



Evergreen Garden Club

WILD IRIS



OCTOBER 2016

What beautiful blue skies in Colorado. Perfect weather to put our gardens to bed for the winter. Please come to the Fire Training Building Tuesday October 11th at 9:00 for breakfast, provided by the Hospitality Committee. We will have a brief business meeting. Then we will be off the public gardens to put them to bed. Put on your gardening clothes with gloves (no, not white gloves), clippers, diggers and brooms and anticipate a good time with fellow gardeners. Someone at the garden can be in charge of taking pictures of the workers at the garden and submit them to Louise Heern.

If you are not assigned to a garden, see Lynn Dimmick at the meeting and she will assign you to one.

I will be in North Carolina enjoying the fall leaves. See you in November.

Joan Evashevski
President

**NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY
OCTOBER 11, 2016
BERGEN PARK FIRE HOUSE
SOCIAL/BREAKFAST: 9:00 TO 9:30
OCTOBER WORKDAY**



Joan Evashevski on her first day as President.

Summer's End



A note from
Lynn Dimmick

October Workday - Tuesday, October 11th!

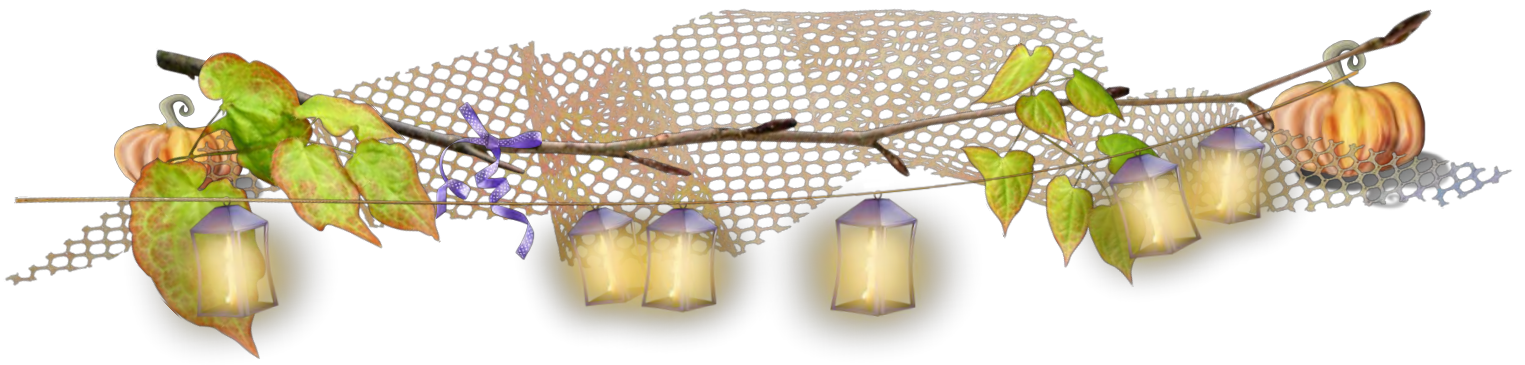
Our public gardens are yawning and nodding. It's time to tidy and tuck them into bed for their long winter's nap. Please bring your favorite gardening tools, hats, and gloves to our next meeting at the firehouse because after we enjoy a hearty breakfast and short business meeting we'll head out to our gardens.

Don't know which Public Garden is yours? No worries! You can write or call me any time before OR just show up at our workday meeting and we'll find the perfect spot for you to help out.

Here's hoping we have one of Evergreen's famous warm sun, cool air autumn days!

Lynn Dimmick
Public Garden Coordinator
LynnPin@comcast.net
[303 670 0108](tel:3036700108)
[303 518 1693](tel:3035181693) mobile





Evergreen Garden Club Minutes

September 13, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President, Joan Evashevski at 9:37 a.m. Board members present were 2nd Co-vice president, Annell Hoy, Past President, Susan Blake, Treasurer, Jane Wingquist, Secretary, Gloria Owens, Technology Officer, Susan Garcia. Absent, 1st Vice-President, Lindy Doty, 2nd Co-Vice President, Linda Berteau. 40 Members were in attendance.

Joan Evashevski announced Susan Garcia accepted Technology Officer position and Barbara Steger, position of Communications. She also announced the birthdays for September: Lindy Doty, Diana Donovan, Dwight Gilliland, Gayle Gordon, Pam Hinish, Karen MacFarquhar, Lucille Nelson, Lori Redman, and Patricia Stefaniw.

