

*Landscaping with Native Plants of
South/Central Montana*

Recommended Species List



Valley of Flowers Chapter – Montana Native Plant Society

2023

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Landscaping with Native Plants of South/Central Montana
2023

Recommended Species List

KEY TO SYMBOLS

SOIL TYPE

- S** Sandy, coarse texture
- L** Loam
- C** Clay
- O** Organic
- NP** Not Particular
- RS** Rocky Soil

SOIL MOISTURE

- H** Hydric: wet, plants periodically or often inundated by water
- M** Mesic: moist, adequate soil moisture retention year round
- SX** Sub-xeric: moist to dry, seasonally moist, periodically dry
- X** Xeric: dry and drought resistant, little moisture retention

FLOWER COLOR

- Bl** Blue
- Cr** Cream
- G** Green
- Or** Orange
- Pu** Purple
- R** Red
- Pi** Pink
- Y** Yellow
- Wh** White
- Dk** Dark
- Li** Light

LIGHT

- Ps** Partial Shade
- SH** Shade
- Sun** Sun

BLOOM TIME

- Sp** Spring
- Su** Summer
- F** Fall

LIFE SPAN

- A** Annual
- B** Biennial
- P** Perennial

SEASON (Grasses)

- W** Warm
- C** Cool

ADDITIONAL COMMENT

- EB** Edible fruit/berry

Other Notations

* indicates this plant is available at local nurseries with native plant sections and other local nursery and garden centers that are less specialized. Grasses with * are available from seed companies and some nurseries as seed or plants. Plants without * may need to be specially ordered. We encourage you to try propagating less commonly available plants from seed. Encourage nurseries to carry natives that do well for you! [This is the Source Guide](#) for obtaining Montana native plant materials.

TREES					
Common Name Scientific Name	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Comments
Alder, Thin-leaved* <i>Alnus incana ssp tenuifolia</i>	15-30ft	Sun-PS	M-H	L-C	Needs abundant moisture; silver bark and catkins provide winter interest
Ash, Green* <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	50-60ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	NP	Native east of the Continental Divide; is susceptible to Emerald Ash Borer
Aspen, Quaking* <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	60ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	NP	Suckers to form groves; shallow roots; fast growing
Birch, Paper* <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	50ft	Sun	M	S-L	Distinctive white bark; needs well drained soils
Birch, Water* <i>Betula occidentalis</i>	20-25ft	Sun	M	S-L	Shiny cinnamon bark; sometimes available in single trunk forms
Box Elder* <i>Acer negundo</i>	65ft	Sun	SX-M	NP	Fast growing but weak wood. 'Sensation' cultivar is male and does not attract box elder bugs.
Cottonwood, Black <i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	75-100ft	Sun	M	S-L	Fast growing; native to higher elevations
Cottonwood, Plains* <i>Populus deltoides</i>	65-100ft	Sun	M	L-C	Large shade tree; fast growing; most drought tolerant of cottonwoods
Cottonwood, Lanceleaf * <i>Populus acuminata</i>	40-50ft	Sun	M	S-C	Thought to be a natural hybrid of Narrowleaf & Plains Cottonwood
Cottonwood, Narrowleaf * <i>Populus angustifolia</i>	60-90ft	Sun	M	L	Common on streamsides in lower elevations
Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	50ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	Limited availability for locally propagated plants
Juniper, Rocky Mountain* <i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	20+ft	Sun-PS	SX-X	S-C	Good wildlife cover.
Oak, Bur* <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	60-80ft	Sun	SX	NP	Very adaptable; slow growing but long lived
Pine, Limber <i>Pinus flexilis</i>	40-60ft	Sun	SX-X	S-L	Unique form; very drought tolerant
Pine, Lodgepole <i>Pinus contorta</i>	60ft	Sun	SX-X	S-L	Higher elevation pine
Pine, Ponderosa* <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Montana State Tree	80ft	Sun	SX-M	S-C	Drought and wind tolerant
Spruce, Engelmann <i>Picea engelmannii</i>	60-100ft	Sun-PS	SX	L	Grows in higher elevations; limited availability

SHRUBS							
Common Name Scientific Name	Height	Light	Soil Type	Soil Moisture	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Bitter-brush, Antelope * <i>Purshia tridentata</i>	2-3ft	Sun	S-L-RS	X	Y	Su	Rock gardens; needs good drainage; good for wildlife
Birch, Bog <i>Betula glandulosa</i>	6ft	Sun	L-O	M-H	Wh	Sp	Similar to water birch but more shrub like
Buffaloberry, Canada <i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>	5-6ft	Sun-PS	S-L	SX-M	Y	Sp	Interesting leaves; mounding; found at higher elevations; EB
Buffaloberry, Silver* <i>Shepherdia argentea</i>	8-10ft	Sun	S-C	SX	Y	Sp	Forms clumps; silver foliage; dioecious, so plant a few for better fruit; EB
Chokecherry, Common* <i>Prunus virginiana</i>	15ft	Sun-PS	S-C	SX-M	Wh	Sp	Forms clumps by suckering; good bird plant; EB
Currant, Golden* <i>Ribes aureum</i>	6ft	Sun-PS	S-C	SX	Y	Sp	Attracts hummingbirds; early bloomer; EB
Currant, Wax* <i>Ribes cereum</i>	3ft	Sun-PS	S-L-RS	SX-X	Wh-Pi	Sp	Needs good drainage; very drought tolerant
Dogwood, Red Twig* <i>Cornus sericea</i>	8-10ft	Sun-PS	L-C	SX-M	Wh	Su	Red fall leaf color & winter interest from red stems
Elderberry, Black* <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	6-8ft	Sun-PS	OG	M	Wh	Su	Flower & foliage interest; EB
Elderberry, Blue <i>Sambucus cerulea</i>	10-12ft	Sun-PS	L-C	M	Wh	Sp	Good wildlife plant; EB
Gooseberry <i>Ribes inerme</i>	3-4ft	Sun	S-L	X-SX	Wh	Sp	Spiny; attracts birds; EB
Hawthorn, Black <i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	30-35ft	Sun-PS	S-L	SX-M	Wh	Su	Can form dense thickets; red fall color: sharp thorns
Horsebrush <i>Tetradymia canescens</i>	2ft	Sun	S-C	X	Y	Su	Needs dry conditions
Huckleberry <i>Vaccinium globulare</i>	1-2ft	PS-SH	S-L	M	Wh	Sp	Not easy to cultivate; PH lower than 7 required; needs snow cover; EB
Juniper, Common* <i>Juniperus communis</i>	3ft	Sun-PS	S-L	X-SX			Soft foliage
Juniper, Horizontal * <i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	6-8in	Sun	S-L-C	X-SX			Low ground cover; wide spreading
Kinnikinnick * <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	2-8in	Sun-PS	S-L	X-SX	Wh-Pi	Sp-Su	Nice broadleaf evergreen groundcover; red berries; EB
Maple, Rocky Mountain * <i>Acer glabrum</i>	8-25ft	Sun-PS	S-L	SX-M	Wh	Sp	Colorful fall foliage; native to higher elevations; also considered a small tree
Mock Orange, Lewis' * <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	6-8ft	Sun-PS	S-L-RS	SX	Wh	Su	Fragrant flowers; likes good drainage; 'Blizzard' is a Canadian selection
Nannyberry * <i>Viburnum lentago</i>	14-16ft	Sun-PS-SH	SX-M	L-C	Wh	Sp	Good wildlife plant; shade tolerant; EB

