

A Guide to Native Plants for the Santa Fe Landscape



Penstemon palmeri
Photo by Tracy Neal

Santa Fe Native Plant Project

Santa Fe Master Gardener Association

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Introduction

“A native species is one that occurs naturally with respect to a particular ecosystem, rather than as a result of an accidental or deliberate introduction into that ecosystem by humans.”

<https://definitions.uslegal.com/n/native-species>

Why native plants? Native plants have evolved over eons in a specific environment. As a result, they have adapted to a particular set of growing conditions, including soil type, moisture levels, fluctuations in temperature, competitors, and pollinators. Many native plants will flourish without soil amendments or supplemental water once established in the landscape. They require a minimum of effort from the gardener, but most important, they contribute essential environmental services. Native plants:

- Provide natural habitat for birds and wildlife,
- Sustain populations of pollinators and attract a variety of other beneficial insects,
- Control storm run-off and erosion,
- Develop a strong relationship with soil fungi and other native microorganisms, and
- Sustain a spiritual, recreational, educational, and cultural heritage.

Over the past 400 years, plants and animals have been introduced into the Americas from Europe and beyond, both intentionally and by accident, and often with unforeseeable consequences. Development, pollution, urbanization, and introduced species all threaten habitat and therefore threaten native species of plants and animals.

Planting native trees, reducing lawn area, and connecting islands of diverse plant life improve the resilience of an ecosystem, and thus the reliability of the essential services it provides. A simple example can be seen in the relationship among plants, insects, and birds. Most birds depend on insects to feed their young. Insects are specialists.

Plants protect themselves with a species-specific mix of chemicals. Insects that have shared a long evolutionary history with particular plants will exhibit physiological adaptations to digest the chemicals. So, introducing a caterpillar-resistant plant may ultimately threaten the livelihood of a chickadee.

In 2012 the U.S. Department of Agriculture revised its hardiness zone map, which shows average annual minimum winter temperatures in 10°F increments, to reflect warmer temperatures observed over the past 30 years. In general, hardiness zones are moving northward and to higher elevations. The implications for climate change are complex, but its effects on rainfall and available moisture are two that should be considered when selecting plants with a long lifespan. Piñon pine, for example, which historically has required no supplemental irrigation at elevations between 4,000 and 9,000 ft., is now showing signs of stress at 7,000 ft. This caveat and others have been noted in the comments accompanying the description of each plant.

The plants described in this guide are native to New Mexico according to Allred (Allred, K. W. and DeWitt Ivey, R., 2012). They are expected to do well in the Santa Fe area with proper siting and care. Most are usually available from local nurseries and mail order businesses. We have included mature height and width for many plants, but these characteristics will vary greatly by site and moisture availability. Santa Fe and the surrounding areas encompass a variety of soil types and microclimates; one cannot predict how a plant will respond to any particular site or care regime. Understanding the native habitat of the plants you choose will inform site selection and ongoing care. *Right plant, right place* can hardly be overemphasized. Bear in mind that all plants, with the exception of cacti, will require supplemental water to establish—a process that, depending on the size of the plant, could take two or three years. Climate change will also affect water requirements. Many plants that require no additional water now may, in decades to come, need more supplemental water than indicated in our notes.

Definitions

Sun

Full Sun	At least 6 hours of sun daily
Pt Shade	2 to 6 hours of sun daily
Shade	Less than 2 hours of sun daily

Water

Very Low	No supplemental irrigation required
Low	Irrigate every 2 or 3 weeks during the growing season to insure best performance and plant health
Medium	Irrigate every 1 or 2 weeks during the growing season
High	Plants designated as high-water users typically grow in areas of higher rainfall or with more available groundwater than in Santa Fe. Site these plants streamside, or where run off is available. Irrigate as needed.

This guide was compiled by Master Gardeners in the Santa Fe Native Plant Project (SNaPP), a certification and public education program of the Santa Fe Master Gardener Association. SNaPP's mission is to promote the use of native plants in the local landscape.

Master Gardeners are trained by the New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service. New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For more detailed information and plant recommendations, please contact the NMSU Hotline (505-471-4711) or Santa Fe Master Gardener "Ask a Master Gardener" website (<http://sfmga.org/contact-2>).

Chapter 1 – Annuals and Biennials

Annuals complete their life cycle—germinating, forming flowers, producing seeds, and dying—in one growing season. Biennials take two years to develop, growing only foliage in the first year and forming flowers and producing seeds in the second. Many annuals and biennials compensate for their short lives by leaving a legacy of seeds to germinate the following year, sometimes popping up in locations not that close to the original plant and providing a delightful surprise in spring. Like perennials, they provide color and texture and attract pollinators.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Aster, Purple	<i>Machaeranthera bigelovii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Rose-Purple with Yellow center	Fall	3ft x 2ft	Annual or biennial, reseeds.
Aster, Purple Tansy (Hoary Aster, Sand Daisy)	<i>Dieteriaa canescens</i> (synonym <i>Machaeranthera canescens</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple with Yellow center	Fall	2ft x spreading	Annual, biennial, or possibly perennial.
Aster, Tansy	<i>Machaeranthera tanacetifolia</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple with Yellow center	May-Oct	10in x spreading	Fast growing, can tolerate poor soil, popular with home gardeners. Naturalizes in a shortgrass meadow, rocky hillside, or other sites that are difficult to maintain.
Bee Plant, Rocky Mountain	<i>Cleome serrulata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects, Birds	Purplish Pink	Summer	2-4ft x 1ft	Attracts native and honey bees and hummingbirds. Flowers produce copious nectar. Larval host to checkered white butterfly.
Blanket Flower, Indian (Firewheel)	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow with Red center	Spring-Fall	2ft x 1-2ft	Reseeds easily in sandy or well-drained loamy soil.
Coneflower (Black-eyed Susan)	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	1-3ft x 3ft	Annual or biennial. Seeds are eaten by birds. Larval host to moths and butterflies. Highly deer resistant. Blooms profusely all summer and fall. Excellent cut flowers.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Cosmos	<i>Cosmos parviflorus</i> (synonym <i>Coreopsis parviflora</i>)	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Insects	White, Pink, or Violet with Yellow center	June-Oct	1-3ft x 1ft	Graceful daisy-like flowers on slender stalks give an airy appearance.
Daisy, Cowpen (Golden Crownbeard)	<i>Verbisina encelioides</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects, Birds	Yellow	July-Sept	1-3ft x 1-4ft	Common in disturbed areas, open fields, roadsides. Gray-green foliage, fragrant.
Gaura, Small-flowered	<i>Oenothera curtiflora</i> (synonym <i>Gaura parviflora</i>)	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White, turning to Pink, turning to Red	May-July	6ft x 1ft	Tall, slender, red-stemmed annual or biennial plant of the plains, roadsides, and disturbed ground.
Gilia, Scarlet (Skyrocket)	<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Birds	Red	Summer	1.5ft x 1ft	Trumpet-shaped red flowers with star-shaped blooms attract hummingbirds. Common biennial in mountain meadows. Likes well-drained soil.
Marigold, Desert	<i>Baileya multiradiata</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer	18-20in x 12in	Special value to native bees. The foliage is silvery gray, soft. Lovely in a shortgrass meadow; good cut flower.
Primrose, Prairie	<i>Oenothera albicaulis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	Spring	4in x 20in	Special value to native bees. Flowers open at sunset but remain open several days and remain white as they age.
Sunflower, Annual	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer- Fall	10ft x 2ft	Attracts native bees. Intermixed with other annuals, provides good cover for many species of wildlife. Birds like the seeds.
Sunflower, Prairie (Lesser Sunflower)	<i>Helianthus petiolaris</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow with Reddish Brown center	Summer- Fall	4ft x 2-3ft	Attracts native bees. Birds like the seeds.

Chapter 2 – Cacti and Succulents

The most drought tolerant of plants, cacti and succulents have spectacular, though short-lived, blossoms. They are brilliant in rock gardens and are so collectible that many have been collected to the brink of extinction. Wild collecting is now illegal or highly regulated throughout the Southwest; be sure to purchase specimens from a reliable grower, nursery, or cactus rescue organization.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Agave, Parry	<i>Agave parryi</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Green	Spring-Summer	2-3ft x 3ft	Family <i>Agavaceae</i> . The plant blooms only once at maturity. The rosette dies after blooming, but the plant may produce pups that form a colony.
Bear Grass	<i>Nolina microcarpa</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White	Spring-Summer	3ft x 6ft	Family <i>Nolinaceae</i> . Nectar and pollen attract bees and wasps.
Cactus, Ball (Spiny Star, Beehive)	<i>Escobaria vivipara</i> (synonym <i>Coryphantha vivipara</i>)	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Pink	Spring	4in x 3in	Forms colonies.
Cactus, Mountain Ball (Pincushion)	<i>Pediocactus simpsonii</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Pink	April	4in x 3in	First cactus to bloom in spring.
Cholla, Club (Devil's)	<i>Grusonia clavata</i> (synonym <i>Opuntia clavata</i>)	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow or Greenish Yellow	Summer	4in x spreading	Low, spreading habit. Wickedly spiny mats of indeterminate spread.
Cholla, Santa Fe	<i>Cylindropuntia viridiflora</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Pinkish Apricot	Summer	3ft x 3ft	Endangered. Flowers are rarely greenish, the species name notwithstanding.
Cholla, Tree (Cane)	<i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Insects	Magenta	June	6ft x 4-10ft	Attracts native bees. Habitat for curve-billed thrasher and cactus wren.
Cholla, Whipple's	<i>Cylindropuntia whipplei</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellowish Green	Spring	2-6ft x 3-6ft	Attracts native bees. Mature fruits are fleshy.
Claret Cup	<i>Echinocereus triglochidiatus</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Birds, Insects	Red	Spring	10in x clumping	Important food source for migrating hummingbirds.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Grama Grass Cactus (Paper-spine, Fish Hook, Toumeya)	<i>Sclerocactus papyracanthus</i> (synonym <i>Toumeya papyracantha</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Insects	White	Spring	2in x 1in	Very difficult to spot. Spines resemble grama grass.
Hedgehog, Claret Cup	<i>Echinocereus coccineus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Birds, Insects	Red	Spring	8in x clumping	Similar to Claret Cup (<i>Echinocereus triglochidiatus</i>) but has somewhat shorter stems. Their range overlaps in northern NM and southern CO.
Hedgehog, Fendler's	<i>Echinocereus fendleri</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Insects	Purple, Violet, or Magenta	May-Aug	6in x 3in	Cylindrical stems may form clumps; very showy flowers, edible red fruits.
Hedgehog, Green Pitaya (NM Hedgehog, Green-flowered Hedgehog)	<i>Echinocereus viridiflorus</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Greenish Yellow	Spring	4in x 3in	Forms small clumps.
Nipple Cactus, Little	<i>Mammillaria heyderi</i> var. <i>meiacantha</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pink, Yellow, or Cream	Spring	1in x 3-6in	Small solitary cactus, can be difficult to spot when not in color. Characteristic of the genus, flowers form a circle around the stem at previous year's growth. Bright red fruits.
Nipple Cactus, Wright's	<i>Mammillaria wrightii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pink or Magenta	Summer	1.5-3in x 1.5-3in	Large flowers bloom late summer, followed by grape-sized fruits.
Prickly Pear, Brown-spined (Tulip Prickly Pear)	<i>Opuntia phaeacantha</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow or Pink	Spring	8-10in x spreading	Attracts native bees, butterflies, and moths.
Prickly Pear, Plains	<i>Opuntia polyacantha</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring	8-10in x spreading	Attracts native bees. Wildlife eat fruit and pads.
Prickly Pear, Western	<i>Opuntia macrorhiza</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring- Summer	10in x spreading	Attracts native bees. Reddish purple fruits appear late summer.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Yucca, Banana	<i>Yucca baccata</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White	Spring	3ft x 3ft or may form clumps	Family <i>Agavaceae</i> . Pollinated by a small white yucca moth that stays in the flower during the day and carries the pollen from flower to flower at night. Songbirds like the seed pods. Large pendant flowers and banana-shaped fruit.
Yucca, Narrowleaf (Soapweed)	<i>Yucca glauca</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White or Cream with Pinkish outer petals	May-June	4ft x 2ft	Family <i>Agavaceae</i> . Similar to Banana Yucca (<i>Yucca baccata</i>).
Yucca, Soaptree (Palmilla)	<i>Yucca elata</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Creamy White	Spring	12-15ft x 6-8ft	Family <i>Agavaceae</i> . Nectar attracts moths and butterflies. Seeds attract small animals. Flowers are pendant, globular, or bell shaped.

