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Plant List for the Middle Rio Grande Valley, Albuquerque Metro Area, and East Mountains

All plants are suitable for the Middle Rio Grande Valley and Albuquerque Metro Area.

Plants suitable for the **East Mountains** are marked with: ^

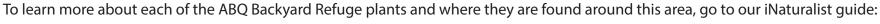
Plants best for container gardening are marked with: @

Trees from The Nature Conservancy's Climate Ready Tree List are marked with: \*

Climate ready tree species are those that will thrive in our current and future climate here in Albuquerque, NM as determined by **The Nature Conservancy** and a coalition of partners.

To learn more about these species, and how to choose the right tree for the right location visit:

https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/Climate-Ready-Trees-Location-Lists-Nov2020.pdf



https://www.inaturalist.org/guides/13425



ABQ Backyard Refuge Program

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
DESERT ACCENTS							
Agave havardiana^	Havard Agave	4′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	nectar hummingbirds, bats; larval host; seeds for birds
Agave palmeri^	Palmer's Agave	3′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	nectar hummingbirds, bats; larval host; seeds for birds
Agave parryi ssp. neomexicana @	Parry's / Mescal Agave	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	nectar humming birds, bats; larval host; seeds for birds
Cylindropuntia imbricata^	Tree / Walkingstick Cholla	8′ X 6′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees
Cylindropuntia kleiniae^	Candle Cholla	8′ X 6′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees
Cylindropuntia leptocaulis^	Desert / Christmas / Pencil Cholla	4′ X 6′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees
Cylindropuntia spinosior^	Cane Cholla	8′ X 6′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees; bird nesting site; thrashers and roadrunners both use chollas for nesting sites
Dasylirion texanum^	Texas Sotol	5′ X 5′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees and wasps; bird perch; Say's Phoebe use sotol as a perch often
Dasylirion wheeleri	Blue Sotol / Desert Spoon	5′ X 5′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Summer	pollen/nectar bees and wasps
Echinocereus coccineus^@	Scarlet Hedgehog Cactus	10" X 15"	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds
Echinocereus triglochidiatus	Claret Cup	12"+ X 18"	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds
Fouquieria splendens	Ocotillo	15′X 10′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	nectar for hummingbirds, bats
Hesperaloe funifera	Giant / Coahuilian Hesperaloe	6′ X 5′	Evergreen	Sun	Dry	Summer	nectar for bees and wasps
Hesperaloe parviflora^@	Red/Yellow-flowering Yucca	3′ X 4′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry+	Spring-Summer	pollen/nectar hummingbirds, bees
Nolina microcarpa^	Sacahuista / Beargrass	5′ X 6′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	pollen/nectar bees and wasps
Nolina texana^	Beargrass	4′ X 5′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	pollen/nectar bees and wasps
Opuntia cacanapa "ellisiana" @	Spineless Prickly Pear	4′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds
Opuntia engelmannii^@	Desert / Engelmann Prickly Pear	5′ X 8′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds

