Nine Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

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

Florida-Friendly Demonstration Gardens

To see more plants and get more landscaping ideas!

UF/IFAS Polk County Extension Service
1702 Highway 17 South, Bartow

Polk Training Center for Handicapped Citizens Nursery
111 Creek Road, Lake Alfred
(off County Road 557)

Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve
900 Mackay Boulevard, Lake Alfred
(off of Highway 17-92)

SPCA
5850 Brannen Road, Lakeland

UF/IFAS Polk County Extension Service
1702 US Hwy 17 South
Bartow, FL
(863) 519-8677
http://polkfyn.com
http://polkextension.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Growing Information</th>
<th>Plant Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Bulbine frutescens** Bulbine | Main landscape use: perennial, clumping groundcover  
Size: 1-2 feet tall and wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: showy yellow or orange flowers (depends on variety)  
Miscellaneous: great for hot sunny areas, grows in clumps  
Design Tip: use in a container or in mass plantings |             |
| **Callicarpa americana** Beautyberry | Main landscape use: shrub  
Size: 6 feet tall and wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: yes  
Flower: small pink flowers in spring, purple berries fall  
Miscellaneous: prune in late fall/winter as flowers and fruit are on new growth, attracts wildlife  
Design Tip: graceful shrub, use in native hedge, in an informal garden, in a natural area to attract birds |             |
| **Cupressus sempervirens** Italian Cypress | Main landscape use: upright evergreen  
Size: 20 feet tall and 3 feet wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: none  
Miscellaneous: must plant in well-drained soils  
Design Tip: use as a tall specimen plant or a hedge |             |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Main Landscape Use</th>
<th>Size:</th>
<th>Light:</th>
<th>Water Needs:</th>
<th>Florida Native:</th>
<th>Flower:</th>
<th>Miscellaneous:</th>
<th>Design Tip:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cymbopogon citratus</strong></td>
<td>herb, ornamental</td>
<td>6 feet tall, 4 feet wide</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>inconspicuous</td>
<td>can be used to flavor foods but also makes a great ornamental grass</td>
<td>combine with evergreens as it will freeze back in the winter, use in an herb garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dianella tasmanica</strong></td>
<td>perennial</td>
<td>2 feet tall and wide</td>
<td>partial sun is best</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>inconspicuous</td>
<td>plant in groupings for best effect</td>
<td>combine with colorful perennials or solid evergreen plantings to showcase the variegated leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dietes iridioides</strong></td>
<td>large grass-like</td>
<td>2-3 feet tall and 3 feet wide</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>white flowers spring through summer</td>
<td>grows like a large grass, needs to be divided, will spread</td>
<td>grow in mass plantings in a hot, sunny area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dyschoriste oblongifolia</strong></td>
<td>groundcover, perennial</td>
<td>6 inches tall, 1 foot wide</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>small lavender flowers all year</td>
<td>delicate groundcover, attracts butterflies</td>
<td>use along a walkway or in the front of a bed, combine with other perennials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Erigeron karvinskianus**  
*Mid-Summer Aster* | Main landscape use: low groundcover  
Size: 6-8 inches tall, 3-4 feet wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: small white flowers with yellow centers, spring-fall  
Miscellaneous: cascading groundcover  
Design Tip: use in a mixed perennial border, in a container, spilling over a wall or along a path |
|---|
| **Gaura lindheimeri**  
*Whirling Butterflies* | Main landscape use: annual or perennial  
Size: 12-24 inches tall depending on variety  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: showy pink or white flowers (depends on variety)  
Miscellaneous: nectar source for butterflies, very showy in the summer  
Design Tip: use in a butterfly garden or mixed perennial border, will die back in the winter |
| **Helianthus debilis**  
*Beach Sunflower* | Main landscape use: groundcover, perennial  
Size: 2 feet tall, up to 6 feet wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: yes  
Flower: yellow flowers year round  
Miscellaneous: spreads aggressively by seed  
Design Tip: plant in an area where it is okay for the plant to die back in the winter and come back by seed in the spring, give it plenty of room to spread, very low maintenance, doesn’t do well in wet areas |
| **Hemerocallis sp.**  
*Daylily* | Main landscape use: perennial  
Size: 1-3 feet tall and wide depending on variety  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: many different varieties, yellow, pink, red, orange  
Miscellaneous: flowers in the summer, many varieties available  
Design Tip: use as a border plant, can be susceptible to disease |
| **Hydrangea quercifolia**  
Oakleaf Hydrangea | **Main landscape use:** shrub  
**Size:** 6-8 feet tall and wide  
**Light:** partial sun to shade  
**Water Needs:** low water use  
**Florida Native:** yes  
**Flower:** large white flowers in the summer  
**Miscellaneous:** does well in the shade, leaves turn red in the fall  
**Design Tip:** good shrub for under trees, as an informal hedge, attractive leaf shape, large flowers are very showy |
|---|---|
| **Ilex crenata ‘Sky Pencil’**  
Sky Pencil Holly | **Main landscape use:** upright evergreen  
**Size:** 5-8 feet tall, 2-3 feet wide  
**Light:** full sun to partial shade  
**Water Needs:** low water use  
**Florida Native:** no  
**Flower:** inconspicuous  
**Miscellaneous:** very narrow, upright evergreen  
**Design Tip:** use in a small garden for an upright accent, in containers, in a formal garden, as a small hedge |
| **Ilex vomitoria ‘Schellings Dwarf’**  
Dwarf Holly | **Main landscape use:** small shrub  
**Size:** 4 feet tall and wide  
**Light:** full sun to full shade  
**Water Needs:** low water use, drought tolerant  
**Florida Native:** yes  
**Flower:** inconspicuous  
**Miscellaneous:** great for a foundation hedge, stays compact without pruning  
**Design Tip:** good plant for garden “bones”, use in groupings |
| **Juniperus conferta**  
| **Shore Juniper** | **Main landscape use:** evergreen groundcover  
| | **Size:** 12-18 inches tall, 6-8 feet wide  
| | **Light:** full sun  
| | **Water Needs:** low water use, drought tolerant  
| | **Florida Native:** no  
| | **Flower:** none  
| | **Miscellaneous:** tough, evergreen, dense foliage  
| | **Design Tip:** use as groundcover along walkways, in containers, over a wall for a draping effect, plant with colorful perennials and shrubs |