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Chapter 3 - Grasses

Grass binds the soil, prevents erosion, and feeds both wildlife and humankind. Most grasses are wind pollinated, so the pollinators column has been omitted. Flowers are inconspicuous, so the bloom color column has been replaced by information about foliage and seed heads. Grasses designated as warm season have evolved a modified photosynthesis that is water conserving. Warm season grasses will be green (actively growing) at temperatures above 60-65°F (June-August); cool season grasses will be green when temperatures are 45-70°F (spring and fall). Height and width are provided for bunch grasses; only height is given for turf grasses.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Foliage/ Seed Head Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Bluestem, Big (Turkeyfoot)	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Blue-Green foliage turning Red and Orange in fall	August	4-8ft x 2ft	Tolerates a wide range of soil types. Wind and drought tolerant but prefers extra water. Warm season.
Bluestem, Little	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Full Sun	Low	Blue foliage turning Red and Orange in fall	August	2-3ft x 1ft	Adapts to most soil types. Very deeply rooted and drought tolerant. Leave the silvery seed heads, which appear in late summer, on the plant as winter food for small birds. Warm season.
Bluestem, Silver (Silver Beardgrass)	<i>Bothriochloa laguroides</i> ssp. <i>torreyana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Green foliage, Silvery seed heads	Summer	2-3ft x 2ft	Bunch grass. Foliage turns orange in fall, fluffy white seed heads shimmer in fall sunlight. Larval host for skippers, satyrs. Highly deer resistant. Warm season.
Buffalograss	<i>Bouteloua dactyloides</i> (synonym <i>Buchlœe dactyloides</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Gray-Green foliage, Buff seed heads	Summer	6-10in	Tolerates a wide range of soil types. Excellent in meadows and as an alternative for lawns. Once established, it tolerates drought and cold and is resistant to pests and diseases. Goes dormant and turns beige in extremely hot, dry summers but bounces back with rain or water. Warm season.
Deergrass	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	Full Sun	Low	Gray-Green to Bright Green foliage, Tan seed heads	Summer	3ft x 3ft (to 4ft with seed heads)	Tussock-forming grass; it will adapt to a wide range of soil types but will not tolerate constantly wet soils. Once established, deergrass requires little supplementary irrigation and no fertilization. Great value as an ornamental; a low-maintenance, noninvasive, fast-growing, compact alternative to Pampas Grass. Its bold presence stands out against other grasses; gorgeous seed heads rise above the tussocks in late summer, providing winter interest. Warm season.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Foliage/ Seed Head Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Dropseed, Pine	<i>Blepharoneuron tricholepis</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Airy panicles with Bluish Gray spikelets	July-Oct	13in x 6-8in	Found in and around piñon-ponderosa groves. Slender, erect, and densely tufted. Adapts to a broad range of soil types but is most abundant on rocky, dry soil. Warm season.
Feathergrass, New Mexico	<i>Hesperostipa neomexicana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Airy Golden awns to 12in	May- June	1-3ft x 1ft	Similar to Needle-and-Thread grass (<i>Hesperostipa comata</i>), but with a more southerly range. Cool season.
Galleta	<i>Pleuraphis jamesii</i> (synonym <i>Hilaria jamesii</i>)	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Dull Blue- Green foliage	May-Sept	12-14in	Bunch grass, forms loose sod. Once established, works well in areas where erosion or heavy traffic occurs. Has vigorous, spreading roots or rhizomes that resprout even when trampled. Warm season.
Gramma, Blue	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Light Blue- Green foliage maturing to Buff	Late Summer	6-12in	State grass of New Mexico. Well suited for shortgrass meadow reclamation. Seed heads form a delicate eyelash that persists through the winter. Lovely after a light snow. Warm season.
Gramma, Sideoats	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Full Sun	Low	Green foliage turns Red and Purple in fall, Purple spikelets	Late Summer	2ft x 1ft	Easy to establish and drought tolerant. Suitable for meadows and reclamation and as a specimen in perennial beds. The flowering spike hangs off to one side, giving the grass its name. Warm season.
Indiangrass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Blue-Green foliage, Golden plume- like seed heads	Fall	4-8ft x 2-4ft	Prefers moist, rich soil. Provides good erosion control and is lovely in landscapes and dried arrangements. Fall foliage is orange to purple. Warm season.
Junegrass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	Full Sun	High	Gray-Green foliage, dense Silvery seed heads	June	1-2ft	Prefers sandy or rocky soil. Its slender, upright form is perfect for a small garden. Lovely when glowing in sunshine. Cool season.
Lovegrass, Sand	<i>Eragrostis trichodes</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Light Green foliage, diffuse Buff or Pinkish seed heads	May	2-4ft x 2-3ft	Provides nesting materials and structure for native bees. Airy seed heads provide fall and winter interest. Good erosion control in sandy soil. Warm season.
Muhly, Bush	<i>Muhlenbergia porteri</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Airy seed heads ripen to Pink or Purple in late summer	Summer	1-3ft x 2ft	Prefers rocky soil and good drainage. Glows when backlit by the sun. Warm season.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Foliage/ Seed Head Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Muhly, Mountain	<i>Muhlenbergia montana</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Light Green foliage, loose Buff seed heads	Summer	1-3ft x 1-2ft	Prefers rocky soil. Used in gardens as an accent plant, providing year-round texture and interest. Warm season.
Needle and Thread	<i>Hesperostipa comata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Airy Golden awns to 12in	May- June	1-3ft x 1ft	Seeds form the needle, and 12in awns form the thread. Goes dormant in summer, but its pale golden foliage remains ornamental until frost. Seeds may lodge in pets' skin. Cool season.
Ricegrass, Indian	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Pale open branching seed heads	May-Sept	1-2ft x 1-2ft	Prefers sandy or rocky soil. Flowering stems provide a beautiful, airy accent in rock gardens or borders. Lovely in dried arrangements. Birds love the nutritious seeds produced in early summer. Cool season.
Sacaton, Giant	<i>Sporobolus wrightii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Green arching foliage, airy Golden seed heads	Late Summer- Fall	8-10ft x 5ft	Prefers clay or sandy soil. Impressive ornamental grass for a meadow or border. Requires little care. Warm season.
Threeawn, Purple	<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	Full Sun	Low	Yellowish Green foliage, seed heads ripen to Purple	Summer	1-2ft x 1ft	Good bunch grass for reclamation; lovely in the garden but reseeds readily and may become a nuisance. Seeds lodge in pets' ears and pedestrians' socks. Warm season.
Wheatgrass, Western (Wild Rye)	<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> (synonym <i>Elymus smithii</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Blue-Green foliage with a Silver cast	May- June	1-2ft x 1ft	Provides good erosion control but too dense for a wildflower meadow. Spreads aggressively when irrigated. Cool season.

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Chapter 4 – Ground Covers

Ground covers are like an outdoor carpet, providing colorful flowers and attractive foliage at ground or knee level. What they lack in stature they make up for in their ability to compete with nearby plants. They have a range of sun requirements and bloom times, with many growing happily under trees or in other shady areas. They offer a low-maintenance alternative to traditional lawns, help suppress weeds, and look great tucked in between flagstones or pavers.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Barberry (Creeping Oregon Grape, Creeping Mahonia)	<i>Berberis repens</i> (synonym <i>Mahonia repens</i>)	Pt Shade/ Shade	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow	Spring	2ft x 3-4ft	Attracts native bees. Provides wildlife cover. Blue berries appear midsummer and are eaten by birds and other wildlife. Deer resistant and drought and cold tolerant. Prefers rich, well-drained sandy, loamy, chalky, or granitic soils.
Juniper, Common (Spreading Juniper)	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Late Summer	1-3ft x 10ft	Tiny purple berries in late summer are used to flavor meats, stews, and gin. Also eaten by birds and mammals. Slow growing, very hardy, and shade tolerant. Grows under evergreen forest canopies in moist, well-drained soils but is adaptable. Clump forming, works as impenetrable groundcover. Use as border plant or to stabilize slopes. Elevation 8,000-11,500 ft.
Kinnikinnick (Bearberry)	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Low	Insects	Pink	Late Spring	0.5ft x 15ft	Flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies, and native bees. Red berries appear in summer through winter and are eaten by birds and other wildlife. Thick, leathery leaves are yellow-green in spring, dark green in summer, and reddish purple in fall. Branches form roots at nodes touching the ground forming dense mats (good for erosion control). Drought, cold, and heat tolerant.
Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria parvifolia</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White	Spring	6in x 6-9in	Most plants are female and reproduce vegetatively.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Pussytoes, Rosy	<i>Antennaria rosea</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Pink	Spring	6in x 6-9in	Similar to Pussytoes (<i>Antennaria parvifolia</i>).
Sagebrush, Fringed (Prairie Sagebrush, Prairie Sagewort)	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Wind	Yellow	Summer	4-16in x 18in	Provides food for larvae of a number of butterflies, moths, and other insects. Fragrant, silver-gray foliage; taproot (good for erosion control).

