



Trees That Survived the Freeze of February 2021

Part 2 of 3

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Let's face it, the weather in Texas is brutal! We have summer heat with multiple 100-degree-plus days coupled with frequent water rationing and winters that go from the 70s one day to the teens the next. However, most landscapes in Texas do survive just fine. I am referring to our parks, wooded forests, and grasslands. These great expanses in our state receive no help from mankind and yet survive and add beauty to our great state. So, do we have to give up the quality of life we've created by landscaping around our home giving comfort and pleasure? The answer is no, but there is a lot to learn by understanding how to work with nature, not against it. The following are ways that we can prepare our landscapes to survive in Central Texas.

To start with, we should choose grass, plants, and trees that will not just survive but thrive in Central Texas. Most local nurseries and landscapers will sell plants and trees that will do well in Texas. Second, place shade-loving plants in shady locations, and those that love the sun where they will receive plenty of what they need. It sounds simple, but the location is essential for a healthy landscape.

There is one more thing that I have found to be vital in establishing a landscape that is durable, healthy, and beautiful. I learned it over 20 years of growing, selling, and installing trees. This one thing is so amazing that it doesn't matter if you plant trees in sandy, clay, or rocky soil. This one thing grows beautiful trees. The key to successfully growing a tree is: Are the trees healthy coming out of the nursery? Are they planted properly? And the maintenance of trees after installation. But, the main key to most of that is proper watering. Not too much and not too little. In our third and final segment, we will exclusively look at watering and how it affects the health of trees and plants.