Plants suitable for the East Mountain: ^ Plants for container gardening: @

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
DESERT ACCENTS (contin	nued)						
Opuntia macrocentra^@	Purple Prickly Pear	3′ X 3′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds
Opuntia phaeacantha^@	Brown-spined Prickly Pear	3′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pollen/nectar bees and hummingbirds
Yucca baccata^	Datil / Banana Yucca	4′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	Pronuba moth and hummingbirds
Yucca elata^	Soaptree Yucca	20′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	Pronuba moth
Yucca glauca^	Soapweed Yucca	3′ X 3′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	pronuba moth pollinator; larval host for Giant Skipper butterfly
WILDFLOWERS							
Achillea millefolium^@	Yarrow	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer	nectar for butterflies
Agastache cana^	Giant Hyssop	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer	nectar for hummingbirds & bees (native bees, great for bumble bees)
Agastache rupestris^@	Licorice Mint	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer	hummingbirds and bees
Aquilegia chrysantha^@	Golden Columbine	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Shade	Medium	Spring	nectar for humming birds and bees; larval host butterflies
Argemone pleiacantha^	Prickly Poppy	3′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	nectar for butterflies; seeds for birds
Asclepias latifolia^	Broadleaf Milkweed	18" X18"	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Summer	nectar for butterflies, native bees, great for bumble bees; larval food
Asclepias speciosa^	Showy Milkweed	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer	nectar for butterflies, native bees, great for bumble bees; larval food
Asclepias subverticillata^	Horsetail Milkweed	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry	Summer	nectar for butterflies, great for bumble bees; larval food
Asclepias tuberosa^	Butterflyweed	18" X 18"	Deciduous	Part shade	Moist	Summer	nectar for butterflies; larval food
Berlandiera lyrata^	Chocolate Flower	1′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	bees, butterflies nectar; seeds for birds
Calylophus spp.^	Sundrops	1′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	nectar for hawk moths, bees
Castelleja integra et al^	Paintbrush	1′ X 1′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry	Spring-Fall	nectar for hummingbirds and bees; larval host for Checkerspots
Cleome serrulata^	Rocky Mountain Bee Plant	3′ X 1′	Annual	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer-Fall	nectar and pollen for bees; seeds for birds
Conoclinium greggii	Gregg's Mistflower	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Sun/Part shade	Dry+	Spring-Fall	pollen for bees & butterflies;
Dalea purpurea^	Purple Prairieclover	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer	nectar & pollen for bees (native bees, great for bumble bees); seeds for birds
Datura wrightii^	Sacred Datura	2′ X 6′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer-Fall	nectar for hummingbirds, bees, and bats
Desmanthus illinoensis	Prairie Bundle Flower	3'x1'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	seeds for birds
Engelmannia peristenia^@	Engelmann Daisy	2′ X 18″	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Fall	nectar & pollen for bees & butterflies; seeds for birds
Epilobium garrettii^	<b>Hummingbird Plant</b>	2′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer-Fall	nectar for hummingbirds and bees
Erigeron spp.^	Fleabane Daisy	1′X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	nectar and pollen for bees
Eriogonum spp.^	Wild Buckwheat	1′ X 18″	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	nectar & pollen butterflies & bees; seeds for birds
Gaillardia spp.^@	Blanketflowers	1′ X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer-Fall	butterflies, bumble bees, hummingbirds; seeds for birds
Glandularia bipinnatifida	Prairie Verbena	1′ X 18″	Deciduous	Sun/Part shade	Dry	Spring-Fall	butterflies, bees, seeds for birds
Helianthus annuus^	Sunflower	varies	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	pollen & nectar for bees; great winter cover & seed for birds. Leave standing until spring, then remove last year's growth
Helianthus maximiliani^	Maximilian Sunflower	6′ X 8′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	pollen and nectar for bees; fall / winter seed and cover for birds
Helianthus petiolaris^	Prairie Sunflower	3′ X 1′	Annual	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer-Fall	pollen and nectar for bees; seeds for birds; winter cover for birds
Heliomeris multiflora^	Showy Goldeneye	2′ X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	pollen and nectar for bees; seeds for birds
Liatris punctata^	Gayfeather	2′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Fall	nectar for butterflies & bees (native bees, great for bumble bees); seeds for birds

