

SUGGESTED PLANT LIST FOR THE ISLES SHRUBS

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Adam's Needle

Botanical Name: *Yucca filamentosa*

Comments: A low maintenance architectural plant. Prefers full to part sun. Leaves have spiny tips so best to locate them away from traffic areas.

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Agave

Botanical Name: Agave

Comments: Agave are succulents, most with long leaves with a spiny tip, in various sizes and colors. They can provide drama or a focal point in the landscape.

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Agave, False

Botanical Name: *Furcraea foetida* Variegata

Comments: Architectural plant with large spineless leaves. Provides interesting contrast to the many rounded forms in the landscape. Several examples in the Isles including at the corner of Aviano and Burgos.

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Allamanda, Dwarf

Botanical Name: *Allamanda cathartica* 'Compacta'

Comments: Moderate growth rate; can maintain at 2'-3'. They prefer full sun; will not survive in wet areas.

Note: This variety is not to be confused with the straight species *Allamanda cathartica* which is a fast growing vine and is classified as invasive in Florida.

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Arboricola 'Trinette'

Botanical Name: *Schefflera arboricola 'Trinette'*

Comments: Compact, versatile low maintenance plant. 'Dazzle' is another cultivar with larger leaves than Trinette. The all green Schefflera is larger growing and also works well as a hedge. A 'workhouse' plant in the Isles providing a pop of color in an adaptable, rugged plant.

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Beautyberry

Botanical Name: *Callicarpa americana*

Comments: A native shrub growing to 6'-8' with white/pink flowers and spectacular purple berries in the fall. Attractive to wildlife; good for informal areas.

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Bird of Paradise

Botanical Name: *Strelitzia reginae*

Comments: Stunning orange tropical flowers; nice foliage. Best with regular maintenance to remove spent flowers.

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Bird of Paradise, White

Botanical Name: *Strelitzia reginae*

Comments: These large growing plants have a similar flower to the smaller growing Bird, but are white rather than orange. They require considerable maintenance to keep them in bounds and to look their best.

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Bottlebrush, Dwarf

Botanical Name: *Callistemon citrinus*

Comments: Low maintenance evergreen shrub with soft needle-like foliage. Brush-like flowers appear sporadically throughout the year. Grows to 3 feet. 'Little John' and 'Better John' are two improved cultivars. They are planted in the entrance islands on Aviano.

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Butterfly Bush

Botanical Name: *Buddleia davidii*

Comments: Numerous varieties in pinks, blues and white. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Dwarf varieties available as well. Needs regular trimming for best appearance. No winter interest.

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Buttonwood

Botanical Name: *Conocarpus erectus* var. *sericeus*

Comments: Lovely silver foliage; natural vase shape so works well as small multi-stem tree. Also used for hedges but tends to get thin at the bottom. Silver color adds a refreshing element to the landscape.

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Cape Honeysuckle

Botanical Name: *Tecomaria capensis*

Comments: Stunning clusters of deep orange, trumpet-shaped flowers. Vine-like wide-spreading shrub with dark green foliage; attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Over pruning minimizes flowering.

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Cardboard Palm

Botanical Name: *Zamia furfuracea*

Comments: Olive green, tropical foliage; moderate spread – allow room for growth. Best to prune only to retain natural shape. All parts of this plant are reported to be poisonous. Actually a cycad, not a palm.

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Carissa

Botanical Name: *Carissa macrocarpa*

Comments: Wonderful shrub with deep green color and shiny leaves. May have small spines; little or no pruning needed. Several low growing varieties available including 'Emerald Blanket', 'Green Carpet' and 'Boxwood'. 'Boxwood' are planted in the clubhouse north parking lot, facing Benevento.

Note: All parts of this plant are poisonous except the fruit.

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Cocoplum

Botanical Name: *Chrysobalanus icaco*

Comments: A hardy shrub that is often used as a hedge. The dwarf cultivar 'Red Tip' has red new growth and can be maintained at 3-4 feet. Used extensively in the Isles.

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Copper Plant

Botanical Name: *Acalpha wilkesiana*

Comments: Distinctive multi-colored foliage; coloration is more intense in full sun. Prune to control size. Numerous cultivars available in shades of red and green; some variety in leaf shape and habit as well. Adds color to the landscape; may defoliate in very cold weather but will bounce back once weather warms.

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Coral Fountain

Botanical Name: *Russelia equisetiformis*

Comments: Wispy, reed-like plant with coral blooms. Fine texture is a nice contrast to broad leaf plants. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. It needs room to spread to maintain its natural form and look its best.

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Croton

Botanical Name: *Codiaeum variegatum*

Comments: Numerous cultivars with different colors, patterns and leaf size. Provide year round color in the landscape.