SHRUBS							
Common Name Scientific Name	Height	Light	Soil Type	Soil Moisture	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Mountain Ash <i>Sorbus scopulina</i>	15-20ft	Sun-PS	L	M	Wh	Sp	Good fruit for birds; needs protected site; high elevation
Mountain Mahogany <i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	8ft	Sun-PS	S-L-RS	X-SX	Wh	Su	Found on limestone or sandstone rocky soils
Ninebark, Mallow <i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>	3-5ft	Sun-PS-SH	S-C	X-SX	Wh	Su	Actual native is not as common in nurseries; good wildlife cover
Oregon Grape, Creeping * <i>Berberis repens</i>	12in	PS-SH	L-C	X-SX-M	Y	Sp	Holly-like foliage dry shade: good early pollinator plant Previously <i>Mahonia repens</i>
Plum, Wild* <i>Prunus americana</i>	15ft	Sun-PS	S-C	SX-M	Wh	Sp	Spreads by rhizomes forming thickets; EB
Potentilla* <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	3ft	Sun	S-C	SX	Y	Su	Long blooming, densely branched
Rabbitbrush, Dwarf <i>Ericameria nana</i>	2-3ft	Sun	NP	X	Y	F	Dense branching; prefers well drained, infertile soils
Rabbitbrush, Green* <i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>	2-3ft	Sun	NP	X	Y	F	Greener foliage; all rabbitbrush good for pollinators in fall
Rabbitbrush, Rubber * <i>Ericameria nauseosa</i>	4ft	Sun	NP	X	Y	F	Common prairie dryland shrub
Rose, Woods * <i>Rosa woodsii</i>	4ft	Sun-PS	S-L-C	M-SX	Pi	Su	Spreads by rhizomes to form thickets; EB (rosehips)
Sagebrush, Basin Big <i>Artemisia tridentata ssp tridentata</i>	3-6ft	Sun	S-L-RS	X	Y	Su	Silver aromatic foliage
Sagebrush, Black <i>Artemisia nova</i>	2ft	Sun	NP-RS	X	Y	Su-F	Prefers infertile soils; tight branching habit
Sage, Fringed <i>Artemisia frigida</i>	1-2ft	Sun	NP	X-SX	Y	Su	Self seeds; subshrub, soft, aromatic foliage
Sagebrush, Mountain Big * <i>Artemisia tridentata ssp vaseyana</i>	1-3ft	Sun	L-RS	X	Y	F	Higher elevations
Sagebrush, Silver * <i>Artemisia cana</i>	3-4ft	Sun	NP	X-SX	Y	Su	Seems to do well in garden situations. Likes good drainage.
Sagebrush, Wyoming Big * <i>Artemisia tridentata ssp wyomingensis</i>	1-5ft	Sun	L-C,RS	X	Y	F	Native to prairies in Montana
Saltbrush, Four-wing <i>Atriplex canescens</i>	6ft	Sun	S-L	X-SX	Wh	Sp	Salt tolerant; deep rooted; semi-evergreen; good wildlife cover
Sandcherry * <i>Prunus pumila var.besseyi</i>	4-6ft	Sun	S-L	X-SX	Wh	Sp	Tasty fruit for jams; growth habit varies; red fall color; EB

SHRUBS							
Common Name Scientific Name	Height	Light	Soil Type	Soil Moisture	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Serviceberry, Western * <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	8-12ft	Sun-PS	S-L	SX-M	W	Sp	Early blooming in spring, tasty berries, red fall color: EB
Silverberry * <i>Elaeagnus commutata</i>	6ft	Sun	S-L	X-SX	Wh	Sp	Spreading; native to streambanks; silver leaves
Snakeweed, Broom <i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>	1-2ft	Sun	NP	X-SX	Y	F	Can be short lived but seeds; late blooming
Snowberry * <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	3-6ft	Sun-PS-SH	S-L	X-SX	Wh	Su	Will form thickets; prominent white berries
Snowberry, Western <i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>	3-6ft	Sun-PS	S-L-C	X-SX	Wh	Su	Will form large, dense thickets; can tolerate poorly drained and wet soils
Snowbrush or Buckbrush <i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	2-5ft	Sun	L	X-SX	Wh	Su	Evergreen; grows in high elevations
Spirea Pink or Douglas* <i>Spiraea douglasii</i>	3-7ft	Sun-PS	L	M	Pi	Sp-Su	Attractive pink flowers; will sucker; needs regular watering
Spiraea, White* <i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>	2-3ft	Sun-PS-SH	L	SX-M	Wh	Su	Dense branching; red fall color; 'Tor' is a cultivar from commonly found in nurseries with unknown origin
Sumac, Skunkbrush* <i>Rhus trilobata</i>	6-8ft	Sun-PS	S-L-C-RS	X-SX	Y	Su	Will get tall without deer browsing; red fall color; very drought tolerant
Sumac, Smooth* <i>Rhus glabra</i>	4-7ft	Sun	NP	SX-M	Wh	Sp	Red fruits & color in fall; spreads by suckers
Thimbleberry * <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	4-6ft	PS-SH	L-C	SX	Wh	Sp-Su	Stems are thornless; will sucker; EB
Twinberry * <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	6-8ft	Sun-PS	L-C-O	M	Y	Sp	Attracts pollinators
Willow, Bebb <i>Salix bebbiana</i>	15ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M	Y	Sp	Young twigs purplish, not found in standing water: good early season pollinator plant
Willow, Booth <i>Salix boothii</i>	20ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M-H	Y	Sp	
Willow, Drummond <i>Salix drummondiana</i>	6-18ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M	Y	Sp	Darker twig color
Willow, Geyer <i>Salix geyeriana</i>	15ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M-H	Y	Sp	Narrow silvery leaves
Willow, Pussy * <i>Salix discolor</i>	20-30ft	Sun	S-L-C	M	Li Y	Sp	Dioscious; male plants have larger, showier catkins
Willow, Sandbar <i>Salix exigua</i>	12-15ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M-H	Y	Sp	Forms dense colonies
Willow, Yellow <i>Salix eriocephala var watsonii (S. lutea)</i>	15-25ft	Sun-PS	S-L	M-H	Cr Y	Sp	Young twigs yellow