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
WILDFLOWERS (continue	ed)						
Machaeranthera tanacetifolia^@	Tansy Aster	1′X 1′	Annual	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	nectar for bees and butterflies; seed for birds
Melampodium leucanthum^	Blackfoot Daisy	1′X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Summer	bees
Mirabilis multiflora^	Native Four O'clock	2′ X 5′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Fall	nectar for hawkmoths, hummingbirds; seed for birds
Monarda fistulosa^	Wild Bergamot	18" X 18"	Annual	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer	bees (native bees, great for bumble bees); Culinary herb
Oenothera lindheimeri^@	Gaura / Lindheimer's Beeblossom	3′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	bees, hawkmoths
Oenothera macrocarpa^@,+	Yellow Evening Primrose	1′ X 2′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring	nectar for hawkmoths, bees
Origanum species^@	Oreganos	1′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees; Culinary herb
Penstemon barbatus	Scarlet Bugler	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	hummingbirds, native bees, seed for birds
Penstemon palmeri^,+	Palmer Penstemon	4′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	hummingbirds; hawkmoths; bees (native bees, great for bumble bees)
Penstemon strictus^,+	Rocky Mountain Penstemon	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry +	Spring	hummingbirds; checkerspot larval host; native bees
Psilostrophe tagetina^	Paperflower	16" X 16"	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	butterflies, bees
Ratibida columnifera^@	Coneflower	32" X 32"	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Summer	butterflies, bees; seed for birds
Ruta graveolens^	Rue	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Summer	bees, host for Swallowtail larva
Salvia azurea^	Blue Sage	3′ X 3′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer-Fall	bees, seeds for birds
Salvia darcyi^	Texas Red Sage	30" X 2'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer	hummingbirds
Scabrethia scabra^@	Desert Mule's Ear	2′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	butterflies, bees; seed for birds
Senecio flaccidus^	Silver Groundsel	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	butterflies, bees
Solidago dwarf spp.^	Dwarf Goldenrod	18" X 2'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer-Fall	butterflies, bees
Sphaeralcea spp.^	Globemallow	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	nectar for bees; larval host for Skipper butterflies
Symphyotrichum ericoides^	White Heath Aster	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer-Fall	bees, butterflies nectar; seeds for birds
Thelesperma filifolium^	Greenthread	18" X 12"	Annual	Full Sun	Dry	Summer	bees
Thymophylla acerosa^	Wild Marigold	1′ X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	butterflies, bees
Verbena rigida^	Sandpaper Verbena	1′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer-Fall	butterflies, bees
Verbesina encelioides^	Crownsbeard / Cowpen Daisy	2′ X 2′	Annual	Full Sun	Medium	Fall	butterflies, bees; seed for birds
Zinnia grandiflora^	Desert Zinnia	8" X 16"	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	butterflies, bees
NATIVE GRASSES							
Achnatherum hymenoides^@	Ricegrass	18" X 18"	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Aristida purpurea^	Purple Threeawn	1′X 1′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Bouteloua curtipendula^	Sideoats Grama	30" X 2'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Bouteloua gracilis^	Blue Grama	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Muhlenbergia porteri^@	Bush Muhly	1′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Muhlenbergia rigens^	Deer Grass	4′ X 4′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
NATIVE GRASSES (contin	ued)						
Muhlenbergia rigida^@	Purple Muhly	2′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Panicum virgatum^	Switchgrass	4′ X 3′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer-Fall	Larval food; cover and seeds for birds through winter
Pleuraphis jamesii^	Galleta	14" X 14"	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Schizachyrium scoparium^@	Little Bluestem	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Sorghastrum nutans^	Indiangrass	4′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Sporobolus airoides^	Alkali Sacaton	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Sporobolus cryptandrus^	Sand Dropseed	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Sporobolus wrightii^	Giant Sacaton	5′ X 5′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	Larval food; seeds for birds through winter
Stipa tenuissima^	Threadgrass	2′ X 2′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer-Fall	Larval food; bird seeds; winter cover for birds
SHRUBS							
Aloysia wrightii^	Mexican Oregano / Beebrush	5′ X 4′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	native bees, great for bumble bees
Amelanchier utahensis^	Utah Serviceberry	8′ X 8′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees and songbirds
Amorpha canescens^	Leadplant	2′ X 3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees and songbirds
Amorpha fruticosa^	False Indigo	10' X 10'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	bees and songbirds
Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. wrightii^	Flame Anisacanthus	4′ X 4′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	bees, hummingbirds
Artemisia filifolia^	Sand Sage	4′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	cover for quail and many other birds
Atriplex canescens^	Fourwing Saltbush	6′ X 8′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	Larval host; food and cover for many birds
Atriplex confertifolia^	Shadscale Saltbush	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	Larval host; food and cover for many birds
Baccharis sarothroides	Desert Broom	6′ X 6′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer-Fall	Larval host; food and cover for many birds
Buddleja marrubiifolia	<b>Wooly butterfly Bush</b>	4′ X 4′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer	butterflies, bees, hummingbirds
Buddleja davidii var. nanhoensis^	Dwarf butterfly Bush	6′ X 4′	Semi- evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	butterflies, bees, hummingbirds
Caesalpinia gilliesii	Yellow Bird of Paradise	10′ X 10′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	hummingbirds, bees
Cercocarpus breviflorus^	Hairy Mountain Mahogany	10′ X 8′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees, bird cover; potential bird nest sites as it gets larger.
Chamaebatiaria millefolium^	Fernbush	5′ X 6′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	bees, native wasps, butterflies
Chrysactinia mexicana	Damianita	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	bees, butterflies
Ephedra spp.^	Joint-fir / Mormon Tea	2'+ X 5'+	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Winter	cover, nesting for small birds
Ericameria laricifolia	Turpentine Bush	3′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Fall	butterflies and bees
Ericameria nauseosa^	Chamisa / Rubber Rabbitbrush	4′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Fall	butterflies, winter cover for birds
Chamaebatiaria millefolium^	Fernbush	5′ X 6′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	bees, native wasps, butterflies
Chrysactinia mexicana	Damianita	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	bees, butterflies
Ephedra spp.^	Joint-fir / Mormon Tea	2'+ X 5'+	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Winter	cover, nesting for small birds
Ericameria laricifolia	Turpentine Bush	3′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Fall	butterflies and bees

