



Western Soapberry

Sapindus saponaria

tree to 15m; long alternate leaves; gray to red bark may break into reddish scales; yellow grape-like berries in fall



Yaupon

Ilex vomitoria

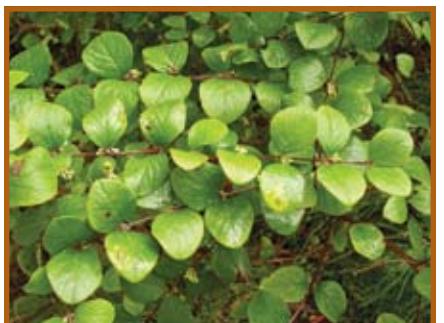
shrub or tree; small evergreen leaves; gray twigs; shiny red berries in fall and winter



Blackjack Oak

Quercus marilandica

small tree to 10m; broadly-lobed stiff leaves with bristle at tip; leaf veins conspicuous; acorns ripen in 2 years



Coralberry

Symporicarpos orbiculatus

small shrub with shreddy reddish bark; leaves opposite; coral red to pink berries in fall



Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

evergreen tree; reddish-brown bark flakes off in strips; reddish-brown twigs; bluish berries



Hercules Club/Prickly Ash

Zanthoxylum clava-herculis

rounded shrub or small tree; also called toothache tree; reddish thorns and leaf stems; opposite leaves



Honey Mesquite

Prosopis glandulosa

shrub or tree; twigs with 2 inch long thorns; yellow summer blooms; seeds in flat bean pods



Laurel Greenbriar

Smilax laurifolia

vine; strong prickles; evergreen leaves leathery green to yellow green above



Peppervine

Ampelopsis arborea

vine; clusters of 5 leaflets; leaves shiny green with raised veins above, lighter green and hairy below; reddish stems at joints; black berry

Common Browse Plants Utilized by White-tailed Deer in the Post Oak Savannah and Gulf Coast Prairies

White-tailed deer eat the leaves, twigs, seeds, and fruit of a wide variety of plant material. They choose vegetation based on palatability, seasonal availability, vegetation abundance, precipitation, and overall health of the habitat. When deer browse, they tend to select the most tender growth first, usually the twig tips and new leaves. When forbs are abundant, the deer's diet may be primarily forbs for that time period. By observing which plants deer are eating on your property, it is possible to get a better feel for deer population and overall health of your habitat. This brochure is intended to help landowners identify vegetation that white-tailed deer prefer.

Deer Preferences:

FIRST CHOICE — Plants eaten whenever found by deer, regardless of season.

SECOND CHOICE — Plants selected when first choice is unavailable or uncommon.

THIRD CHOICE — Plants eaten as a last resort, when more preferred plants are unavailable.

Alabama Supplejack/Rattan Vine
Berchemia scandens

green vine; small leaves with parallel-veins evident below; slender branching stems; blue-purple fruit

American Beautyberry
Callicarpa americana

shrub; opposite deciduous leaves; orange/brown to gray bark; purple berries in clusters around stem in fall

Bois d'arc
Maclura pomifera

medium-sized tree; also yellowish-green fleshy fruit on female tree; stems have milky sap

Bristle Greenbriar
Smilax hispida

vine; green bark with numerous black needle-like prickles; leaves shiny green above, paler below

Cedar Elm
Ulmus crassifolia

tree; leaves with serrated edges and prominent veins below; brown slender twigs, bark sometimes with flattened ridges; winged seeds

Deciduous Holly
Ilex decidua

small tree; twig tips eaten by deer anytime; small tree; deciduous spatulate leaves; light gray to white bark; red berries ripen in fall



Hawthorn species

Crataegus spp.

small tree; many species; twigs usually with slender thorns; scaly gray outer bark, reddish-brown inner bark; spring white flowers



