Spanish Stopper	12-15	6-8 ft	Avg - Dry	Part - Full Sun	X		I, Wi, S	Epicorsia moth
Walter's Viburnum, Dwarf	4 ft	4 ft	Moist-Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X		
Walter's Viburnum	4 ft	4 ft	Moist-Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X		
Wax Myrtle	15- 20	10-15	Moist - Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X	I, Wi, S	
Yaupon Holly	10-20	8-15 ft	Moist - Dry	Part - Full Sun	X	X	Br, Wi, S	
Scrub Blueberry	3 ft	3 ft	Avg - Very Dry	Part -Full Sun	X	X		Martial scrub hairstreak
Beautyberry	5-10 ft	3-10 ft	Moist - Dry	Shade - Full Sun	X		Wi	
Dwarf Palmetto	4-9 ft	4-8 ft	Moist - Avg	Shade - Full Sun	X	X	I, Wi	
Marlberry	10-15	8-12 ft	Moist - Dry	Shade - Full Sun	X		Wi, S	
Saw Palmetto	3-8 ft	4-6ft	Moist - Very Dry	Shade - Full Sun	X	X	I, Wi, S	
Coffee, Dwarf Shiny	3 ft	3 ft	Moist-Avg	Shade - Part Sun	X	X	Wi	
Coffee, Shiny	4-6 ft	4-6 ft	Moist-Avg	Shade - Part Sun	X	X	Wi	Red-banded Hairstreak
Coffee, Softleaf	3-5 ft	3-5 ft	Moist-Avg	Shade - Part Sun	X	X	Wi	Henry's Elfin

Key	
S	Spray
Wi	Wind
I	Inundation
Br	Brackish Indundtion