

DROUGHT TOLERANT SHRUBS

C204



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SHRUBS						
Plant	Common Name	Ht/Width	Bloom	Sun/Shade	Hardiness Zone	Comments
Amelanchier alnifolia	Serviceberry	10-12' x 20'	White/early sp	Sun/pt sun	4+	Blueberrylike berries
Amorpha canescens	Leadplant	1-4' x 3-4'	Blue/summer	Sun	5+	Member of pea family
Archostaphylos uva-ursi	Kinnikinnick	3-6" x 2-3'	White	Shade/pt sh	3+	Glossy evergreen foliage. Dry to moist soils
Aronia arbutifolia	Chokeberry	4+'	White	Sun/lt shade	4+	Red fall foliage, bright red berries
Artemisia tridentata	Big Sage	4' x 3'		Sun	4+	Develops twisted shaggy trunk & branches as it matures. Very drought tolerant
Atriplex canescens	Four-wing Saltbush	1-6' x 4-8'	4-winged bract	Sun	2+	Extremely tolerant of all conditions
Berberis hematocarpa	Red Barberry	3-6'		Sun/pt sun	4+	Holly like leaves. Sometimes called Mahonia haematocarpa
Berberis t. 'Crimson Pygmy'	Japanese Barberry	2'	Yellow/lt sp	Sun	4+	Leaves turn brilliant scarlet in autumn. Bright red berries
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	4-6"	Yellow/lt sp	Sun	4+	Leaves turn brilliant scarlet in autumn. Bright red berries
Buddleia davidii	Butterfly Bush	6-10'	Lilac/lt summer	Sun	5+	Also known as summer lilacs
Caragana arborescens	Siberian Pea Shrub	7-20'	Yellow	Sun	2+	Pealike bloom and seedpods that resemble string beans
Caragana frutex	Russian Pea Shrub	To 10'	Yellow	Sun	2+	More erect than Siberian Peashrub
Caryopteris x clandonensis	Blue Mist Spirea	2-3' x 3'	Blue/lt sum	Sun	5+	May be used as perennial in beds
Ceratoides lanata	White sage	1-3' x 2-4'	Bl/grn/sp	Sun	3+	Grows in wide variety of soils
Cercocarpus ledifolius	Curl Leaf Mahogany	6-15' x 6'	Feathery/plumed	Sun	4+	Can be pruned into multi stemmed small tree
Chamaebatia millifolium	Fernbush	6-8' x 6-8'	White/sum	Sun	4+	Olive green foliage, lilac like blooms
Chrysothamnus nauseosus "Tall Blue"	Rabbit brush	4-6' x 6'	Deep yel/e fall	Sun	4+	Billowing clouds of flowers. Vigorous grower, reseeds. Very drought tol
Cotinus coggyria	Smoke tree	25'x20'	Pink/beige	Sun	4+	Rounded tree with fuzzy flower clusters
Cotoneaster acutifolius	Peking cotoneaster	8'x6'	White	Sun/pt sun	4+	Upright form-good for hedge
Cotoneaster adpressus	Creeping Cotoneaster	12-18"x48"	Pinkish	Sun/pt sun	5+	Red berries in fall
Cotoneaster apiculatus	Cranberry cotoneaster	1½'x4'	Pinkish	Sun	5+	Good for bank plantings. Nice red berries
Cotoneaster divaricatus	Spreading cotoneaster	3-5' x 6-8'	Wht to pink/sp	Sun	5+	Berries, no maintenance
Cotoneaster horizontalis	Rockspray Cotoneaster	2-3'x6'	Pinkish	Sun/pt sun	5+	Red berries in fall. Colorful fall foliage
Cytisus scoparius	"Moonlight" Hardy Broom	4' x 6'	Soft yel/lt sp	Sun	5+	Thousands of trin, evergreen branches give all year interest
Ephedra viridis	Green Mormon Tea	4'	Yellow/spring	Sun	5+	Evergreen stems and insignificant scaly leaves
Falugia paradoxa	Apache Plume	4' x 4'	White/late spring	Sun	4+	Pink, silky plumed seed heads cover plant for many months
Forestiera neomexicana	New Mexico Privet	12-184'x4'x?	Bl-black berries	Sun/pt sun	4+	Only female produce. Beautiful bark, yellow fall color
Genista tinctoria	Woadwaxen	3'	Yellow	Sun	5+	Profuse bloomer. ½ - 1 inch leaves. Upright shrub

