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Introduction (cont'd)

The Willamette Valley is known for mild, wet winters, but summer droughts leave the valley as vulnerable to wildfires as drier areas of the state. You can decrease the potential for loss from a wildfire by creating defensible space around your home. To do this:

Reduce the level of wildfire fuels around your house
Keep brush areas thinned and clear of excessive dead wood, and use fire-resistant mulches in areas immediately adjacent to your home. Choose decorative rocks and gravel instead of wood-based mulches.

Use fire-resistant plant materials in your home landscaping
No plant is fire-proof. However, some plants are considered to be fire-resistant if they:
- Are high in moisture with supple leaves
- Don’t accumulate deadwood within the plant
- Have water-like sap
- Have low resin levels

Introduction (cont’d)

About this guide
This pocket guide highlights fire-resistant plants that thrive in Willamette Valley growing conditions. It recommends groundcovers, perennials, shrubs, woody vines, and trees. There are too many annual plants available to list them all. In general, annuals are considered fire-resistant if they are kept well irrigated.

The description of each plant listed in this guide includes:
- Common and scientific names
- Some of the plant's important features
- Description of the plant's growth (its height and spread at maturity, time of bloom, and flower color)
- The plant's USDA Hardiness Zone rating.

Hardiness refers to the ability of a plant to withstand an average minimum temperature. There are 13 designated zones, with zone 1 being the coldest and zone 13 being the warmest. The Willamette Valley is rated as zone 8. To view the USDA hardiness zone map, visit http://www.usna.usda.gov/Hardzone/ushzmap.html or check with your local Extension office or garden center. Microclimates (pockets of cooler or warmer areas) will exist depending on landscape characteristics. Take into account your individual growing location when making plant selection decisions.
- Description of the plant's other key characteristics (light requirements, water use, and whether it attracts pollinators, resists deer, or performs well in rock gardens). These items are indicated with icons (see the key below).
Links to photos
To view the source photograph for any of the plants, click on the word “Photo” in the attribution on the right side of the image.

For more information
If you would like to learn more about creating a fire-resistant home landscape, see Fire-Resistant Plants for Oregon Home Landscapes (PNW 590) (in the OSU Extension Service Catalog at https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/). For more information on creating defensible space around your home, see the “Home and Landscape” category of www.firewise.org. For more detailed plant information, contact your local Extension office.

The availability of the plants described in this guide may vary in your area, so check with your favorite local nursery for the specific plants that interest you.

Authors:
Brooke Edmunds, Extension community horticulturist and assistant professor of horticulture; and Barb Fick, former Extension horticulturist; both of Oregon State University; and Paula Rogers Lupcho, OSU Extension Master Gardener, Benton County.

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Cover photos: Speedwell (edgeplot/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0); Shasta Daisy (Mark Engelbrecht/CC BY 2.0); Western Spirea (Sean Munson/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0); and Sassafras (Kerry Wixted/CC BY-NC 2.0)

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Published February 2015.
Bearberry Cotoneaster
*Cotoneaster dammeri*

- Dense, evergreen mat
- Drought tolerant, once established
- Red berries in late summer and fall
- Full sun and some water for best berry production

*Height:* 1' or less  
*USDA Hardiness Zone:* 5–7  
*Spread:* 3–6'  
*Bloom:* March–May  
*Flowers:* White

---

Carpet Bugleweed
*Ajuga reptans*

- Best as edging or groundcover
- Will grow under walnut trees
- Evergreen

*Height:* 4–10"  
*USDA Hardiness Zone:* 3–10  
*Spread:* 12–18"  
*Bloom:* May–July  
*Flowers:* Purple, white, blue

---

Dead Nettle
*Lamium spp.*

- Needs moist, well-drained soil

*Height:* 6"  
*USDA Hardiness Zone:* 3–12  
*Spread:* 18"  
*Bloom:* June–July  
*Flowers:* Pink, lavender, purple

---

Evergreen Candytuft
*Iberis sempervirens*

- Needs well-drained soil
- Excellent edging plants
- Cut back ⅓ of the plants after bloom to keep plants compact

*Height:* 6–12"  
*USDA Hardiness Zone:* 3–8  
*Spread:* 6–18"  
*Bloom:* May–August  
*Flowers:* White
Fleabane
*Erigeron* hybrids

- Prefers well-drained, moderately fertile soil
- Do not overfertilize.

**Height:** 18–24”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 24”  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** White, pink, blue, violet, lavender, rose, purple

---

**Four O’clock**
*Mirabilis* spp.

- Mounding growth form  
- Showy flowers  
- Tuberous roots  
- Tolerates drought and rocky soil  
- Long-lived, undemanding plant  
- Self-sows  
- *M. jalapa* tolerates wet soils.

**Height:** 1–4’  
**Spread:** 3–5’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** White, pink, red, magenta, yellow

---

**Garden Carnation**
*Dianthus* spp.

- Mostly evergreen  
- Most are low-growing perennials

**Height:** 6–9”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 15”  
**Bloom:** June–July  
**Flowers:** Pink

---

**Geranium**
*Geranium* spp.

- Long flowering  
- Drought tolerant  
- Needs good drainage  
- Can have a spreading growth form  
- Water thoroughly and let soil go dry between watering.

**Height:** 4”–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9  
**Spread:** Varies by species  
**Bloom:** May–August  
**Flowers:** White, pink, purple, blue
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groundcovers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hens and Chicks</td>
<td><strong>Sempervivum spp.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Does best in rocky, well-drained soil</td>
<td>- Low maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Will tolerate light shade</td>
<td>- Forms dense mat that controls weeds and erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Too much water causes rot</td>
<td>- Tolerates clay soil and dry soil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tolerates heavy shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Good under trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Spreading growth form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Height:</strong> 2–6”</td>
<td><strong>USDA Hardiness Zone:</strong> 4–24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spread:</strong> 6–10”</td>
<td><strong>Bloom:</strong> June–November, varies by species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mahala Mat</th>
<th><strong>Ceanothus prostratus</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Grows best at higher elevations for sunny rock gardens</td>
<td>- Evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Suitable for low-water landscaping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Can be invasive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Height:</strong> 1–3”</td>
<td><strong>USDA Hardiness Zone:</strong> 5–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spread:</strong> 6–8’</td>
<td><strong>Bloom:</strong> June–August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flowers:</strong> Blue</td>
<td><strong>Do not overwater.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Japanese Pachysandra</th>
<th><strong>Pachysandra terminalis</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Low maintenance</td>
<td>- Forms dense mat that controls weeds and erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Will tolerate light shade</td>
<td>- Tolerates clay soil and dry soil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Too much water causes rot</td>
<td>- Tolerates heavy shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Good under trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Spreading growth form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Height:</strong> 6–12”</td>
<td><strong>USDA Hardiness Zone:</strong> 5–9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spread:</strong> Indefinite</td>
<td><strong>Bloom:</strong> April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flowers:</strong> White</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mock Strawberry</th>
<th><strong>Duchesnea indica</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Evergreen</td>
<td>- Drought tolerant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Suitable for low-water landscaping</td>
<td>- Can be invasive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Do not overwater.</td>
<td><strong>Height:</strong> 6” or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA Hardiness Zone:</strong> 5–9</td>
<td><strong>USDA Hardiness Zone:</strong> 5–9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spread:</strong> 18–24”</td>
<td><strong>Bloom:</strong> March–September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flowers:</strong> Yellow</td>
<td><strong>Flowers:</strong> Yellow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purple Iceplant  
*Delosperma cooperi*

- Creeping, mat-forming succulent
- Does not do well with foot traffic

**Height:** 1–4”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–10

**Spread:** 2’ to indefinite  
**Bloom:** June–September

**Flowers:** Magenta

---

Rock Cress  
*Aubrieta deltoidea*

- Mat-forming perennial  
- Works well in rock gardens and woodland areas  
- Cut back to contain it  
- Do not overwater.