SHRUBS

Common Name <i>Scientific Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Type	Soil Moisture	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Whortleberry, Grouse <i>Vaccinium scoparium</i>	12in	PS-SH	S-L	M	Pi	Su	Low growing, understory plant in higher elevations; EB
Winterfat <i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i>	2-3ft	Sun	L-C	X	Wh	Sp	Needs good drainage.
Yucca * <i>Yucca glauca</i>	3ft	Sun	S-L	X	Wh	Su	Evergreen; sharp needle-like leaves, tall flower stalks



Geum triflorum Prairie Smoke

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Agroseris, Pale <i>Agroseris glauca</i>	12in	Sun	SX	L	P	Y-Or	Su	Meadows; flower like a dandelion, but not invasive
Alumroot, Roundleaf * <i>Heuchera cylindrica</i>	8-24in	PS-SH	SX	S-L	P	Wh	Sp-Su	Likes dry shade; long stemmed flowers; more drought tolerant
Alumroot, Small Leaved * <i>Heuchera parvifolia</i>	8-24in	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	P	Wh	Sp-Su	Similar to Roundleaf, but smaller leaves
Anemone, Cliff * <i>Anemone multifida</i>	8-15in	Sun-PS	SX	L	P	Wh-Y-R	Su	Meadows; rock garden; will self seed
Arnica, Heartleaf * <i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	12-14in	Sun-PS	SX-M	L-O	P	Y	Su	Rhizomatous, so will spread readily
Aster, Smooth* <i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	3ft	Sun	SX	L	P	Bl	F	Attracts butterflies; readily self seeds
Avens, Large Leaved <i>Geum macropyllum</i>	2ft	PS-SH	M	L-C	P	Y	Su	Streambank, understory plant
Balsamroot, Arrowleaf <i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	1-2ft	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	Y	Sp-Su	Will go dormant later in summer; may take 5 yrs to bloom
Baneberry <i>Actaea rubra</i>	2-3ft	PS-SH	M	L-O	P	Wh	Sp-Su	Moist forest understory plant
Beebalm, Horsemint* <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	18-24in	Sun-PS	SX	S-L-C	P	Bl-Pu	Su	Showy; attracts butterflies and bees
Bee Plant, Rocky Mtn <i>Cleome serrulata</i>	36in	Sun	X	S-L	A	Pi-Pu	Su	Dry grasslands; annual but self seeds; good pollinator plant
Bitterroot <i>Lewisia rediviva</i> Montana State Wildflower	3in	Sun	X	RS	P	Pi	Sp	Very dry; will go dormant in summer
Blanketflower * <i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	2ft	Sun	X-SX	S-L-C	P	Y-O	Su	Long blooming; can be short lived
Blazing Star <i>Mentzelia decapetala</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S	B	Wh	Su-F	Great flower for late summer; long blooming; keep dry
Blue Eyed Grass* <i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	8-12in	Sun-PS	M	L-O	P	Bl-Pu	Su	Long blooming; spreads; moist soils
Buckwheat, Sulfur* <i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	6-12in	Sun-PS	X-SX	S-L	P	CR	Su	Easiest buckwheat to grow; mat forming; semi-evergreen foliage
Cactus, Pincushion <i>Coryphantha vivipara</i>	2in	Sun	X	S-L	P	Pi	Sp-Su	Tiny; good in rock gardens; EB
Cactus, Pincushion <i>Coryphantha missouriensis</i>	2in	Sun	X	S-L	P	Y	Sp-Su	Rock garden plant; EB
Cactus, Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia polyacantha</i>	6-12in	Sun	X	S-L	P	Y-Pi	Su	Showy blooms, spreads