Visitors were introduced: Gail Demar, Linda Rockwell. New members are Cheryl Twilley, Marilyn DuVon, Wendy Mosior, Gail Demar, and Linda Rockwell.

Secretary Report: Gloria sent birthday cards in July (4) and August (4). Of those sent out only (3) cards were opened. Members were reminded when receiving a Jacquie Lawson card it is their birthday card. She mentioned a 2017 Chelsea Flower Show Tour including London, Rye and Great Dixter was being offered by Europe by Design. A card from Arlene Fitterer was read thanking the membership for their expression of sympathy. Ruth Alford sent in her membership dues even though she is unable to attend the meetings she is very appreciative of the Community Gardens.

Programs: Joan announced the programs for the year which will be published in the membership directory. The October 11 general meeting will be a workday at the community gardens. All will meet at the fire station for breakfast and then disperse to respective gardens. She also requested members to begin collecting their seeds for the rodeo next year.

Directory: Annell Hoy, spoke in the absence of Linda Berteau that members may pay their memberships on-line. She also stated she needed the email addresses of all new members for mailings. A new Wavier & Release form was handed out for all members to sign.

Hospitality: Annell handed out a signup sheet for members to sign up for October 11th meeting and bring hearty dishes since it is a work day at the gardens. Her committee consists of Jean Lipson, Leslie Jordan and Sharon Faircloth.



Treasurer: Jane Wingquist stated the fiscal year is from September 1 to August 1. The Garden Tour July 16, 2016 netted \$6,282. The savings account balance is \$11,822. She stated she transferred \$2,000 into the checking account. \$5,000 was approved to be transferred into the savings account which will total \$16,822. Miscellaneous income came from website donations; Echo of \$282; as well as food donations Christmas 2015. Jane updated the Evergreen Garden Club reimbursement/non-profit form; sales tax form from the state of Colorado.

Committees: Lynn Dimmick announced the eight community gardens will have a workday October 11. Anyone not signed up to work in a garden can come to the next meeting and be assigned to a garden.

Joan announced our program "All Things Lavender" presented by Trudy Perry from the Heritage Lavender farm. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Owens, Secretary



A New Dawn for Sundance

Dear Friends,

I am excited to share the news that Sundance Gardens, Sundance by Design, and Sundance Landscaping will soon be "united in flowers" and located in one place. After 28 years at the corner of Meadow Drive and Highway 74, the Sundance Garden Center will be moving across the street to our new home at the Evergreen Design Center.

While it was a difficult decision to give up our corner, I very much believe you will enjoy and appreciate the benefits of Sundance all in one place. You will have access to one-stop shopping, plenty of easy parking, and year round availability of the Garden Center products. In addition, you will now have full-service access to over 100 years of collective experience at one site, including Linda and her incredible staff.

As far as the timing on this move, please continue shopping for your fall gardening needs at the existing corner location. The Garden Center will remain open through mid October after which we will transition over to the Sundance by Design location.

I am very pleased to be back in the middle of the energy and action of the Garden Center and am looking forward to seeing old friends more often. Welcome to this next, new, and exciting chapter of Sundance!

Sincerely,
Dave Thomas
Sundance Founder and Owner

HERITAGE LAVENDER

Visits the Evergreen Garden Club



Trudy Perry, owner of Heritage Lavender Farm in Berthoud CO, was our September speaker. Trudy gave a talk on the history, uses, cultivation, harvesting and storage of lavender.



Lavender plants that will grow in our area.



Lavandin 'Grosso'
Lavandula angustifolia 'Royal Purple'
Lavandula angustifolia 'Miss Katherine'



Diana Aldridge and Mary Ellen Putnam working on their lavender sachet project.



To make a lavender sachet, first remove the dried blossoms by hand or . . . Roll in a pillowcase.



Joy Young and guest, Marilyn DuVon



Marilyn DuVon shows off the finished lavender sachet project.



Jan Schoenveld and Mary Dickhoff working on their sachet project.



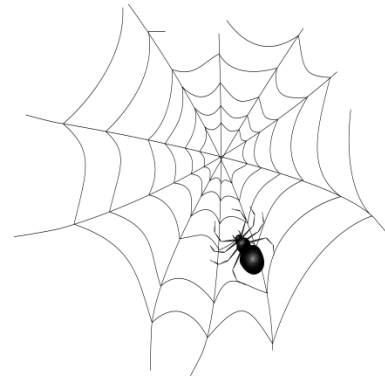
Gloria Owens and Sharon Faircloth



Susan Garcia is our new Tech Officer!



