



All Plants Have a Place in an Earth-Kind® Landscapes

Every plant in the nursery or garden center truly has a place in a Earth-Kind landscape.. Its not which plant you use, but where you put it. Three different plant zones can be incorporated into a Earth-Kind landscape:

1. Regular Watering Zone
2. Occasional Watering Zone
3. Natural Rainfall Zone

Plants in the “Regular Watering Zone” would require watering once every week or more ONCE ESTABLISHED, in the absence of rain.

Plants in the “Occasional Watering Zone” would require watering once every two or three weeks ONCE ESTABLISHED, in the absence of rain.

Plants in the “Natural Rainfall Zone” would require only natural rainfall ONCE ESTABLISHED.

By zoning the plants in the landscape according to their water requirements, you prevent the situation of having to overwater one plant type to meet the need of another.

Every region of Texas has a pallet of plants to choose from which are adapted to the soil, temperature extremes and pest problems of the area. The challenge for the professional and amateur gardener is to categorize the plants based on expected water requirements. By using the categories of natural rainfall, occasional watering and regular watering, most gardeners can place the plants from their region into these water-use zones.

For example, in much of Texas (areas of 30+ inches of rainfall), the following categorization is often used:

- Regular Watering Zone: turfgrass and annual flowers
- Occasional Watering Zone: perennial flowers and tender woody shrubs and vines
- Natural Watering Zone: tough woody shrubs and vines and all trees

For more information on creating a healthy and sustainable landscape environment we invite you to visit our website at <http://EarthKind.tamu.edu> or contact your local County Extension office.