**Height:** 3–8”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9

**Spread:** 10–24”  
**Bloom:** May–June

**Flowers:** Pink, purple, blue

---

Rosy Pussytoes  
*Antennaria rosea*

- Ideal for low-water landscaping  
- Self-seeds  
- Cold hardy

**Height:** 4–16”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8

**Spread:** 8–12”  
**Bloom:** May–July

**Flowers:** Pink, white

---

Sedum or Stonecrops  
*Sedum spp.*

- Drought-tolerant succulent  
- Easy to grow  
- Good cut flowers  
- Spreading growth form  
- Does best with good drainage

**Height:** 2–12”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9

**Spread:** Indefinite  
**Bloom:** September–October

**Flowers:** Depends on variety
**Snow in Summer**  
*Cerastium tomentosum*

- Fast growing  
- Good to cover large areas  
- Mat forming  
- Drought tolerant

*Height: 3–12"  USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–7*  
*Spread: 2' to indefinite  Bloom: June–July  Flowers: White*

---

**Speedwell**  
*Veronica spp.*

- Needs fertile, well-drained soil  
- Different species have different water needs  
- Remove dead flowers to extend bloom time.

*Height: 10–18"  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–8*  
*Spread: 18"  Bloom: May–June  Flowers: Purple*

---

**Wild Ginger**  
*Asarum caudatum*

- Good groundcover for wooded areas  
- Prefers partial to full shade  
- Prefers moist, well-drained, acidic soil

*Height: 6–12"  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–6*  
*Spread: 6–15"  Bloom: April–May  Flowers: Purplish brown*

---

**Yellow Iceplant**  
*Delosperma nubigenum*

- Evergreen  
- Drought and heat tolerant  
- Excellent low-water landscape plant, once established  
- Needs protection from prolonged snow cover

*Height: 1–3"  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–7*  
*Spread: 3'  Bloom: June–September  Flowers: Orange, yellow*
Aspen Sunflower
*Helianthella quinquenervis*
- Showy flower, good for cutting
- Good for borders
- Prefers average, well-drained soils
- May self-seed

**Height:** 3–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8
**Spread:** 24–30”  
**Bloom:** June–August
**Flowers:** Yellow rays with darker yellow center

---

Aster
*Aster spp.*
- Showy fall display
- Needs good drainage with fertile soil
- Spreading growth form

**Height:** 12–48”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8
**Spread:** 1–5’, varies by species
**Bloom:** May–June
**Flowers:** White, pink, rose, lavender, purple, blue, violet

---

Barren Strawberry
*Waldsteinia spp.*
- Evergreen used as groundcover
- Strawberry-like plant
- Fruit is not edible
- Tolerates some foot traffic

**Height:** 3–6”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8
**Spread:** 6–12”  
**Bloom:** April–June
**Flowers:** Yellow

---

Basket of Gold
*Aurinia spp.*
- Mat-forming perennial
- Can be used as groundcover
- Thrives in light, well-drained soil between paver stones or in rock walls in a dry, sunny location
- Needs hard pruning

**Height:** 6–15”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7
**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** April–May
**Flowers:** Yellow
**Bellflower**  
*Campanula spp.*

- Erect, trailing, spreading, or clumping growth form  
- Best in well-drained soil  
- Good for small rock gardens

**Height:** 9–60”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8

**Spread:** 18” to indefinite, varies by species  
**Bloom:** March–November, varies by species  
**Flowers:** Blue, white, lavender, purple, red

---

**Bergenia**  
*Bergenia spp.*

- Evergreen, except in coldest areas  
- Best in shade but will tolerate sun in cool climates

**Height:** 12–18”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

**Spread:** 18”  
**Bloom:** March–May

**Flowers:** White, pink, red, peach

---

**Black-eyed Susan**  
*Rudbeckia hirta*

- Tolerates drought  
- Tolerates a wide range of soils except poorly drained, wet soil  
- Self-sows

**Height:** 2–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7

**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** June–September

**Flowers:** Yellow, orange

---

**Blanket Flower**  
*Gaillardia spp.*

- Bright, showy flowers  
- Hardy, drought tolerant

**Height:** 1–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–10

**Spread:** 15–18”  
**Bloom:** May–August

**Flowers:** Yellow to orange to red
### Blue Flax
*Linum perenne*

- Showy, profuse flowers that open with sun
- Prefers light soils
- Tolerates drought
- Tolerates dry, rocky soil
- Self-seeds

**Height:** 1–2’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8  
**Spread:** 9–18”  
**Bloom:** May–June  
**Flowers:** Sky blue

![Blue Flax](Photo: Neil Hunt/CC BY-NC 2.0)

### Bluets or Quaker Ladies
*Houstonia caerulea*

- Delicate wildflower
- Forms tufts with roots and slender rhizomes
- Prefers moist, acidic soil

**Height:** 4–16”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies  
**Flowers:** Light blue  
**Bloom:** April–July  
**Spread:** Up to 1’, usually in tufts of multiple plants

![Bluets or Quaker Ladies](Photo: Suzanne Cadwell/CC BY-NC 2.0)

### Britton’s Skullcap
*Scutellaria brittonii*

- Small wildflower, native to plains, foothills, and mountainous regions

**Height:** 4–8”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8  
**Spread:** 4–8”  
**Bloom:** May–July  
**Flowers:** Blue

![Britton’s Skullcap](Photo: Jonathan Hover/CC BY-ND 2.0)

### Broom Groundsel
*Senecio spartioides*

- Sunflower-like
- Tolerates drought
- Upright growth behavior

**Height:** 1–6”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 2–12”  
**Bloom:** June–September  
**Flowers:** Yellow

![Broom Groundsel](Photo: Stan Shebs/CC BY-SA 3.0)
Califonia Fuchsia or Hummingbird Flower
*Epilobium canum*
- Good groundcover for sunny slopes
- Bright flowers on gray-green foliage
- Hardy plant
- Tolerates drought
- Spreading growth form
- Do not overfertilize.

**Height:** 1’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–10  
**Spread:** 12–20”, varies by cultivar  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** Orange to red

---

Canadian Violet
*Viola canadensis*
- Clump growth form
- Mounding violet
- Dark green leaves
- Tolerates heavy shade
- Used as groundcover
- Self-seeds

**Height:** 12–18”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** June–October  
**Flowers:** White, tinged purple

---

Chives
*Allium schoenoprasum*
- Edible herb
- Tubular, grass-like leaves
- Globular flowers
- Onion smell and taste
- Spreading growth form

**Height:** 10”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Spread:** 12–16”  
**Bloom:** June  
**Flowers:** Mauve, pink

---

Christmas Fern
*Polystichum acrostichoides*
- Clumping growth form
- Will not naturalize
- Good winter interest
- Tolerates rabbits, drought, and heavy shade
- Tolerates dry, rocky soil

**Height:** 1–2’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** None  
**Flowers:** None
### Chrysanthemum

*Chrysanthemum spp.*

- Showy, fall flower
- Hardy varieties for outdoor gardens available
- Wide variety of forms and colors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height: Varies by species</th>
<th>Spread: Varies by species</th>
<th>USDA Hardiness Zone: Varies by species</th>
<th>Bloom: September–November, varies by species</th>
<th>Flowers: Wide variety</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Columbine

*Aquilegia spp.*

- Varied colors according to cultivar
- Does well in moist, well-drained soil
- Tolerant of most soils
- Upright growth form

|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|

### Coneflower

*Echinacea purpurea*

- Does not need staking
- Good as background in wide borders
- Tolerates dry, rocky soil and clay soil