Colorado Master Gardener Program Colorado Gardener Certificate Training



Being involved with Evergreen Newcomers gives me lots of opportunities to meet and talk with many folks new to Colorado. And of course, the conversation often turns to gardening; typically vegetable gardening, but gardening none-the-less. As I watch their confusion and remember my own, I cannot help but compare this wild high altitude gardening journey to Alice in Wonderland. Suddenly, you have fallen down this Evergreen rabbit hole, into a strange and unexplainable gardening world! Everything you thought you knew about gardening isn't working here. Unexplainable questions like "Wasn't there a rose bush here yesterday"? "Why is it still snowing in May"? "Why is that tree growing out of a rock, when my \$150.00 specimen planted in \$50.00 worth of loam getting watered three times a week is barely hanging on"? "How did this patch of bee balm get powdery mildew with no rain, no humidity and hurricane-force winds"?

It's a slow and painful process when you first move here with visions of planting your new garden. You go to the nursery down the hill in May, only to drag your new purchases in and out of your garage for a month before you can plant them. You finally come to grips with the fact that your beloved hydrangea you brought cross country will never bloom at 7000+ feet. Slowly your standards and expectations start to plummet lower ;-). You replace all of your favorite (and now missing) perennials with anything that will grow. Before you know it, your growing yuccas and sort of like the way rabbit brush looks in the landscape. You learn the difference between voles and pocket gophers and actually become quite proficient at eradicating them. But you still don't have answers to your questions? That's where Colorado State University's Master Gardener Program comes in! It's a wonderful program that I would highly recommend to any 'moved-here-from-another-state' *curiously* serious gardener new to the beautiful and bewildering high altitude gardening world of Evergreen. The link is listed below.

<http://www.cmg.colostate.edu/training.shtml>

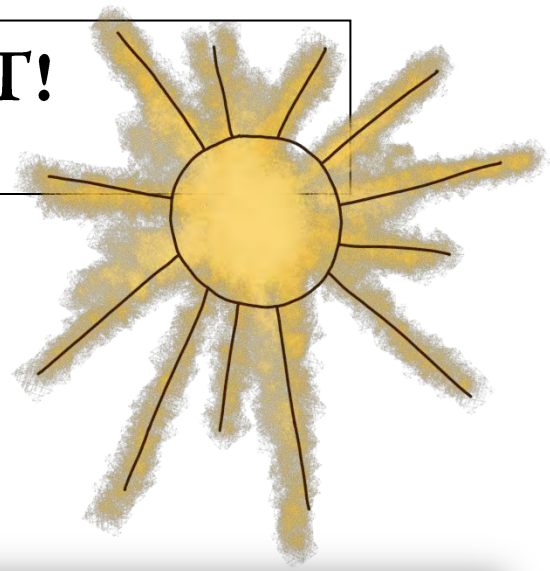
Curiouser and Curiouser

A Note from the Editor



OPPOSITES ATTRACT!

Notes from Landscape Design 101



ROUND FLOWER WITH SPIKE
1/3 - 2/3 ONE SHOULD DOMINATE



POINTING UPWARDS WITH FACING DOWNWARDS





Young trees (those with trunks less than 4 inches in diameter) are prone to sunscald, or cracking caused by the tree trunk absorbing the warm daytime mountain sun and then temperatures dropping significantly at night. You can protect the trunks of young trees with tree wrap in the fall.



The 4-inch wide paper strip stands up to water but doesn't retain moisture, which can induce disease. Start at the bottom and work your way up, circling the trunk and slightly overlapping the wrap at each pass. Secure at the top by wrapping it back around itself or tying it off. Remove when temps stop fluctuating severely in spring.

The wrap may also protect the young tree's bark from deer or rodent damage.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Wendy Mosior
Marilyn DuVon
Cheryl Twilley



When planting, ensure the 'dog-leg' is facing north.



What's a gardener gotta do to get a Tulip around here?



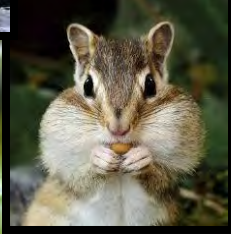
7 Purple Sensation Alliums
12 Allium neapolitanum



7 Praestans Fusilier Tulips
12 Blue Grape Hyacinths



Flower bulb trays come in different sizes and make planting bulbs in pots and in the ground, much easier!