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Campion, Moss <i>Silene acaulis</i>	2-6in	Sun-PS	SX-M	S	P	Pi	Su	Alpine rock gardens; needs good drainage;
Camas, Blue <i>Camassia quamash</i>	1-2ft	Sun	M	L-O	P	Bl	Sp-Su	Needs moisture in spring and dry in summer
Clarkia <i>Clarkia pulchella</i>	8-20in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	A	DkPi	Su	Native west of the divide; sow in fall; annual but will self seed
Columbine, Yellow * <i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	12-24in	PS	SX	S-L	P	Y	Su	Delicate flower
Columbine, Rocky Mtn* <i>Aquilegia coerulea</i>	12-30in	PS	SX	S-L	P	Bl+W	Su	Flower color can vary, attracts hummingbirds
Columbine, Western <i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	12-18in	Sun-SH	SX	NP	P	R-Y	Sp	Can grow in wetter conditions; re-seeds
Coneflower, Pale Purple <i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S-L	P	Li Pu	Su	Drought tolerant; attracts butterflies
Coneflower, Prairie* <i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S-L	P	Y	Su	Self-seeds; short lived; easy from seed
Coneflower, Tall <i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	3-8ft	Sun-PS	M	L-C-O	P	Y	Su	Moist soils; good for birds and pollinators in later season
Coneflower, Western <i>Rudbeckia occidentalis</i>	3-6ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	L-C	P	Brown	Su	No ray florets; attracts bees
Coreopsis, Plains <i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	10-12in	Sun	X	S-L	B	Y	Su	Short-lived but will self-seed
Crazyweed, Bessey's <i>Oxytropis besseyi</i>	2-6in	Sun	X	S	P	Pi	Su	Very dry, rock garden
Crazyweed, Rabbitfoot <i>Oxytropis lagopus</i>	4in	Sun	X	S	P	Pi-Pu	Sp	Very dry, rock garden
Crazyweed, Silky <i>Oxytropis sericea</i>	4-10in	Sun	X	S	P	W-LiY	Su	Very dry, rock garden
Daisy, Cutleaf Fleabane* <i>Erigeron compositus</i>	3-8in	Sun	X	S	P	W	Su	Drought tolerant; self-seeds; rock garden
Daisy, Showy Fleabane* <i>Erigeron speciosa</i>	1-2ft	Sun-PS	X-SX	S-L	P	PuBl	Su	Drought tolerant; good pollinator plant; self-seeds
Daisy, Sundancer * <i>Tetranneuris (Hymenoxys) acaulis</i>	1ft	Sun	X	S-L-RS	P	Y	Sp	Likes infertile soils; good drainage; rock gardens
Dogwood, Bunchberry* <i>Cornus canadensis</i>	3-8in	PS-SH	M	OL	P	Wh	Su	Woodland subshrub for wet areas; acidic soils
Evening Primrose, Tufted * <i>Oenothera caespitosa</i>	6in	Sun	X	S-L-C	P	Wh	Su	Large fragrant flower, long blooming
Fern, Lady* <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	2-3ft	PS-SH	M	OL	P			Hardy fern, delicate
Fern, Male* <i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	2-4ft	PS-SH	M	NP	P			Arching fronds from sturdy rhizomes
Fireweed <i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	1-4ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	NP	P	Pi	Su	Effective colonizer; esp. after fire. Best naturalized
Flax, Blue* <i>Linum lewisii</i>	18-24in	Sun	X	S-C	P	Bl	Sp-Su	Self-seeds; short lived; good naturalized
Gayfeather, Dotted * <i>Liatris punctata</i>	8-16in	Sun	X	S-L-RS	P	PiPu	Su-F	Upright spikes; nice late bloom; keep dry

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Gentian, Prairie <i>Gentiana affinis</i>	10-20in	Sun-PS	M	S-L	P	Bl	Su-F	Easiest gentian to grow; moist gardens
Geranium, Sticky* <i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	1-3ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	P	Pi	Su	Can sprawl in shade; good fall color
Geranium, White <i>Geranium richardsonii</i>	1-3ft	PS	SX-M	OL	P	Wh	Su	Woodlands
Gilia, Scarlet * <i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i>	18in	Sun	X-SX	S	B	R	Su	Attracts hummers; tall flower spike forms second season; biannual
Globemallow, Scarlet <i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	4-8in	Sun	X	S-C	P	Or	Su	Good groundcover for hot, dry places
Globemallow * <i>Sphaeralcea munroana</i>	1-2ft	Sun	X	NP	P	R-Or	Su	Can grow in clay soils. Mid-summer blooms.
Goldenaster, Hairy* <i>Heterotheca villosa</i>	4-12in	Sun	X	S-RS	P	Y	Su	Common MT native; one of the most drought tolerant daisies; well drained soils
Goldeneye, Showy* <i>Heliomeris multiflora</i>	1-2ft	Sun-PS	X	NP	P	Y	Su	Birds like seedheads; long blooming
Goldenrod, Canadian * <i>Solidago canadensis</i>	3-4ft	Sun	SX-M	S-L	P	Y	Su	Good late season pollinator plant, spreading
Goldenrod, Missouri <i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	10-30in	Sun-PS	SX	S-L	P	Y	Su	More drought tolerant, spreading
Goldenrod, Stiff * <i>Solidago rigida</i>	10-18in	Sun	SX	S-L-C	P	Y	Su	All Solidagos good butterfly plants, spreading
Ground Plum <i>Astragalus crassicaerpus</i>	3-6in	Sun	X	S	P	Pi-Pu	Sp	Grape-like pods add interest
Harebells* <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	6-14in	PS-Sun	SX-M	S-L	P	Bl	Su	Spreads to form small colonies, good groundcover. Can take sandy soils.
Hollyhock, Mountain * <i>Iliamna rivularis</i>	3-5ft	Sun	S-M	S-L	P	Pi	Su	Showy blooms, shade intolerant
Hyssop, Anise * <i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	1-4ft	Sun	SX-M	NP	P	Li-Pu	Su	Fragrant, attracts many types of pollinators
Hyssop, Giant Nettleleaf * <i>Agastache urticifolia</i>	2-4ft	Sun	SX-M	L	P	Li Pi	Su	Attracts many kinds of pollinators; fragrant
Indian Paintbrush <i>Castilleja species</i>	1-2ft	Sun	SX	S-L	P	mixed	Su	Available at some native nurseries; needs dry soils
Iris, Rocky Mountain * <i>Iris missouriensis</i>	1-2ft	Sun	SX-M	S-C	P	Bl	Su	Needs spring moisture; can take summer dry
Jacob's Ladder * <i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i>	10-18in	Sun-PS	SX-M	L	P	Bl	Su	Delicate flowers; may be short lived; self-seeds
Kittentails, Mountain <i>Synthyris missourica</i>	8-10in	PS-SH	M	OL	P	PuBl	Sp	Only found in one western county, species of concern
Kittentails, Wyoming <i>Synthyris (Besseyia) wyomingensis</i>	4-10in	Sun	SX-X	S-L-C	P	Bl	Sp	Blooms early spring
Larkspur, Little <i>Delphinium bicolor</i>	6-10in	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	DkBl	Sp-Su	Goes dormant in summer; nice flower color

