

Planting shade trees

Shade trees are wonderful here in San Antonio because they reduce temperatures around our homes by shielding us from direct sunlight. They are also important because they reduce the amount of irrigation needed on the rest of our landscape; contribute to clean air; reduce runoff; and provide habitat for wildlife. Autumn is the best time to plant shade trees because the trees have a long period to develop a root system before they are faced with the stress of a South Texas summer.

There are many varieties of shade trees that are suited to this area. Examples are live oak, Texas red oak, cedar elm and Montezuma cypress just to name a few.

Always consult a tree professional. Trees are a rather large investment and you will look at it for many years to come!

www.plantanswers.com

Tree of the Month



Chinese Pistache

Long-lived, winter hardy shade tree with spectacular red, red-orange fall color. Outstanding heat, drought and soil tolerance. Extremely pest resistant. A near perfect shade tree for one-story buildings.

Hardiness: Zone 5

Exposure: Full sun

Size: Height 40 feet tall, 30 feet wide

Note: Adapted to all areas of state.

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