Growing Degree Days (GDD) or Growing Degree Units (GDU)

A GDU is a measure of heat accumulation used by horticulturists, gardeners, and farmers to predict plant and animal development rates such as the date that a flower will bloom, an insect will emerge from dormancy, or a crop will reach maturity.

A garden perennial, for example, must accumulate a certain amount of GDU's from the sun before breaking a bud. Due to our shorter growing seasons, some later blooming and/or heat loving perennials may not accumulate enough GDU's in one season to bloom, even if the plant is hardy enough. Planting **late blooming bulbs**, and **earlier blooming perennials**, help high altitude gardeners enjoy their blooms a little longer.

This late blooming Rose Mallow is hardy enough to return a bit bigger and better each year at 8,700 feet. Unfortunately, it never receives enough heat units to break a bud. Every year it freezes before it is able to bloom. Even though it is hardy in zone 4, it was a poor choice for a high altitude garden. I didn't understand when I bought it that our summers are just too short and cool for it to ever look like the ones in Aspen Grove! It may do better transplanted to a warmer location in the garden or in a micro-climate; such as against a sunny wall or large rock. This picture was taken several summers ago on September 28, 2013.

Anyone who has ever tried to grow a tomato above 8000 feet in Evergreen has experienced this to some degree!

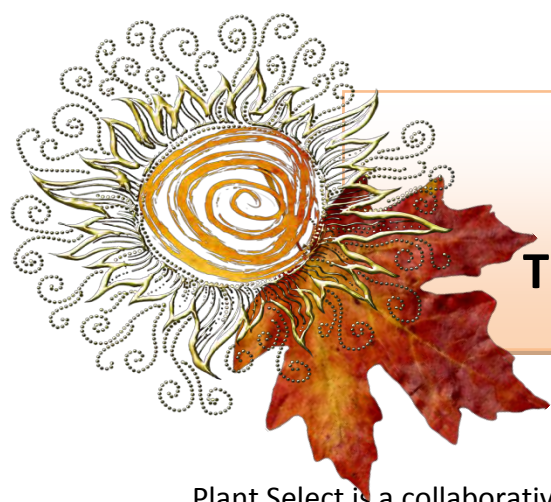


Margo Constable
Laura McReynolds
Meredith Bossert
Marva Zima
Sylvia Brockner

Summer of 2016 was warm enough to coax the first bud in four seasons! It may actually flower before it drops its leaves.

So close! Sept. 20, 2016





PLANT SELECT

The next best thing to natives



Plant Select is a collaborative venture by Denver Botanic Gardens and Colorado State University aimed at identifying and distributing the best plants for the Rocky Mountain Region.

While all are not necessarily native, the plants are evaluated on their performance in a wide range of garden situations in the Rocky Mountain Region along with their ability to adapt to its challenging and unique climate.

Trail areas at Denver Botanic Gardens in Chatfield and CSU in Ft. Collins, test the plant's ability to not only adapt but thrive under intensive sun, low water conditions, ease of propagation without the threat of invasiveness and resistance to pests, just to name a few.

Choosing Plant Select varieties helps take some of the guess work out of 'what will grow at this altitude'. The first step in choosing is familiarizing yourself with the Plant Select varieties and then matching up the plant's needs with the conditions in your own garden. This is a good winter planning project! Remember that the elevation or zone recommendations given may vary from garden to garden depending on the micro-climates in your landscape.



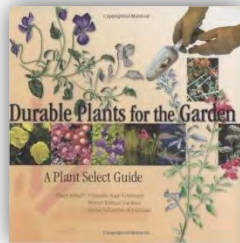


Would you like to see a Plant Select garden in bloom?

Stop by the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Golden and park near the main entrance where you will see a large wooden information box, which looks somewhat like a large birdhouse. This is where you enter the garden. There are dozens of Plant Select varieties planted there. Each is identified, so you can see exactly what it looks like in the garden and the approximate time it will be blooming (most likely it will be blooming a bit earlier in Golden than in Evergreen)!