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Hippophae rhamnoides	Sea Buckthorn	8-18' x 8-12'	Yellow	Sun	3+	Berries, dry to moist soils
Holodiscus discolor	Ocean Spray	8'x5'	Creamy plumes	Pt shade	3+	A good native for screening, borders
Juniperus horizontalis	Creeping Juniper	6-18" x 5-8'		Sun/pt sun	3+	Evergreen. Moist to dry soil
Kolkwitzia amabilis	Beauty Bush	6-10' x 4-8'	Pink/early sum	Sun/pt sun	5+	Moderately drought tolerant. Beautiful display of flower
Ligustrum vulgare	Common Privet	5-15'	Late spring	Sun/pt sh	4+	Dependable, dense hedge
Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	6-12'	Yellow	Sun	4+	Yellow fall color, ½" scarlet berries
Lonicera maachii	Amur Honeysuckle	10-15'	White	Sun/pt sh	3+	Vigorous. One of the largest and handomest
Mahonia repens	Creeping Oregon Grape	1'x3'	Yellow	Sun/pt sh	2+	Dark, glossy evergreen groundcover
Microbiota decussata	Russian Cypress	1 ½' x 15'		Sun or sh	3+	Foliage turns bronzy in winter if in full sun
Myrica pennsylvanica	Northern Bayberry	3-10'	Catkins	Sun/pt sh	3+	Aromatic, gray, waxy berries
Philadelphus microphyllus	Littleleaf Mockorange	4-6' x 4-6'	White/summer	Sun/pt sun	4+	Best with occasional deep soaking
Physocarpus opulifolius	Common Ninebark	5-10'	White/lt spring	Sun/pt sh	3+	Has shreddy or peeling bark. Attractive seed pods
Potentilla fruticosa	Bush Cinquefoil	1-4' x 2-4'	Yellow/summer	Sun/pt sun	2+	Newer varieties in other colors, flowers best in full sun
Prunus besseyi	Hanson's Bush Cherry	4-6' x 4-6'	White/sp	Sun	4+	Red fall color
Rhamnus frangula	Alder Buckthorn	10-18'	Green	Sun	3+	Effective hedge or windbreak
Rhus aromatica "Gro-Low"	Sumac	3' x 8'	Yellow/lt spring	Sun/pt sun	4+	Beautiful fall color
Rhus glabra	Smooth Sumac	9-15'x9-15'	Green	Sun/sp sun	2+	Grows in colonys. Nice fall color
Rhus tribobata	Three-leaf Sumac	5-6' x 6'	Yellow	Sun/pt sun	4+	Tart edible red berries, rich orange & red fall colors. Not related to poison sumac
Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	8-10'x8-15'	Green/yellow	Sun/pt sun	4+	Very showy fall color
Ribes aureum	Golden Currant	4-6' x 4-6'	Yellow/spring	Part shade	2+	Red fall cover. Moderately drought tolerant
Rosa rubrifolia	Redleaf Rose	6'	Pink/early sum	Sun/pt sun	2+	Assets are color of leaves and scarlet-red hips
Rosa rugosa	Rugosa Rose	4-6'x10-20'	Red/pink or white	Sun	3+	The stems are densely thorny. Blooms all summer
Rubus deliciosus	Thimbleberry	4-6' x 5-8'	White/spring	Sun/pt sun	4+	Very showy flowers. Good form
Spiraea x vanhouttei	Vanhoutte Spirea	6-8' x 5-10'	White/spring	Sun/pt sun	4+	Best flowers w/water. Prone to mildew, aphid, scale
Symphoricarpos x chenaultii	Chenault Coralberry	3-4' x 3-6'	Pink/spring	Sun/pt sun	4+	Takes moist to dry soils. Attractive fruit
Syringa vulgaris	Common Lilac	8-20' x 6-15'	Lavender/sp	Sun	3+	Prone to powdery mildew, some insects and disease
Taxus cuspidata	Japanese Yew	30' x .30'		Sun/shade	2+	Large specimen, can be hevily pruned. Evergreen
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring Tree	10-15'x10-15'	White/spring	Sun/pt sun	4+	Fruit attractive to wildlife, nearly pest free
Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry viburnum	15'x10'	White/spring	Sun/shade	2+	Good background, screening plant
Yucca species	Yucca	1-7' x 1-4'	White/cream	Sun	4-5+	Good for hot, dry sunny areas where its hard to establish vegetation

Compiled by Tonie Fitzgerald. For more information, contact Master Gardeners at (509) 477-2181. Revised January 2005

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