



AGENDA

Pursuant to V.T.C.A. Gov. Code Section 551.001, et. Seq., the Native Plants AD HOC Committee of the City of Mission, Texas will hold a Regular Meeting on **Monday, August 24, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.** in the **City Hall's Community Room, 1201 E. 8th Street** to consider the following matters:

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- 1 Discussion regarding the adopted Guidelines for Native Plants
- 2 Discussion of Application Form

ADJOURNMENT

Signed this the **18th** day of August, 2026

Xavier Cervantes, Director of Planning

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned City Secretary do certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board of City Hall, 1201 E. 8th Street, Mission, Texas on this the **18th** day of **August, 2026** and will remain posted continuously for at least three business days preceding the scheduled date of said meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code.

Anna Carrillo, City Secretary

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations for a disability must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please notify the City Secretary's Office at 580-8668.

Mission To Grow: Best Practices for Native Plant Landscaping

Using native plants in your garden provides a multitude of benefits for people and wildlife, including water conservation, supporting birds and pollinators, cooling the environment, and aesthetic beauty.

There are many ways you can maximize those benefits in your space, and this document aims to equip you with the knowledge of best practices to maintain your garden.

Water Conservation Best Practices

- Follow the City of Mission [Water Restrictions](#)
 - Violations may result in a \$50.00 to \$200.00 fine
- Water your plants as needed, rather than following a rigid irrigation schedule
 - If your plants are wilted in cooler morning hours, they may need supplemental irrigation
 - Use a soil moisture sensor to check water levels in your garden soil
- Irrigate in the evening or at night to avoid evaporative water loss
 - Watering on hot, windy days limits how well water infiltrates your garden soil and is water inefficient
- Use drip irrigation or sprinklers that form large water droplets, or hand water with a hose
 - Misting sprinklers tend to lose water to the wind more easily
- Use an organic mulch for your garden beds
 - Wood chip, bark, or other organic mulch not only helps trap moisture in the soil, but also eventually breaks down and increases your soil organic matter and provides compost for your plants.

Cues for Care (based on [Wild Ones guidelines](#))

- Mown or trimmed edges
 - Maintaining mown groundcover or grass strips along pathways, driveways, or sidewalks helps indicate that your yard is a cared-for and purposeful space.
 - Using edgers – whether stone, plastic, or wood – helps visually delineate garden beds.

- Maintain open areas of groundcover plants, subshrubs, mulch, or other landscaping materials (rocks, pavers, etc.) that amount to around 30% of your front yard area.
 - Avoid obstruction of views or lines of sight
- Trimmed shrubs and trees (see [Texas A&M Agrilife Extension](#) and [Forest Service](#) recommendations)
 - Keep your garden beds trimmed to prevent shrubs or tree branches from sprawling over garden boundaries.
- Design your garden with discernable patterns and garden structure
 - Plant shrubs, wildflowers, groundcovers, or cacti along the foundation of your home.
 - Avoid blocking your windows, doors, or obstructing key lines of vision for you, your neighbors, and vehicles.
 - Plant clusters of plants in a balanced pattern over your yard. For example:
 - Islands: A larger shrub or tree in the center, surrounded by smaller plants.
 - Hedges: A series of plants of similar size and shape planted in a row.
 - Groundcovers: Low-growing plants forming a mat over the ground
 - Include plant species that have bright flowers and bloom often.
 - See recommended plant list for ideas.
- Include bird feeders, bird baths, or other designed wildlife homes in your garden.
 - See [Cornell Lab of Ornithology website](#) for bird feeding recommendations.