Netleaf Hackberry

Celtis laevigata

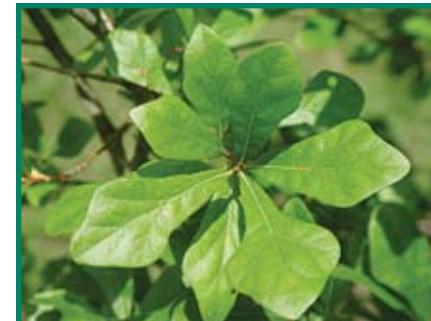
tree; gray bark with conspicuous warty bumps; leaves pale green asymmetrical at base; late-summer orange to brown/red berry



Poison Ivy

Rhus toxicodendron

can be small shrub or hairy-stemmed vine; leaf clusters in three; reddish leaf stems; small whitish berries



Water Oak

Quercus nigra

large tree; also called a “turkey-foot” oak due to leaf shape; leaves vary in shape, often on same branch; usually found in moist to wet soils



Bumelia

Bumelia lanuginosa

small tree; also called woolybucket bumelia and gum elastic; leaves shiny green above, fuzzy or wooly below; thorns



Dewberry species

Rubus spp.

prickly vine; 3-5 leaves in cluster; white flowers; black fruit in late spring and summer



Roughleaf Dogwood

Cornus drummondii

shrub or small tree; olive-green leaf rough above, fuzzy below; reddish stems; fall berries; moist soils



Sawtooth Greenbriar/“Catbriar”

Smilax bona-nox

vine; green bark with green recurved “cathook” prickles; smooth shiny green 3-lobed leaves, can be variable



St. Andrew’s Cross

*Ascyrum hypercoide*s

multi-branched small shrub with reddish stems; small leaves often growing beneath larger ones; tiny yellow summer blooms



Farkleberry

Vaccinium arboreum

small tree; oblong evergreen leaves wedge-shaped at base; bell-shaped white flowers; black berries in winter



Huisache

Acacia farnesiana

shrub or small tree; paired thorns; fragrant yellow spring flowers prized for nectar; seeds in solitary compartments in fat seed pod



Live Oak

Quercus virginiana

small to large tree; evergreen; usually oblong-shaped leaves; acorns usually in clusters of 3 to 5



Texas Sophora

Sophora affinis

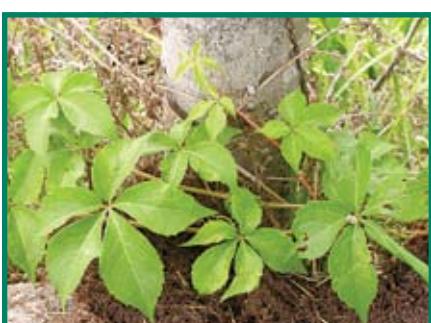
shrub 2-5m; called Eve’s Necklace; fuzzy leaves; fragrant pink bonnet-shaped blooms; black-beaded bean



Trumpet Creeper

Campsis radicans

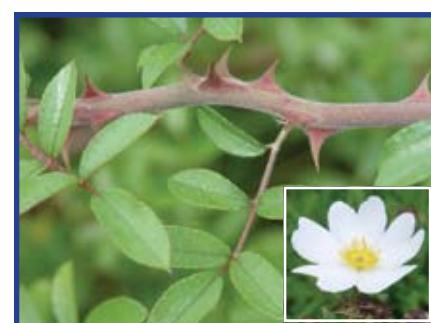
climbing vine or shrub to 10m; opposite leaves with serrated tips; 5 leaflets emerging from one point on stem



Virginia Creeper

Parthenocissus quinquefolia

high climbing vine with adhesive tips; 5 leaflets emerging from one point on stem



Macartney Rose

Rosa bracteata

thorny evergreen shrub; white flowers in the summer; leaves dark green above, paler and hairy below



Mustang Grape

Vitis mustangensis

woody vine; leaves green to gray-green above with fuzzy whitish hairs below; grapes turn dark purple when ripe



Post Oak

Quercus stellata

moderately-sized tree; deeply lobed leaves with no points; acorns in fall