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Lupine, Silky * <i>Lupinus, sericeus</i>	18in	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	BlPu	Sp-Su	Best direct seeded; scarify seed coat and use inoculant
Lupine, Silvery * <i>Lupinus argenteus</i>	18in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	BlPu	Sp-Su	Best direct seeded; scarify seed coat
Milkvetch, Tufted <i>Astragalus spatulatus</i>	8in	Sun	X	S	P	Pu	Sp-Su	Long lived in rock garden
Milkweed, Showy * <i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	3-4ft	Sun	X-SX	NP	P	Li Pi	Su	Supports Monarch larvae and nectar source for butterfly stage
Milkweed, Swamp * <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	3-4ft	Sun	SX-M	NP	P	Pi	Su	Deep taproot; valuable for pollinators; blooms later than Showy Milkweed
Mint, Field <i>Mentna arvensis</i>	1-2ft	Sun	M	L-O	P	Bl-Pu	Su	Fragrant herb for wet areas
Monkeyflower, Common * <i>Eryanthe guttatus (Mimulus)</i>	8-24in	Sun-PS	M-H	S-L	P	Y	Su	Will grow in standing water, long blooming
Monkeyflower, Lewis's * <i>Eryanthe lewisii (Mimulus)</i>	10-24in	Sun-PS	M-H	L	P	Pi	Su	Long lived and blooming, needs consistent moisture
Monkshood <i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	2-3ft	Sun-PS	M	OL	P	Pu	Su	Likes a boggy place
Mule's Ears <i>Wyethia amplexicaulis</i>	1-2ft	Sun	SX-M	S-L	P	Y	Sp-Su	Needs damp soil, can go dormant later in season
Onion, Nodding * <i>Allium cernuum</i>	10in	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	P	Wh-Pi	Sp	Clumps will slowly increase and self-seeds.
Oregon Sunshine * <i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i>	12in	Sun-PS	X-SX	S-L	B	Y	Su	Short lived but self-seeds; long blooming.
Pasqueflower * <i>Anemone patens (Pulsatilla)</i>	10in	PS	SX	S-L	P	Pu	Sp	Great early spring flower. Look carefully at botanical name on plant tag to assure you have the native.
Pearly Everlasting * <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	24in	PS	SX	S-L	P	Wh	Su	Will spread into large clump. Silvery green foliage.
Penstemon, Alberta <i>Penstemon albertinus</i>	24in	Sun-PS	SX	S-L	P	Bl	Su	Relatively short lived; will self-seed
Penstemon, Fuzzy-tongue * <i>Penstemon eriantherus</i>	16in	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	Pu	Su	Relatively short lived; will self-seed
Penstemon, Shining <i>Penstemon nitidus</i>	10-12in	Sun-PS	X	S-L-RS	P	Bl	Sp	Relatively short lived; will self-seed; bright blue bloom.
Penstemon, Shrubby <i>Penstemon fruticosus</i>	18-24in	Sun-PS	SX	S-L-RS	P	Li Pu	Su	Subshrub with evergreen leaves.
Penstemon, Small-flowered * <i>Penstemon procerus</i>	10-12in	Sun-PS	SX	S-L	P	DkBl	Su	Longer lived Penstemon; mat forming
Penstemon, Yellow * <i>Penstemon confertus</i>	10-20in	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	Li Y	Sp	Can also tolerate more fertile and moist soils.
Phacelia, Narrowleaved <i>Phacelia linearis</i>	10in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	A	Bl	Sp	Nice filler in dry gardens with penstemons. MT cultivar: 'Stucky Ridge'

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Prairie Smoke* <i>Geum triflorum</i>	8in	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	P	Pu	Sp	Forms clumps; feathery seed heads
Prairie-clover, Purple* <i>Dalea purpurea</i>	2-3ft	Sun	SX-M	S-C	P	Pu	Su	Legume; good pollinator plant, long blooming.
Prairie-clover, White <i>Dalea candida</i>	18in	Sun	SX-M	S-C	P	Wh	Su	Legume; good pollinator plant, long blooming.
Prince's Plume <i>Stanleya pinnata</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X	S	P	Y	Su	Showy spike; needs good drainage & dry conditions
Pussytoes, Nuttall's * <i>Antennaria parvifolia</i>	6in	Sun-PS	X-SX	S-L-RS	P	Wh	Sp	Good groundcover, mat forming; silvery leaves
Pussytoes, Rosy* <i>Antennaria rosea</i>	6-10in	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	LiPi	Sp	Occurs in drier habitats; mat forming
Pussytoes, Tiny Leaf * <i>Antennaria microphylla</i>	6in	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-L	P	Wh	Sp	Good groundcover, mat forming; silvery leaves
Rocky Mountain Douglasia <i>Douglasia montana</i>	2in	Sun	X-SX	S-RS	P	Pi	Su	Cushion forming; needs well drained soils; good accent plant in rock gardens.
Sagewort, Prairie* <i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	Li Y	Su	Spreading, upright with silvery leaves.
Self Heal <i>Prunus vulgaris</i>	3-12in	PS-SH	SX-M	S-L	P	Bl	Su	Groundcover for shady spaces
Shooting Star <i>Dodecatheon pulchellum</i>	3-9in	Sun-PS	SX	O-L	P	Pi	Sp	Distinctive flower; can go dormant after flowering
Shooting Star, Prairie <i>Dodecatheon conjugens</i>	6-16in	Sun-SH	SX	S-L	P	Pi	Sp	Long lived; can go dormant after bloom
Snow on the Mountain * <i>Euphoria marginata</i>	2-3ft	Sun-PS	SX	S-L-C-RS	A	Wh	Su	Upper leaves variegated; will reseed if not cut back in fall; showy annual
Solomonseal, False <i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	2-3ft	PS-SH	SX-M	NP	P	Wh	Sp	Rhizomatous; forms loose stands
Solomonseal, Starry False <i>Smilacina stellata</i>	1-2.5ft	PS-SH	SX-M	S-L-C	P	Wh	Sp	Observed growing in dry shade under conifers
Spiderwort, Prairie <i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>	1-2ft	Sun-PS	X	S-L	P	Bl	Su	Can spread in fertile soils
Stonecrop, Lance-leaved * <i>Sedum lanceolatum</i>	6in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	Y	Su	Succulent leaves; good for hot, dry places.
Strawberry, Wild* <i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	6in	Sun-SH	SX-M	S-L	P	Wh	Su	Spreads by runners, EB
Sugar Bowls* <i>Clematis hirsutissima</i>	8in	PS-SH	SX	L	P	Pu	Su	Feathery seed; upright, bushy clematis.
Sundrops * <i>Calyophus serrulatus</i>	6-16in	Sun	X	S-RS	P	Y	Su	Subshrub; likes very dry and well drained places
Sunflower, Aspen* <i>Helianthella quinquenervis</i>	3-4ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	L-C	P	Y	Su	Clear yellow sunflower
Sunflower, Common <i>Helianthus annuus</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X-SX	S-C	A	Y	Su	Annual; often found along roadsides. Birds feed on seeds.
Sunflower, Maximilian * <i>Helianthus maximiliana</i>	3-4ft	Sun	X-SX	S-L-C	P	Y	F	Tall; native to eastern MT. Spread readily. Birds like

