

## Native Plant Gardens In and Around the Flathead Valley

The Flathead Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society recommends visiting the following public and private gardens to observe how the distinctive vegetation of our valleys and mountains may be used in differing landscape applications.

### Harry Horn Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** East shore of Flathead Lake about .8 mile south of Bigfork. From Bigfork, turn right off Highway 35 at the entrance sign for Flathead Lake State Park Wayfarers and Harry Horn. (Across the highway from Burgertown.) About 100 yards beyond the entrance, take the first left into the Harry Horn parking lot. Look for the "East Shore Bigfork Garden Club Botanical Garden" sign.
- **Description:** This 3,000 square foot garden can best be described as a "prairie on steroids." In 1998, the East Shore Bigfork Garden Club planted rich "Creston" topsoil with seeds of native plants. The high nutrient content and moisture-holding capacity of the soil enable it to grow larger plants with extended bloom times. In fact, wild strawberries have developed a weedy nature here. The garden receives full sun during the day, but is also shaded by the surrounding forest during morning and evening hours. Sit on the concrete bench placed beside the garden trail and view grasses, bulbs and forbs of the Palouse Prairie\*:

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Anemone patens</i>	Pasqueflower
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Field Pussytoes
<i>Antennaria rosea</i>	Rosy Pussytoes
<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaf Arnica
<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaf Balsamroot
<i>Camassia quamash</i>	Blue Camas
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell
<i>Clarkia pulchella</i>	Elkhorns
<i>Dodecatheon</i>	Shooting Star
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho Fescue
<i>Festuca scabrella</i>	Rough Fescue
<i>Fragaria spp.</i>	Strawberry
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	Sticky Geranium
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke
<i>Lupinus spp.</i>	Lupine
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Beebalm or Wild Bergamot
<i>Penstemon spp.</i>	Beardtongue
<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata (Agropyron</i>	Bluebunch Wheatgrass

<i>spicatum</i> )	
<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Mexican Hat or Coneflower
<i>Stipa richardsonii</i>	Richardson's Needlegrass
<i>Zigadenus venomous</i>	Common Death Camus

Certain orchid species may also be seen within Harry Horn Park:

<i>Calypso bulbosa</i>	Fairy Slipper
<i>Cypripedium montanum</i>	Mountain Lady's Slipper
<i>Corallorhiza maculata</i>	Spotted Coralroot
<i>Corallorhiza striata</i>	Striped Coralroot

- **For further information, contact:** Brett Thuma at 837-4604 at the Brett Thuma Gallery, Electric Avenue, Bigfork.
- **Best viewing:** May through July

## Highway 35 Native Palouse Garden

- **Location:** In Bigfork, the east side of Highway 35, about .9 mile north of the stoplight at the intersection of Highway 35 with Grand Avenue and Holt Drive. Look for a roadside strip immediately to the south of the Peaceful Acres road, Impressions and El Topo and across the highway from Sliter's Ace Hardware/Lumber.

- **Description:** The growing conditions provided by this roadside border demonstrate that native plants are not only beautiful, but tough as well. In 1997, the Bigfork Development Company and Brett Thuma created the 12' by 200' curbed border with two goals in mind. First, they needed to improve highway safety by better defining exits and entrances. Second, they desired to enhance the drive through Bigfork on Highway 35 by seeding the border with plants native to the Palouse Prairie\* and nearby intermountain grasslands. Seeds were both collected from the wild and purchased from growers. Volunteers built the border upon pre-existing roadbed mix that was ripped and then topped with donated soil. Brett Thuma keeps the plant community within the border free of weed species that are continuously being introduced by vehicle traffic. One of the members of this community, Arrow-leaf Balsamroot, takes five to six years to flower from seed. Visitors may now observe the multiple blooms of Arrow-leaf Balsamroot among its native companions:

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
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<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaf Balsamroot
<i>Camassia quamash</i>	Blue Camas
<i>Castilleja spp.</i>	Indian Paintbrush
<i>Delphinium spp.</i>	Larkspur
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho Fescue
<i>Festuca scabrella</i>	Rough Fescue
<i>Fritillaria pudica</i>	Yellowbells
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	Sticky Geranium
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Blue Flax
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i>	Silvery Lupine
<i>Lupinus sericeus</i>	Silky Lupine
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Beebalm or Wild Bergamot
<i>Oryzopsis spp.</i>	Indian Ricegrass
<i>Penstemon albertinus</i>	Alberta Beardtongue
<i>Penstemon strictus</i>	Rocky Mountain Beardtongue
<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> (aka <i>Agropyron spicatum</i> )	Bluebunch Wheatgrass
<i>Sedum lanceolatum</i>	Lance-leaf Stonecrop
<i>Stipa richardsonii</i>	Richardson's Needlegrass

- **For further information, contact:** Brett Thuma at 837-4604 at the Brett Thuma Gallery, Electric Avenue, Bigfork.
- **Best viewing:** May through July

