



Screening Plants

Screening plants are essential in landscape design for creating privacy, reducing noise, and blocking unwanted views. They serve as natural barriers that can shield outdoor spaces from busy streets, neighboring properties, or unsightly structures. Additionally, these plants enhance the aesthetic appeal of a landscape by adding layers of texture and color. Screening plants can also provide shelter for wildlife and help reduce wind exposure, making outdoor areas more comfortable. By carefully selecting a variety of screening plants, homeowners can achieve a more secluded and tranquil environment while also promoting biodiversity in their gardens.

1. **Blue Point Juniper** (*Juniperus chinensis*) - This full sun plant grows to 10-15 feet tall and 6-8 feet wide. It is evergreen and gives off a blue tint that makes it a vibrant privacy or ornamental plant.
2. **Brodie Juniper** (*Juniperus virginiana 'Brodie'*) - Grows 15-25 feet tall and 6-15 feet wide. It is evergreen and prefers full sun, making it great for a hedge.
3. **Camellia** - There are many different types of camellias with varying sizes and colors. It is an evergreen shrub that prefers morning sun and afternoon shade.
4. **Cleyera japonica** - This is a great replacement for the red tip photinia, which is known to be disease-prone. It has glossy leaves and is evergreen. It's not the fastest grower but is low maintenance because of this. It grows around 10-15 feet tall and 8-10 feet wide, performing best in morning sun and afternoon shade.

5. **Eastern Red Cedar** (*Juniperus virginiana*) - Grows 30-40 feet tall and 10-20 feet wide. It is evergreen and prefers full sun.
6. **Elaeagnus** (*Elaeagnus spp.*) - This fast-growing full-sun shrub has beautiful foliage and grows up to 8-10 feet tall and wide. Left untended, this shrub can reach taller and wider heights.
7. **Gold Dust Aucuba** (*Aucuba japonica*) - This plant does best in part shade, has spotted leaves, and grows to about 6-10 feet tall and wide. It cannot handle full sun in the afternoon.
8. **Green Giant Arborvitae** (*Thuja standishii* × *plicata*) - This evergreen screen plant grows about 40-60 feet tall and 15-20 feet wide. It does well in full sun.
9. **Hollies** (*Ilex*) - There are many different types of hollies, all of which are evergreen and great for privacy hedges or ornamental use. Hollies are versatile and hardy here in East Texas, able to handle full sun to part shade.
10. **Little Gem Magnolia** (*Magnolia grandiflora* "Little Gem") - This is an evergreen tree that can also be grown as a large shrub used for privacy. It has big white blooms and can grow to about 25-30 feet tall and 15 feet wide. Prefers full sun.
11. **Pride of Houston Yaupon** (*Ilex vomitoria* "Pride of Houston") - This is another great evergreen shrub/small tree that grows to 15-20 feet tall and 10-12 feet wide. It produces small red berries, adding color like the hollies. This plant can handle full sun.
12. **Southern Wax Myrtle** (*Morella cerifera*) - This Texas native does well in full sun and likes wet soil. It gets 10-15 feet tall and 8-10 feet wide. Fast-growing and great for soggy areas where you want privacy!
13. **Sweet Olive** (*Osmanthus fragrans*) - This plant has a very fragrant scent when it blooms in the spring. It is evergreen and performs best in morning sun and afternoon shade. It grows to about 15 feet tall and 10 feet wide.
14. **Wax Leaf Ligustrum** (*Ligustrum japonicum* 'Texanum') - Grows 15 feet tall and 10 feet wide. It is a fast grower and great pollinator, evergreen, and prefers full sun.