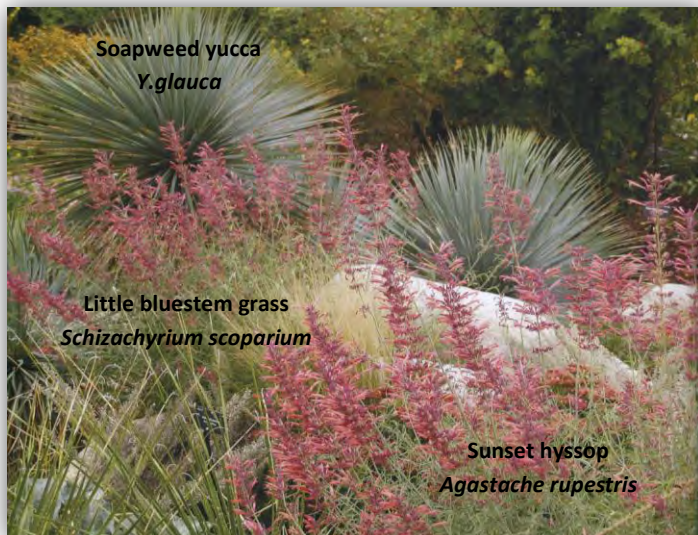
While zones 3 and 4 are considered to be most likely to succeed at our Clear Creek and Jefferson County altitudes, large rocks or walls of buildings will offer protection from the wind and absorb the daytime sun and heat, keeping the plants warm at night. Thus a zone 5 plant that might typically never make it through an Evergreen winter, may thrive in a protected pocket of the garden or landscape. The Plant Select plant varieties and how to grow them are listed in detail on their website. There is also a beautifully illustrated book called *'Durable Plants for the Garden A Plant Select Guide'* available from Amazon for around \$10.00 that features the first 74 plants promoted by Plant Select.



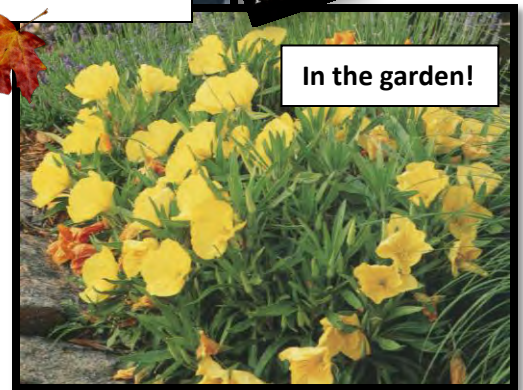
You won't find Plant Select varieties in any of the big box stores. There are approximately 65 licensed propagators in 17 states and Canada. So the second step will be finding them! Once you have decided on what plants you would like to try, you may have to call your favorite nursery or garden center in the spring to see if they carry Plant Select. Some Plant Select varieties are typically available at the O'Tooles in Lakewood and Arvada. If you have a particular variety in mind, you can call the O'Tooles in Lakewood and ask for Sue. She may be able to order it for you. There is also a list of Plant Select retailers on the Plant Select website.



Be warned, however, that once you find your Plant Select selection you may be somewhat disappointed. This is where doing your homework comes in very handy! Plant Select varieties, like most natives, have very poor visual appeal (comparatively) in garden centers. They often have narrow leaves (so they need less water and resist hail damage) and may not yet be in bloom. (Most perennials blooming in May or June in garden centers may not necessarily be blooming in May or June when they return the following year in an Evergreen garden.) Now is the time to be strong and shop informed! Try to keep in mind what you know the variety will ultimately end up looking like. Case in point: the photo at the top left shows what three xeric, native and/or Plant Select selections typically look like at the local garden center. Not exactly something everybody is running over to purchase, right? But in the picture below, we can see how beautiful those same or similar plants can look (and more importantly thrive) in a natural setting; all with the added bonus of needing less water once established.



In the garden center...



In the garden!

Plant Select's Silver Blade Evening Primrose *Oenothera macrocarpa* Nutt. subsp. *incana*



The following **Plant Select** selections have been chosen for their ability to thrive at high altitude (7,500 feet and higher). That said, there are no guarantees. Choose your site carefully, prepare your soil properly, and **water** until the plant is established. Even low water and xeric plants need irrigation the first season, and longer in drought conditions.

Trees

Weeping white spruce
Picea glauca 'Pendula'
Height: 20-30'
Width: 6'
Sun: Full sun to partial shade
Soil Moisture: Moderate to dry
Hardiness: USDA zones 3-8
Culture: Loam or sandy soils



Hot Wings Tatarian maple
Acer tataricum L. 'GarAnn'
Large shrub or small tree
Height: 15 to 18 feet
Spread: 15 to 18 feet
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Moisture: Moderate watering
Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 10



Note: Elk love Maples! Protect this selection from browse and plant in a protected area where it can receive more moisture.



