Low Maintenance Shade

Landscaping to protect and conserve Austin's water

Demonstration garden: Zilker Botanical Garden (Green Garden), 2220 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX
The large tree canopy sets the mood and style for this shade-loving landscape. Featuring native dwarf yaupons and a variety of liriopes, this design is low maintenance. The soothing evergreens provide a perfect place to escape the heat and enjoy the tranquility of a summer day in Texas.
LOW MAINTENANCE SHADE
**Light:**
Shade

**Soil Needs:**
- Amend existing soil with 2-3” of compost
- Be sure that your total soil base is 6-8” deep
- If additional soil is needed, use a good quality soil mix (approximately 25% compost, 65% loam and 10% sand)

**Water Needs:**
Once established, these plants require little to no water. If plants look wilted, however, water thoroughly every 3-4 weeks if there is no rainfall

**Irrigation:**
- Hand-watering is recommended
- If you must use an irrigation system, choose one with bubblers and/or drip irrigation

**Turf:**
If you need turf in this yard for aesthetic or family needs, St. Augustine is the best recommendation for shade.

**Earth-Wise Gardening Tips:**
- Plant the right plant in the right place based on sunlight required
- Mulch all beds to retain water and reduce weeds
- Use St. Augustine grass only in shaded areas; Zoysia can handle sun to part shade; mulch is a better alternative under a large tree canopy
- Reduce turf to meet your aesthetic or family needs because grass generally requires more water and chemicals to maintain
- Use pervious pavement that allows water to soak into the ground and/or the surrounding landscape such as stone without mortar, mulch or pervious concrete
- Use rainbarrels to capture and reuse rainwater

For a driving or biking map to this and other demonstration gardens or for more earth-wise gardening tips, visit [www.growgreen.org](http://www.growgreen.org)

For water conserving tips and rebates, visit [www.waterwiseaustin.org](http://www.waterwiseaustin.org)

Turk’s Cap  Chili Pequin  American Beautyberry