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height: 2–5’</th>
<th>USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–8</th>
<th>Spread: 2’</th>
<th>Bloom: June–August</th>
<th>Flowers: Rosy purple with orange cone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Coralbells

*Heuchera sanguinea*

- Compact, evergreen clumps with low leaves and long-stemmed flowers
- Used as groundcover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height: 12–18&quot;</th>
<th>USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–9</th>
<th>Spread: 12–24&quot;</th>
<th>Bloom: March–August</th>
<th>Flowers: Reds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**Daylily**
*Hemerocallis spp.*
- Clumping growth form
- Many hybrids
- Deciduous, evergreen, and semi-evergreen
- May die back in heavy soils

*Height: 24–48”  USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–9*
*Spread: 12–18”  Bloom: April–August*
*Flowers: Wide variety of colors*

**Delphinium**
*Delphinium spp.*
- Showy flower
- Prefers well-drained soil
- All parts of plant are highly toxic if eaten
- Upright growth form

*Height: 1–2’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 5–9*
*Spread: 18–36”, varies by species*
*Bloom: March–April*
*Flowers: Blue, pink, purple, white*

**Dotted Gayfeather**
*Liatris punctata*
- Showy flower above foliage of grassy tufts
- Tolerates heat and cold
- Tolerates dry, poor soils
- Doesn’t like soggy soil

*Height: 2–4’  Spread: 2’  Bloom: June–August*
*USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–12, others*
*Flowers: Rosy-lilac, lavender*

**Evening Primrose**
*Oenothera spp.*
- Prefers dry conditions
- Tolerates poor soil and clay soil
- Drought tolerant
- Can be aggressive

*Height: 1–4’*
*USDA Hardiness Zone: Varies by species*
*Spread: 1–3’ or more  Bloom: May–August*
*Flowers: White, pink, yellow, purple, red*
**Fire Pink**  
*Silene virginica*
- Clumping growth form
- Grows in sandy or clay soils
- Prefers part shade and excellent drainage

**Height:** 12–18”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Spread:** 9–18”  
**Bloom:** April–June  
**Flowers:** Red

---

**Fireweed**  
*Epilobium angustifolium*
- Attractive but considered weedy
- Prefers full sun
- Self-seeds

**Height:** 4–6’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2–9  
**Spread:** 18–24”  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** Pink, rosy-purple

---

**Hosta**  
*Hosta spp.*
- Many new varieties
- Grown for dramatic, textural foliage
- Generally shade lovers needing organically enriched soil

**Height:** 3–4” to 5’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** Up to 3’  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** White-bluish

---

**Indian Pink**  
*Spigelia marilandica*
- Clumping growth form
- Prefers moist, well-drained soil
- Tolerates drought and dry soil
- Used as border in shade and woodland gardens

**Height:** 1–2’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 6–18”  
**Bloom:** June  
**Flowers:** Red and yellow
**Iris**

*Iris* spp.

- 200 to 300 species in three flower categories: bearded, beardless, and crested
- Clumping growth form
- Grows from rhizomes
- Prefers well-drained soil

*Photo: Finn Frode/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0*

**Height:** 2–4’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–24
**Bloom:** March–June, varies by species
**Spread:** Varies by species
**Flowers:** Varies by species

**Jack in the Pulpit**

*Arisaema triphyllum*

- Upright growth form
- Red berries in fall
- Tender tuber that likes a cool, woodland setting

*Photo: lahvak/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0*

**Height:** 1–3’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9
**Spread:** 12–18”
**Bloom:** June–July
**Flowers:** Green, purple-lavender

**Joe Pye Weed**

*Eutrochium fistulosum*

- Upright growth form
- Best in rich soil with ample water
- Tolerant of clay soil and wet soil

*Photo: James Gaither/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0*

**Height:** 3–9’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9
**Spread:** 1–3’
**Bloom:** August–November
**Flowers:** Pale purple, mauve pink

**Jacob’s Ladder**

*Polemonium* spp.

- Prefers evenly moist soil and some shade to prevent leaf scorch
- Some species resist rabbits

*Photo: Kerry Woods/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0*

**Height:** 12–30”
**Spread:** 12–30”
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species
**Bloom:** June
**Flowers:** Blue

**Photo:** 70x405 to 98x434
**Page dimensions:** 612.0x792.0
Lady’s Mantle  
*Alchemilla* spp.

- Dense clumps of attractive foliage
- Stems hold flowers above foliage
- Good for clay soil ■ Self-seeds

**Height:** 9–12”  
**Spread:** 12”

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species

**Bloom:** June–August

**Flowers:** Greenish–yellow

---

Lamb's Ear  
*Stachys byzantina*

- Grown for blue-gray, fuzzy foliage ■ Used as groundcover ■ Tolerates rabbits, dry soil, drought, and rocky soil

**Height:** 9–18”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** May–July

**Flowers:** Purplish–pink

---

Lavender, many spp.  
*Lavandula* spp. (evergreen)

- Fragrant herb ■ Striking in massed plantings
- Drought tolerant, once established
- Prune annually to maintain plant health and flowering

**Height:** 12”–4’  
**Spread:** 1–4’

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species

**Flowers:** White, pink, blue, lavender, purple

**Bloom:** June–November, varies by species

---

Leopard's Bane  
*Doronicum* spp.

- Showy flower ■ Prefers moist (not soggy) soil ■ Prefers partial shade in hot locations

**Height:** 1–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** April–June

**Flowers:** Yellow
**Lily-of-the-Valley**

*Convallaria majalis*

- Creeping groundcover
- Poisonous
- Rhizome does well under trees
- Fragrant
- Tolerates heavy shade, clay soil, and rabbits

**Height:** 6–12”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** March  
**Flowers:** White

---

**Lupine**

*Lupinus spp.*

- Good companion plant in garden for increasing soil nitrogen
- Some species can be toxic to animals and livestock
- Prefers good drainage
- Water need varies by species

**Height:** 1–5’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–6  
**Spread:** 1–5’  
**Bloom:** May–July  
**Flowers:** White, pink, rose, blue, purple

---

**Mariposa Lily**

*Calochortus gunnisonii*

- Erect stems hold a single flower
- Grows from edible bulb
- Will spread
- Needs moderate water during bloom

**Height:** 12”  
**Spread:** 6”  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** Yellow, purple lavender, red, pink, white

---

**Meadow Rue**

*Thalictrum fendleri*

- Delicate-looking but rugged woodland plant
- Fern-like foliage
- Easy to grow with few problems
- Can take some sun
- Dies back in summer in dry sites

**Height:** 2–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 1–4’  
**Bloom:** May–August  
**Flowers:** White, whitish-green
**Missouri Goldenrod**  
*Solidago missouriensis*

- Low-growing  
- Showy flowers  
- Grows in sandy, gravelly soils  
- Tolerates drought  
- Easy to grow

**Height:** 1–2’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9  
**Spread:** 1–3’  
**Bloom:** July–September  
**Flowers:** Yellow

---

**Mistflower**  
*Eupatorium coelestinum*

- Long bloom period  
- Sometimes called hardy ageratum because of flower  
- Prefers moist soil in full sun

**Height:** 18–36”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–10  
**Spread:** 18–36”  
**Bloom:** July–October  
**Flowers:** Blue

---

**Monkshood**  
*Aconitum spp.*

- Upright growth form  
- Tuberous roots  
- All parts are poisonous  
- Dies back in winter  
- Needs regular water  
- Showy flowers  
- Tolerates rabbits

**Height:** 6”–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7  
**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** August–September  
**Flowers:** Purple

---

**Native Beebalm or Wild Bergamot**  
*Monarda fistulosa*

- Clumping growth form  
- Gray-green foliage  
- Prefers well-drained, dry to medium moist soil  
- Tolerates poor soils  
- Needs good air circulation

**Height:** 2–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 2–3’  
**Bloom:** July–September  
**Flowers:** Pink, lavender
Northern Bedstraw  
*Galium boreale*
- Showy flowers
- Spreads by creeping roots
- Prefers moist, well-drained soils
- Does not tolerate heavy, wet soils
- Best in wild gardens

**Height:** 1–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** May–August  
**Flowers:** White

---

Oriental Poppy  
*Papaver orientale*
- Adds color to garden
- Give 1 inch of water per week while in bloom
- Do not overwater during dormancy.

