



Texas State Shrubs Comparison

Texas Sage vs. Crape Myrtle

Why We Highlight Crape Myrtles

While crape myrtles are **not native to Texas**, they are **well-adapted landscape plants** for San Antonio and much of Texas. They thrive in our heat, tolerate drought once established, bloom for months, and support pollinators. Importantly, crape myrtles are **not invasive in Texas**.

Why We Highlight Texas Sage

We love Texas Sage because it is a **Texas native** that thrives in San Antonio's heat with very little water once established. It is **low maintenance, drought tolerant, moderately deer resistant**, and provides beautiful blooms that support pollinators throughout the warm season.

Feature	Texas Sage	Crape Myrtle
Native to Texas?	Yes	No (well-adapted)
Texas State Shrub?	Yes	Yes
Evergreen or Deciduous?	Evergreen	Deciduous
Mature Size	3–10 ft. depending on variety	4–30 ft. depending on variety
Bloom Time	After humidity/rain	Late spring–fall
Flower Colors	Purple, pink, lavender, white	Pink, red, purple, lavender, white
Foliage Color	Gray-green, green, blue-gray	Green or burgundy-black
Fall Interest	Continued blooms	Red, orange & gold foliage
Water Needs	Very low once established	Moderate to establish; drought tolerant later
Soil Needs	Well-draining soil; alkaline tolerant	Well-draining soil preferred
Pollinator Value	Excellent	Good to excellent
Heat Tolerance	Exceptional	Exceptional
Best Use	Xeriscapes, hedges, low-water landscapes	Long-season color, focal point

Best for San Antonio?

Both! Texas Sage excels in ultra-low-water native landscapes, while crape myrtles provide unmatched long-season color and are highly adapted to our climate.