## Whitefish Central School Native Tree Site

- **Location:** One block east of the Whitefish Train Depot on Railway Street. Look for a cedar rail fence around the garden on the south side of the street.
- **Description:** Following the inspiration of Jan Metzmaker, this site was developed by volunteers in 1999 when the Central School play area was rebuilt. The City of Whitefish donated site preparation support and a sprinkler system. A Plum Creek Foundation grant and community donations funded the purchase of trees and materials. Vegetation was also donated by the Glacier National Park Native Plant Nursery. Central School students spread topsoil and Glacier Gold compost over the 400 square foot site and planted over 16 different native trees and many shrubs and forbs. The students also gathered seed from Big Mountain, grew the seeds in a local greenhouse, then transplanted them onsite. Science students use the site for their forestry unit and other projects, and spend some time each spring helping with maintenance.
- **For further information, contact:** Jan Metzmaker at 862-6110 (work) or 862-7960 (home), Whitefish.
- **Best viewing:** May through September

## Flathead Valley Community College Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** Just north of Kalispell on Highway 93, turn east at the FVCC entrance on Grandview Drive. The garden may be found behind the Administration Building on the east side of the campus in the FVCC Arboretum.
- **Description:** Plants from the Palouse Prairie\* habitats of western Montana have been planted in this beautiful and spacious setting at the edge of the campus. Visitors may view the surrounding valley, rolling hills, and mountains that are home to the plants found here. The garden was established in 1997 by members of the Flathead Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society (Terry Divoky, Mary Sloan, Betty Kuropat, Maria Mantas and Jenny Tollefson). Bill McClaren has maintained the garden since 2001. The garden includes the following species:

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting
<i>Anemone patens</i>	Pasqueflower
<i>Antennaria microphylla</i>	Rosy Pussytoes
<i>Antennaria anaphaloides</i>	Tall Pussytoes
<i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	Yellow Columbine
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Red Columbine
<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaf Arnica
<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	Arrow-leaf Balsamroot
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell
<i>Cornus sericea</i> (aka <i>Cornus stolonifera</i> )	Red Osier Dogwood
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho Fescue
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	Sheep Fescue
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Mountain Strawberry
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	Sticky Geranium
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke
<i>Heuchera cylindrica</i>	Round-leaf Alumroot
<i>Iliamna rivularis</i>	Mountain Hollyhock
<i>Lewisii rediviva</i>	Bitterroot
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Blue Flax
<i>Penstemon albertinus</i>	Alberta Penstemon
<i>Penstemon confertus</i>	Yellow Penstemon
<i>Penstemon nitrides</i>	Shining Penstemon
<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Mockorange or Syringa
<i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i>	Showy Jacob's Ladder
<i>Pentaphylloides floribunda</i> (aka <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> )	Shrubby Cinquefoil
<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Mexican Hat or Coneflower
<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	Baldhip Rose
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	Montana Blue-eyed Grass

<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod or Meadow Goldenrod
<i>Zigadenus venomous</i>	Meadow Death Camas or Common Death Camas

- **For further information, contact:** Bill McClaren at 257-2540, Kalispell.
- **Best viewing:** Early June. Bill McClaren offers a guided tour.

## The Bill McClaren Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** The Bill McClaren residence at 173 Lawrence Lane, Kalispell.
- **Description:** Bill McClaren established this residential garden in 2000 with plants native to the Flathead National Forest and Glacier National Park. The majority of the garden is shaded.
- **For further information, contact:** Bill McClaren at 257-2540, Kalispell.
- **Best viewing:** Each summer in early June, Bill McClaren offers a guided tour of his garden and the FVCC Native Plant Garden. However, visitors may call and make appointments to visit at other times.

## Yellow Bay Native Plant Garden/ Lakeshore Restoration

- **Location:** On the east shore of Flathead Lake about 15 miles south of Bigfork off Highway 35. Turn at the sign for the University of Montana Yellow Bay Biological Research Station.
- **Description:** This "garden" is actually a lakeshore revegetation project using native plants to minimize shoreline erosion. The front yard of Biological Station Director Jack Stanford and his wife, Research Scientist Bonnie Ellis, was converted from exotic grass back to a "natural" landscape by planting a variety of native shrubs.
- **For further information, contact:** Bonnie Ellis at 982-3301. Please call before viewing.
- **Best viewing:** June through September

## Glacier National Park Hope Garden

- **Location:** Headquarters Building, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT.
- **Description:** This small native plant rock garden is a memorial to several park employees who have had serious health problems.

Species representative of several habitats throughout Glacier are planted here. Placards identify most plants by their common and scientific names. The garden was planted following construction of an accessible walkway into the Park Headquarters Administrative Building.

- **For further information, contact:** Joyce Lapp, Horticulturist/Restoration Biologist, at 888-7817, or Sara Dedekam, Nursery Manager, at 888-7835, or call for a tour.
- **Best viewing:** Available for viewing during daylight hours from Sunday through Saturday. There is also a tour every Tuesday during the summer.