**Height:** 2–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7  
**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** June–July  
**Flowers:** White, pink, orange, salmon, red, maroon

---

Ornamental Strawberry  
*Fragaria spp.*
- Spreading plant with attractive foliage and small flower
- Grows in sandy or well-drained soil and rock gardens

**Height:** 4–8”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 12–18”  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**Flowers:** White

---

Pasque Flower  
*Pulsatilla patens*
- Both flowers and seedheads are ornamental
- Fern-like foliage
- Well-drained soils a must
- Prefers gritty, dry to medium moist soil
- Tolerates drought and partial shade

**Height:** 3–12”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7  
**Spread:** 3–6”  
**Bloom:** March–April  
**Flowers:** Blue-violet
**Pearly Everlasting**  
*Anaphalis margaritacea*

- Upright, clump-forming  
- Spreads easily  
- Easy to care for  
- Prefers full sun  
- Tolerates poor soils  
- Typically grows to 18 inches

**Height:** 1–3'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 1–2'  
**Bloom:** July–September  
**Flowers:** Whitish

---

**Penstemon or Beardtongue**  
*Penstemon spp.*

- Comes in variety of shapes, colors, bloom times  
- Tolerates drought, dry soil, and clay soil  
- Avoid planting in wet, poorly drained soils.

**Height:** 1–6'  
**Spread:** 1–3'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Bloom:** May–August, varies by species  
**Flowers:** Pink, red, orange, yellow, blue, purple, white

---

**Phlox**  
*Phlox spp.*

- Creeping phlox is low and spreads  
- Tall varieties can be up to 4 feet

**Height:** 6”–4’  
**Spread:** 1–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Bloom:** March–August, varies by species  
**Flowers:** White, pink, lavender, orange, red, purple

---

**Prairie Coneflower or Mexican Hat**  
*Ratibida columnifera*

- Clumping growth form  
- Unusual, showy flower  
- Tolerates low fertility and drought  
- Easy to grow

**Height:** 12–24”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 1–10  
**Spread:** 18”  
**Bloom:** June–September  
**Flowers:** Yellow, mahogany-red
**Prairie Smoke**  
*Geum spp.*
- Seedheads of some species are showy
- Good in ordinary soil
- Needs good drainage

**Height:** Up to 20”  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–7  
**Spread:** Up to 12”  
**Bloom:** March–August, varies by species  
**Flowers:** White, yellow, orange, red, maroon

**Photo:** Dave Gunn/CC BY-NC 2.0

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**Rockcress**  
*Arabis spp.*
- Forms carpet of gray-green foliage covered in fragrant flowers in spring  
- Easily grown in any soil with good drainage in hot, sunny areas

**Height:** 6”  
**Spread:** 18”  
**Bloom:** April–May  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** White

**Photo:** nociveglia/CC BY 2.0

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**Russian Sage**  
*Perovskia atriplicifolia*
- Shrubby perennial  
- Drought tolerant  
- Long summer bloom  
- Tolerates dry soil, clay soil, and rabbits

**Height:** 3–5’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 2–4’  
**Bloom:** July–October  
**Flowers:** Lavender, blue

**Photo:** Courtesy of oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplant

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**Sage**  
*Artemisia spp.*
- Aromatic, silvery-green foliage  
- Evergreen to semi-evergreen  
- Insignificant flower  
- Spreading growth form

**Height:** 2–3’  
**Spread:** 1–12’, varies by species  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Bloom:** July–August  
**Flowers:** Greenish–yellow

**Photo:** Joel Abroad/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0
Salvia or Sage  
*Salvia spp.*
- Good choice for hot, dry spots
- Tolerates drought
- Blooms for a long period

**Height:** 1–6’  **Spread:** 1–4’  **Bloom:** May–June  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** Blue, red, pink, lavender

Sand Lily  
*Leucocrinum montanum*
- Fragrant  
- Does best in fast-draining, alkaline, sandy, or rocky soils

**Height:** 2–10”  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–9  
**Spread:** 4–8”  **Bloom:** May  
**Flowers:** White with yellow stamens

Saxifrage  
*Saxifraga hirsuta*
- Loose, spreading, evergreen cushions
- Tolerates wide range of soils
- Used as groundcover

**Height:** 6–12”  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8  
**Spread:** 15–18”  **Bloom:** May–June  
**Flowers:** White, pinkish

Scarlet Gilia  
*Ipomopsis aggregata*
- Showy native
- Bright accent for garden
- Prefers sandy or loamy soils

**Height:** 3–4’  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–11  
**Spread:** 1’  **Bloom:** August–October  
**Flowers:** Red
Sea Thrift
Armeria maritima
- Forms a dense cushion of grassy growth
- Great for rock gardens
- Do not overwater.

Height: 6–12”  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–8
Spread: 6–12”  Bloom: May–July
Flowers: Pink

Sedges
Carex spp.
- Grass-like, clumping growth form
- Wide variety of foliage colors
- Tolerates variety of growing conditions
- Water need varies by species

Height: Varies by species
Spread: Varies by species
USDA Hardiness Zone: Varies by species
Bloom: Grown for foliage
Flowers: Insignificant, varies by species

Shasta Daisy
Leucanthemum x superbum
- Showy flower
- Tolerates drought and rabbits
- Remove dead flowers to promote more bloom.

Height: 2–4’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 5–9
Spread: 2–3’  Bloom: July–September
Flowers: White rays with yellow centers

Small Sunflower
Helianthus pumilus
- Native to dry, rocky, sunny, open sites
- Tough plants
- Spreading growth form
- Give some moisture for best results
- Seeds attract birds.

Height: 12–40”  USDA Hardiness Zone: 6–9
Spread: 12” to indefinite
Bloom: June–November
Flowers: Yellow
**Small-leaf Pussytoes**  
*Antennaria parvifolia*

- Creates a tight, woolly mat and roots as it spreads

- **Height:** 6" or less  
  - **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–7

- **Spread:** 9–12"  
  - **Bloom:** May–September

- **Flowers:** Whitish

---

**Spreading Golden Banner**  
*Thermopsis divaricarpa*

- Strongly curved, spreading seed pods  
- Tolerates rocky soils and drought  
- Member of pea family  
- Upright growth form

- **Height:** 12–24"  
  - **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

- **Spread:** 12–24"  
  - **Bloom:** May–August

- **Flowers:** Yellow

---

**Spring Beauty**  
*Claytonia lanceolata*

- Native woodland plant  
- Erect form  
- Needs moist soil  
- Grows from seed or edible corms  
- Upright growth form

- **Height:** 2–10"  
  - **Spread:** 6–8"  
  - **Bloom:** April–July

- **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 1–5 (can grow in alpine conditions)

- **Flowers:** White or pink with dark pink veins

---

**Sulphur Flower**  
*Erigonum umbellatum*

- Evergreen foliage  
- Colorful, showy flowers  
- Best in gritty, well-drained soil  
- Self-sows