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Chapter 5 – Perennials

Perennials provide color, fragrance, and nectar to attract hummingbirds, bees, moths, butterflies, and other pollinators. Select plants that bloom at different times to create interest throughout the growing season. Many native perennials are easy to grow and may require less maintenance than non-natives; they create a living plant community and a sense of place in your yard!

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Aster, Baby (Sand Aster)	<i>Chaetopappa ericoides</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	May-July	2-8in x spreading	Spreads by stolons and may form clumps in dry rocky areas; lovely in shortgrass meadows with Perky Sue and Verbena.
Aster, Hairy Golden	<i>Heterotheca villosa</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	12in x 6-12in	Long blooming, self-seeding, and spreading from roots. Has a spicy sage fragrance.
Beebalm (Bergamot)	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Purple or Pink	Summer	1-2ft x 1ft	Very fragrant; attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Good in herb or butterfly gardens. Spreads where moisture is present. Keep water off leaves and plant in area with good air circulation to prevent powdery mildew.
Bitterweed, Scarpose (Rubberweed)	<i>Tetaneuris scaposa</i> (synonym <i>Hymenoxys scaposa</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	May-Oct	6-12in x 8in	Deer resistant. Found in high, dry limestone hills. Good for rock garden, border plant, or container garden in any well-drained soil.
Blanket Flower, Great	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow and Red	Summer	2ft x 1.5ft	Common in many commercial wildflower mixes. Does well with other low-water wildflowers and with grasses, shrubs, and cacti.
Blanket Flower, Yellow (Red Dome)	<i>Gaillardia pinnatifida</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Summer	1-2ft x 1.5ft	Easy to grow in any soil. Long and profuse bloomer. Good for borders, meadows, butterfly gardens, or naturalizing.
Blue Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Blue	Spring-Summer	8-20in x 8in	Will sometimes rebloom during rains. Fast growing, low maintenance, easy to grow from seed, and reseeds readily.
Buckwheat, James (Antelope Sage)	<i>Eriogonum jamesii</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White	Summer	6in x 24in	Attracts bees and butterflies. Good for rock or butterfly gardens. Spent blooms provide winter interest.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Buckwheat, Sulphur Flower	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	2ft x spreading	Attracts bees and other beneficial insects; larval host for Rocky Mountain dotted blue butterfly. Good bee plant for dark, pungent honey. Mat forming, good for meadows and borders. Flowers hold their color when dried.
Chocolate Flower (Chocolate Daisy)	<i>Berlandiera lyrata</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer	12-18in x 24-36in	Reported to be deer resistant. Fragrant—smells of chocolate! Long blooming; spent blooms are delicate, interesting. Reseeds readily. Good for dry, rock, fragrance, or butterfly gardens.
Clover, Prairie (James Dalea)	<i>Dalea jamesii</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow, fading to Orange	Spring-Summer	4-6in x spreading	Blooms opportunistically with moisture; delightful addition to a rock garden. Fixes nitrogen.
Clover, Purple Prairie	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple	June-Sept	2ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Deer resistant. Drought and wind tolerant, grows in any soil. Plant in meadow or butterfly garden. Keeps its color when dried. Fixes nitrogen.
Clover, White Prairie	<i>Dalea candida</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	June-Sept	2ft x 2ft	Similar to Purple Prairie Clover (<i>Dalea purpurea</i>).
Columbine, Desert	<i>Aquilegia desertorum</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Low	Birds, Insects	Red to Orange with Yellow inner petals	Summer	18in x 15in	Attracts hummingbirds. Good for borders, containers, and hummingbird or rock gardens. Will tolerate heavy, rocky, and limestone soil. All parts of the plant are poisonous.
Columbine, Golden Spur	<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade/ Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Yellow	Summer	24-36in x 18in	Attracts hummingbirds. Tough and drought tolerant in shade. Fragrant. Deadhead for rebloom or allow to reseed for large colony. All parts of the plant are poisonous