Wildlife-friendly Practices

- Avoid using pesticides and herbicides in your garden
 - Pesticides are often non-specific, meaning that they can spread to beneficial animals as well.
- Don't heavily prune your plants while they are flowering or fruiting
 - Leave the birds and butterflies food resources

Type	Common Name	Botanical Name	Flower Color	Comments
TREES				
	Anacua; Sandpaper Tree	<i>Ehretia anacua</i>	White	Shade tree; fruit edible
	Brasil	<i>Condalia hookeri</i>	Green	Shrubby; edible fruit
	Cedar Elm	<i>Ulmus crassiflora</i>	White	Requires moist area
	Coma	<i>Sideroxylon celastrinum</i>	White	Shrubby; edible fruit
	Guajillo	<i>Senegalia berlandieri</i>	White	Small tree; stays a dark shade of green all year
	Honey Mesquite	<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>	White/light yellow	Shade tree; fruit edible
	Lead Tree; Tepeguaje	<i>Leucaena pulverulenta</i>	White	Fast-growing and tall
	Limoncillo	<i>Esenbeckia berlandieri</i>	White	
	Mexican Caesalpinia	<i>Caesalpinia mexicana</i>	Yellow	Host for Curve-Wing Metalmark butterfly
	Montezuma bald cypress	<i>Taxodium mucronatum</i>	None	Requires moist area
	Persimmon; Chapote	<i>Diospyros texana</i>	White	Edible fruit in female trees
	Retama; Lluvia de Oro	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Yellow	Long leaf stem with tiny leaflets
	Rio Grande Ash	<i>Fraxinus berlandieriana</i>	White	Shade tree
	Sabal Palm	<i>Sabal mexicana</i>	White	If left untrimmed, provides shelter for bats and other life
	Spanish Dagger; Palma Pita	<i>Yucca treculeana</i>	White	Flowers edible; pollinated by small moth
	Spiny Hackberry; Granjeno	<i>Celtis pallida</i>	Yellow/white	Fruit edible
	Tenaza	<i>Pithecellobium pallens</i>	White	Fragrant blooms; butterfly nectar source
	Texas Ebony; Ebano	<i>Ebenopsis ebano</i>	White	Sulfur
	Texas Huisache	<i>Vachella farnesiana</i>	Yellow	Fragrant blooms
	Texas Palo Verde	<i>Cercidium texanum</i>	Yellow	Similar flower to Retama; prominent green bark
	Vasey's Adelia	<i>Adelia vaseyi</i>	White	Shrubby tree; host for Mexican Bluewing butterfly
	West soapberry; Jaboncillo	<i>Sapindus drummondii</i>	White	Leaves change color in the fall
	Wild Olive; Anacahuita	<i>Cordia boissieri</i>	White	Big white flowers, small tree
SHRUBS				
	Berlandier's Fiddlewood	<i>Citharexylum berlandieri</i>	White	Leaves turn orange when water-stressed
	Berlandier's Wolfberry	<i>Lycium berlandieri</i>	White	Edible berries
	Black Brush	<i>Acacia rigidula</i>	White	
	Brush Holly; Coronillo	<i>Xylosma flexuosa</i>	White	Fruits good source for birds
	Brushland Lantana	<i>Lantana achyranthifolia</i>	White	
	Common Sunflower; Mirasol	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Yellow	Seeds eaten by goldfinches
	Cow Pen Daisy	<i>Verbesina enceloides</i>	Yellow	Host for Bordered Patch butterfly
	Crucita	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Purple	Host for Rounded Metalmark and other butterflies
	Desert Yaupon; Capul	<i>Schaefferia cuneifolia</i>	White	
	Elbow Bush	<i>Forestiera angustifolia</i>	White	Thornless; food for wildlife
	Flor De San Juan; Woolly Rocktrumpet	<i>Telosiphonia lanuginosa</i>	White	Fragrant flowers; pollinated by hawk moths
	Hairy Wedelia	<i>Wedelia acapulcensis</i>	Yellow	Host for Bordered Patch butterfly
	Heart Leaf Hibiscus; Tulipán Del Monte	<i>Hibiscus martianus</i>	Red	Likes shade; requires little water; red flower
	Hogplum	<i>Colubrina texensis</i>	White	
	Low Croton	<i>Croton humilis</i>	White	Crotons attract butterflies
	Manzanita; Barbados Cherry	<i>Malpighia glabra</i>	Red	Edible berries, attracts specialist bees
	Mexican Oregano	<i>Lippia graveolens</i>	White	Leaves used in cooking like oregano
	Mission Fiddlewood	<i>Citharexylum spathulatum</i>	White	
	Oreja de Ratón	<i>Bernardia myricifolia</i>	White	Host for Lacy's Scrub-hairstreak butterfly
	Palafoxia	<i>Palafoxia texana</i>	Pink	Annual; attracts butterflies; seeds eaten by lesser goldfinch
	Pigeon Berry	<i>Rivina humilis</i>	White	Shade tolerant
	Prairie Milkweed	<i>Asclepias oenotheroides</i>	White	Monarch butterfly larvae
	Purple Sage; Cenizo	<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	Pink/Purple	Blooms with the rains; host for Theona Checkerspot butterfly
	Pyramid Bush	<i>Melochia tomentosa</i>	Pink	Excellent butterfly nectar plant; pink flowers
	Red Sage; Scarlet Sage	<i>Salvia coccinea</i>	Red	Butterflies, hummingbird nectar; full sun to partial shade
	Ruellia; Wild Petunia	<i>Ruellia nudiflora</i>	Purple	
	Shrubby Blue Sage; Mejorana	<i>Salvia ballotiflora</i>	Blue	Aromatic leaves
	Skeleton Leaf Golden Eye	<i>Viguiera stenoloba</i>	Yellow	Bloom spring, summer and fall
	Slim Milkweed	<i>Asclepias linearis</i>	White	Monarch butterfly larvae
	Soapbush; Guayacán	<i>Guaiaacum angustifolium</i>	Purple	Host for Lycide Sulfur butterfly
	Spray Mistflower	<i>Tamalaipia azurea</i>	Purple	
	Texas Baby Bonnets	<i>Coursetia axillaris</i>	Light Pink	Host for Southern Dogface butterfly
	Texas Kidneywood	<i>Eysenhardtia texana</i>	White	Host for Southern Dogface butterfly

