#### Harmony Hills Association ARC Standard 2025.1: Flora Landscaping

This Standard applies to the replacement of any plant, shrub, decorative tree, etc., in the landscaped areas around all Units, Buildings and Common Areas.

The intent of the Standard is to replace non-native plants with native plants. The reasoning is two-fold:

- **Non-native plants** are selected by developers for their aesthetic appeal but provide no benefit to our backyard wildlife. They are high maintenance (pruning, high water intake, etc.) and are not resistant to drought or freezes that are not uncommon in middle TN.
- Choosing **native plants** for our garden landscape helps wildlife and lessens maintenance without sacrificing the beauty of blooms or greenery.
  - o The affinity of pollinators to native plants increases the health of our ecosystem.
  - The ability of native plants to survive drought and hard freezes, reducing replacement costs.
  - o Once established native plants require less water.
  - o Natural landscapes also improve habitat for mosquito predators.

If a plant dies on your property, the HOA is responsible for replacing it. The homeowner needs to complete a Service Request and, if they so choose, may select the replacement from the choices below for that plant. Or they may leave the choice up to the ARC.

If a homeowner wishes to replace a living plant, that is a cost borne by the homeowner. It requires an ARC request describing the plant to be replaced, the replacement selected from below, and whether the homeowner will replace it themselves or requests the landscaper to do it (charges apply).

#### Helpful Links:

<u>Landscaping with Native Plants</u>
<u>Plant Trends That Can Cause More Harm Than Good</u>

#### **Current Non-Native Crape Myrtle-**

planted near practically everyone's doorstep, can reach a height of up to 30ft, and the multiple trunks get bigger. They do produce root suckers that need to be trimmed back and can have a spreading root system that should be monitored. Seed pods make a mess. Their bark and leaves can become infected with common ailments. They have no value to wildlife.





## Suggested replacements for Crape Myrtle:

Chionanthus virginicus – native Fringe Tree

https://directnativeplants.com/product/fringe-tree/ https://www.wilsonbrosgardens.com/grancy-graybeard-whitefringe-tree-chionanthus-virginicus.html 1-3 gal. \$25.-\$75.00



Hamamelis vernalis - Ozark Witch Hazel <a href="https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf">https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf</a>

3 gal.- 15gal., \$65.00-\$235.00



Ilex decidua - Possumhaw Holly https://www.growildinc.com/wpcontent/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf 3 gal.-15 gal., \$45.00-\$235.00



Current Non-Native Chinese Holly – usually planted in the rear landscaped area. They do not handle freezes well and some have already had to be replaced.



## Suggested replacements for Chinese Holly:

**Thuja occ. 'Wandsdyke Silver' –** American Arborvitae, there are a number of varieties of Thuja Occidentalis that could be used as columnar specimens, or the small globe varieties could be planted in place of some of the smaller evergreen shrubs. <a href="https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf">https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf</a>

15 gal., '4-'8, \$215.00-235.00

https://batesnursery.com/products/search?keyword=Thuja%20occ.%20%27Wandsdyke%20Silver%27%20%E2%80%93%20American%20Arborvite

3 gal. "globe" starting at ~\$50.00



**Ilex opaca** - American Holly. There are a number of American Holly varieties that could be used to replace the Chinese Hollies.

https://www.growildinc.com/wpcontent/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf

Variety size and pricing vary from '3-8', \$50.-\$275.00



# **Current non-native shrub plantings**

# **Dwarf Chinese Holly**





Japanese Spirea



"Knockout" (?) Roses- Should get an annual pruning in late fall/early spring.



# **Dwarf Japanese Cypress**



**European Boxwood** 



**"Monkey Grass"- Liriope.** This is officially considered invasive in TN!



# More Boxwood (columnar)



# Native recommendations in place of roses and any of the other aforementioned shrubs: Viburnum acerifolium - Mapleleaf viburnum



Hypericum spp. - Shrubby St John's Wort



Callicarpa americana - American Beautyberry



Hydrangea quercifolia



Itea virginica - Virginia sweetspire



## Recommend native grasses in place of rose bushes

Schizachyrium scoparium 'The Blues' - Little Blue Stem <a href="https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf">https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild\_Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf</a> 3 gal. @ \$38.00 or Muhlenbergia capillaris/ Pink Muhly Grass <a href="https://batesnursery.com/products/3-grass-">https://batesnursery.com/products/3-grass-</a>

muhlenbergia-capillaris-pink-muhly-native-tn-681297233 #3@24.99





A low growing variety of this, could be planted in place of the invasive "monkey grass" that borders the current beds.

https://www.growildinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GroWild

Fall\_Price\_2024.pdf 3 gal. - \$45.00



#### Perennial alternatives to "monkey grass"

Zizia aurea
Golden Alexander <a href="https://tnyards.utk.edu/zizia-aurea/">https://tnyards.utk.edu/zizia-aurea/</a>

#### Phlox subulata - Moss Phlox





## **Native Plant Nurseries:**

\*Growild: <a href="http://www.growildinc.com/">http://www.growildinc.com/</a>

\*IzelPlants(mailorderonly): www.izelplants.com

\*NearlyNativeNursery: <a href="http://www.nearlynativenursery.com/index1.cfm">http://www.nearlynativenursery.com/index1.cfm</a>

\*ReflectionRiding: <a href="https://reflectionriding.org/101.110">https://reflectionriding.org/101.110</a>

\*TennesseeNaturescapes: www.tennesseenaturescapes.com

\*WildOnesPlantSales:

https://middletennessee.wildones.org/https://tnvalleywildones.org/native-plants

Other Nurseries That Carry Natives: Be sure to check scientific names to avoid purchasing non-natives by mistake.

- \*Bates Nursery: https://www.batesnursery.com/
- \*Gardens of Babylon Garden Center: https://gardensofbabylon.com/
- \*Moore and Moore Garden Center: https://www.mooreandmoore.com/
- \*Rock Bridge Trees: https://rockbridgetrees.com/
- \*Thomas Nursery: <a href="http://www.thomasnurserytrees.com/">http://www.thomasnurserytrees.com/</a>