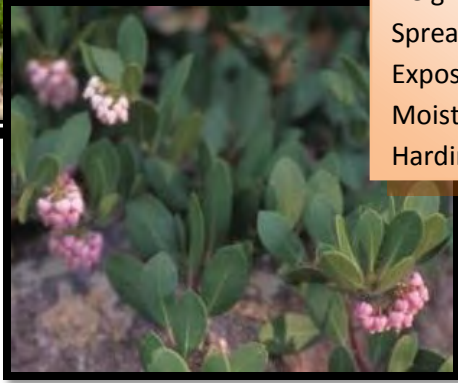
Russian hawthorn
Crataegus ambigua
Small tree
Height: 12 to 24 feet
Spread: 10 to 15 feet
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Moisture: Moderate to xeric
Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 9
Deer Resistant



Shrubs



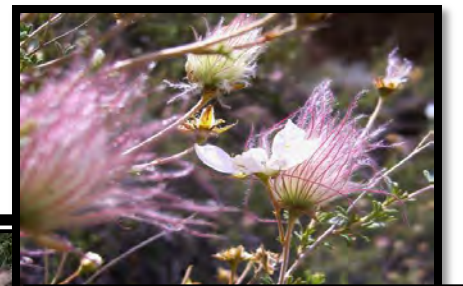
Mock bearberry manzanita
Arctostaphylos x coloradoensis
 Evergreen shrub
 Height: 10 to 15 inches
 Spread: 36 to 85 inches
 Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
 Moisture: Xeric once established
 Hardiness: USDA zones 4b to 8



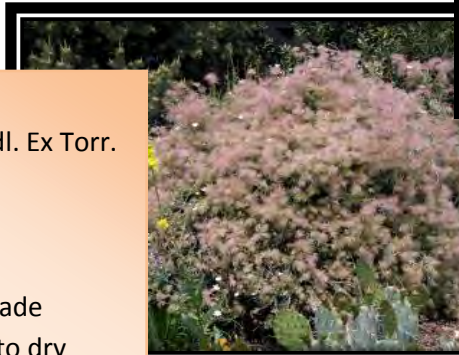
Spanish Gold broom
Cytisus purgans (L.) Spach
 Shrub
 Height: 4 to 6 feet
 Spread: 4 to 6 feet
 Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
 Moisture: Average, not too wet
 Hardiness: USDA zones 4a to 9



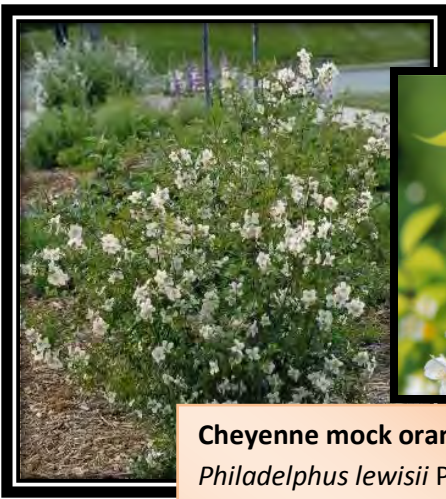
Silver Fountain Butterfly Bush
Buddleja alternifolia Maxim. 'Argentea'
 Large shrub or small tree
 Height: 12 to 15 feet
 Spread: 10 to 12 feet
 Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
 Moisture: Moderate watering
 Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 8



Apache Plume
Fallugia paradoxa (D. Don) Endl. Ex Torr.
 Deciduous shrub
 Height: 4 to 6 feet
 Spread: 4 to 6 feet
 Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
 Moisture: Moderate watering to dry
 Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 8



Shrubs



Cheyenne mock orange

Philadelphus lewisii Pursh

Shrub

Height: 6 to 8 feet

Spread: 6 to 8 feet

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: moderate to dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 3 to 9