- **Height:** 6–12"  
  - **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8

- **Spread:** 1–3’  
  - **Bloom:** June–September

- **Flowers:** Yellow
Sun Rose
*Helianthemum nummularium*
- Showy flower
- Good as groundcover
- Drought tolerant
- Prefers dry, alkaline, well-drained soils

**Height:** 6–12”  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–7
**Spread:** 2–3’  **Bloom:** May–June
**Flowers:** Pastel pink, yellow

---

Sweet Woodruff
*Galium odoratum*
- Good for shady gardens
- Good for groundcover and edgings
- Spreads rapidly in rich soil with moisture
- Self-sows

**Height:** 8–12”  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8
**Spread:** Indefinite  **Bloom:** May–August
**Flowers:** White

---

Thyme
*Thymus spp.*
- Versatile garden plants, from small bushes to groundcovers
- Fragrant leaves
- Many species edible
- Tolerates many soils

**Height:** 3–18”  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9
**Spread:** 1' or more  **Bloom:** July–August
**Flowers:** Blue, lavender

---

Tickseed
*Coreopsis spp.*
- Sunflower family
- Self-sowing seeds attract birds
- Tolerates average to poor soil with good drainage

**Height:** 6–36", varies by species
**Spread:** Up to 24”  **Bloom:** March–November
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9
**Flowers:** Yellow, orange, maroon, red
**Torch Lily or Red-Hot Poker**  
*Kniphofia uvaria*

- Fragrant, showy, unusual flowers
- Tolerates drought and rabbits
- Does not tolerate wet, heavy soils

**Virginia Creeper**  
*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

- Deciduous, woody, tendril-climbing vine
- Needs little or no support
- Tolerates heavy shade, drought, clay soil, and black walnut

**Western Spiderwort**  
*Tradescantia occidentalis*

- Erect, branching stems
- Flowers last one day
- Hybridizes readily
- Tolerates most soils, if well-drained

**Western Wallflower**  
*Erysimum asperum*

- Upright growth form
- Gray seedpods
- Needs regular water
- Do not overwater.

---

**Height:** 2–4’  |  USDA Hardiness Zone: 5–9  
**Spread:** 2–3’  |  **Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** Yellow to deep coral

**Height:** 30–50’  |  USDA Hardiness Zone: 3–9  
**Spread:** 5–10’  |  **Bloom:** May–August  
**Flowers:** Greenish-white

**Height:** Up to 2’  |  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–9  
**Spread:** 12–15”  |  **Bloom:** June–July  
**Flowers:** Pink, purple

**Height:** 6–12”  |  USDA Hardiness Zone: 4–9  
**Spread:** 9–12”  |  **Bloom:** April–June  
**Flowers:** Orange, bright yellow
Whiplash Daisy or Trailing Fleabane
*Erigeron flagellaris*

- Flowers held above foliage on upright stems
- Spreads by runners ■ Good for low-water landscapes ■ Good for sandy soil and rock gardens ■ Do not overwater.

**Height:** 6” or less ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–5
**Spread:** 6–12” ■ **Bloom:** May–August
**Flowers:** White, near white

Windflower
*Anemone blanda*

- Hardy tuber, daisy-like flower with soft, green, ferny foliage ■ Can be used as ground-cover ■ Provides spring and summer interest

**Height:** 6–12” ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8
**Spread:** 6–12” ■ **Bloom:** March–April
**Flowers:** Blue, white, pink, purple-red

Yarrow
*Achillea spp.*

- Fern-like foliage in various shades ranging from green to gray ■ Drought tolerant ■ Makes nice dried or cut flowers ■ Can be invasive

**Height:** 6–36” ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9
**Spread:** 12–24” ■ **Bloom:** May–September
**Flowers:** White, yellow, red, orange, pink

Yellow Monkey Flower
*Mimulus guttatus*

- Can be small and sparse to tall and bushy ■ Needs moist soil ■ Grows in bogs and wetlands ■ Spreading growth form

**Height:** 1–3’ ■ **Spread:** 20–48” ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** Wide range
**Flowers:** Yellow ■ **Bloom:** March–August
Yucca
Yucca spp.

- Dramatic, bold, structural plant
- Sword-shaped foliage
- Flowers produced on spikes
- Needs well-drained soil
- Very drought tolerant

Height: Up to 5’
Spread: Up to 3’
USDA Hardiness Zone: Varies by species
Bloom: May–June
Flowers: White

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Alder Buckthorn
*Rhamnus frangula*
- Deciduous
- Dark, glossy leaf
- Columnar cultivar available
- Can grow in wet soils and bogs
- Prefers acidic soil

**Height:** 5–16’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2–7
**Spread:** 6–13’
**Bloom:** May–June
**Flowers:** Whitish-green

---

American Beautyberry
*Callicarpa americana*
- Deciduous
- Showy purple berries give winter interest
- Open growth form
- Tolerates clay soil
- Needs full sun to fruit

**Height:** 3–6’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–10
**Spread:** 3–6’
**Bloom:** June–August
**Flowers:** Lavender, pink

---

American Hazelnut
*Corylus americana*
- Deciduous
- Edible nut
- Showy flower
- Good fall color
- Prefers well-drained soil
- Tolerates clay soil
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 10–16’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9
**Spread:** 8–13’
**Bloom:** March–April
**Flowers:** Brown or red

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Black Elder or Common Elder
*Sambucus nigra*
- Deciduous
- Rugged bark
- Best in full sun
- Tolerates wide range of soils, including clay soil
- Can be used as small tree
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 8–20’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8
**Spread:** 8–20’
**Bloom:** May–June
**Flowers:** White
Blackberry and Raspberry  
*Rubus spp.*
- Evergreen and deciduous  
- Prefers acidic, rich, well-drained soil  
- Spreading growth form

**Height:** 6'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9

**Spread:** 1' to indefinite  
**Bloom:** March–August, depending on species  
**Flowers:** White to pink

---

Bluebeard, Blue-mist, or Blue spirea  
*Caryopteris x clandonensis*
- Deciduous  
- Low-growing mound  
- Prefers well-drained soil  
- Tolerates some drought  
- Good cut, fragrant flower

**Height:** 2–4'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9

**Spread:** 2–4'  
**Bloom:** July–September  
**Flowers:** Sky-blue

---

Buckthorn  
*Rhamnus spp.*
- Evergreen and deciduous  
- Grown for form and foliage  
- Inedible black berries can stain pavement  
- Some are good hedge and windbreaks  
- Reseeds

**Height:** 3–22’  
**Spread:** 3–12’

**Bloom:** March–May  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** Cream to green

---

Buffaloberry  
*Shepherdia spp.*
- Deciduous  
- Berry is red or orange and is edible but bitter  
- Tolerates poorest soils and dry conditions  
- Tolerates cold and drought

**Height:** 6–20’  
**Spread:** 3–10’

**Bloom:** April–May  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** White, yellow
Bumald Spirea  
**Spiraea x bumalda**

- Deciduous  
- Dense, mounded growth form  
- Pink-purple new foliage  
- Bronzy, autumn foliage  
- Prefers well-drained soil  
- Tolerates a wide variety of soil types

![Photo: Patrick Standish/CC BY 2.0](image1)

**Height:** 2–4'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 2–5'  
**Bloom:** June–August  
**Flowers:** White, pink, mauve, dark lavender, yellow-red

---

Buttonbush  
**Cephalanthus occidentalis**

- Deciduous  
- Open, rounded growth form  
- Adapts to wide range of soils except dry soil  
- Seed pods give winter interest

![Photo: Dan Perkins/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](image2)

**Height:** 5–12'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 4–8'  
**Bloom:** June  
**Flowers:** White

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Carolina Silverbell  
**Halesia carolina**

