The forest with its beauty, grandeur, and mystery has always stirred my deepest feelings.” — Emory Smith, Hilltop Founder

**Pines**

- **Loblolly Pine (Pinus taeda)**
  - Self prunes well.
  - Develops fairly straight trunk. Somewhat open crown. Up to 9 inch yellow-green needles.

- **Spruce Pine (Pinus glabra)**
  - Open, irregular form. The pine has twisted, wavy needles that are 2 1/2 to 3 inches long. Fast growth rate within the first five years.

- **Longleaf Pine (Pinus Palustris)**
  - Traditional lumber pine.
  - Reddish-brown bark. Needle-like leaves up to 15 inches long.

**Average Size (Height x Spread)**: 60’ x 30’

**Bloom Season**: Spring

**Light-Moisture**: (Sun). Lobolly needs well drained soil. Glaabra can tolerate wet soils and Longleaf needs sandy soil.

**Winter Honeysuckle (Lonicera fragrantissima)**

- A semi-evergreen shrub with a rounded oval to irregular shape. The dull-green leaves are arranged in pairs. The flowers are creamy white and highly fragrant, and bloom in winter before the leaves emerge. Vigorous growth allows for heavy cutting of branches with flowers to bring indoors.

**Average Size (Height x Spread)**: 5’ x 5’

**Bloom Season**: Winter-Early Spring

**Light-Moisture**: (Sun-Shade). Tolerant of most growing conditions

**American Beech (Fagus grandifolia)**

- A deciduous, graceful tree that holds its brown leaves throughout winter until satiny green leaves emerge in the spring. Found in combination with Southern Magnolia at Port Hudson State Park. Can be found alongside C.J. Brown Sr. Footbridge at LSU Hilltop Arboretum.

**Average Size (Height x Spread)**: 60’ x 50’

**Bloom Season**: Spring

**Light-Moisture**: (Sun-Part Shade) Well drained soil.

**Winter Honeybush (Lonicera fragrantissima)**

- The Starbush is one of Emory Smith’s favorite plants. The evergreen shrub grows very well beneath trees with high canopies and filtered light. The green star-shaped seeds split open in late fall or early winter.

**Average Size (Height)**: 8’-6’

**Bloom Season**: Spring

**Light-Moisture**: (Shade-Filtered Sunlight). Fertile, porous soil.

**Starbush (Illicium floridanum)**

**Average Size**: 8’-6’

**Bloom Season**: Spring

**Light-Moisture**: (Shade). Fertile, porous soil.

**Thank You!**

Helping Hilltop Endure: Joins Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, Inc. is an independent, non-profit organization that works in partnership with LSU to preserve, protect, and enhance this natural wonder to ensure it forever benefits the Greater Baton Rouge Community. Established in 1982 with thoughtful guidance from Emory Smith, its office was located on site in 1991. Realizing the positive impact Hilltop has on education, Friends of Hilltop made a commitment to build a facility to accommodate programming in its outdoor classroom. The building design was created by Ted Flato, a vernacular architect with nationally recognized firm of Lake/Flato Architects in San Antonio, Texas. The building respects the natural landscape, is environmentally sensitive, and recognizes the legacy of the founder Emory Smith and the unique history of the area.

If you enjoyed your time at Hilltop and would like to keep Emory’s dream alive and enhance the site, please consider joining Friends of Hilltop at one of the following levels:

- **Violet $35**
- **Azalea $50**
- **Dogwood $100**
- **Magnolia $250**
- **Cypress $500**
- **Live Oak $1,000**

Please send this completed form with either your credit card information or check made payable to: Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, P.O. Box 82608 Baton Rouge, LA 70884

Visit www.lsu.edu/hilltop for a complete list of activities, events, programs, and facility rental and professional photography fees.

**Welcome**

**LSU’s HILLTOP ARBORETUM**

Inside:
- Winter Plant Guide
- Map and Self-Guide Tour
- Details and descriptions of important plants

**Open Daily**

Dawn to Dusk

Free Admission

Located at 11855 Highland Road (between Bluebonnet and Seigen)

P.O. Box 82608

Baton Rouge, LA 70884

p. 225 767 6916
f. 225 768 7740

www.lsu.edu/hilltop

hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu
Welcome to LSU’s Hilltop Arboretum!

Begin your visit to the LSU Hilltop Arboretum in the Highlands, a historically significant escarpment of the Mississippi River at the entrance to the 14-acre nature preserve at Highland Road. During your brief drive to the top of the hill you will see a variety of Louisiana native shrubs like the Smooth Sumac ablaze with color in the fall and Groundsel Bush flush with white flowers at the same time. Taller growing Tung Oil Trees and a variety of Southern pine species including the Longleaf, Loblolly and Spruce Pines frame the shrub plantings. Found in this area is the home of Hilltop’s donor Emory Smith built during World War II. In addition you will find the Pineapple Quava, Java plant and Flowering Maple all planted by Mr. Smith years ago and still thriving today.

After your tour of the grounds visit the Hodge Podge Nursery for a great selection of native, adapted and pass-along plants grown by volunteers as a fundraiser for the Arboretum. Many of the plants found throughout this brochure can be found in the nursery collection. The Hilltop staff (Tuesday–Friday from 9am–4:30pm) and nursery volunteers (Wednesdays from 9am–11am) are always happy to help you make the best selection for your very own garden. We are keeping with Emory Smith’s tradition of growing plants for all to enjoy!