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Columbine, Rocky Mountain	<i>Aquilegia caerulea</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Medium	Birds, Insects	Blue	Summer	24in x 15in	Naturalizes and is said to be rabbit resistant. Repeat bloomer, easy to grow. Good for perennial, shade, or hummingbird gardens. The Colorado state flower. All parts of the plant are poisonous.
Columbine, Western Red	<i>Aquilegia elegantula</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Birds, Insects	Red	Summer	12-24in x 12-24in	Smallest, most drought tolerant of the Columbines. If different species are planted near each other, columbines will hybridize easily. All parts of the plant are poisonous
Coneflower, Cutleaf	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	6ft x 3-4ft	Special value to native and honey bees. Attracts butterflies. Seed is eaten by many birds. Better for large sites because it spreads rampantly by underground stems. May need staking in the garden. Good background plant. Very hardy.
Coneflower, Prairie (Mexican Hat)	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Red	Spring-Summer	1-3ft x 3ft	Special value to native bees. Deer browse the flowers. Hybridizes readily with Yellow Prairie Coneflower. Can bloom into August and September if moisture is available.
Coneflower, Purple	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Purple	Spring-Fall	1-3ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies. Striking color and shape. Prefers good soil but will tolerate clay. Great cut flower.
Coneflower, Yellow Prairie	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Summer	1-3ft x 3ft	Special value to native bees. Deer browse the flowers. Tolerates poor soil, will adapt to extra water. Good cut flower. Can bloom into August and September if moisture is available.
Daisy, Blackfoot	<i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Birds, Insects	White	Spring-Fall	8in x 24in	Beautiful cut flowers. Rich soil and supplemental water will produce abundant flowers but will shorten the life of the plant.
Daisy, Engelmann's (Cutleaf)	<i>Engelmannia peristenia</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	18-36in x 15-18in	Excellent in borders or wildflower meadows. A sturdy heat- and drought-resistant plant; birds love the seeds. Will reseed and naturalize.
Datura	<i>Datura wrightii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	Summer-Fall	2-3ft x 3ft	Stunning plant! Fragrant trumpet flowers open in evening, pollinated by hawk moths. Thrives in hot, dry gardens. Tolerates poor soil. Annual or perennial. Toxic to humans and animals.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Four O'Clock, Desert (Colorado, Wild)	<i>Mirabilis multiflora</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Birds, Insects	Magenta	Spring- Fall	2ft x 3ft	Dense mound of leaves covered with magenta flowers that open in afternoon. Plant dies back in winter, to reemerge in spring. Low maintenance and will thrive in harsh conditions.
Gaura, Scarlet (Bee Blossom)	<i>Oenothera suffrutescens</i> (synonym <i>Gaura coccinea</i>)	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White, turning to Pink	May-Aug	12-18in x spreading	Attracts butterflies. Spreads by rhizomes in a wide variety of soils, common on disturbed sites.
Gayfeather, Dotted	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pink or Purple	Summer- Fall	18in x 18in	More flower stalks develop over time. Beautiful cut or dried flower. Infrequent deep watering produces best display of flowers. Difficult to transplant. Nice addition to a shortgrass prairie ecosystem.
Geranium, Purple	<i>Geranium caespitosum</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Magenta- Purple	Summer	3ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies. Long-lived, versatile plant that does well in sun or shade, any soil. Small, rich magenta-purple flowers. Good for naturalizing or in borders. Good for butterfly, woodland, or dry gardens. Beautiful cut or dried flowers.
Geranium, Richardson	<i>Geranium richardsonii</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White or Pinkish	Summer	1ft x 3ft	Attracts butterflies. Sprawling habit makes it a good filler or softener. Grows in a variety of conditions and is very cold tolerant. Good for butterfly, mixed conifer, or aspen gardens or high-elevation wildflower meadows. Needs regular water. Does best at base of tree that is regularly watered.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Globemallow, Narrow-leaf (Lobeleaf Coppermallow)	<i>Sphaeralcea angustifolia</i>	Full Sun/ Pt shade	Low	Birds, Insects	Orange	May-Oct	3-4ft x 2-3ft	<i>Sphaeralcea</i> species are used as food plants by larvae of some moths and butterflies. Flowers all summer. Reseeds readily and may become invasive.
Globemallow, Scarlet	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	Full Sun/ Pt shade	Low	Birds, Insects	Orange	May-Oct	12-16in x 12in	Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Long bloomer and easy to establish in hot, dry areas. Needs no care once established. Plant spreads by rhizomes as well as seed and is very long lived. Thrives in poor soil, pioneer on disturbed sites.
Golden Banner (Golden Pea)	<i>Thermopsis montana</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	May-Aug	2ft x spreading	Likes good, well-drained soils. Persists in wet soils or in sites that are wet early and dry out in summer. Nitrogen fixer, spreads by rhizomes.
Goldeneye, Showy	<i>Heliomeris multiflora</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Birds, Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	3ft x 3ft	Attracts butterflies and native bees; birds and small mammals like the seeds. Easy to grow, long-lasting cut flowers. Good in wildflower meadow, butterfly, or dry garden and for naturalizing or mass planting. Occurs in sagebrush, juniper, aspen, cottonwood, and spruce-fir communities.
Goldenrod, Canada (Western Prairie)	<i>Solidago canadensis</i> var. <i>lepida</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	3ft x spreading	Attracts butterflies. Special value to native and honey bees. Beautiful in bloom and in seed. Any soil but likes extra water. Does well in shade. Good for perennial border or for naturalizing.
Goldenrod, Narrow	<i>Solidago simplex</i> var. <i>simplex</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Aug-Sept	6-16in x 6-16in	Provides nectar for butterflies and native bees. Found in ponderosa and mixed conifer forests. Any well-drained soil. Clump forming. Goldenrods are pollinated by insects so do not have airborne allergens.
Goldenrod, Wright's	<i>Solidago wrightii</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Aug-Oct	12in x 2in	Special value to native bees. Tall, erect, found in meadows.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Groundsel, Many-Headed (Broomlike Ragwort).	<i>Senecio spartioides</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	2.5ft x 3ft	Small flowers. Grows in semi-desert, sandy open spaces, and shrub lands. Showy silvery-white seed heads (similar to dandelions). All parts of plants are poisonous.
Groundsel, Threadleaf	<i>Senecio flaccidus</i> var. <i>longilobus</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	3ft x 3ft	Attracts butterflies and bees. Low growing. Once established, needs no extra water. Good for naturalizing. Found in meadows and in rocky hillsides. All parts of plant are poisonous.
Hummingbird Trumpet (Zauschneria)	<i>Epilobium canum</i> var. <i>latifolium</i> (synonym <i>Zauschneria arizonica</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Birds	Red	Summer	2ft x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds. Fast growing and one of the few plants to bloom in late summer heat. Cut back tips early in season to encourage fullness and heavy bloom. May die back but comes back bushier the next year.
Hyssop, Giant (Licorice Mint)	<i>Agastache rupestris</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds, Insects	Pink or Orange	Summer-Fall	3ft x 3ft	Attracts hummingbirds and bees. Deer and rabbit resistant. Licorice mint fragrance.
Hyssop, Purple (Purple Giant Hyssop, New Mexico Giant Hyssop)	<i>Agastache pallidiflora</i> ssp. <i>neomexicana</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Birds, Insects	Purple	Summer	2ft x 3ft	Mint family but has no mint fragrance. Grows in mountain forests and meadows but tolerates clay soils. Long flowering, good for cut or dried flowers.
Hyssop, Wild (Texas Hummingbird Mint, Mosquito Plant)	<i>Agastache cana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds, Insects	Raspberry or Rose-Pink	Summer-Fall	2-3ft x 3ft	Highly attractive to hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees. Deer and rabbit resistant. Deliciously scented leaves. Long blooming and easy to grow. Let seeds mature and fall to naturalize, then deadhead.
Ironweed (Joe Pye Weed)	<i>Vernonia missurica</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Purple	Fall	5ft x 3ft	Special value to bees and butterflies. Good for back border or a showy spot.
Larkspur, Plains (Organ Mountain Larkspur, Ghost Delphinium)	<i>Delphinium wootonii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pale Lavender	May-June	1-3ft x 1ft	Enchanting delicate bloomer. Good for naturalizing. All members of the <i>Delphinium</i> genus are toxic to humans and livestock.
Locoweed, Lambert's	<i>Oxytropis lambertii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple	Summer-Fall	1ft x 1ft	Larval host for some butterflies. Showy purple flowers, especially in masses. Naturalizes. Nitrogen fixing. All parts of plant are poisonous to all classes of livestock.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Lupine	<i>Lupinus caudatus</i>	Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Blue	Summer	1-2ft x 2.5ft	Host for caterpillars of several butterfly species and a nectar source for others. Special value to bumble bees. Beautiful flowers, especially in masses. Naturalizes, so is nice for meadows. Nitrogen fixing. Seeds can be toxic to humans and animals if ingested.
Milkweed, Butterfly (Butterflyweed)	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Orange	Spring-Summer	1-2ft x 2ft	Special value to butterflies and to native, honey, and bumble bees. Host plant for Monarch butterflies. There are few orange flowers, and this is a beautiful one. Use dried seed pods in dried arrangements. Pruning first flowers in summer prolongs the flowering season. Difficult to transplant. Species in the genus <i>Asclepias</i> contain cardiac glycosides, poisonous to humans, but most dangerous to grazing animals.
Milkweed, Showy	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Pink	Summer	2-3ft x spreading	Attracts butterflies, honeybees, and hummingbirds. Dramatic, with large clusters of unusual star-shaped flowers. Largest of the wild milkweeds. Widespread on damp, open ground. Species in the genus <i>Asclepias</i> contain cardiac glycosides, poisonous to humans, but most dangerous to grazing animals.
Morning-glory, Bush	<i>Ipomoea leptophylla</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects, Birds	Pinkish Lavender	Summer	3ft x 5ft	Found on open plains and sandy areas; pioneer on disturbed soil. Good for erosion control.
Mule's Ears	<i>Wyethia scabra</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Summer	2ft x 4ft	Attracts butterflies and birds. Low-growing bold sunflowers with large, rough leaves and winter interest. Long blooming, especially showy in masses. Well-drained soil.
Navajo Tea (Cota, Greenthread)	<i>Thelesperma megapotamicum</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Summer	1-3ft x 1ft	Attracts beneficial insects. Delicate, airy pioneer on disturbed ground and in ditches. Lovely in a shortgrass prairie ecosystem. Needs good drainage.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Paintbrush, Indian	<i>Castilleja integra</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds	Red	May-Sept	1.5ft x 1ft	Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Showy vermilion flowers. Paintbrush is a hemiparasite that grows best planted with grasses, sage, or oaks. Good for naturalizing.
Penstemon, Bridges'	<i>Penstemon rostriflorus</i> (synonym <i>P. bridgesii</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Birds	Red	Summer	2ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Moderately rabbit resistant. Nodding scarlet flowers. Tolerates moderate shade. Very low maintenance.
Penstemon, Cardinal	<i>Penstemon cardinalis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds	Red	Summer	2-3ft x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds. Noted for deep red, drooping tubular flowers.
Penstemon, Desert	<i>Penstemon pseudospectabilis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds	Deep Pink	Late Spring-Summer	2-3ft x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds. Shocking pink flower on bushy plant. Blooms in spring and again lightly in summer. Reseeds readily.
Penstemon, Eaton's Firecracker	<i>Penstemon eatonii</i>	Pt Shade	Low	Birds	Red	Summer	1-3ft x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds. One of the most dramatic penstemons, with many-flowered tall spikes of thick, fire-engine red flowers. Good cut flower. Well-drained soil. Very low maintenance. Cut off spent stalks for less dramatic second bloom. Excellent for dry, gravelly banks.
Penstemon, James	<i>Penstemon jamesii</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple	June	1-3ft x 2ft	Attracts native bees. Very sweet flowers, drought tolerant. Good for rock gardens.
Penstemon, Mat	<i>Penstemon linarioides</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Blue	Summer	1-2ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Special value to native bees. Generally considered rabbit resistant. Mat forming, low maintenance, can be used as ground cover.
Penstemon, Palmer's (Pink Wild Snapdragon)	<i>Penstemon palmeri</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White or Pink	May-June	3-6ft x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds and bees. Tall, very fragrant early bloomer with large flowers. Easy to grow. Good cut flower.
Penstemon, Pineleaf	<i>Penstemon pinifolius</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds	Orange	Spring-Summer	10-12in x 2ft	Attracts hummingbirds. Resembles a dwarf pine, leaves are evergreen. Good for path or step borders.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Penstemon, Rocky Mountain	<i>Penstemon strictus</i>	Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Blue-Purple	Summer	2 ft x 2ft	Special value to native bees. Brilliant blue-purple flowers. Self-seeds, very hardy, and one of the easiest penstemons to grow.
Penstemon, Sand (Pink Plains Penstemon)	<i>Penstemon ambiguus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Very Low	Birds, Insects	Pinkish White	May-Oct	1-3ft x 2ft	Airy, many-branched, shrubby plant with phlox-like blooms that increase with age. Grows in sandy, open areas.
Penstemon, Scarlet (Scarlet Bugler)	<i>Penstemon barbatus</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds, Insects	Red	May-Sept	1.5-3ft x 2ft	Special value to native bees. Attracts hummingbirds. Profuse blooms on tall stalks. Sparse second bloom in fall. Needs well-drained soil.
Penstemon, Sidebells	<i>Penstemon secundiflorus</i>	Full Sun	Low	Birds, Insects	Pink or Purple	Spring-Summer	2ft x 2ft	Special value to native bees. Attracts hummingbirds. Older plants sometimes have dozens of flowering stalks.
Perky Sue	<i>Tetraneris argentea</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	May-Sept	4-18in x 12in	Earliest-blooming yellow daisy, light rebloom in fall. Found in pinon-juniper woodlands. Does well in rocky, poor soils. Stunning in rock gardens.
Phlox, Santa Fe	<i>Phlox nana</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Pink, White, or Purple	Spring	8in x 15in	Low perennial, wonderful rock garden plant. May rebloom with summer rains. Grows in any soil, including clay. Naturalizes.
Poppy Mallow (Winecups)	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Purple	Spring-Summer	2-3ft x spreading	Attracts butterflies. Special value to native bees and hummingbirds. Larval host for moths. Attractive, spreading, drought tolerant. Stunning blooms all summer. Native to sandy soils but seems to thrive everywhere. Good choice for hot, dry, south- or west-facing beds and areas with reflected heat and sun. Allow seeds to fall and naturalize.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Poppy, White Prickly	<i>Argemone pleiacantha</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	Summer	1- 4ft x 3ft	Mourning doves eat the seeds. Every part of the plant is prickly, except the showy flowers. Thrives on bright sun, heat, and drought. Flowers all summer. Good as a barrier plant and for meadows or naturalizing. All parts of this plant are poisonous.
Primrose, Hooker's Evening	<i>Oenothera elata</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Summer-Fall	5ft	Attracts butterflies and hawk moths. Special value to native bees. Hardy and drought resistant with showy flowers. Can form large colonies. Good for naturalizing, as a tall plant for back of border, or for tall wildflower meadow. Low maintenance, tolerates drought but grows larger and lush with regular water.
Primrose, New Mexico	<i>Oenothera speciosa</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White or Pink	Spring-Summer	1.5ft x 1ft	Special value to native bees. Seed capsules attract birds, especially finches, and various mammals.
Primrose, Pale Evening	<i>Oenothera pallida</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White, turning to Pink	Summer	1.5ft x 2ft	Deer and small animals eat the leaves, birds eat the seeds. Spreads by rhizomes, has reddish stems, and is found on a variety of soils. Blooms afternoon to mid-morning; repeat bloomer. Good for rock gardens. Lemon fragrance.
Primrose, Pink Evening (Cutleaf, Crownleaf, Combleaf)	<i>Oenothera coronopifolia</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White, turning to Pink	Spring-Summer	12in x 1in	Attracts hawk moths. Special value to native bees and beneficial insects. Large fragrant white flowers open in afternoon and fade to pink the next day. Long bloomer. Let seeds fall to naturalize. Good for slope planting, night garden or container, dry wildflower meadow. Low maintenance, well-drained soil.
Primrose, Stemless Evening (White-Tufted Evening)	<i>Oenothera caespitosa</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White, turning to Pink	Spring-Summer	8in x 24in	Magnet for hawk moths. Special value to native bees. Seed is eaten by many birds. Fragrant 3-4in. flowers that open in afternoon and fade to pink next day. Plant on slopes, rock or night gardens, or in any dry areas. Low maintenance, prefers well-drained soil.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Prince's Plume	<i>Stanleya pinnata</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Fall	3-6ft x 3ft	Graceful desert plant with a towering flower stalk. Rocky or sandy soil. Toxic to livestock.
Sage, Blue	<i>Salvia azurea</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Blue	Summer-Early Fall	4ft x 2ft	Attracts butterflies and bumblebees. Vigorous aromatic foliage, full of large sky-blue flowers in fall. Low maintenance. Prolific self-seeder. Good for butterfly or fragrance garden. Very cold hardy.
Sneezeweed, Orange	<i>Hymenoxys hoopesii</i> (synonym <i>Helenium hoopesii</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow-Orange rays, Orange disk	Summer-Fall	3ft x 2ft	Attracts bees and butterflies. Important nectar source for pollinating butterflies. Often in large patches in open mountain meadows. Flowers smaller than those of Western Sneezeweed. All parts of the plant are poisonous.
Sneezeweed, Western	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Insects	Yellow rays, Brown disk	Aug-Oct	3ft x 3ft	Attracts butterflies, birds, bees and many other insects. Deer resistant. Large, long-lasting daisy-like flowers in loose clusters. Extremely cold hardy. Likes organic matter in soil. All parts of the plant are poisonous.
Sundrops, Fendler's	<i>Oenothera hartwegii</i> ssp. <i>fendleri</i> (synonym <i>Calylophus hartwegii</i> ssp. <i>fendleri</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow turning to Orange or Pink	Spring-Summer	1-2ft x 2-3ft	Attracts sphinx moths. Grasshopper resistant. Grows in spreading mound with flowers that open in the morning, turning orange and pink as they fade. Hardy perennial in open meadows and piñon-juniper woodlands. Extremely drought tolerant and easy to grow.
Verbena (Vervain)	<i>Glandularia bipinnatifida</i>	Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds	Purple or Pink	Spring-Summer	8in x 24in	Attracts butterflies and bees. Long-blooming, rounded clusters of flowers form a low-growing mound. Short lived, drought tolerant. Extra water will extend bloom season. Good for wildflower meadow, butterfly garden, or container.
Wallflower, Western	<i>Erysimum capitatum</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Yellow, Orange, or Red	Summer	1-2ft x 1ft	Attracts butterflies, caterpillars, and bees. Masses of blooms, each a cluster of tiny flowers, may sprout secondary blooms well into the season. Well-drained soil, low maintenance, will self-seed to naturalize.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Yarrow, Western	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White or Pink	Spring-Summer	0.5-2ft x spreading	Attracts bees, butterflies, and wasps. Aromatic with clusters of small white or pink flowers and ferny foliage. Cut flower or dried arrangements. Can be mowed and used as low-traffic turf substitute or ground cover. Erosion control or meadow. Can be invasive.
Yerba Mansa	<i>Anemopsis californica</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Birds	White	Spring-Summer	1-2ft x spreading	Beautiful flowers with fragrant leaves. Can be used as groundcover or low-traffic turf substitute. Plant at edge of water feature. Can take light shade. Foliage turns brick red in fall.
Zinnia, Prairie	<i>Zinnia grandiflora</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Birds, Insects	Yellow with Orange center	Summer-Fall	6-12in x 6-12in	Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and wasps. Rabbit resistant. Forms low mounds of yellow flowers with orange centers. Great bedding and border plant. Disappears in winter, reappears in summer.