- Deciduous  
- Good fall color  
- Can be grown as multi-stemmed shrub or single-trunk tree with broad, rounded growth form  
- Needs acidic soil

![Photo: JR P/CC BY-NC 2.0](image3)

**Height:** 30–40'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Spread:** 20–35'  
**Bloom:** April  
**Flowers:** White

---

Chickasaw Plum  
**Prunus angustifolia**

- Deciduous  
- Multi-stemmed shrub or small tree  
- Tart, edible fruit  
- Tolerates wide range of growing conditions  
- Thicket-forming  
- Produces suckers

![Photo: Jeff Wright/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](image4)

**Height:** 4–20'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 4–20'  
**Bloom:** March  
**Flowers:** White
**Cholla and Prickly Pear Cactus**  
*Opuntia spp.*

- Also called paddle cactus  
- Over 200 species  
- Showy flowers  
- Fruit on some species is edible

**Height:** 3–9'  
**Spread:** 3–9'  
**Bloom:** March–May, varies by species  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** Vary by species

---

**Cotton Lavender**  
*Santolina chamaecyparissus*

- Evergreen  
- Low, mounding growth form  
- Gray-green foliage  
- Showy, fragrant flowers  
- Tolerates drought and poor soils  
- Used as groundcover or edging

**Height:** 1–2'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–9  
**Spread:** 1–3'  
**Bloom:** July–August  
**Flowers:** Yellow

---

**Cranberry Cotoneaster**  
*Cotoneaster apiculatus*

- Deciduous  
- Broad, upright, dense, slightly mounding  
- Tolerates rabbits  
- Red, showy berries

**Height:** 2–3'  
**Spread:** 3–6'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–7  
**Bloom:** May–June  
**Flowers:** Pink

---

**Creeping Mahonia**  
*Berberis (Mahonia) repens*

- Evergreen  
- Edible berry is best for jams and jellies  
- Does best in well-drained, acidic soil  
- Used as groundcover

**Height:** 9–12"  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8  
**Spread:** 9–18"  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**Flowers:** Yellow
**Daphne**
*Daphne x burkwoodii*
- Semi-evergreen  ■ Very fragrant flowers   
- Foliage and fruit are poisonous  ■ Gives excellent drainage  ■ Needs neutral pH

**Height:** 3–5’  ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8
■ **Spread:** 3–5’  ■ **Bloom:** May–June
■ **Flowers:** White, pale pink

---

**Elderberry or American Elder**
*Sambucus canadensis*
- Deciduous  ■ Stout, strong-growing  ■ Edible berries are dark purple to black  ■ Moisture-loving  ■ Tolerates clay soil  ■ Produces suckers

**Height:** 5–12’  ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9
■ **Spread:** 5–12’  ■ **Bloom:** June–July
■ **Flowers:** White

---

**False Indigo or Indigo Bush**
*Amorpha fruticosa*
- Deciduous  ■ Loose, airy growth form  ■ Flowers rise above the foliage  ■ Will naturalize along creeks and streams  ■ Fragrant flowers  ■ Fast growing

**Height:** 6–10’  ■ **Spread:** 10–20’
■ **Bloom:** April–June
■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** Wide range
■ **Flowers:** Orange, blue, purple, violet

---

**Fringe Tree**
*Chionanthus virginicus*
- Deciduous  ■ Spreading, rounded growth form  ■ Good fall color  ■ Seldom needs pruning  ■ Does not tolerate dry conditions  ■ Blue-black fruit

**Height:** 12–20’  ■ **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9
■ **Spread:** 12–20’  ■ **Bloom:** May–June
■ **Flowers:** Creamy white
Gooseberry and Currant
Ribes spp.

- Evergreen and deciduous
- Many have showy flowers
- Currant has no spines
- Gooseberry has spines
- Berries are green, yellow, red, or black

**Height:** 3–8’  **Spread:** 3–6’
**Bloom:** March–May
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species
**Flowers:** White, pink, red, yellow, purple

![Photo: chipmunk_1/CC BY-SA 2.0](https://example.com)

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**Hardy Shrub Rose**
*Rosa* spp.

- Deciduous (some evergreen)
- Hips give winter interest
- Some are vigorous climbers
- Very low maintenance
- Deer may browse flowers

**Height:** 1–9’ or more  **Spread:** 1–6’
**Bloom:** March–November, depending on species
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Most zones
**Flowers:** White, pink, red

![Photo: Bill Barber/CC BY-NC 2.0](https://example.com)

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**Heather**
*Calluna* spp.

- Evergreen
- True Scotch heather
- Foliage can be wide range of colors (varies by species)
- Needs fast-draining, acidic soil
- Needs full sun for best flowering

**Height:** 3”–3’  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8
**Spread:** 3”–3’
**Bloom:** July–November, varies by species
**Flowers:** White, pale pink, dark pink, lavender, purple

![Photo: Joan Simon/CC BY-SA 2.0](https://example.com)

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**Highbush Blueberry**
*Vaccinium corymbosum*

- Deciduous
- Erect growth form
- Edible berry
- Forms thickets
- Must have acidic, well-drained soil

**Height:** 6–12’  **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8
**Spread:** 8–12’
**Bloom:** May
**Flowers:** White, pinkish

![Photo: Alwyn Ladell/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](https://example.com)
Honeysuckle  
*Lonicera* spp.

- Evergreen and deciduous shrubs and vines
- Needs sun for best bloom
- Sprawling growth form
- Some can be very vigorous, and vines must have substantial support

**Height:** 3–36’  **Spread:** 3–15’, varies by species  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species

**Bloom:** April–June  
**Flowers:** White, yellow, orange, pink, red

---

Ironwood  
*Carpinus caroliniana*

- Deciduous, globular form
- Slow growing
- Good fall color and winter interest
- Tolerates clay soil

**Height:** 20–35’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 20–35’  
**Bloom:** December–February

**Flowers:** White (female), green (male)

---

Lilac  
*Syringa* spp.

- Deciduous
- Showy, fragrant flowers
- Some species are small trees
- Some species produce suckers
- Best in well-drained soils

**Height:** 4–8’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3b–7a  
**Spread:** 4–12’  
**Bloom:** March–May

**Flowers:** White, pink, blue, lavender, purple

---

Lowbush Blueberry  
*Vaccinium pallidum*

- Deciduous
- Small shrub with arching branches
- Edible berry that ripens midsummer
- Used as groundcover
- Water need depends on sun exposure

**Height:** 1–2’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 1–2’  
**Bloom:** April–May

**Flowers:** White, red, pink
**Mock Orange**  
*Philadelphus spp.*

- Evergreen and deciduous  
- Very fragrant flowers  
- Prefers moderately fertile, well-drained soil  
- Some species tolerate drought

**Height:** 4–15’  
**Spread:** 4–15’

**Bloom:** May–June  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** White, cream, gold

---

**Mountain Mahogany**  
*Cercocarpus spp.*

- Evergreen  
- Feather-like fruits give distinctive look in fall  
- Tolerates drought and most soils  
- Good for erosion control and windbreak

**Height:** 9–40’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9

**Spread:** 4–20’

**Bloom:** March–August, varies by species  
**Flowers:** White, cream

---

**New Jersey Tea**  
*Ceanothus americanus*

- Deciduous  
- Compact, rounded growth form  
- Tolerates drought, dry soil, and shallow-rocky soil

**Height:** 3–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

**Spread:** 3–5’

**Bloom:** May–June  
**Flowers:** White

---

**Oceanspray**  
*Holodiscus discolor*

- Deciduous  
- Attractive  
- Looks similar to spirea  
- Erect to arching growth form  
- Susceptible to few pests or diseases  
- Fragrant  
- Tolerates wide range of soil moisture

**Height:** 10–20’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8

**Spread:** 10–20’  
**Bloom:** May–July  
**Flowers:** White-cream
**Orchid Rockrose**
*Cistus x purpureus*
- Evergreen
- Reddish stems
- Wavy-edged, dark green leaf
- Tolerates drought and heat
- Good for low-water landscapes
- Prefers well-drained soils
- Grows quickly

*Height: 4–6’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 7–10  Bloom: May–August  Flowers: Rose-purple*

**Oregon Boxwood**
*Paxistima myrtifolia*
- Evergreen
- Dense, neat growth form
- Makes good low hedge
- Also used as groundcover
- Best in well-drained, acidic soil

*Height: 1–3’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 5–9  Bloom: April–July  Flowers: Pink, red, green*

**Oregon Grape**
*Berberis (Mahonia) aquifolium*
- Evergreen
- Winter interest
- Plant spreads by stolons
- Edible berries
- Grow more than one plant for good fruit production.