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
SHRUBS (continued)						•	
Ericameria nauseosa^	Chamisa / Rubber Rabbitbrush	4′ X 5′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Fall	butterflies, winter cover for birds
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium^	Flattop Buckwheat	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	butterflies, bees, bird seeds
Fallugia paradoxa^	Apache Plume	6′ X 7′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	bees, butterflies, great for bumble bees; cover and seeds for birds
Fendlera rupicola^	Cliff Fendlerbush	4′ X 4′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry +	Spring	bees; potential bird nest sites as it gets larger.
Garrya wrightii^	Wright's Silktassel	10' X 10'	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry+	Fall	birds fruits
Larrea tridentata	Creosote Bush	6′ X 8′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	bees; seeds for birds
Leucophyllum frutescens 'Compactum'	Compact Cenizo	3′ X 4′	Semi-Ever.	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	nectar for hummingbirds and bees; larval host for Checkerspot butterflies; cover
Leucophyllum langmaniae	Rio Bravo Rainsage	4′ X 4′	Semi-Ever.	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	hummingbirds, bees
Mahonia haematocarpa^	Algerita	8' X 10'	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees; fruits for birds; nesting, year round cover
Parthenium incanum	Mariola	1.5-3′x 1.5-3′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Summer-Fall	bees, butterflies, birds
Prunus pumila var. besseyi^	Western Sand Cherry	4′ X 4′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	bees; fruits for birds; cover
Purshia mexicana^	Cliffrose	8′ X 6′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Summer	bees, elfin butterfly larva host; seed for birds; cover
Quercus turbinella^	Shrub Live Oak	10'+ X 10'+	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Summer	bees, butterfly larval food; acorns for birds; cover
Rhus microphylla^	Littleleaf Sumac	8' x 9'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	bees; fruits and seeds for birds; cover
Rhus trilobata^	Three-leaf Sumac	6′ X 6′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Summer	bees; fruits and seeds for birds; cover
Salix exigua^	Coyote Willow	8′ X 5′+	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring	Food (buds and new leaves) and cover for birds, early source of pollen for native bees; potential bird nest sites as it gets larger.
Salvia chamaedryoides	Mexican Blue / Chihuahua Sage	1′ X 3′	Semi- Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	bees
Salvia dorrii^	Desert Sage	2′ X 3′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry	Spring	bees and hummingbirds
Salvia greggii	Autumn or Cherry Sage	2′ X 3′	Semi- Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Fall	bees and hummingbirds
Salvia lycioides x greggii^@	Ultra-Violet Sage	2′ X 2′	Semi- Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry+	Spring-Fall	bees and hummingbirds
Salvia officinalis^	Garden Sage	2′ X 2′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring	bees; Culinary herb
Salvia mohavensis	Mojave Sage	30" X 3'	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Summer	bees and butterflies
Salvia rosmarinus	Rosemary	4′ X 4′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Low	Spring-Fall	bees (native bees, great for bumble bees); Culinary herb
Symphoricarpos albus^	Snowberry	3′ X 3′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer- Winter	bee, butterfly nectar and larval food; fruit for birds
Ungnadia speciosa	Mexican Buckeye	8' X 10'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring	butterfly nectar and larval food
Vauquelinia spp.^	Rosewood	12′ X 10′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	bees and butterflies; cover and nesting for birds
Viguiera stenoloba (syn: Sidneya tenuifolia)	Skeletonleaf Goldeneye	3′ X 4′	Semi- Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer	bees and butterflies