NOTES:

Chapter 6 – Shrubs

Shrubs can provide shelter and food for wildlife. Use them to define areas in the garden, to provide a backdrop for perennials and smaller plants, or to provide barriers. Select plants that have a variety of bloom time, height, and texture. Some shrubs are evergreen and many have persistent fruit that provides winter interest. Some plants are described as shrub or small tree; look under Trees if you don't find the shrub you're looking for here.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Apache Plume	<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White	Spring- Summer	3-5ft x 4-6ft	Pollinated by an amazing assortment of native bees and beetles. Birds eat the seeds. Small, white, rose-like flowers with yellow stamens all summer, appearing with pinkish feathery seed heads. Elevation 4,500-7,500 ft.
Ash, Cascade Mountain (Rocky Mountain)	<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Summer	3-15ft x 8ft	Small berries range from orange to scarlet and leaf color ranges from yellow to peach in fall. Berries sometimes used in pies, preserves, or wine-making; they are also eaten by birds and mammals. Shrub or small tree, usually growing in small clumps. Elevation 6,500-10,000 ft.
Barberry, Fendler's	<i>Berberis fendleri</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Spring	6ft x 6ft	This fragrant, thorny ornamental provides year-round interest. All related barberries (<i>Berberis</i> spp.) produce edible berries and attract birds and wildlife for food and shelter. Elevation 5,900-8,500 ft.
Barberry, Fremont's	<i>Berberis fremontii</i> (synonym <i>Mahonia fremontii</i>)	Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring	5-10ft x 5-10ft	Profuse, fragrant yellow flowers in spring, large bright red fruits in summer. Blue evergreen foliage. Deer, rabbit, and drought resistant.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Barberry, Red (Desert Holly)	<i>Berberis haematocarpa</i> (<i>Mahonia haematocarpa</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring- Summer	3-8ft x 10ft	Fragrant, roundish shrub. Showy yellow flowers in spring, then coral red berries in fall, which attract songbirds. Elevation 4,500-6,800 ft.
Bitterbrush, Antelope	<i>Purshia tridentata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pale Yellow	Spring	4-5ft x 5-6ft	Special value to native bees. Found on dry slopes in foothills in NW New Mexico. Good for erosion control. Elevation 4,000-9,000 ft.
Buckbrush, Fendler's	<i>Ceanothus fendleri</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	White	Spring- Summer	1-3ft x 3ft	Attracts native bees and many species of butterflies. Small clusters of nectar-rich, mildly fragrant flowers are likely to appear off and on all summer. Elevation 5,500-9,500 ft.
Buffaloberry, Silver	<i>Shepherdia argentea</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	March	8-12ft x 8-12ft	Attracts birds and native bees. Elevation 4,500-6,000 ft.
Chamisa (Rabbitbrush)	<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i> (synonym <i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Fall	3-5ft x 4-7ft	Pollinated by pairs of mating bugs. Browsed by rabbits and deer. Attractive year-round (silver-green stems and fluffy seed heads in winter, fresh foliage in summer, and pungent yellow flowers in fall). Elevation 4,000-8,000 ft.
Cherry, Black	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	12-25ft x 10-15ft	Similar to chokecherry. Naturally thicket forming but can be pruned into a small tree. Elevation 4,500-7,500 ft. <u>Leaves and pits contain cyanide.</u>

