



Tenison Pollinator Garden - Tenison Memorial Drive at East Grand Avenue - Dallas

Tenison Park Pollinator Garden is a new urban garden established in January 2017 as an environmental beautification project sponsored by the Hollywood/Santa Monica Neighborhood Association in East Dallas. The garden is 100% maintained by neighborhood volunteers and funded entirely by donations.

In January/February 2017, we began the arduous task of hand-removing Bermudagrass roots from our planting areas, then incorporating 11 cubic yards of organic compost. In March/April, we began planting. Because this park area is not irrigated, appropriate plant selection was critical. All of our approximately 250 plants are Texas natives representing 29 species from 11 plant families. Included in the mix are three species of native milkweed, two of which we started from seed. We have five distinct beds: three are sun-loving mixed species and two are in the shade of pecan trees for a total of 1445 sq. ft. All of our plants are nectar, host, and/or contributors to bird and insect habitats. Thanks to especially deep root systems and an abundant rainfall this year, we have not watered our garden since May.

We maintain a twice monthly maintenance program to keep the Bermudagrass surrounding the beds mowed and the edges trimmed. Since January, volunteers have invested close to 500 hours creating and caring for this garden. In September, we became an official Monarch Butterfly Waystation and look forward to the Monarch super-generation's fall migration. Our goal was to establish a responsible urban environment that sustains native pollinators by using diverse plant species that span the growing season. Native plants are the best solution for a water-wise garden!

Acanthaceae (Acanthus Family)

Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. wrightii (Flame Acanthus)

Asteraceae (Aster Family)

Arnoglossum plantagineum (Indian Plantain)
Echinacea angustifolia (Narrow-leaf Coneflower)
Gaillardia pulchella (Indian Blanket)
Helianthus mollis (Ashy Sunflower)
Hymenopappus scabiosaeus (Old Plainsman)
Liatris squarrulosa (Gayfeather)
Melampodium leucanthum (Blackfoot Daisy)
Oligoneuron rigidum var. glabratum (Stiff Goldenrod)
Ratibida Columnifera (Mexican Hat)
Silphium laciniatum (Compass Plant)
Silphium radula (Roughstem Rosinweed)
Silphium simpsonii (Simpson Rosinweed)
Verbesina virginica (Frostweed)

Apiaceae (Carrot Family)

Eryngium leavenworthii (Eryngo)
Eryngium yuccifolium (Rattlesnake Master)

Agavaceae (Century Plant Family)

Yucca arkansana (Softleaf Yucca)

Apocynaceae (Dogbane Family)

Amsonia ciliata var. texana (Texas Blue Star)

Scrophulariaceae (Figwort Family)

Penstemon digitalis (Foxglove)

Poaceae (Grass Family)

Chasmanthium latifolium (Inland Sea Oats)
Muhlenbergia capillaris (Gulf Muhly)
Schizachyrium scoparium var. scoparium (Little Bluestem)

Malvaceae (Mallow Family)

Pavonia lasiopetala (Rock Rose)

Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed Family)

Asclepias matelea biflora (Purple Milkweed Vine, Star Milkvine)
Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)
Asclepias viridis (Green Milkweed/Antelope Horn)

Lamiaceae (Mint Family)

Monarda citriodora (Lemon Beebalm)
Salvia azurea (Blue Sage)

Verbenaceae (Verbena Family)

Lantana urticoides (Texas Lantana)
Phyla nodiflora (Texas Frogfruit)