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
TREES		neight x whith	Lvergreen		l *more detail		Ready Species on the last page
Acer saccharum var. grandidentatum^	Bigtooth Maple	25' X 25'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Moist	Spring-Summer	Nesting, roosting for birds; squirrels eat seeds; cover *Climate Ready Species
Arbutus xalapensis*	Texas Madrone	30′ X 30′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	bees and butterflies; cover and nesting for birds *Climate ready species
Carya illinoinensis*	Pecan	70′ X 40′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Moist		bees and butterflies; nuts for deer, racoon, fox, birds; host plant for hairstreak butterflies *Climate ready species
Catalpa speciosa	Catalpa	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring	bees, hummingbirds; roosting and nesting
Cedrus deodara^*	Deodar Cedar	50′ X 30′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Winter	butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting *Climate ready species
Cedrus atlantica^*	Atlas cedar	60' X 40'	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Winter	butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting *Climate ready species
Celtis occidentalis^	Common Hackberry	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	butterfly larval host; seeds, roosting, nesting cover for birds
Celtis reticulata^	Netleaf / Canyon Hackberry	25′ X 25′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	Mourning Cloak butterfly larval host; seeds, roosting, nesting cover for birds
Cercis orbiculata (syn. Occidentalis)^*	Western Redbud	10' X 12'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring	Bumble bees, native solitary bees, wasps, syrphid flies, butterflies, Elfin butterflies; bird roosting and nesting *Climate ready species
Cercis canadensis var. mexicana^*	Mexican Redbud	15' X 12'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring	Bumble bees, native solitary bees, wasps, syrphid flies, butterflies, Elfin butterflies; bird roosting and nesting *Climate ready species
Cercis canadensisvar. texensis^*	Texas Redbud	15′X 12′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring	Bumble bees, native solitary bees, wasps, syrphid flies, butterflies, Elfin butterflies; bird roosting and nesting *Climate ready species
Cercis reniformis texensis^*	Oklahoma Redbud	15' X 12'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring	Bumble bees, native solitary bees, wasps, syrphid flies, butterflies, Elfin butterflies; bird roosting and nesting *Climate ready species
Chilopsis linearis^*	Desert Willow	20' X 25'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Summer-Fall	hummingbirds and orioles; native solitary bees, bumble bees, wasps *Climate ready species
Cotinus obovatus^*	American Smoketree	30' X 30'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	honey bees and butterflies *Climate ready species
Crataegus ambigua^*	Russian Hawthorn	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Winter	Bee nectar/pollen; Hairstreaks and Viceroy larval host; fruit for birds *Climate ready species
Crataegus crus-galli ^	Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Winter	Bee nectar/pollen; Hairstreak larval host; fruit for birds
Crataegus phaenopyrum^	Washington Hawthorn	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Winter	Bee nectar/pollen; Hairstreak larval host; fruit for birds
Cupressus arizonica	Arizona Cypress	50′ X 30′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval host; cover, nesting; seed for birds
Cydonia oblonga^	Quince	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	honey bees, butterflies; fruits for wildlife
Diospyros kaki*	Japanese Persimmon	30' X 20'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spting-Fall	bees; fruits for wildlife *Climate ready species
Diospyros texana*	Texas Persimmon	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Full sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	Bee nectar; Gray Hairstreak & Henry's elfin larval host; fruit for birds *Climate ready species
Ficus carica 'Mission'*	Black Mission Fig	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	Gall wasp; fruits for squirrels, raccoons, deer, birds *Climate Ready Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