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	12-25ft x 10-15ft	Attracts butterflies (to flowers) and songbirds and mammals (to fruit). White flowers cluster in fat fingers 3-5in long in May; small dark cherries appear in elongated clusters in May and were a favorite food of Native Americans. Elevation 5,500-8,000 ft. Leaves and pits contain cyanide.
Cinquefoil, Shrubby (Potentilla)	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Yellow	Summer	3ft x 3ft	Covered by small yellow flowers all summer. Elevation 6,000-11,000 ft.
Cliffrose	<i>Purshia stansburiana</i> (also <i>P. stansburyana</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White, Yellow, or Cream	Spring-Summer	4-6ft x 5-8ft	Evergreen shrub with reddish bark turning gray and shredding with age; fragrant flowers, seed heads similar to Apache Plume. Elevation 3,000-8,000 ft.
Currant, Golden	<i>Ribes aureum</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Birds, Insects	Yellow	Spring	3-6ft x 3-5ft	Attracts bees (to nectar) and birds and mammals (to fruit). Fragrant yellow flowers in early spring. Orange or black currants in summer (leave on bush to dry to raisins and hope birds don't get them first). Maple-like leaves with lovely fall color. Elevation 6,500-9,000 ft.
Currant, Wax	<i>Ribes cereum</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Birds, Insects	Pink	May-July	3ft x 3ft	Attracts native bees. Birds love the berries. Clusters of light pink, bell-shaped flowers give way to bright-red, fuzzy, cluster-like currants. Light green foliage turns yellow in fall. Elevation 6,000-9,000 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Dalea, Feather (Feather Plume, Feather Indigo)	<i>Dalea formosa</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple or Rose, with Yellow banner	Spring-Summer	2ft x 3ft	Forms low, spreading mounds with silvery leaves. Found in rocky or sandy soil. Clusters of fuzzy blooms cover the plant in spring, followed by shaggy seed pods. Special value to native bees. A drought-tolerant, nitrogen-fixing shrub. Elevation 3,500-7,000 ft.
Dogwood, Red-Osier (Red Twig)	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	4-7ft x 4-5ft	Attracts birds and butterflies. Larval host to spring azure moth. Pea-sized white fruit in clusters on red stems in September attract birds and bears. Browsed by deer and rabbits. Elevation 5,500-9,000 ft.
Elderberry, New Mexico	<i>Sambucus caerulea</i> var. <i>neomexicana</i>	Full Sun/Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White or Cream	Summer	12-17ft x 8ft	Shrub or small tree. Blue berries attract birds and mammals. Grows along streams. Elevation 7,000-9,000 ft. Stems, roots, and leaves reported to be poisonous.
Elderberry, Red	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i> var. <i>microbotrys</i>	Full Sun/Pt Shade	Medium/High	Insects	White or Cream	Spring-Summer	10ft x 5-6ft	Shrub or small tree. Red berries attract birds and mammals. Grows along stream banks. Elevation 6,000-12,000 ft. Fruit may be toxic.
Ephedra, Longleaf (Mormon Tea)	<i>Ephedra trifurca</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Yellow	Spring	15ft x 3ft	Good cover for birds and small mammals; nut-like seeds are eaten by quail. Evergreen shrub, similar to Torrey Ephedra (<i>Ephedra torreyana</i>) but much taller. Gravelly or sandy soil. Elevation 3,000-6,000 ft.
Ephedra, Torrey (Torrey's Joint-fir, Mormon Tea)	<i>Ephedra torreyana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Yellow	Spring	3ft x 4ft	Inconspicuous leaves; photosynthesis accomplished through the much-branched blue-green or olive-green stems. Yellowish cones persist into winter. Unusual habit with year-round interest. Spreads readily and will fill an empty spot if conditions are favorable. Elevation 3,000-6,600 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Fendlerbush, Cliff	<i>Fendlera rupicola</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White or Pink	Spring-Summer	4-7ft x 3-6ft (forms clumps)	Fragrant shrub, browsed by deer. Heat tolerant, fond of rocky ground. Elevation 5,500-7,500 ft.
Gooseberry	<i>Ribes leptanthum</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White with Red centers	Spring-Summer	4-6ft x 3-4ft	Attracts birds and mammals. Half-inch trumpet flowers with red centers appear in May, followed in August by small dark purple berries with dried trumpet still attached. Berries are fairly sweet and not too seedy—good for cooking or eating. Elevation 6,500-10,000 ft.
Indigo Bush, False	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Purple	Spring-Summer	4-8ft x 4-8ft	Stalks of small purple flowers with gold stamens attract butterflies. Elevation 4,500-6,000 ft.
Joint-fir, Green (Mormon Tea)	<i>Ephedra viridis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Yellow	Spring	3ft x 4ft	Dry, sandy, rocky slopes. Skeleton-like appearance, with cones instead of fruits. Bright green branches in vertical broom-like clusters. Elevation 3,300-7,500 ft.
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Full Sun	Low/ Medium	Insects	Indigo	Summer-Fall	2-4ft x 3-5ft	Attracts insects, including butterflies and native bees. Small, soft gray leaves run up each stem in bean formation. Spikes of indigo flowers with tiny yellow stamens are stunning in early summer. A drought-tolerant, nitrogen-fixing shrub. Elevation 4,000-6,000 ft.
Mahogany, Mountain	<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Wind, occasionally Insects	White or Greenish	Spring	8-12ft x 4-8ft	Flowers are inconspicuous but yield showy seed pods with feathery, silvery-white plumes that persist into December. Deciduous small tree or shrub with dark green foliage that turns red in fall. Similar to Southern Mountain Mahogany (<i>Cercocarpus breviflorus</i>) but with a more northerly distribution. Elevation 5,500-8,500 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Mahogany, Southern Mountain	<i>Cercocarpus breviflorus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Wind, occasionally Insects	White or Greenish	Spring	8-12ft x 4-8ft	Evergreen shrub with showy, feathery fruits. Grows in dry, rocky, igneous, or limestone soil among Piñon Pine (<i>Pinus edulis</i>) and Alligator Juniper (<i>Juniperus deppeana</i>). Elevation 5,000-7,500 ft.
Manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos patula</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Pink	Summer	2ft x 4ft	Teardrop-shaped flowers in spring, followed by pea-sized fruits. Upright growth habit and beautiful smooth tan bark, growing in open coniferous forest. Evergreen.
Manzanita, Point-leaf	<i>Arctostaphylos pungens</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Birds, Insects	Pink or White	Spring	3-10ft x spreading	Small mammals and ground birds eat the berries. Thicket forming, evergreen. Elevation 4,500-8,000 ft.
Mockorange, Littleleaf	<i>Philadelphus microphyllus</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	Spring	3-4ft x 3-4ft	Fragrant flowers with four white petals and a mass of golden stamens in early June. Elevation 6,000-9,500 ft. Plant might be somewhat toxic.
Ninebark, Mountain	<i>Physocarpus monogynus</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	3ft x 3ft	Good orange to reddish fall color. Leaves are similar to <i>Ribes</i> spp., but the bark is exfoliating. Great shrub for a low hedge or mass planting. Grows on rocky slopes and in mixed shrub communities. Elevation 6,500-10,000 ft.
Oak, Scrub Live	<i>Quercus turbinella</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Incon- spicuous	Spring	6-16ft x spreading	Holly-like leaves unfold reddish, mature to shiny lime green, then become bluish. Thicket forming shrub or small tree. Elevation 2,500-6,500 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Plum, Chickasaw (Sandhill)	<i>Prunus angustifolia</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White	Spring	12ft x 15ft	Provides cover, nesting sites, and food for birds and wildlife. Thicket-forming shrub or small tree. Fruit can be eaten fresh or made into jams and jellies. Elevation 4,500-6,500 ft.
Privet, New Mexico (Desert Olive)	<i>Forestiera pubescens</i> (synonym <i>Forestiera neomexicana</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring	12-18ft x 12ft	Attracts early spring butterflies, particularly Hairstreaks. Birds and small mammals like the bluish fruit in summer; plant both sexes to ensure fruit. Deciduous small tree or large shrub. Can be pruned to a multi-stemmed tree. Hardy, fast growing, suckers. Grows in any well-drained soil. Use as small patio tree; let it grow into a screen or background or shear into a hedge. Leaves turn yellow in fall. Elevation 4,000-7,000 ft.
Raspberry, New Mexico	<i>Rubus deliciosus</i> var. <i>neomexicanus</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Low	Insects	White	Spring	4-6ft x 5-8ft	Very attractive shrub with exfoliating bark. Fruit attracts birds. Elevation 4,500-9,000 ft.
Raspberry, Red	<i>Rubus idaeus</i> var. <i>strigosa</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	insects	White	Spring	3-9ft x 3-9ft	This thorny raspberry attracts wildlife; this is not the species usually grown for fruit production in the home garden. Elevation 6,500-10,000 ft.
Raspberry (Thimbleberry)	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring-Summer	3-6ft x spreading	Thornless shrub with showy flowers and exfoliating bark. Raspberry-like fruit attracts birds and small mammals. Elevation 7,000-10,000 ft.
Rose, Woods	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade/ Shade	Medium	Insects	Pink	Spring-Summer	3-6ft x spreading	Native wild rose. Fragrant pink flowers in June, followed by red hips in clusters of three or more in early fall. Hips eaten by birds and mammals. Spectacular fall foliage, turning vivid shades of dark red, scarlet, deep orange, and gold. Suckers aggressively, can be invasive.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Sagebrush, Big	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind or Self-pollinating	Yellow	Fall	3-4ft x 3-4ft	Browsed by sage grouse and deer, particularly in winter. Provides nest and den sites for birds and small animals. Elevation 4,500-8,500 ft.
Sagebrush, Sand (Threadleaf Sage)	<i>Artemisia filifolia</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Wind	Yellow	Summer-Fall	4ft x 4ft	Semi-evergreen shrub with silver or gray-green foliage. Elevation 3,500-6,000 ft.
Sagebrush, Silver	<i>Artemisia cana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Yellow or Pink	Summer	1-3ft x 1-3ft	Graceful wispy appearance, fragrant flowers. Provides nesting materials for native bees. Elevation 5,500-7,800 ft.
Saltbush, Four-wing	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Wind	Yellow	Spring-Fall	4-6ft x 4-6ft	Provides food and cover for birds, rabbits, and small mammals. Larval host for butterflies and moths. Used as a wildlife habitat (loved by quail), screen, or windbreak. Needs no extra water once established. Provides excellent erosion control and is used extensively for reclamation of disturbed sites. Elevation 3,000-6,800 ft. Toxic to livestock where soil selenium levels are high.
Serviceberry, Western (Saskatoon)	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	15-20ft x 6-8ft	Attracts native bees and butterflies. Fragrant spring flowers, followed by small purplish or blue berries in late summer. Leaves eaten by browsing animals and insects. Fruit attracts birds and mammals. Deciduous. Grows farther north than Utah Serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier utahensis</i>). Common in forest understory, on stream banks, or drier hillsides in well-drained soil. Yellow to reddish fall leaf color. Elevation 6,000-9,000 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Serviceberry, Utah	<i>Amelanchier utahensis</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring-Summer	6-15ft x 10ft	Flowers attract native bees, birds like the purplish or blue fruit. The juicy sweet fruit can be used for making jelly and wine. Deciduous small tree or a common shrub above 8,000 ft. Any soil. Can be thicket forming. Yellow to reddish fall leaf color. Elevation 6,000-9,800 ft.
Snowberry, Roundleaf	<i>Symphoricarpos rotundifolius</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Birds, Insects	White or Pink	Spring-Summer	3ft x 3ft	Waxy white fruit attracts birds and small mammals; dense foliage provides cover and is browsed by deer. Spreads by root suckers, making this shrub a good choice for erosion control. Elevation 4,000-10,800 ft.
Snowberry, White	<i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Pink	July-August	3-4ft x 3-4ft	Showy white fruit persists into winter. Exfoliating bark adds to winter interest. Tends to sucker, so allow space to form a thicket. Good for reclamation and erosion control on slopes. Susceptible to anthracnose, leaf spot, powdery mildew, and rust. Elevation 5,500-7,800 ft.
Spirea, Rock (Cliff Spirea, Mountain Spray)	<i>Holodiscus dumosus</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Pinkish White	Spring-Summer	4-6ft x 3-6ft	A good wildlife browse plant. Intricately branched shrub with reddish twigs and aromatic foliage. Small pinkish white flowers form a branching cluster (panicle) midsummer.
Sumac, Littleleaf	<i>Rhus microphylla</i>	Pt Shade	Very Low	Insects	White or Green	Spring	6-12ft x 4-6ft	Provides food and cover for birds and small mammals. Foliage is orange or red in fall. May be tender at 7,000 ft.; plant in a protected spot.
Sumac, Three-leaf (Skunkbush)	<i>Rhus trilobata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring-Summer	3-10ft x 3-12ft	Yellow flowers in small clusters in spring. Small orange-red berries early summer. Fruit is eaten by birds and some mammals but is relatively deer and rabbit resistant. Foliage is yellow, orange, or red in fall. Elevation 5,000-7,500 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Sumac, Smooth	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White or Yellowish Green	Late Spring	4-5ft x 2-3ft	White or yellowish green flowers, followed by clusters of red berries. Attracts bees, butterflies, and mammals. Seeds remain attached for a long time, often used in decorative arrangements. Rich red leaf color in fall. Deciduous shrub or small tree that generally grows in masses in dry sandy, clay, or caliche soil. Fast growing, generally pest and disease resistant. Good for erosion control. Only tree or shrub species native to all contiguous 48 states. Elevation 5,500-8,000 ft.
Twinberry	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Birds, Insects	Yellow, tinged with Red	Spring- Summer	3-8ft x 3-8ft	Attracts hummingbirds. Shiny black fruit, surrounded by fuzzy red bracts (modified leaves), are eaten by birds, chipmunks, and bears. Flowers and fruit come in pairs. Elevation 7,500-10,000 ft. Fruits may be toxic to humans; foliage and other plant parts may be mildly toxic to cattle.
Waxflower (Cliffbush)	<i>Jamesia americana</i>	Pt Shade/ Shade	Medium	Insects	White or Pink	June-July	6ft x 8-9ft	Small oval leaves are green on top, whitish and fuzzy underneath. Reddish brown exfoliating bark. Common in canyons and mountainous regions. Elevation 6,500-9,500 ft.
Willow, Coyote	<i>Salix exigua</i>	Full Sun/ Shade	Medium/ High	Insects	Incon- spicuous catkins	Spring	1.5-9ft x 4-6ft	Fast growing, sometimes forms small trees about 18ft tall. Forms thickets along streams and ditches, important in riparian areas. Typically found in sandy soils but adapts anywhere. Feathery foliage. Use as an accent plant, in a mass planting, or clip into a hedge. Most common and widespread of NM willows. Elevation 3,500-7,500 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Winterfat (White Sage)	<i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	White	Spring-Summer	1-3ft x 3ft	Inconspicuous flowers in fall, followed by white fluffy fruit in thick spikes fall through winter. Protein-rich winter browse for elk, deer, and rabbits. Elevation 4,700-6,500 ft.
Wolfberry, Pale (Tomatillo)	<i>Lycium pallidum</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Greenish Yellow	Summer-Fall	3-6ft x 3-6ft	Fragrant flowers pollinated by hawk moths. Red tomato-shaped, seedy fruits in fall. Thorny thicket-forming shrub with an extensive root system, which suggests good erosion control. Elevation 3,000-7,000 ft.