*Height: 3–6’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 5–8  Bloom: March–May  Flowers: Yellow*

**Pacific Rhododendron**
*Rhododendron macrophyllum*
- Evergreen
- Showy shrub
- Grows taller in shade and shorter and bushier in sun
- Strong, stout stems
- Prefers well-drained soil
- All parts are toxic

*Height: 5–26’  USDA Hardiness Zone: 6–9  Bloom: May–July  Flowers: Pink, rose-purple*
Painted Buckeye
*Aesculus sylvatica*
- Deciduous shrub or small tree
- Seeds, leaves, sprouts are highly toxic if eaten

**Height:** 5–15’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8

**Spread:** 6–10’  
**Bloom:** March–June

**Flowers:** Yellow, yellow-green, pink-green

---

Point Reyes
*Ceanothus gloriosus*
- Evergreen  
- Spreading growth form  
- Will not tolerate drought  
- Good for erosion control  
- Prefers afternoon shade  
- Used as groundcover

**Height:** 2–3’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 7–9

**Spread:** 6’  
**Bloom:** February–March

**Flowers:** Deep blue to purple

---

Possumhaw
*Ilex decidua*
- Deciduous  
- Upright, rounded, spreading growth form  
- Toothed leaf  
- Orange-red berries give fall and winter interest  
- Tolerates clay soil  
- Prefers moist, acidic soil

**Height:** 15–30’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9

**Spread:** 5–12’  
**Bloom:** March–May

**Flowers:** Dull white

---

Rabbitbrush
*Chrysothamnus spp.*
- Loosely mounding, shrubby native  
- Grows in open, sandy, and gravelly sites  
- Tolerates drought

**Height:** 4”–6’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8

**Spread:** 1–6’  
**Bloom:** July–September

**Flowers:** Yellow
### Red Buckeye
*Aesculus pavia*
- Deciduous
- Glossy green leaves
- Showy flower and fruit
- Tolerates clay soil
- Prefers fertile, acidic, moist soils

**Height:** 12–15’ or more  
**Spread:** 12–15’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Bloom:** April–May  
**Flowers:** Bright red

### Redosier Dogwood
*Cornus sericea*
- Deciduous
- Attractive red stems in winter
- Browsed by deer
- Berry is green
- Good autumn foliage

**Height:** 6–12’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 1–9  
**Spread:** 6–12’  
**Bloom:** May–June  
**Flowers:** White

### Rocky Mountain Maple
*Acer glabrum*
- Deciduous
- Upright growth form
- Single or multi-stemmed
- Good fall color
- Can be used as substitute for vine maple in sunnier spots

**Height:** 6–30’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–7  
**Spread:** 3–15’  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green

### Salal
*Gaultheria shallon*
- Evergreen
- Broad, leathery leaf
- Used as understory groundcover
- Can be grown in sun if well-watered
- Blue-black berries used for jelly and jam
- Sprawling growth form

**Height:** 3–6’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–8  
**Spread:** Up to 5’  
**Bloom:** April–July  
**Flowers:** White to pink
Sand Cherry

*Prunus besseyi*

- Deciduous
- Spreading growth form
- Sweet, edible, purple-black fruit
- Tolerates hot, dry conditions
- Tolerates cold, wind, drought, and rabbits

**Height:** 4–6’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–6  
**Spread:** 4–6’  
**Bloom:** May  
**Flowers:** White

---

Serviceberry

*Amelanchier spp.*

- Deciduous
- Very hardy
- Showy flowers
- Small, purplish-red, edible fruit
- Prefers moist, acidic soil
- Water need varies by species

**Height:** 15–25’  
**Spread:** 10–15’  
**Bloom:** March–May, varies by species  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** White

---

Shrubby Cinquefoil

*Potentilla fruticosa*

- Deciduous
- Small leaves
- Dense growth form
- Tolerates rabbits, drought, clay soil, and poor soil
- Long-blooming shrub

**Height:** 2–4’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7  
**Spread:** 3–5’  
**Bloom:** June–September  
**Flowers:** Yellow

---

Smooth Alder

*Alnus serrulata*

- Deciduous
- Long catkins in spring
- Prefers moist conditions
- Tolerates poor soil and dry conditions
- Produces suckers
- Can become a thicket

**Height:** 12–20’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 12–20’  
**Bloom:** March–April  
**Flowers:** Purple, green, brown catkins
Snowberry  
*Symphoricarpos albus*

- Deciduous  
- Showy white berries give winter interest  
- Tolerates drought, clay soil, poor soil, and dry soil  
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 3–6'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7  
**Spread:** 3–6'  
**Bloom:** June–July  
**Flowers:** Pink

---

Strawberry Bush  
*Euonymous americana*

- Deciduous  
- Tolerates most soils  
- Unusual, bright pink-red and orange fruit gives interest in the fall  
- Berries are poisonous  
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 4–8'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–10  
**Spread:** 4–8'  
**Bloom:** May  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green with purple blush

---

Sumac  
*Rhus spp.*

- Evergreen and deciduous  
- Flowering shrubs and trees  
- Fruit is reddish drupe  
- Provides winter interest  
- Tolerates rabbits, drought, and most soils  
- Some species produce suckers

**Height:** 3–33’  
**Spread:** 3–20’  
**Bloom:** June  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species  
**Flowers:** Greenish, cream, red

---

Sweet Pepperbush  
*Clethra alnifolia*

- Deciduous  
- New growth is bronzy  
- Fragrant flowers  
- Prefers partial shade  
- Prefers moist, acidic soil  
- Tolerates heavy shade, clay soil, and wet soil  
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 3–6’ or more  
**Spread:** 4–9’  
**Bloom:** July–August  
**Flowers:** White, pink
Sweetshrub

*Calycanthus floridus*

- Deciduous
- Dense, rounded growth form
- Dark, glossy, aromatic leaves
- Fragrant flowers
- Tolerates clay soil
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 6–10’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9
**Spread:** 6–12’
**Bloom:** April–July
**Flowers:** Reddish brown

---

Trumpet Vine

*Campsis radicans*

- Deciduous
- Dense, multi-stemmed, clinging vine
- Aerial rootlets
- Showy flowers
- Tolerates drought and clay soils
- Best in average soil

**Height:** 25–40’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9
**Spread:** 5–10’
**Bloom:** July
**Flowers:** Orange, scarlet

---

Viburnum and Blackhaw

*Viburnum spp.*

- Large genus of deciduous and evergreen plants
- Some prefer dry soil
- Many have ornamental fruit
- Some can be trained as trees
- Some species are deer resistant

**Height:** 3–20’
**Spread:** 3–20’
**Bloom:** March–May (most species)
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species
**Flowers:** White, cream, pink