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Desert Rose

Botanical Name: *Adenium obesum*

Comments: Drought tolerant plant with flowers from white to pink. Good drainage is essential. Usually loses its leaves when temperature drops. Good container plant.

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Fatsia

Botanical Name: *Fatsia japonica*

Comments: Large leaf, tropical looking evergreen. Slow growing to 5'-8'; best in shade.

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Firebush, Dwarf

Botanical Name: *Hamelia patens* 'Compacta'

Comments: 'Compacta' refers to the smaller leaves and flowers; it is somewhat more compact in growth habit than the standard. Fast growing and needs regular pruning to maintain size. Nice in a natural setting.

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Florida Hydrangea

Botanical Name: Dombeya

Comments: Medium sized shrub with heart shaped leaves and pink snowball-like flowers. Use as a specimen plant in a sunny location; fast grower.

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Foxtail Fern

Botanical Name: *Asparagus densiflorus* 'Myers'

Comments: An easy care plant with personality. Happy in sun or shade; provides a nice texture to the garden.

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Gardenia

Botanical Name: *Gardenia jasminoides*

Comments: Although gardenias are stunning plants with wonderful fragrance they often struggle in Florida. They are best in filtered light and acidic soil. Unfortunately, soil in our area lacks nutrients essential to successful growth without a high level of maintenance.

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Variegated Ginger or Shell Ginger

Botanical Name: *Alpinia zerumbet* 'Variegata'

Comments: Lovely yellow and green foliage plant with lightly scented flowers. Best in shade with regular water. Prune out older stalks to maintain size and appearance.

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Heliconia

Botanical Name: *Heliconia psittacorum*

Comments: A tropical looking plant with bright green foliage and exotic flowers. These plants are vigorous spreaders so best where there is room to spread or where they are contained by a barrier.

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Hibiscus

Botanical Name: *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*

Comments: A very popular shrub with showy flowers in a variety of colors. There are also several cultivars with variegated foliage as well. May be grown as a shrub or standard. Tree form are often hard cut in late winter to maintain size; flowering delayed until late summer.

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Holly, Dwarf Yaupon

Botanical Name: *Ilex vomitoria* 'Schillings'

Comments: Mounding small leaf holly that provides structure in the landscape. It looks its best when given space to develop its mounding form with minimal maintenance. When planted too close together the lower branches thin out as they compete for light.

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Holly Fern

Botanical Name: *Cyrtomium falcatum*

Comments: A wonderful evergreen fern for filtered or low light areas. It grows to about 2' high and 3' wide and is low maintenance.

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Indian Hawthorne

Botanical Name: *Raphiolepis indica*

Comments: Small, mounding evergreen shrub with pink or white flowers in the spring. Can be susceptible to fungal disease, but newer cultivars are more resistant. Adequate plant spacing and good air circulation can help minimize fungal disease.

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Ixora, Dwarf

Botanical Name: *Ixora chinensis*

Comments: This shrub has quickly become ubiquitous with its small stature and prolific blooms. Compact plant, low maintenance; suitable for hedge. Orange, pink and yellow blooming varieties available.

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Ixora Nora Grant

Botanical Name: *Ixora coccinea* 'Nora Grant'

Comments: Larger leaves and flowers than dwarf Ixora; beautiful in bloom. This is a medium sized shrub that can be used in groupings or as a hedge. Foliage tends to discolor in winter.

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Jasmine, Downy

Botanical Name: *Jasminum multiflorum*

Comments: Wide spreading, vine-like shrub with small white flowers. Sometimes used as a hedge, but looks best with a natural informal look and not overly pruned.

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Jatropha

Botanical Name: *Jatropha integerrima*

Comments: Medium shrub, often grown as a tree. Dark green foliage and small red flowers. Sun or part sun.

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Juniper, Shore

Botanical Name: *Juniperus conferta* 'Blue Pacific'

Comments: Junipers, especially low-growing ones add a needed texture to Florida landscapes. They are relatively low maintenance but can get infested with weeds that are hard to eradicate. 'Blue Pacific' is an example of one of these.

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King's Mantle

Botanical Name: *Thunbergia erecta*

Comments: Vigorous grower with a sprawling habit; purple flowers with yellow center. Nice for informal look. No winter interest.

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Ligustrum

Botanical Name: Ligustrum japonicum 'Recurvifolium'

Comments: Evergreen shrub with glossy leaves and sweet smelling white flowers in the spring. Good for hedges and is also frequently grown as a MSTF (multi-stem tree form). Ligustrum j. 'Rotundifolia' or Curly Leaf Ligustrum is a small upright shrub with tightly curled leaves – often used as a small accent plant.