WILDFLOWERS

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Life Span	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Comments
								seed. Late season bloomer.
Sunflower, Nuttal's * <i>Helianthus nuttallii</i>	2-3ft	Sun	SX-M	L	P	Y	Su	Large plant; needs some moisture
Sunflower, One Flower* <i>Helianthella uniflora</i>	3ft	Sun	SX-M	S-L	P	Y	Su	Tall stems ending with solitary sunflower; valuable for pollinators
Thermopsis, Round-leaved <i>Thermopsis rhombifolia</i>	12in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	Y	Su	Legume; spreads
Thistle, Wavy-Leaved <i>Cirsium undulatum</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S-L	P	Pi	Su	Attracts butterflies; native thistle, not invasive; shortlived but self-seeds
Townsendia, Hooker's (Easter Daisy) <i>Townsendia hookeri</i>	3-6in	Sun	X	S-C	P	Wh	Sp	Tiny; showy plant; can be short-lived, good in rock gardens
Townsendia, Parry's <i>Townsendia parryi</i>	8in	Sun	X	S-L	B	LiPu	Sp	Biannual, but self-seeds; rock gardens
Twinpod, Common <i>Physaria didymocarpa</i>	6in	Sun	X	S	B	Y	Sp	Rock gardens
Vetch, American <i>Vicia americana</i>	24in	Sun-PS	SX	S-C	P	Pu	Su	Legume; has tendrils
Violet, Canadian <i>Viola canadensis</i>	4-6in	PS-SH	SX	NP	P	Wh	Sp	Good groundcover for dry shade; will spread
Violet, Yellow Prairie <i>Viola nuttallii</i>	4in	PS-Sun	X-SX	L-C	P	Y	Sp	Tiny and delicate
Yarrow* <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	24in	Sun	X-SX	S-C	P	Wh	Su	Aggressive self seeder; seed <u>very</u> small amts. in prairie mixes
Yellow Bell <i>Fritillaria pudica</i>	4-6in	Sun	X-SX	S-L	P	Y	Sp	Tiny and delicate



Symphoricarpos alba Snowberry

GRASSES

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Season	Bunch/ Sod	Comments
Alkali Muhly* <i>Muhlenbergia asperifolia</i>	1-2ft	Sun	M	S-L	W	Sod	Prefers alkali soils along streams and low areas
Alkaligrass, Nuttall's* <i>Puccinellia nuttalliana</i>	1-2ft	Sun	M-W	NP	C	Sod	Tolerates saline soils; vigorous shallow roots
Alkali Sacaton* <i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	3ft	Sun	X-SX	L-C	W	Bunch	Tolerates saline and sodic soils; fine feathery seed heads
Blue Grama * <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	18in	Sun	X	S-C	W	Sod	Very low growing, interesting seed head
Bluegrass, Alpine* <i>Poa alpina</i>	8-12in	Sun	SX-M	S-L	C	Bunch	Grows in subalpine, montane areas, open understory
Bluegrass, Big* <i>Poa ampla</i>	2-4ft	Sun-PS	SX	L-C	C	Bunch	Tolerates mildly acidic soils; long lived
Bluegrass, Canby's* <i>Poa canbyi</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S-C	C	Bunch	Fills spaces between taller bunchgrasses; early green up
Bluegrass, Fowl* <i>Poa palustris</i>	1ft	PS-SH	M	L-C	C	Sod	Intolerant of drought; grows in dense shade
Bluegrass, Sandberg* <i>Poa sandbergii</i>	1ft	Sun	X	S-L	C	Bunch	Fills spaces between taller bunchgrasses; early green up
Bluestem, Big* <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	2-3ft	Sun-PS	SX	S-L	W	Sod	Native to eastern MT. Bronzed fall color
Bluestem, Little * <i>Andropogon (Schizachyrium) scoparium</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X	S-C	W	Bunch	Foliage turn red in fall; often used as an ornamental bunchgrass
Bluestem, Sand* <i>Andropogon hallii</i>	3ft	Sun	SX-M	S-L	W	Sod	Good for erosion control on moist sites
Bottlebrush, Squirreltail* <i>Elymus elymoides</i>	18in	Sun	X	S-C	C	Bunch	Found on disturbed sites
Brome, Mountain* <i>Bromus (marginatus) carinatus</i>	3ft	Sun	M	O-L	C	Bunch	Good for high elevation sites; tall grass; likes organic soils
Buffalograss* <i>Bouteloua (Buchloe) dactyloides</i>	6-12in	Sun	X	L-C	W	Sod	Plugs can be used to establish; makes a good no-mow lawn
Cordgrass, Prairie* <i>Spartina pectinata</i>	3-6ft	Sun	M	NP	W	Sod	Grows along streams, marshes, sloughs, often where alkaline
Dropseed, Sand* <i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X-SX	S-L	W	Bunch	Good in sandy soils
Fescue, Idaho* <i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	1-2ft	Sun	SX	S-C	C	Bunch	Fine blue-green foliage
Fescue, Rough* <i>Festuca compestris</i>	2-3ft	Sun	SX	SL-O	C	Bunch	Stately bunchgrass
Gramma, Side Oats* <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	2-3ft	Sun	SX	NP	W	Bunch	Interesting seed heads
Hairgrass, Tufted* <i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	3ft	Sun	M	L-C	C	Bunch	Fine, feathery seedheads; often used as ornamental bunchgrass