TREES (continued)				4	more detail:	about Climate R	leady Species on the last page
"Forestiera neomexicana syn: pubescens var. pubescens^"	New Mexico Olive	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry+	Spring-Winter	honey bee nectar; native solitary bees;fruit for songbirds *Climate Ready Species
Fraxinus cuspidata^	Fragrant Ash	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail Iarval host *Climate Ready Species
Juglans microcarpa^	Little Walnut	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Full sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	Hairstreak larval host; nuts for squirrels, raccoons, other wildlife *Climate Ready Species
Juniperus chinensis^	Juniper Trees, females only	25′ X 20′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Winter	butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting
Juniperus deppeana^*	Alligator Juniper	60′ X 40′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Winter	butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting *Climate Ready Species
Juniperus monosperma^*	Oneseed Juniper	15′ X 15′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Winter	butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting *Climate Ready Species
Juniperus virginiana*	Eastern Red Cedar	60' X 40'	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Juniper Hairstreak larval host; roosting/nesting; browse; fruits eaten by cedar waxwings *Climate Ready Species
Lagerstroemia indica x fauriei*	Crape Myrtle	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Moist	Summer	hummingbirds, honey bees, native soltary bees, and butterflies *Climate Ready Species
Leucaena retusa*	Golden Ball Leadtree	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Summer	bees, butterflies *Climate Ready Species
Malus cultivars^	Crabapple	varies	Deciduous	Full Sun	Moist	Spring-Winter	nectar for bees (native bees, great for bumble bees); butterfly larval host; fruits for birds; cover and nesting
Morus microphylaa*	Littleleaf Mulberry	25′ X 25′	Deciduous	Full sun	Dry	Spring-Summer	fruits for birds, squirrels, raccoons, foxes and other wildlife *Climate Ready Species
"Parkinsonia x Cercidium* e.g. Cercidium texanum"	Palo Verde Hybrids	20′ X 20′	Evergreen	Full sun	Dry	Spring-Summer	bees pollinate; browse for deer, bighorn sheep, jackrabbits *Climate Ready Species
Pinus aristata^	Bristlecone Pine	30′ X 20′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Elfin butterfly larval hosts; seeds for birds; cover and nesting
Pinus edulis^	Pinon Pine	30′ X 20′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Elfin butterfly larval hosts; seeds for birds; cover and nesting
Pinus eldarica*	Afghan Pine	40′ X 18′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Elfin butterfly larval hosts; seeds for birds, cover, and nesting *Climate Ready Species
Pinus flexilis^	Limber Pine	30′ X 20′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Elfin butterfly larval hosts; seeds for birds; cover and nesting
Pinus pinea*	Italian Stone Pine	60′ X 50′	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Winter	Elfin butterfly larval hosts; seeds for birds; cover and nesting *Climate Ready Species
Pistacia chinensis^*	Chinese Pistache	60′ X 60′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	seeds for White-wing Dove, other birds *Climate Ready Species
Pistacia vera*	Pistachio	25′ X 25′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	nuts for birds, other wildlife *Climate ready species
Platanus mexicana*	Mexican Sycamore	50' X 30'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail larval food; seed for bird *Climate ready species
Platanus wrightii	Arizona Sycamore	60′ X 70′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Moist	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail larval food
Platycladus species^	Arborvitae	15'+ X 12'+	Evergreen	Full Sun	Medium+	Summer-Winter	butterfly larval food; nesting, roosting, seeds for birds
Populus acuminata^	Mountain / Lanceleaf Cottonwood	50′ X 50′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium+	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail larval food; insects for many birds; nesting, roosting