NOTES:

Chapter 7 – Trees

Planting a tree is an act of faith; trees grow slowly and, depending on the site, we may never sit in the shade of a tree we plant today. Take note of the mature height and width of the trees listed below, especially the variability; much depends on site and maintenance. Given the current rate of climate change, the basic water requirements listed below may be inadequate 30 years from now. Some plants are described as shrub or small tree; look under Shrubs if you don't find the tree you're looking for here.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Aspen, Quaking	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	20-35ft x 10-20ft	Grows in moist, well-drained, rich soils and cool temperatures. Reproduces by seed or spreads by suckers arising along lateral roots resulting in genetically identical trees called clones. Susceptible to pests and diseases, especially in confined spaces. Bark is greenish white, yellowish white, yellowish gray, or almost white. Leaves turn yellow in the fall, "quake" in the breeze. Good shade, accent, or patio tree. Will require additional irrigation with climate change. Elevation 6,500-12,000 ft.
Cherry, Black	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White	Spring	30ft x 25ft	Dark red to black cherries can be used in jams, jellies, and pies. Blossoms attract butterflies; fruits attract birds and mammals. Grows in a variety of well-drained soils. Provides good shade. Leaves turn yellow in fall. Elevation 4,500-7,500 ft.
Cottonwood, Lanceleaf (Smooth-barked)	<i>Populus x acuminata</i>	Full Sun	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	40-60ft x 30-40ft	A naturally occurring hybrid between Eastern Cottonwood (<i>Populus deltoides</i>) and Narrowleaf Cottonwood (<i>Populus angustifolia</i>). Elevation 4,500-8,000 ft.
Cottonwood, Narrowleaf (Mountain)	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	Full Sun	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	35-60ft x 40-70ft	Fast-growing shade tree for large landscape. Looks like a willow. Tolerates any soil. Beautiful yellow-gold leaves in fall. Cottony seeds from female blown by wind. Elevation 5,000-8,000 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Cottonwood, Eastern (Rio Grande)	<i>Populus deltoides</i> <i>ssp. wislizeni</i> <i>Populus deltoides</i> <i>ssp. monilifera</i>	Full Sun	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	45-60ft x 50-70ft	All parts used by birds and mammals. Great shade tree for large landscape. Beautiful yellow-gold leaves in fall. Nice leaf rustle sound in wind. Any soil. Cottony seeds on female. Two similar subspecies distinguished by minor differences in the leaves, leaf stalks, and fruit. Elevation 2,500-7,000 ft.
Cypress, Arizona	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i> (synonym <i>Hesperocyparis arizonica</i>)	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	35-40ft x 20-30ft	Good specimen or windbreak tree. Grows in any soil, faster with more water. Only cypress native to NM. Found in canyon bottoms and southwestern NM mountains. Elevation 5,000-7,300 ft.
Fir, Douglas	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Full Sun	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	50-130ft x 30-50ft	Seeds eaten by small mammals. Slow-growing, fragrant tree for any well-drained soil. Will require additional irrigation with climate change. Can live to be over 1,000 years old. Host to Cooley gall. Elevation 6,500-11,000 ft.
Fir, White	<i>Abies concolor</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	30-90ft x 15-30ft	Seeds eaten by birds and small mammals. Fragrant tree with soft needles. Very slow growing in any well-drained organic soil. More drought tolerant than other true firs. Grows slowly on upper riparian slopes. Elevation 7,500-9,400 ft.
Hackberry, Netleaf (Western)	<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	Greenish	Spring	25ft x 20ft	Provides cover for wildlife and nesting sites for birds, which also love the orange berries. Foliage is caterpillar food for butterflies. Good tree for small areas. Taproot provides good erosion control. Susceptible to nipple gall and witches' broom. Dry rocky, limestone hillsides and canyon slopes at 3,500-7,300 ft.
Hoptree (Wafer Ash)	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White or Greenish Yellow	Late Spring	10-20ft x 7ft	Deciduous, slow-growing small tree that forms clump or thicket. Needs good drainage and non-organic soil. Flowers have a spicy fragrance and leaves have a citrus smell when crushed. Lime-green papery ornamental fruit, drying to ivory by winter. Seeds have been used like hops to make beer. Lovely tree, good selection for a courtyard. Elevation 4,000-8,000 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Juniper, Alligator	<i>Juniperus deppeana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	30-40ft x 30-50ft	Long lived and slow growing; bluish green berries take two years to ripen. Elevation 2,500-8,500 ft.
Juniper, Oneseed	<i>Juniperus monosperma</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	8-15ft x 9-12ft	Purple berries provide winter food for birds and mammals. Yellow pollen from cones on male trees. Clump-forming shrub or small tree that grows on semiarid rocky slopes. Any dry, well-drained soil. Fragrant. Elevation 5,000-8,000 ft.
Juniper, Rocky Mountain	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	10-24ft x 12-15ft	Bluish berries provide food and cover for birds and mammals and are used to flavor meat. Yellow pollen from cones on male trees. Slow growing, drought tolerant, and very hardy. Grows in any well-drained soil. Good in windbreaks. In winter the graceful drooping foliage turns gray-green. Susceptible to insect damage. Elevation 6,500-9,000 ft.
Juniper, Utah	<i>Juniperus osteosperma</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	10-20ft x 15-25ft	A slow grower, conical in form but may become contorted with age. Berry-like seeds are purple to reddish brown and are eaten by birds and small mammals. Host to parasitic mistletoe. Found on rocky slopes. Elevation 6,200-7,500 ft.
Locust, New Mexico	<i>Robinia neomexicana</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pink	Late Spring/ Summer	20ft x 10ft	Attracts native and honey bees and hummingbirds (to flowers), insects (to nectar), and birds and mammals (to fruit). Larval host to golden banded-skipper and funereal duskywing butterflies. Deciduous, fast growing, and hardy. Thorny and can be invasive. Adaptable to well-drained soils. Prune and remove suckers to tame for landscape use and enjoy its blooms. Good for windbreak, screen, or erosion control. Elevation 4,000-8,500 ft. Seeds are poisonous.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Maple, Bigtooth	<i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	Pt Shade	Low/ Medium	Wind	Yellowish Green	Spring	10-25ft x 15ft	Shrubby, slow growing, and hardy. Prefers shade, limestone soils, and good drainage. Leaf shape a nice contrast with evergreens. Beautiful red-orange fall color. Good accent in shady area. Good substitute for nonnative Japanese Maple. Elevation above 6,000 ft.
Maple, Rocky Mountain	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	Shade	Medium/ High	Wind, Insects	Incon- spicuous Greenish Yellow	Spring	20-25ft x 10-15ft	Seeds provide food for birds and mammals. Slow growing, often multi-trunked shrubby tree or tall shrub. Well-drained organic soil. Leaf shape provides a nice contrast with evergreens. Pale yellow or peachy orange leaves in fall. Used as small accent tree, good substitute for Japanese Maple. Grows best in shade. Elevation 7,000-9,500 ft.
Oak, Chinkapin	<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Incon- spicuous	Spring	40-50ft x 30-45ft	Wildlife eat the acorns. Interesting toothed leaf shape. Colorful autumn foliage. Rocky or sandy well-drained soil. Attractive and relatively fast growing. Elevation 5,000-7,200 ft.
Oak, Gamble's	<i>Quercus gambelii</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Wind	Incon- spicuous, in catkins	Spring	Can reach 25ft x variable width	Acorns provide food for birds and mammals. Host for Colorado hairstreak butterfly. Generally shrubby and thicket forming, may become a small tree. Slow growing, tough, prefers richer soils. Leaf shape provides a nice contrast with evergreens. Brown, orange, and red leaves in fall. Elevation 5,000-8,000 ft.
Oak, Gray	<i>Quercus grisea</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Wind	Incon- spicuous, in catkins	Spring	15-25ft x 20ft	Good cover for birds, small mammals, and deer. Elk and white-tailed and mule deer eat the leaves. Acorns provide food for birds and mammals. Grows as shrub or tree with gray-green leaves. Good for landscapes with limited space. Adapts to acidic or alkaline soils with good drainage. Elevation 4,500-7,800 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Pine, Piñon	<i>Pinus edulis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Wind	Inconspicuous	Summer	15-20ft x 15-20ft	State tree of New Mexico. Birds and mammals compete for the nuts, provides good cover for wildlife. Slow growing, long lived, and aromatic. Needs good drainage. Cones contain delicious edible nuts that ripen in fall and are a commercial crop. Susceptible to pinon needle scale and bark beetle; more pest resistant with regular water. Elevation 5,000-8,000 ft. and higher with climate change.
Pine, Ponderosa	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	30-100ft x 30ft	Larval host for butterflies and moths. Seeds eaten by birds and small mammals. Chipmunks store seeds in their caches, thus aiding dispersal. Majestic tree with long, fragrant needles; bark can smell like vanilla. Decorative pinecones. Any well-drained soil. Elevation 6,500-9,500 ft.
Pine, Southwestern White	<i>Pinus strobiformis</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	June	80ft x 40-50ft	Smooth, whitish gray bark on younger trees becomes dark brown and furrowed with age. Seeds are eaten by wildlife. Common in montane forests. May hybridize with Limber Pine (<i>Pinus flexilis</i>) where their ranges overlap. Elevation 6,500-10,000 ft.
Soapberry, Western	<i>Sapindus saponaria</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	White	Spring	10-50ft x 20-30ft	Deciduous tree, host for larva of soapberry hairstreak moth. Elevation 3,500-5,500 ft. Fruit contains the alkaloid saponin; roots and leaves are also toxic.
Spruce, Blue	<i>Picea pungens</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	50-70ft x 15-20ft	Symmetrical, handsome, slow-growing evergreen tree. Prefers moist, rich, slightly acidic soil but will adapt. Shades of green or blue, with 4in light brown seed cones. Used as lawn tree, evergreen accent, or Christmas tree. Host to Cooley gall. Low maintenance, long lived. Elevation 7,500-10,500 ft.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	Comments
Spruce, Engelmann's	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	Full Sun	High	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	50-80ft x 15ft	Evergreen tree that requires supplemental water at elevation of 7,000 ft. Prefers enriched soil. Similar to Blue Spruce but generally has a thinner form and branches lower to ground. Slow growing. Planted as an ornamental, good winter background, or specimen tree. Attractive cones. Host to Cooley gall. Montane to subalpine forests. Elevation above 8,500 ft.
Willow, Desert	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White, Pink, or Purple	Late Spring- Early Fall	10-25ft x 15-25ft	Fragrant orchid-like blooms attract hummingbirds, butterflies, and other insects. Seeds attract birds. Host to larvae of white-winged moth. Deciduous large shrub or small tree, good patio tree. Fast growing in any well-drained soil but prefers limestone. Allow to dry out between watering. Elevation 4,000-6,000 ft., but range is expanding with climate change.