Note: Height includes seed head

GRASSES

Common Name Botanical Name	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Season	Bunch/ Sod	Comments
Indian Ricegrass* <i>Stipa (Achnatherum) hymenoides</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X	S	W	Bunch	Ornamental seedheads; seed relished by wildlife
Junegrass, Prairie* <i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	10-18in	Sun	X	S-C	C	Bunch	Early to green up in spring, low growing
Muttongrass* <i>Poa fendleriana</i>	2ft	Sun-PS	X	NP,RS	C	Bunch	Grows in sagebrush steppe to alpine; most drought tolerant of the bluegrasses
Needle and Threadgrass* <i>Stipa comata</i>	2ft	Sun	X	S-L	C	Bunch	Seeds are troublesome to animals and socks
Needlegrass, Columbia* <i>Stipa (columbiana) nelsonii</i>	3ft	Sun	XS-M	S-L	C	Bunch	Good for revegetation in high elevation
Needlegrass, Green* <i>Nassella (Stipa) viridula</i>	2-3ft	Sun	SX	L-C	C	Bunch	Awns not as troublesome
Pinegrass* <i>Calamagrostis rubescens</i>	2ft	PS-SH	X-M	S-L	C	Sod	Understory grass for higher elevation spruce and fir forests
Saltgrass, Alkali or Inland* <i>Distichlis stricta</i>	6-12in	Sun	X-M	L-C	W	Sod	Tolerates saline or sodic soils
Sandreed, Prairie* <i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>	2ft	Sun-PS	X	S	W	Sod	Stabilizes sandy soils
Sweetgrass, Northern * <i>Anthoxanthum hirtum (Hierochloa odorata)</i>	2ft	Sun-PS	M	L-C	C	Sod	Aromatic foliage; spreads
Switchgrass * <i>Panicum virgatum</i>	4ft	Sun	SX-M	L-C	W	Bunch	Taller; birds like seeds; used as an ornamental bunch grass
Threeawn, Red <i>Aristida (longiseta) purpurea</i>	1-2ft	Sun	X	S-L, RS	W	Bunch	Small and delicate
Ticklegrass <i>Agrostis scabra</i>	18in	Sun	M	S-C	C	Bunch	Establishes easy on disturbed sites
Timothy, Alpine or Mountain* <i>Phleum alpinum</i>	2ft	Sun-PS	M	L-C	C	Bunch	Grows in mountain meadows, subalpine-alpine.
Wheatgrass, Beardless* <i>Agropyrum (Pseudoroegneria) spicata ssp. inerme</i>	3-4ft	Sun-PS	SX	L-C	C	Bunch	Similar to bluebunch
Wheatgrass, Bluebunch* <i>Agropyrum (Pseudoroegneria) spicatum</i> Montana State Grass	2-3ft	Sun-PS	X	S-C, RS	C	Bunch	Long lived with extensive root system.
Wheatgrass, Slender* <i>Elymus trachycaulus ssp. trachycaulus</i>	2-3ft	Sun	X-SX	L-C	C	Bunch	Short-lived; quick to establish
Wheatgrass, Streambank* <i>Agropyron (Elymus) dasystachyum ssp. riparium</i>	2ft	Sun	X-SX	S-C	C	Sod	Good for drought tolerant lawn
Wheatgrass, Thickspike* <i>Agropyron (Elymus) dasystachyum</i>	10-24in	Sun	X	S-C	C	Sod	Fast to establish; erosion control

Note: Height includes seed head

GRASSES

Common Name Botanical Name	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Season	Bunch/ Sod	Comments
Wheatgrass, Western* <i>Agropyron (Pascopyrum) smithii</i>	12-30in	Sun	X-SX	L-C	C	Sod	Good for erosion control once established, compatible in mixes
Wildrye, Blue* <i>Elymus glaucus</i>	3ft	PS-SH	M	S-L	C	Bunch	Grows in higher elevations, aspen groves; can be short-lived. Has short rhizomes.
Wildrye, Canadian* <i>Elymus canadensis</i>	3ft	Sun-PS	X	S-L	C	Bunch	Shortlived; good quick cover
Wildrye, Basin* <i>Elymus (Leymus) cinereus</i>	2-4ft	Sun-PS	SX-M	S-C	C	Bunch	Can grow floppy with too much moisture

Note: Height includes seed head

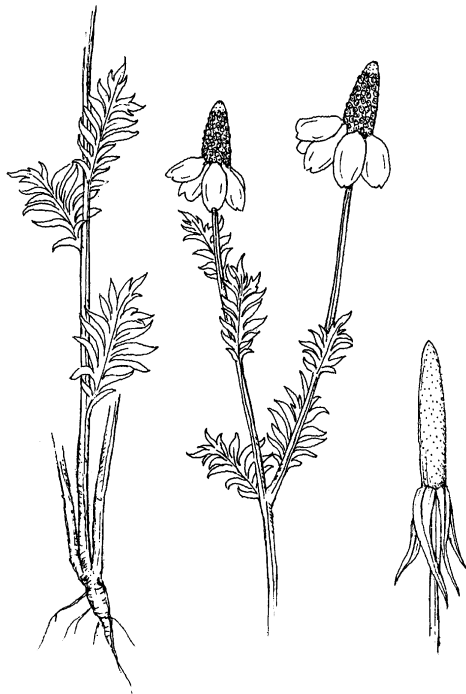


Mimulus lewisii Lewis's Monkeyflower

VINES

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Moisture	Soil Type	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Clematis, Rock <i>Clematis columbiana</i>	6ft	PS- SH	X-SX	L	BIPu	Su	Fluffy seed heads; ground vine; woodlands
Clematis, Virgin Bower* <i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	9- 18ft	Sun- PS	X-SX	L	Wh	Su	Fluffy seed heads; good on wire fences; spreads
Grape, Riverbank <i>Vitis riparia</i>	15ft	Sun	SX- M	L	Wh	Su	EB; native to one county in eastern MT.
Honeysuckle, Western Trumpet <i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>	10- 20ft	Sun- PS	SX- M	L-O	Or	Sp	Attracts hummingbirds
Woodbine* <i>Parthenocissus inserta</i>	15- 20ft	Sun- PS	SX	S-C	Wh	Su	Fruit for birds