---

Vine Maple

*Acer circinatum*

- Deciduous
- Circular leaves
- Best fall color with some sun
- Single or multi-trunk
- Prefers part shade and moist soil
- Tolerates dry shade

**Height:** 10–25’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9
**Spread:** 25–35’
**Bloom:** April–May
**Flowers:** Red, white
**Virginia Sweetspire**
*Itea virginica*

- Deciduous ■ Erect branches ■ Showy flowers ■ Fall foliage ■ Prefers moist, acidic, well-drained soil ■ Tolerates clay soil ■ Tolerates heavy shade

**Western Azalea**
*Rhododendron occidentale*

- Deciduous ■ Glossy, green leaves ■ Very fragrant, showy flower ■ Prefers moist, well-drained soil ■ All parts are toxic ■ Spreading growth form

**Western Spirea**
*Spiraea douglasii*

- Deciduous ■ Needs constant moisture and acidic soil ■ Produces suckers and forms thickets

**Wild Hydrangea**
*Hydrangea arborescens*

- Deciduous ■ Loose, upright, bushy growth form ■ Tolerates clay soil, rocky soil, and wet or dry soil ■ Tolerates rabbits ■ Does not tolerate drought

---

**Virginia Sweetspire**

**Height:** 3–6'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 3–5'  
**Bloom:** April–June  
**Flowers:** White

---

**Western Azalea**

**Height:** 3–15'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–10  
**Spread:** Up to 10'  
**Bloom:** April–August  
**Flowers:** White, pale pink, deep pink, yellow-orange

---

**Western Spirea**

**Height:** 4–10'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–8  
**Spread:** 3–6'  
**Bloom:** June–September  
**Flowers:** Rosy pink

---

**Wild Hydrangea**

**Height:** 3–5'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–21  
**Spread:** 3–5' or more  
**Bloom:** June–September  
**Flowers:** White
**Wild Plum**  
*Prunus americana*

- Deciduous  
- Small tree with graceful growth form  
- Edible fruit  
- Can be grown as shrub but tends to sucker  
- Has thorns  
- Tolerates drought

**Height:** 15–30’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 15–25’  
**Bloom:** February–May  
**Flowers:** White

---

**Winterberry**  
*Ilex verticillata*

- Deciduous  
- Slow growing  
- Upright rounded growth form  
- Prefers moist, acidic soil  
- Tolerates poor soil and dry soils  
- Berries can be toxic

**Height:** 6–12’ or taller  
**Spread:** 3–12’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Bloom:** April–July  
**Flowers:** White, yellow, green, brown

---

**Witch Hazel**  
*Hamamelis virginiana*

- Deciduous, with fall color  
- Showy, fragrant flowers  
- Prefers moist, acidic, well-drained soils but tolerates heavy clay

**Height:** 15–20’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8  
**Spread:** 15–20’  
**Bloom:** October–December  
**Flowers:** Yellow, orange with red blush

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American Elm

*Ulmus americana*

- Deciduous shade tree
- Graceful, wide, spreading crown
- Ash-gray bark
- Vigorous
- Tolerates wet and dry soil
- Tolerates drought and black walnut

**Height:** 60–80’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2–9  
**Spread:** 40–70’  
**Bloom:** February–April  
**Flowers:** Reddish green

---

American Linden or American Basswood

*Tilia americana*

- Deciduous
- Oval, rounded crown
- Showy, fragrant flower
- Tolerates some drought and clay soil
- Winter twigs and buds are red
- Grows medium to fast

**Height:** 50–80’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2–8  
**Spread:** 30–50’  
**Bloom:** April–July  
**Flowers:** Yellow

---

Bald Cypress

*Taxodium distichum*

- Deciduous conifer
- Pyramidal growth form
- Feathery foliage
- Tolerant of most soil except alkaline
- Affected by few pests or diseases
- Used next to ponds, streams

**Height:** 50–70’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 2–10  
**Spread:** 20–45’  
**Bloom:** None  
**Flowers:** None

---

Black Oak

*Quercus velutina*

- Deciduous
- Globular, spreading crown
- Good fall color
- Prefers moist, acidic, organic soil
- Tolerates poor, dry soils
- Tolerates drought
- Acorns attract wildlife

**Height:** 50–60’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9  
**Spread:** 50–60’  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green, brown
Eastern Hop Hornbeam or Ironwood
*Ostrya virginiana*
- Deciduous shade tree
- Catkins give winter interest
- Slow growing
- Fruit clusters look hop-like
- Tolerates drought and clay soil

**Height:** 25–40'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–9

Mountain Ash
*Sorbus* spp.
- Deciduous
- Large genus (dwarf shrubs to trees)
- Most are hardy
- Good fall color
- Red berries give winter interest
- Needs acidic soil

**Height:** 10–50'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–7

Pawpaw
*Asimina triloba*
- Deciduous
- Good fall color
- Showy, edible, orange to brown fruit
- Tolerates wet soil
- Prefers moist, acidic soil
- Forms colonies by root suckers

**Height:** 15–30'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9

Pin Cherry or Fire Cherry
*Prunus pensylvanica*
- Deciduous
- Fast growing
- Bright green, toothed leaf
- Prefers rocky or sandy, well-drained soil
- Fruit is edible
- Other parts of tree are highly toxic

**Height:** 25–50'  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8

- **Spread:** 20–30'
- **Bloom:** April
- **Flowers:** Greenish, reddish-brown

- **Spread:** 10–35'
- **Bloom:** May
- **Flowers:** White

- **Spread:** 15–30'
- **Bloom:** April–May
- **Flowers:** Purple

- **Spread:** 10–20'
- **Bloom:** April–June
- **Flowers:** White

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Photo: Homer Edward Price/CC BY 2.0
Post Oak
*Quercus stellata*

- Deciduous
- Rounded crown
- Leathery leaf
- Prefers acidic, rocky, or sandy soil
- Tolerant of dry and wet conditions
- Slow growth but long-lived

**Height:** 35–50’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 35–50’  
**Bloom:** March–May  
**Flowers:** Yellowish-green, yellow, brown

---

Red Mulberry
*Morus rubra*

- Deciduous
- Upright, rounded, or spreading
- Prefers full sun
- Sweet berries are edible but messy if tree is near pavement
- Tolerates drought

**Height:** 35–50’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–8  
**Spread:** 35–40’  
**Bloom:** March–April  
**Flowers:** Green

---

Sassafras
*Sassafras albidum*

- Deciduous
- Broad, conical growth form
- Good fall color
- Showy flowers and fruit
- Tolerates drought and clay soil
- Produces suckers

**Height:** 30–60’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4–9  
**Spread:** 25–40’  
**Bloom:** April–May  
**Flowers:** Greenish-yellow

---

Shumard Oak
*Quercus shumardii*

- Deciduous
- Broad, open crown when mature
- Good fall color
- Tolerates drought
- Tolerates wide range of soils but prefers acidic, well-drained soils

**Height:** 40–90’  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 5–9  
**Spread:** 30–50’  
**Bloom:** March–April  
**Flowers:** White, greenish

---
Willow
*Salix spp.*

- Deciduous
- Fast-growing, shallow-rooted trees and shrubs
- Difficult to garden under
- Diverse genus of over 300 species

**Height:** 3–100’
**Spread:** 3–90’

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** Varies by species

**Bloom:** Varies by species

**Flowers:** Insignificant; some species grown for catkins

---

Winged Elm
*Ulmus alata*

- Deciduous shade tree
- Round, open growth form
- Branches have corky wings
- Tolerant of partial shade
- Fast growing

**Height:** 30–50’
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6–9

**Spread:** 25–40’

**Bloom:** February–April

**Flowers:** Reddish green

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