	Texas Lantana	<i>Lantana urticoides</i>	Yellow/Red	
	Texas Mountain Laurel	<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	Purple	Fragrant blooms
	Torchwood	<i>Amyris texana</i>	White	Flowers attract evening pollinators, like Hawk moths
	Trixis	<i>Trixis inula</i>	Yellow	Can be hedged
	Turk's Cap	<i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i>	Red	Host Mallow Scrub-hairstreak, Turk's Cap White-Skipper
	White Brush	<i>Aloysia gratissima</i>	White	Small fragrant white flowers
GROUND COVER				
	Chisme	<i>Portulaca pilosa</i>	Red	Related to moss rose
	Common Purslane	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Yellow	Shade tolerant
	Nama	<i>Nama parvifolium</i>	Purple	Leaves fragrant when rubbed
	Scorpion's Tail Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium angiospermum</i>	White	Butterfly nectar plant
	Texas Frog Fruit	<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	White	
	Tiny Tim; Dogweed	<i>Thymophylla tenuiloba</i>	Yellow	Leaves aromatic
	Tube Tongue	<i>Justicia pilosella</i>	Purple	Host Tiny & Elida Checkerspot, TX Crescent, Vesta Crescent
VINES				
	Corky Stemmed Passion Flower	<i>Passiflora suberosa</i>	White	Host Heliconia; Gulf Fritillary, Mexican Silverspot butterflies
	Corona De Cristo	<i>Passiflora foetida</i>	Blue	Host Heliconia, Gulf Fritillary, Mexican Silverspot butterflies
CACTI				
	Horse Crippler	<i>Echinocactus texensis</i>	Pink	Shade to full sun
	Lower Rio Grande Valley Barrel	<i>Ferocactus hamatacanthus</i>	Yellow	Likes shade
	Strawberry Cactus	<i>Echinocereus enneacanthus</i>	Pink	Partial shade; Edible fruit
	Texas Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia engelmannii</i>	Yellow/Orange/Pink/Red	Edible pads and fruit
	Yellow Mammillaria	<i>Mammillaria sphaerica</i>	Yellow	Shade
GRASSES				
	Arizona Cottontop	<i>Digitaria californica</i>		
	Big Zacatón	<i>Sporobolus wrightii</i>		
	Bristlegrass	<i>Setaria macrostachya</i>		
	Buffalograss	<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>		
	Hairy Grama	<i>Bouteloua hirsuta</i>		
	Hooded Windmillgrass	<i>Chloris cucullata</i>		
	Pink Pappusgrass	<i>Pappophorum bicolor</i>		
	Plains Bristlegrass	<i>Setaria leucopila</i>		
	Rio Grande Threawn	<i>Aristida sp.</i>		
References and Resources:				
Plants of Deep South Texas by Alfred Richardson and Ken King				
The Grasses of Texas by Frank W. Gould				
Native Plant Project at nativeplantproject.com				
Bentsen State Park, World Birding Center, Mission, Texas				
Quinta Mazatlán, World Birding Center, McAllen, Texas				
Native Plant Society of Texas at https://www.npsot.org/chapters/rio-grande-valley/				
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at https://www.wildflower.org/plants/				
Nurseries that Carry Native Plants:				
Mission:				
Oleander Nursery				
National Butterfly Center				
Edinburg:				
Hui-xochitl Nursery				
Harlingen:				
Heep's LRGV Native Plant Nursery				