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> (aka <i>Abies bifolia</i> )	Rocky Mountain Subalpine Fir
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting
<i>Anemone multifida</i>	Cliff Anemone or Pacific Anemone
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Field Pussytoes
<i>Antennaria rosea</i>	Pink Pussytoes
<i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	Yellow Columbine
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Common Bearberry or Kinnikinnick
<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaf Arnica
<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Fringed Sagewort
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Western Mugwort or Prairie Sagewort
<i>Aster conspicuus</i>	Showy Aster
<i>Berberis repens</i> (aka <i>Mahonia repens</i> )	Creeping Oregon Grape
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell
<i>Corydalis sempervirens</i>	Pink Corydalis
<i>Dryas drummondii</i>	Yellow Mountain Avens
<i>Epilobium alpinum</i> (aka <i>E. anagallidifolium</i> )	Alpine Willowherb
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Fireweed
<i>Erigeron peregrinus</i>	Wandering Daisy or Subalpine Daisy
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>	Showy Fleabane
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	Sulphur Buckwheat
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Wild Strawberry
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke
<i>Hedysarum boreale</i>	Sweetvetch or Northern Hedysarum
<i>Hedysarum sulphurescens</i>	Yellow Sweetvetch or Yellow Hedysarum
<i>Hypericum formosum</i>	Western St. John's-wort
<i>Iliamna rivularis</i>	Mountain Hollyhock
<i>Lewisia pygmaea</i>	Dwarf Lewisia or Pygmy Bitterroot
<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	Twinflower
<i>Lupinus sericeus</i>	Silky Lupine
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Beebalm or Wild Bergamot
<i>Papaver pygmaeum</i>	Alpine Glacier Poppy
<i>Paxistima myrsinites</i>	Mountain-Lover or Boxwood
<i>Penstemon confertus</i>	Yellow Beardtongue
<i>Phacelia hastata</i>	Silver-leaf Phacelia

<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Mockorange or Syringa
<i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i>	Showy Jacob's Ladder
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil
<i>Oxyria digyna</i>	Mountain Sorrel
<i>Oxytropis splendens</i>	Showy Crazyweed or Locoweed
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Wood's Rose
<i>Sedum lanceolatum</i>	Lance-leaf Stonecrop
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod or Meadow Goldenrod
<i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>	White Meadowsweet or Birch-leaf Spirea
<i>Spiraea splendens</i>	Subalpine Spirea or Pink Spirea
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Common Snowberry

## Clare's Corner

- **Location:** 137 Third Street West, Kalispell, MT. The garden is on the west side of the house.
- **Description:** Clare Hafferman's Montana wildflower garden attracts more bees, butterflies and other insects than does her perennial border. As a member of the American Penstemon Society, this homeowner grows her favorite beardtongues.
- **For further information, contact:** Clare Hafferman mornings at 752-1341, except Saturdays.
- **Best viewing:** June and July.

## Waterton Lakes National Park Peace Garden

- **Location:** In downtown Waterton, Alberta, Canada, just across the parking lot from the boat docks. It is next to the Superintendent's headquarters, which is a recently restored historic building.
- **Description:** The Peace Garden was installed in 2004. It introduces visitors and residents to the beauty of native plants in the surrounding landscape. It also celebrates collaboration between Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park in resources management.
- **For further information, contact:** Cyndi Smith, Conservation Biologist, Waterton Lakes National Park at (403) 859-5137.
- **Best viewing:** The Peace Garden is open for viewing any time as its gate is unlocked. However, it should be glorious during the summer months.

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Acer glabrum</i>	Rocky Mountain Maple
<i>Anemone multifida</i>	Cliff Anemone or Windflower
<i>Alnus viridis</i>	Sitka Alder
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting
<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaf Arnica

<i>Antennaria</i> spp.	Pussytoes
<i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	Yellow Columbine
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Common Bearberry or Kinnikinnick
<i>Aster conspicuus</i>	Showy Aster
<i>Castilleja</i> spp.	Indian Paintbrush
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho Fescue
<i>Clematis Columbiana</i> (aka <i>Clematis occidentalis</i> )	Western Virgin's Bower
<i>Cornus sericea</i> (aka <i>Cornus stolonifera</i> )	Red-osier Dogwood
<i>Dryas drummondii</i>	Yellow Mountain Avens
<i>Elaeagnus commutata</i>	Silverberry or Wolfwillow
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Fireweed
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	Sulphur Buckwheat
<i>Erigeron</i> spp.	Fleabane
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Illiamna rivularis</i>	Mountain Hollyhock
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Beebalm, Wild Bergamot or Horsemint
<i>Paxistima myrsinites</i>	Mountain-lover or Boxwood
<i>Penstemon confertus</i>	Yellow Beardtongue
<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	Limber Pine
<i>Populus balsamiferous</i>	Cottonwood or Balsam Poplar
<i>Potentilla gracilus</i>	Fan-shaped Cinquefoil
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Wood's Rose
<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	Thimbleberry
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Meadow Goldenrod
<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>	Cascade Mountain Ash
<i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>	White Meadowsweet or Birch-leaf Spirea
<i>Spiraea splendens</i>	Subalpine Spirea or Pink Spirea
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Common Snowberry

\*Palouse Prairie: Plants of the northern Rocky Mountain region that are also found on the dry, rolling, grasslands of eastern Oregon and Washington.