| **Lagerstroemia indica**  
| **Crape Myrtle** | **Main landscape use:** small tree  
| | **Size:** 10-30 feet tall and wide depending on variety  
| | **Light:** full sun  
| | **Water Needs:** low water use, drought tolerant  
| | **Florida Native:** no  
| | **Flower:** pink, red, lavender (depends on variety)  
| | **Miscellaneous:** many varieties available, different sizes and flower color  
| | **Design Tip:** low maintenance small tree, do not prune back branches in the winter, attractive peeling bark, plant with evergreens, looks attractive with ornamental grasses |

| **Liriope muscari**  
| **Liriope** | **Main landscape use:** groundcover  
| | **Size:** 1-2 feet tall and wide  
| | **Light:** sun to shade  
| | **Water Needs:** low water use, drought tolerant  
| | **Florida Native:** no  
| | **Flower:** purple flowers  
| | **Miscellaneous:** evergreen, plant closely together for solid mass  
<p>| | <strong>Design Tip:</strong> use under trees, along walkways, to define a space, plant with flowering perennials or in containers |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Main landscape use:</th>
<th>Size:</th>
<th>Light:</th>
<th>Water Needs:</th>
<th>Florida Native:</th>
<th>Flower:</th>
<th>Miscellaneous:</th>
<th>Design Tip:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Loropetalum chinense</strong></td>
<td>shrub</td>
<td>6-10 feet tall and wide</td>
<td>full sun to partial shade</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>small pink flowers in spring</td>
<td>purple foliage is unique</td>
<td>use as a hedge, can handle pruning, plant in groupings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Muhlenbergia capillaris</strong></td>
<td>ornamental grass</td>
<td>2-3 feet tall and wide</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>very showy pink/purple plumes in the fall</td>
<td>tolerates dry and wet conditions</td>
<td>plant in groupings for maximum impact, low maintenance, great ornamental grass for central Florida landscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nandina domestica 'Firepower’</strong></td>
<td>informal shrub</td>
<td>2 feet tall and side</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>white flowers</td>
<td>‘Firepower’ is a dwarf variety, other dwarf varieties are available</td>
<td>use as a small hedge along walkways or paths, colorful foliage is attractive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neoregelia sp.</strong></td>
<td>groundcover</td>
<td>1-2 feet tall and wide</td>
<td>full sun to partial shade</td>
<td>low water use, drought tolerant</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>compact flower in heart of plant</td>
<td>easy to grow, great for a small space or in a container</td>
<td>plant in groupings, along a walkway or dry area of the garden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Ophiopogon japonicus**  
Mondo Grass | Main landscape use: evergreen groundcover  
Size: 6 inches tall and wide, will spread to form a thick mat  
Light: sun to shade  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: inconspicuous  
Miscellaneous: use under trees for a grass-like appearance  
Design Tip: plant along a walkway or use to define a bed |
| **Pentas lanceolata**  
Pentas | Main landscape use: annual or perennial  
Size: 1 foot to 3 feet tall depending on variety  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: pink, white, red, lavender (depends on variety)  
Miscellaneous: the “old fashioned” red variety does very well in most gardens and attracts butterflies  
Design Tip: mix with other flowering plants in a butterfly garden or container planting, can freeze back in the winter but will usually come back from the roots |
| **Plumbago auriculata**  
Plumbago | Main landscape use: flowering shrub  
Size: 6-10 feet tall and wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: purple flowers year-round  
Miscellaneous: nectar plant for butterflies  
Design Tip: can freeze back in the winter, plant in a butterfly garden, graceful, informal habit |
| **Podocarpus macrophyllus**  
Podocarpus | Main landscape use: upright evergreen  
Size: 30 feet tall, 10 feet wide  
Light: full sun  
Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
Florida Native: no  
Flower: inconspicuous  
Miscellaneous: tolerates pruning very well  
Design Tip: use as a hedge or for privacy, narrow growth habit, give it enough space to grow |
| **Rhaphiolepsis indica**  
| **Indian Hawthorn** | Main landscape use: shrub  
| | Size: 3-4 feet tall and wide  
| | Light: full sun to partial shade  
| | Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
| | Florida Native: no  
| | Flower: small pink flowers  
| | Miscellaneous: good foundation plant, stays small without excessive pruning  
| | Design Tip: combine with flowering perennials and ornamental grasses  