NATIVE PLANT CERTIFIED PERMIT # _____

PROPERTY APPLICATION ☐ Approved ☐ Denied

City of Mission
1201 E. 8th Street
Mission, Texas 78572
Phone: 956-580-8672

Please Fill out completely. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Property Information	Garden Information										
Legal Description: Lot# _____ Block# _____ Subdivision Name: _____ Physical Address: _____	Estimated date the garden was planted: _____ Where is the garden located? ☐ Front Yard ☐ Side Yard ☐ Back Yard Is the garden located behind a fence? ☐ Yes ☐ No Is the garden visible from the street or alley? ☐ Yes ☐ No Type of Border/ perimeter of the garden? ☐ Brick Edging ☐ Stones ☐ Metal Edging ☐ Plastic Edging ☐ Wood Edging ☐ Other: _____										
Property Owner Information Name: _____ Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____ Email: (Required) _____ The guidelines for native plant designation as posted on the City of Mission Website. _____ Signature of Property Owner Date: _____	Site Visit Availability Which days and times are you typically available for a site visit? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ Monday AM</td> <td>☐ Monday PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Tuesday AM</td> <td>☐ Tuesday PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Wednesday AM</td> <td>☐ Wednesday PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Thursday AM</td> <td>☐ Thursday PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Friday AM</td> <td>☐ Friday PM</td> </tr> </table> Do you have any special notes regarding your availability? _____ _____	☐ Monday AM	☐ Monday PM	☐ Tuesday AM	☐ Tuesday PM	☐ Wednesday AM	☐ Wednesday PM	☐ Thursday AM	☐ Thursday PM	☐ Friday AM	☐ Friday PM
☐ Monday AM	☐ Monday PM										
☐ Tuesday AM	☐ Tuesday PM										
☐ Wednesday AM	☐ Wednesday PM										
☐ Thursday AM	☐ Thursday PM										
☐ Friday AM	☐ Friday PM										

List the Plant/ Plant Species Present in your garden
•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•

Office Use Only
This permit expires ____ / ____ / ____ . Permit holders violating any of the terms and requirements of the adopted guidelines may have their designation revoked by the Native Plants Committee. Authorized Signature (Required for Approval) Date:

Please include a minimum of five (5) photos of the property.