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
TREES (continued)				*moi	re details a	bout Climate R	leady Species on the last page
Populus deltoides*	Eastern Cottonwood	50' X 60'	Deciduous	Full sun	Moist	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail, Viceroy larval food; insects for many birds; nesting, roosting *Climate ready species
Populus deltoides ssp. wislizeni^*	Valley Cottonwood	50′ X 60′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium+	Spring-Fall	Swallowtail larval food; insects for many birds; nesting, roosting *Climate ready species
Prosopis glandulosa*	Honey Mesquite	25′ X 30′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	nectar for honey bees, native solitary bees, and butterflies; larval host Marine blue, Reicker's blue, and long- tailed skipper; seeds for birds and mammals *Climate ready species
Prosopis pubescens*	Screwbean Mesquite	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry RW	Spring-Fall	"nectar for honey bees and native solitary bees, and butterflies *Climate ready species
Prosopis velutina*	Velvet Mesquite	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry	Spring-Fall	nectar for honey bees, native solitary bees, and butterflies; larval host for Marine blue butterflies; seeds for birds an mammals *Climate ready species
Prunus americana^	American Plum	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	Bumble bees, solitary bees, honey bees, wasps, syrphid flies, butterflies; fruits for birds and people
Prunus armeniaca^	Apricot	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	Bumble bees, solitary bees, honey bees, wasps, syrphid flies; fruits for birds and people
Prunus mexicana*	Mexican Plum	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	Bumble bees, solitary bees, honey bees, wasps, syrphid flies; larval host for Swallowtail and Viceroy butterflies, cecropia moth; fruits for birds and mammals *Climate ready species
Prunus virginiana melanocarpa ^	Chokecherry	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium+	Spring-Summer	nectar bees; fruit birds; Admiral butterfly larval host
Ptelea trifoliata^	Hoptree	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	nectar bees; seeds eaten by birds and small mammals; cover
Punica granatum*	Pomegranate	20′ X 15′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	nectar for honey bees, hummingbirds; fruit/seed eaten by birds, mammals; cover *Climate ready species
Quercus arizonica*	Arizona White Oak	40' X 40'	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food: Short-tailed skipper, Meridian duskywing; deer browse; acorns for birds, other wildlife *Climate ready species
Quercus buckleyi^	Texas Red Oak	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food: Skippers, Hairstreaks; acorns and nesting for birds
Quercus fusiformis*	Escarpment / Texas Live Oak	25′ X30′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	butterfly larval food: Skippers, Hairstreaks, Arizona Sister; acorns for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Quercus gambelii^	Gambel Oak	25′ X 25′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; acorns for birds, nesting for birds; cover
Quercus gravesii*	Chisos Red Oak	25′ X 25′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; acorns & cover for birds; *Climate ready species
Quercus grisea^	Gray Oak	30′ X 30′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry +	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; acorns for birds; cover
Quercus oblongifolia*	Blue Live Oak	25′ X 20′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; deer browse; acorns for birds, other wildlife; nesting for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Quercus suber*	Cork Oak	50′ X 50′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; deer browse; acorns for birds, other wildlife; cover *Climate ready species
Quercus virginiana*	Southern Live Oak	50′ X 50′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; deer browse; acorns for birds, other wildlife; cover *Climate ready species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
TREES (continued)				*moi	e details a	bout Climate R	leady Species on the last page
Quercus muehlenbergii*	Chinquapin Oak	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food; acorns for birds, nesting for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Rhus lanceolata*	Prairie Flameleaf Sumac	20′ X 20′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry+	Spring-Fall	butterfly larval food: Hairstreaks; native solitary bees; seeds for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Sambucus mexicana	Mexican Elder	20′ X 25′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Summer	Bee and butterfly nectar; fruits for birds; cover
Salix goodingii*	Goodding's Willow	40′ X 25′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Summer	butterfly/moth larval host: Mourning cloak; browse for deer; nesting for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Sapindus saponaria var. drummondii^*	Western Soapberry	30′ X 30′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry+	Spring-Summer	bee, native wasp nectar; roosting, nesting; cover *Climate ready species
Sophora secundiflora	Texas Mountain Laurel	15′ X 15′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry+	Spring	butterflies, bees, larval host, nesting, cover - seeds are poisonous *Climate ready species
Styphnolobium japonicum^	Japanese Pagoda Tree / Scholar Tree	35′ X 35′	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Summer- Winter	Bee nectar; roosting, nesting; cover
Taxodium mucronatum*	Montezuma Cypress	70′ X 35′	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Fall	"roosting, nesting for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Ulmus X 'Frontier^*	Frontier Elm	40′ X 30′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	"butterfly larval food; seeds for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Ulmus X 'Morton' Accolade^*	Accolade Elm	40′ X 30′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	"butterfly larval food; seeds for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Ulmus parvifolia*	Lacebark Elm	40′ X 40′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	"Comma, Question Mark and Angelwing butterfly larval food; cover *Climate ready species
Vitex agnus-castus*	Chaste Tree	20' X 20'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Summer-Fall	nectar for native Solitary bees, bumble bees, honey bees, butterflies, fruits for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Zelkova serrata*	Japanese Zelkova	70′ X 70′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	"butterfly larval food; nesting, roosting, seeds for birds; cover *Climate ready species
Ziziphus jujuba^	Jujube	30′ X 25′	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium	Spring-Fall	bee nectar, Syrphid flies, wasps; fruits for birds and mammals; cover *Climate ready species
VINES							
Campsis radicans^	Trumpet Vine	Climbing x 40'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium+	Summer	hummingbirds, bees and bats
Clematis hybrids^	Clematis	Climbing x 40'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Moist	Spring-Summer	Bee, butterfly nectar
Clematis ligusticifolia^	<b>Western White Clematis</b>	Climbing x 15'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	Native bee nectar
Humulus lupulus var. neomexicanus^	Common Hop	Climbing x 6'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium+	Summer	bees, butterfly larval host
Lonicera sempervirens^	Coral Honeysuckle	Climbing x 8'	Deciduous	Shade/part sun	Medium	Spring-Summer	hummingbirds and bees (native bees, great for bumble bees)
Parthenocissus vitacea^	Woodbine	Climbing x 40'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	nectar for bees; fruit for birds
Passiflora incarnata	Passionflower	Climbing x 15'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Dry +	Summer	butterfly larval host
Periploca graeca^	Silk vine	Climbing x 40'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	nectar and larval host for butterflies
Polygonum aubertii^	Silver Lacevine	Climbing x 40'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Dry +	Spring-Fall	nectar for bees, parasitic wasps

