

Vines

Skyflower (*Thunbergia grandiflora*):

A deciduous perennial vine, skyflower produces orchid like lavender-blue blooms late summer to frost or well into spring following a mild winter. Plant this rapid grower in sun or filtered sun in a soil rich in organic matter. It will freeze to the ground during a cold winter, so mulch to protect roots. This large, vigorous vine is known as clock vine because of its clockwise twining habit.

Passionflower or passion vine (*Passiflora* spp.):

Passionflowers are exotic, in lavender, purple and brilliant red. Flowers appear in late spring and summer, and the fruit is decorative too. Some species are hardy; some are tender evergreens here. Passionflower vines like a deep, moist, well-draining loam with compost. Mulch to protect roots, and plant in sun or partial sun. This vine is the host plant for the Gulf fritillary butterfly.

Mandevilla (*Mandevilla x amabilis*):

This popular vine with summer-fall pink or white fragrant blooms likes morning sun and afternoon shade and prefers a well-draining soil enriched with humus. Since it is frost-tender, many grow Mandevilla in a container (on a trellis) that can be sheltered in winter.