NOTES:

Chapter 8 – Vines

Vines have a small footprint and are perfect for small garden spaces but provide great interest at impressive heights. Plant them against a wall, ramble over a fence, or let them grow up a post or trellis. Vines are fast growing and long lived, meaning that they will flower more abundantly each season. The blossoms are often fragrant; they attract bees, butterflies, and other insects.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height	Comments
Clematis, Rocky Mountain	<i>Clematis columbiana</i>	Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Pale Violet	Spring	12ft	Attracts bees and butterflies.
Clematis, Western White (Virgin's Bower)	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	Pt Shade (roots in Shade)	Medium	Insects	White	July-Sept	40ft	Fragrant white flowers. Very showy seed heads.
Creeper, Thicket	<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i> (synonym <i>Parthenocissus vitacea</i>)	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Greenish White	June-August	40ft	Birds love the dark blue berries. Leaves turn red in fall. Similar to Virginia Creeper (<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>), which is native to the eastern U.S., but cannot climb smooth walls. Berries are toxic to humans.
Grape Vine, Canyon	<i>Vitis arizonica</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	April-July	6-12ft	Sprawling or weakly climbing; gold-orange leaves in fall, black fruit.
Hops	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Green to Tan	July	15-20ft	The flowers produce the characteristic bitter flavor in beer.

NOTES:

Resources

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WEB SITES

- Audubon Society: <http://www.audubon.org/native-plants>
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Native Plant Data Base: <https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
- National Germplasm System <http://ars-grin.gov> (used to resolve accepted botanical names)
- Native Plant Society of New Mexico: <http://npsnm.unm.edu>
- Santa Fe Botanical Garden Plant Database: <http://santafebotanicalgarden.org/explore-nature/plant-database/>
- SFMGA cactus demonstration garden plant list: <http://sfmga.org/cactus-garden/> Cactus Demonstration Garden Plants - Pictures and Descriptions, not all New Mexico natives.
- The Plant List: <http://theplantlist.org/> A collaboration between Kew gardens and Missouri Botanical garden (used to resolve accepted botanical names)
- USDA Plants Database: <http://plants.usda.gov/>
- USDA Agricultural Research Service, poisonous plants list <https://www.ars.usda.gov/is/np/poisonousplants/poisonousplants.p>

Neighboring Natives and Cultivars: Are some of your favorite plants missing in the ML? It is probably because they are not listed in *Flora Neomexicana* as native to New Mexico or they are a cultivar of a native species. So, we are adding a list of neighboring natives that do well with natives in our landscape and are usually available in local nurseries. Named cultivars appear as *Genus species* 'Cultivar Name'. Several sources were used for the list of states where the plants are native: USDA Plants data base, Missouri Botanical Garden, and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Native Plant Data Base.

Please send suggested additions to this list to Pam (pamela.wolfe@comcast.net) and Joy (joyfulnm@gmail.com)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	(Native to) Comments
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Cacti

Whipple's Cholla	<i>Cylindropuntia whipplei</i> 'Snow Leopard'	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow, Yellow-Green	May-July	24in x clumping	Cultivar of native species <i>Cylindropuntia whipplei</i> (AZ, CO, NM, NV, UT) notable for its dense silvery spines. Stunning in the winter cactus garden.
Yucca, Beaked	<i>Yucca rostrata</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	White	Spring-Summer	10-15ft x 6-8ft	(TX, Mexico) Treelike and slow growing, a dramatic accent plant in the dry garden. The cultivar 'Sapphire Skies' has dramatic blue foliage.

Perennials

Columbine, Dwarf (Rocky Mountain Blue Columbine)	<i>Aquilegia saximontana</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Blue and White	Spring	6in x 8in	(CO) Rare, subalpine to alpine, endemic to several locations in the Colorado Rockies; found on cliffs and rocky slopes above 9,000 ft. All parts of the plant are poisonous.
Gaura, Whirling Butterfly	<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> 'Whirling Butterfly'	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Pink, Pinkish White	May-August	2-3ft x 1-2ft	(LA, TX) Does well in extreme heat and is cold hardy in dry soil. Tends to be short lived. Flowers look like pink-tinged white butterflies. Drought tolerant.
Phlox, Moss	<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Purple, Violet, Pink, or White	Spring	6in x 24in, spreading	(UT, much of North America) Good ground cover for sandy or rocky soil, nice tumbling over rocks. Needs pH < 6.8; low tolerance for limey soil.
Sunflower, Maximilian	<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Yellow	August-Sept	4-6ft x 2-4ft	(Much of North America) Very showy in the fall garden. The heavy crop of seeds attracts goldfinches.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	(Native to) Comments
Shrubs								
Brittlebush, Antelope	<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	Full Sun	Very Low	Insects	Yellow	March-May	2-3ft x 3-4ft	(AZ, CA, UT) Blooms after summer rains. Sun and dryness determine how silver-white the hairy leaves get. Short life span but re-seeds. Grows in rocky, well-drained soil. Cannot survive below 20 degrees. Loses leaves in extreme drought.
Fernbush	<i>Chamaebatiaria millefolium</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	June - August	5-6ft x 6-8ft	(AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, UT) Semi-evergreen shrub adaptable to poor soil; especially attractive to native bees.
Hawthorn, Cockspur	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	20-25ft x 15ft	(Eastern Canada and United States to KS, OK, TX) The most drought tolerant hawthorn; host to several species of hairstreak butterflies; special value to native bees. Large thorns and showy, persistent fruit. Tolerates a wide range of soils.
Hawthorn, Thornless Cockspur	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	20-25ft x 15ft	Similar to Cockspur Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>), but without the thorns.
Mahogany, Curl-leaf	<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	March-April	12-20ft x 15ft	(AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY) Slow-growing, broadleaf evergreen.
Sage, Mojave (Giant Purple Sage)	<i>Salvia pachyphylla</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	Purple	Summer-Fall	2-3ft x 2-3ft	(AZ, CA, NV) Spectacular in bloom, good for erosion control and restoration; a favorite of hummingbirds.
Sand Cherry, Western	<i>Prunus pulmillla</i> var. <i>besseyi</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects	White	Spring-Summer	3-6ft x 4-6ft	(CO, MT, OR, UT, WY) Fragrant in bloom, special value to native bees; spreading and suckering habit. Fruits are attractive to wildlife.
Sumac, Gro-Low	<i>Rhus aromatica</i> ¹ 'Gro-Low'	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring	3ft x 7ft	Orange-red fruit is enjoyed by wildlife. Fragrant. Spectacular fall color. Good ground cover in difficult spots. All well-drained soil types, including clay. Good for erosion control.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Sun	Water	Pollinators	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Mature Height x Width	(Native to) Comments
Sumac, Autumn Amber	<i>Rhus trilobata</i> ¹ 'Autumn Amber'	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Low	Insects	Yellow	Spring	3ft x 7ft	Prostrate form of Three-leaf Sumac (<i>Rhus trilobata</i>). Spectacular fall color. Good ground cover in difficult spots.
Yucca, Red (Texas Red)	<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	Full Sun	Low	Insects, Birds	Coral	Spring/ Summer	2-3ft x 2-3ft	(TX) Not a yucca, this member of the <i>Agavaceae</i> family has yucca-like leaves and showy tubular flowers that attract hummingbirds.

Trees

Oak, Burr	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	30-70ft x 30-70ft	(Saskatchewan east to New Brunswick, southwest to Texas, and north to Montana)
Oak, Texas Red	<i>Quercus buckleyi</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Wind	Inconspicuous	Spring	50ft x 30ft	(KS, OK, TX) Gorgeous red color in late fall! Good shade tree. Biennial acorns loved by wildlife. Tolerates alkaline, neutral, and slightly acidic soil.
Plum, American	<i>Prunus americana</i>	Full Sun	Medium	Insects	White	Spring	15-25ft x thicket forming	(AZ, CO, MT, NM, UT, WA, WY) Fragrant blossoms, attractive to native bees. Small tart plums for birds and other wildlife.
Redbud, Eastern	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Full Sun/ Pt Shade	Medium	Insects	Pinkish Purple	April	20ft x 25ft	(Eastern United States and into Canada) Attracts large numbers of butterflies and native bees and provides them with nesting materials. Purple seed pods attract birds and remain into winter. Beautiful blossoms! Fall color. Good tree for smaller spaces, and for naturalizing. Tolerates clay soil. Elevation 4,500-6,000 ft.

1. USDA distinguishes eastern (*Rhus aromatica*) and western (*Rhus trilobata*) Three-leaf Sumac. They overlap in AR, IA, KS, ND, NE, OK, SD, TX.