| **Russelia equisetiformis 'Aureus'**  
| **Firecracker Plant** | Main landscape use: shrub  
| | Size: 4 feet tall and wide  
| | Light: full sun  
| | Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
| | Florida Native: no  
| | Flower: small yellow flowers on this variety, others have red flowers  
| | Miscellaneous: informal, graceful habit, attracts butterflies and hummingbirds  
| | Design Tip: do not plant where you will need to prune, good in containers  

| **Salvia leucantha**  
| **Mexican Sage** | Main landscape use: perennial  
| | Size: 2-4 feet tall and wide  
| | Light: full sun  
| | Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
| | Florida Native: no  
| | Flower: purple flowers summer/fall  
| | Miscellaneous: graceful, gray foliage and lavender flowers, attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.  
| | Design Tip: use in perennial bed, plant in a butterfly garden  

| **Salvia longispicata X farinacea**  
| **Sage ‘Mystic Spires’** | Main landscape use: perennial  
| | Size: 18-24 inches tall  
| | Light: full sun  
| | Water Needs: low water use, drought tolerant  
| | Florida Native: no  
| | Flower: purple flowers  
| | Miscellaneous: attracts birds and butterflies  
| | Design Tip: use in perennial garden or butterfly garden  

| **Tripsacum dactyloides**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fakahatchee Grass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main landscape use:</strong> specimen, mixed hedge, mass planting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size:</strong> six feet tall, 4 feet wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light:</strong> full sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Needs:</strong> low water use, drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Florida Native:</strong> yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flower:</strong> inconspicuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous:</strong> space accordingly as this grass gets very large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Tip:</strong> plant along water, in a dry landscape, use in small groupings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Trachelospermum asiaticum**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asiatic Jasmine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main landscape use:</strong> evergreen groundcover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size:</strong> 12 inches tall, 4 feet wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light:</strong> full sun to shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Needs:</strong> low water use, drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Florida Native:</strong> no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flower:</strong> none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous:</strong> plant under trees and in shaded areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Tip:</strong> use along a walkway, vines will spread to form dense mat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Tripsacum floridana**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dwarf Fakahatchee Grass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main landscape use:</strong> ornamental grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size:</strong> 2-4 feet tall and wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light:</strong> full sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Needs:</strong> low water use, drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Florida Native:</strong> yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flower:</strong> inconspicuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous:</strong> plant in groupings, can tolerate wet soils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Tip:</strong> use along retention ponds and in rain gardens as well as dry areas in the landscape</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Viburnum obovatum**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Walter’s Viburnum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main landscape use:</strong> hedge, foundation plant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size:</strong> 4-12 feet tall and wide depending on cultivar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light:</strong> full sun to shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Needs:</strong> low water use, drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Florida Native:</strong> yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flower:</strong> white flowers in the summer, fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous:</strong> Many dwarf cultivars available. ‘Withlachoochee’, ‘Riefler’s Densa’, ‘Mrs. Schillers Delight’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Tip:</strong> makes a great evergreen foundation to anchor your landscape</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>