Baby Blue rabbitbrush

Chrysothamnus (Ericameria) nauseosus
var. *nauseosus*

Small shrub

Height: 16 to 28 inches

Spread: 20 to 30 inches

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Moisture: Moderate to xeric

Pawnee Buttes sand cherry

Prunus besseyi L. H. Bailey

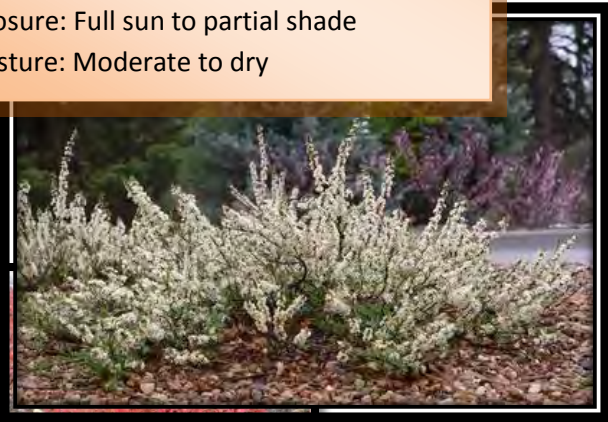
Deciduous shrub

Height: 15 to 18 inches

Spread: 4 to 6 feet

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Moderate to dry



Redleaf Rose

Rosa glauca, R. rubrifolia

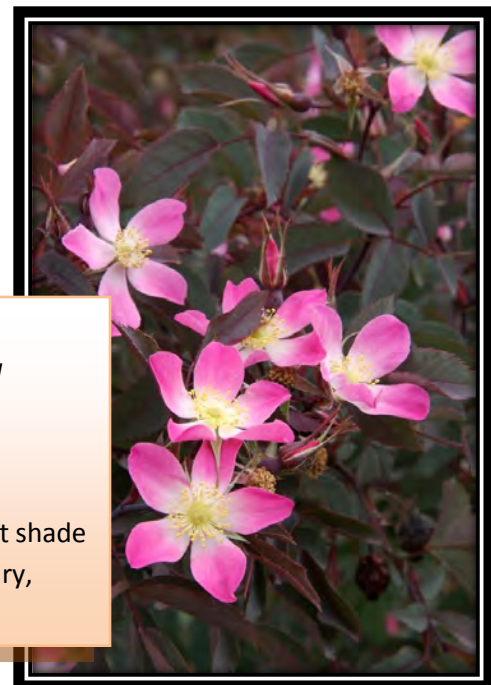
Deciduous shrub

Height: 6 to 8 feet

Spread: 4 to 6 feet

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Moisture: Moderate to dry,
can be xeric



Perennials



Red feathers

Echium amoenum

Perennial

Height: 10 to 16 inches

Spread: 6 to 8 inches

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: moderate to xeric

Hardiness: USDA zones 3 to 9



Avalanche White Sun daisy

Osteospermum 'Avalanche'

Perennial

Height: 8 to 12 inches

Spread: 10 to 15 inches

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Moderate to dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 9



Prairie Lode sundrops

Calylophus serrulatus 'Prairie Lode'

Perennial

Height: 6 to 8 inches

Spread: 12 to 15 inches

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Moderate to xeric

Hardiness: USDA zone 3 to 9

Perennials



Grand Mesa beardtongue

Penstemon mensarum

Perennial

Height: 24 to 30 inches

Spread: 10 to 15 inches

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Moderate to dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 3 to 9

Bridges' penstemon

Penstemon rostriflorus Kellogg

Herbaceous perennial

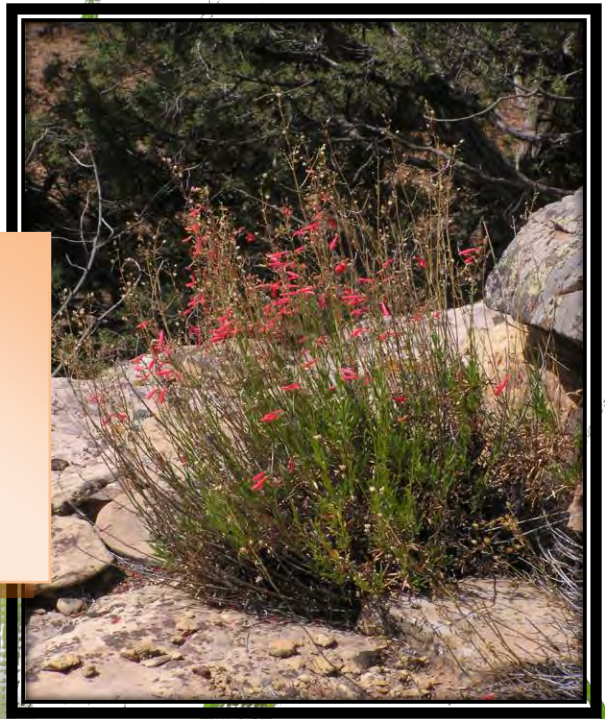
Height: 24 to 36 inches

Spread: 24 to 36 inches

Exposure: Full sun

Moisture: moderate to very dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 4b to 8