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Macho Fern

Botanical Name: *Nephrolepis biserrata* 'Macho'

Comments: A beautiful large fern, growing to 3' - 5'. This fern is not to be confused with the tuberous sword fern which is considered invasive in the state of Florida.

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Muhly Grass

Botanical Name: *Muhlenbergia capallaris*

Comments: Fine textured grass with a haze of pink flowers late summer into fall. Must be cut back and divided periodically for best appearance. Lovely in bloom but probably not for the centerpiece in the garden due to relative short bloom time.

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Oleander, dwarf pink

Botanical Name: Nerium oleander 'Petite Pink'

Comments: Dwarf Pink is a smaller growing oleander that blooms off and on during the warm months. Best to allow it room to reach its natural size and prune occasionally to rejuvenate. Plant is poisonous if ingested and sap may be irritating to the skin.

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Panama Rose

Botanical Name: *Rondeletia leucophylla*

Comments: Pink flowers on and off most of the year. Attracts butterflies; fragrant; low maintenance. Use alone, in groups or as a hedge.

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Pandanus

Botanical Name: Pandanus baptistii

Comments: Yellow and green strappy leaves; sprawling grass-like plant; part sun to part shade is best. Leave room between the plants as they tend to spread.

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Philodendron

Botanical Name: *Philodendron bipennifolium* selloum

Comments: Lovely tropical plant; nice in mass plantings; best in part sun to shade. Minimal maintenance. 'Xanadu' is a dwarf size with smaller leaves.

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Pitch Apple

Botanical Name: *Clusia rosea*/*Clusia guttifera*

Comments: Thick leathery paddle-shaped leaves. Good for hedges; prune to maintain size. There seems to be some confusion as to the correct name for the larger growing specimen. 'Nana' is the dwarf form with smaller leaves and minimal maintenance. The larger variety is planted along the perimeter wall on the west side of Abaco. 'Nana' is planted in the center median on Aviano.

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Plumbago

Botanical Name: *Plumbago auriculata*

Comments: Beautiful blue or white flowers cover this small shrub when in bloom. Provides a relaxed, natural look to the garden. Best in sun or part sun; will decline with too much water.

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Podocarpus or Southern Yew

Botanical Name: Podocarpus macrophyllus

Comments: Dark green needle-like foliage adds nice texture and structure to the garden. Takes pruning well. 'Pringles' is the dwarf form and is great for a low hedge.

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Powder Puff, Dwarf

Botanical Name: *Calliandra haematocephala* 'Nana'

Comments: Bright green compound foliage with red 'puff' flowers. Compact variety grows 3'-5'; part sun. Nice accent plant. Attracts butterflies and honey bees. This is planted in the playground by the north parking lot. The straight species, *Calliandra haematocephala*, can be grown as a small tree.

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Rosemary

Botanical Name: Rosmarinus officinalis

Comments: Aromatic foliage, blue flowers. Good container plant so it is always handy to throw on grilled chicken or roasted potatoes.

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Song of India

Botanical Name: *Dracaena relexa*

Comments: Variegated foliage, irregular growth pattern to 8'. Best in part shade.

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Texas Sage

Botanical Name: *Leucophyllum frutescens*

Comments: Beautiful combination of silvery foliage and lavender flowers. Drought resistant; best in hot, dry areas.

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Thryallis

Botanical Name: *Galphimia gracilis*

Comments: Informal looking plant with clusters of small yellow flowers; grows to 5'-6'.

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Ti Plant

Botanical Name: *Cordyline fruticosa*

Comments: Numerous varieties – to name a few: ‘Florida Red’ – dark purple-red foliage; ‘Red Sister’ – bright fuchsia new growth with dark purple-green leaves; ‘Baby Ti’ – coppery leaf margins; grows to 2’. Adds nice color to the landscape; can achieve variable heights by cutting back old stems.

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Tibouchina or Glory Bush

Botanical Name: *Tibouchina lepidota*

Comments: Dark green, somewhat shiny leaves with 2"-4" purple flowers. Best in filtered light and protection from hot afternoon sun.

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Viburnum, Awabuki

Botanical Name: *Viburnum odoratissimum* var. *awabuki*

Comments: Evergreen shrub with large shiny green leaves; white fragrant flowers followed by red ornamental berries. Large growing; can be pruned to maintain as a hedge. Also nice to grow as a tree.

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Viburnum suspensum

Botanical Name: Viburnum suspensum

Comments: Viburnum suspensum and Viburnum odoratissimum (Sweet viburnum) are two commonly used plants for hedges. Both have dark green leaves and white flowers in the spring.