Note: All vines listed above need support to climb



Ratibida columnifera Prairie Coneflower

Recommended Species List

WETLAND SPECIES

LIGHT

PS Partial Shade
SH Shade
Sun Sun

SOIL TYPE

S Sandy; course texture
L Loam
C Clay
O Organic
NP Not particular

WETLAND TYPE

OBL	Obligate Wetland	Plant always occurring in wet to saturated soil
FACW	Facultative Wetland	Plant usually occurring in wet but probably not saturated soil
FAC	Facultative	Plant often found in wet soil, but found in uplands as well, probably never in saturated soils

FLOWER COLOR

G Green
Wh White
Y Yellow

BLOOM TIME

Sp Spring
Su Summer

Wetland Grasses, Rushes and Sedges

Common Name <i>Scientific Name</i>	Height	Light	Wetland Type	Soil Type	Bunch/ Sod	Comments
BULRUSH						
Alkali Bulrush <i>Bolboschoenus (Scirpus) maritimus</i>	3ft.	Sun	OBL	L-C	Sod	Tolerant of saline and alkaline soils
Cloaked Bulrush <i>Scirpus pallidus</i>	4-5ft.	Sun	OBL	L-C	Sod	Ornamental, pale yellow foliage
Hard-Stem Bulrush <i>Schoenoplectus (Scirpus) acutus</i>	3-9ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Provides habitat for waterfowl; prefers poorly drained soils
Olney's Three Square <i>Schoenoplectus (Scirpus) americanus</i>	3-5ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	
Smallfruited Bulrush <i>Scirpus microcarpus</i>	3-4ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Provides good cover for wildlife; large, ornamental seed heads
Soft-Stem Bulrush <i>Scirpus validus</i>	3-9ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Provides habitat for waterfowl; tolerant of saline conditions; Prefers poorly drained soil
Three-Square Bulrush <i>Scirpus pungens</i>	3-5ft.	Sun	OBL	L-C	Sod	Important food source for waterfowl; can tolerate periods of drought
MANNAGRASS						
Fowl Mannagrass <i>Glyceria striata</i>	2-5ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	
Giant Mannagrass <i>Glyceria grandis</i>	3-5ft.	PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Rapid growth rate; provides food for wildlife
RUSH						
Baltic Rush <i>Juncus balticus</i>	2-4ft.	Sun	OBL	S-C	Sod	Excellent soil stabilizer; can tolerate periods of drought
Dagger-leaf Rush <i>Juncus ensifolius</i>	1-2ft.	Sun-PS	FACW	S-C	Sod	
Meadow Rush <i>Juncus longistylis</i>	1-2ft.	Sun-PS	FACW	S-C	Sod	
Northern Alpine Rush <i>Juncus alpino-articulatus</i>	1-2ft.	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	
Soft Rush <i>Juncus tenuis</i>	12-18in.	PS	FAC	L-C	Sod	
Slender Rush <i>Juncus effusus</i>	2-4ft.	Sun	FACW	S-C	Bunch	Ornamental rush with long slender foliage
Torrey's Rush <i>Juncus torreyi</i>	1-2ft	PS	FACW	L-C	Sod	Ornamental seed heads and red stems; rapid growth rate by rhizomes

Wetland Grasses, Rushes and Sedges

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Height	Light	Soil Type	Soil Moisture	Bunch/Sod	Comments
SEDGE						
Beaked Sedge <i>Carex utriculata</i>	2-4ft	Sun	OBL	L-C	Sod	Good bank stabilizer; seeds are a food source for water fowl
Bebb's Sedge <i>Carex bebbii</i>	1-2ft	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Bunch	Lower growing sedge with finely textured foliage
Clustered Field Sedge <i>Carex praegracilis</i>	1-2ft	Sun	FACW	S-C	Sod	Common on alkaline soils
Creeping Spikerush <i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	1 ft	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Tolerant of many soil types, commonly found along shorelines
Fox Sedge <i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	1-3ft	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Bunch	
Inflated Sedge <i>Carex vesicaria</i>	3ft	Sun-PS	OBL	S-C	Sod	
Nebraska Sedge <i>Carex nebrascensis</i>	2-3ft	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Sod	Blue-green foliage; seed are a food source for waterfowl
Porcupine Sedge <i>Carex hystericina</i>	1-3ft	Sun-PS	OBL	L-C	Bunch	
Sawbeak Sedge <i>Carex stipata</i>	1-3ft	PS	OBL	L-C	Bunch	
Short Beaked Sedge <i>Carex simulata</i>	12-18in	Sun-PS	OBL	S-L	Sod	
Small Winged Sedge <i>Carex microptera</i>	1-2ft	Sun	FAC	S-L	Bunch	Good for high elevation meadows
Water Sedge <i>Carex aquatilis</i>	2-3ft	Sun	OBL	L	Sod	Good bank stabilizer; seeds are a food source for waterfowl
Wooly Sedge <i>Carex pellita (C. lanuginosa)</i>	1-3ft	Sun	OBL	L-C	Sod	

AQUATICS						
Common Name Scientific Name	Height	Light	Soil Type	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Comments
Duck Potato <i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	3ft	Sun-PS	L-C	Wh	Su	Corms of this plant are commonly eaten by waterfowl; common in shallow, standing water
Mare's Tail <i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	12in	Sun	L-C	G	Su	Emergent aquatic common in shallow, standing water; Bright green ornamental foliage emerges from the water surface; Flowers are insignificant
Rocky Mountain Cow-Lily <i>Nuphar lutea</i>	3ft	Sun	L-C	Y	Sp-Su	Floating aquatic; Common in shallow ponds or slow-moving streams; Individual plants may spread up to 6 feet on the water surface
White Marsh Marigold <i>Caltha leptosepala</i>	12in	Sun	L-C	Wh	Sp	Small white flowers early in the spring; Common in shallow water
Wapato <i>Sagittaria cuneata</i>	18in	Sun-PS	L-C	Wh	Su	Corms of this plant are commonly eaten by waterfowl; Common in shallow, standing water

This list was originally compiled by the Kelsey Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society. It was updated and enlarged in 2008 and 2023 by the Valley of Flowers Chapter to feature plants recommended for use in the geographical region represented by the chapter. Drawings are by Debbie McNeil.

The *Manual of Montana Vascular Plants-Second Edition* by Peter Lesica with contributions by Matt Lavin and Peter Stickney was referenced for the botanical nomenclature. Former names are in parentheses. Note that seed companies often use former botanical names.