Prairie Jewel penstemon

Penstemon grandiflorus Nutt

Herbaceous perennial

Height: 20 to 36 inches

Spread: 8 to 12 inches

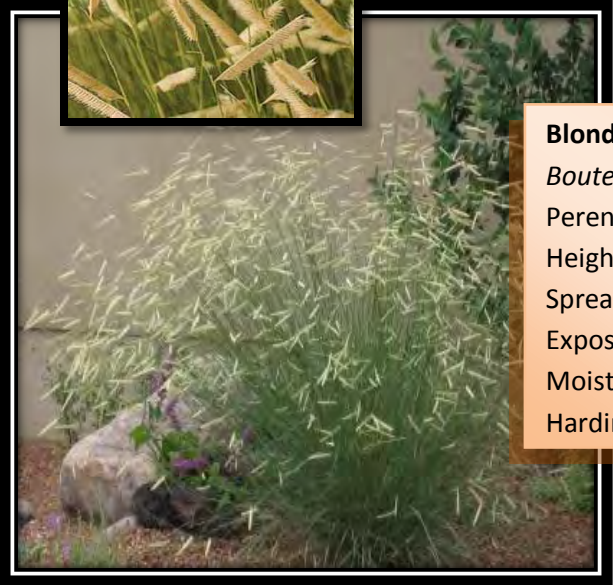
Exposure: Full sun

Moisture: moderate to dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 3 to 9



Perennials



Blonde Ambition blue grama grass

Bouteloua gracilis 'Blond Ambition'

Perennial

Height: 30 to 36 inches

Spread: 30 to 36 inches

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Moderate to dry

Hardiness: USDA zones 4 to 9



First Love dianthus

Dianthus L. 'First Love'

Herbaceous perennial

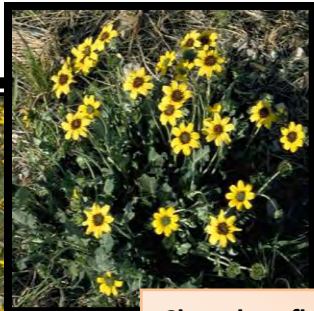
Height: 15 to 20 inches

Spread: 15 to 18 inches

Exposure: sun to partial shade

Moisture: moderate

Hardiness: USDA zones 3b to 9



Chocolate flower

Berlandiera lyrata Benth

Herbaceous perennial

Height: 10 to 20 inches

Spread: 10 to 20 inches

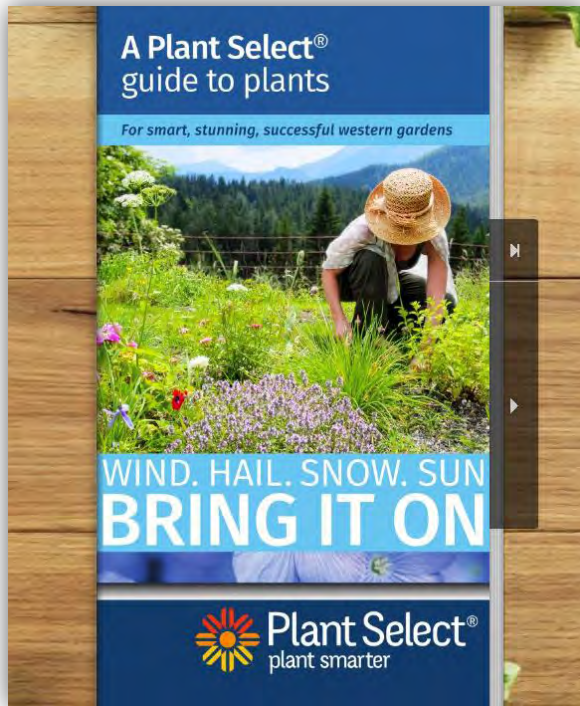
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Moisture: Dry (minimal or no water)

Hardiness: USDA ones 4 to 9



New plants are added every day. Visit <http://plantselect.org/> for more detailed plant options, free downloadable design plans and so much more! This 52 page guide (below) is available on the website and can be viewed electronically or printed free of charge.



"People from a planet without flowers would think we must be mad with joy the whole time to have such things about us."

Quote by Iris Murdoch
Submitted by Lynn Dimmick



Please send any corrections, submissions, ideas or stories for The Wild Iris to louiseheern@gmail.com