Scientific Name	Common Name	Approx. Size Height x Width	Deciduous or Evergreen	Light Exposure	Water Use	Flowering and Fruiting Seasons	Habitat Value
VINES (continued)							
Rosa banksiae^	Rose Lady Banks	Climbing X 40'	Evergreen	Sun/shade	Dry +	Spring-Winter	cover for birds; nectar for butterflies bees (native bees, great for bumble bees)
Rosa hybrid and species climbers^	Climbing Roses	Climbing X 15'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium+	Spring-Fall	nectar for bees and butterflies
Vitis arizonica^	Canyon Grape	Climbing X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	nectar for bees; fruit for birds
Vitis cultivars	Table Grapes	Climbing X 30'	Deciduous	Full Sun	Medium+	Spring-Fall	nectar for bees; fruit for birds
Wisteria spp.^	Wisteria	Climbing X 20'	Deciduous	Sun/shade	Medium	Spring-Summer	nectar for bees; larval food for Skipper butterflies

### ABQ Backyard Refuge Program Plant List for the Middle Rio Grande Valley, Albuquerque Metro Area, and the East Mountains

All plants are suitable for the Middle Rio Grande Valley and Albuquerque Metro Area.

Plants suitable for the East Mountains are marked with: ^ Plants suitable for container gardening: @

Tree species from The Nature Conservancy's **Climate Ready Tree** List are marked with: \*

Climate ready trees are both native and introduced species that will thrive in our current and future climate here in Albuquerque, NM as determined by The Nature Conservancy and a coalition of partners. To learn more about these species, and how to choose the right tree for the right location download the full list at:

 $\underline{https://friends of valled eoro.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Climate-Ready-Trees-Location-Lists-Nov2020.pdf}$ 

Visit iNaturalist for a guide with pictures and the geographic distribution of each species across our area: <a href="https://www.inaturalist.org/guides/13425">https://www.inaturalist.org/guides/13425</a>



# **Backyard Refuge Plant List General Notes**

This list contains information about a few hundred plants that can be a great addition to your backyard refuge. Grasses are larval hosts for butterflies and seed for over-wintering birds; shrubs provide structure, cover and nesting sites as well as nectar and seeds; trees and vines provide layers of canopy cover in addition to specific foods.

The plant list is grouped as succulents, herbaceous (deciduous indicates **perennials** that die back to the ground when dormant, **annuals** indicate plants that generally die after one growing season and often self-sow under favorable conditions).

Approximate sizes are based on suggested watering for 10 + years in the garden. Since wildlife need open spaces as well as more densely planted areas, spacing of plants should be based on mature sizes to avoid diminishing the habitat value of the garden as plants mature.

A mix of deciduous and evergreen plants allow winter cover and increases diversity of visiting and year-round wildlife.

**Light exposure** describes which plants can provide understory cover and which are the canopy layer.

**Water use** varies with the soil and exposure (plants need more water on sunny, windy sites); plants may take less water when planted in protected, shady spaces. Generally, larger plants will need water over a wider area as they develop a larger canopy. Rainwater harvesting, directing stormwater into streambeds and basins is beneficial to most plants in the landscape, but only those noted as requiring the most moisture and those native to streambank ecosystems will tolerate standing water for more than a few hours in poorly draining soils.

**Dry RW** are plants that will thrive on rainwater with little or no irrigation once they are well rooted (typically after 3 or more growing seasons).

**Dry** are plants that prefer periodic soaking to a depth of 24 to 30 inches monthly during the growing season once well-rooted.

**Dry +** are plants that might need watering twice monthly in summer especially when rainfall is lacking or in sandy soils.

**Medium** are plants that may need water every two weeks, May through August, monthly or less during cooler weather.

**Medium** + are plants that may need water every two weeks April through September, monthly while dormant.

**Moist** are plants that are native along streams and/or at higher/cooler elevations that may need watering to a depth of 24 to 30 inches weekly, May through August, every two weeks in spring and fall and monthly in winter.

**Seasonal Flowering and Fruiting** notes help guide you in providing the most diverse year-round habitat. **Habitat Value** is a short list of possible visitors/residents the plant will attract to your backyard refuge.

ABQ Backyard Refuge Program