

RECOMMENDED
SPECIES FOR
NATIVE PLANT
LANDSCAPING IN
THE HELENA AREA

CODES

MOISTURE

mod. = moderate

SOIL TYPES

med. = medium

org. = organic

tex. = texture

A, B, P

A = Annual

B = Biennial

P = Perennial

HEIGHT

in = inches

ft = feet

≤ means 'less than or equal to'

< means 'less than'

> means 'greater than'

LEAVES, FLOWERS, FRUITS

E = evergreen

Bk = black

Bl = blue

Br = brown

Bz = bronze

G = green

Gy = grey

La = lavender

O = orange

Pi = pink

Pu = purple

R = red

W = white

Y = yellow

fl = flowers

♀ = female

APPLICATION

ctrl. = control

tol. = tolerant

dioecious = male and female flowers borne on separate plants; you need both for fertilization

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GRASSES		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, P	Height	Bunchgrass or Sod Former	Application / Description	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name								
alkali sacaton	<i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	dry to moist	full sun	tolerates saline or sodic soil; best on deep, fine soil	P	≤ 4 in	Bunchgrass		birds; small mammals (shelter)
alkali saltgrass; inland saltgrass	<i>Distichlis spicata</i> (<i>D. stricta</i>)	moist to wet	full sun	saline & alkaline soil	P	≤ 12 in	Sod former	revegetate saline areas	
blue grama	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	drought tolerant	partial to full sun	med. to fine; well drained	P	≤ 12 in	Sod former	interesting seed heads; lawns	
bluegrass, Canby's	<i>Poa canbyi</i> (<i>P. secunda</i>)	dry	full sun	all types	P	≤ 30 in	Bunchgrass	greens early in spring	
bluegrass, Sandberg's	<i>Poa sandbergii</i> (<i>P. secunda</i>)	drought tolerant	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 24 in	Bunchgrass	okay in sagebrush	birds; small mammals
bottlebrush squirreltail	<i>Elymus elymoides</i> (<i>Sitanion hystrix</i>)	dry	full sun	thin or deep	P	≤ 18 in	Bunchgrass	establishes easily on disturbed sites	
brome, mountain	<i>Bromus marginatus</i>	moist	partial to full sun	well drained	P		Bunchgrass	good in high elev. & on disturbed sites	
buffalo grass	<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>	dry; drought tolerant	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 8 in	Sod former	no mowing; stabilizer; dioecious	
fescue, Idaho	<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	dry	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 24 in	Bunchgrass	blue-green leaves	
fescue, rough	<i>Festuca scabrella</i>	dry	full sun	deep, sandy loam	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	long, rough leaves	
hairgrass, tufted	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	moist to wet	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	good above 5000 ft.	

GRASSES		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, P	Height	Bunchgrass or Sod Former	Application / Description	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name								
Indian ricegrass	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i> (<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>)	drought tolerant	full sun	deep, well drained; sandy, rocky to loam	P	≤ 30 in	Bunchgrass	excellent for reclamation	birds; small mammals (seed)
junegrass, prairie	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i> (<i>K. cristata</i>)	dry; drought tolerant	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 18 in	Bunchgrass	fluffy seed heads; disturbed sites	
little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> (<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>)	dry; mod. drought tolerant	partial to full sun	wide range	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	fall = russet color; soil stabilizer	upland game birds (nesting)
needle-and-thread	<i>Stipa comata</i>	drought tolerant	full sun	coarse texture; well drained	P	≤ 30 in	Bunchgrass	establishes on disturbed sites	seeds may bother pets
needlegrass, green	<i>Stipa viridula</i>	dry; mod. drought tolerant	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass		seeds may bother pets
pinegrass	<i>Calamagrostis rubescens</i>	dry to moist	partial to full shade		P	≤ 12 in	Sod former	soft foliage; under conifer trees	
prairie sandreed	<i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>	dry	partial to full sun	deep sand to well drained loam	P	≤ 48 in	Sod former	stabilizes dunes	
red threeawn	<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	drought tolerant	full sun	well drained	P	≤ 30 in	Bunchgrass	establishes easily; disturbed sites	
sweetgrass	<i>Hierochloe odorata</i>	wet	partial shade	loam to clay	P	≤ 24 in	Sod former	sweet smell; ceremonial	
ticklegass	<i>Agrostis scabra</i>	moist			P	≤ 24 in	Bunchgrass		
wheatgrass, bluebunch Montana state grass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> (<i>Agropyron spicatum</i>)	drought tolerant	full sun	sand to loam; non-alkaline	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	best on dry, south-facing slopes	

GRASSES		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, P	Height	Bunchgrass or Sod Former	Application / Description	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name								
wheatgrass, slender	<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i> (<i>Agropyron trachycaulum</i>)	dry to moist; mod. drought tolerant	partial to full sun	wide range; saline tolerant	P; 3-4 yrs.	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	good for quick, non-aggressive cover	
wheatgrass, streambank	<i>Agropyron riparium</i> (<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i>)	dry with slight moist; drought tolerant		sand to loam	P		Sod former		
wheatgrass, thick spike	<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i> (<i>Agropyron dasystachyum</i>)	dry to moist; drought tolerant		light to heavy; well drained alkaline soil	P	≤ 36 in	Sod former	establishes on sand dunes, alkali flats	
wheatgrass, Western	<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> (<i>Agropyron smithii</i>)	dry	full sun	clay to clay-loam; saline tolerant	P	≤ 24 in	Sod former	blue-green foliage	
wildrye, blue	<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	moist	partial to full shade	sand to loam	P	≤ 36 in	Bunchgrass	erosion control; blue-green foliage	birds
wildrye, Canada	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	light; tolerant of sand; well drained	P	≤ 48 in	Bunchgrass	establishes quick, easy cover	
wildrye, creeping	<i>Leymus triticoides</i> (<i>Elymus triticoides</i>)	moist	full sun	tolerant of varying soil conditions, if sub-irrigated	P	≤ 12 in	Sod former	improves saline rangeland	
wildrye, Great Basin	<i>Leymus cinereus</i> (<i>Elymus cinereus</i>)	winter mod. moist, summer dry; drought tolerant	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 6 ft	Bunchgrass	erosion control; short flood tolerant	wildlife cover; browse; birds

WILDFLOWERS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
agoseris, pale	<i>Agoseris glauca</i>	mod. moist	full sun	loam	P	≤ 15 in		Y-O		meadows	
alpine bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella alpina</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 4 in		Y		rock garden; mat forming	
alumroot, roundleaf	<i>Heuchera cylindrica</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	sandy loam; rocky	P	≤ 16 in	basal			rock garden	
alumroot, small-leaved	<i>Heuchera parvifolia</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 15 in	basal			rock garden	
anemone, cliff	<i>Anemone multifida</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	rocky	P	≤ 15 in		W-Y		meadows; rock garden	
arnica, heartleaf	<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full shade	loam	P	≤ 12 in	heart-shaped	Y		under conifer trees; spreads	
arrowleaf balsamroot	<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	dry	partial to full sun	light; well drained	P	≤ 24 in	large, arrow-shaped	Y		border; medicinal	wildlife; browse
aster, smooth	<i>Aster laevis</i>	dry	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 3 ft		Pu		border; meadows	butterfly
avens, large-leaved	<i>Geum macropylum</i>	moist	partial to full shade	loam to clay	P	≤ 2 ft	hairy	Y		streambank; shady woods	
baneberry	<i>Actaea rubra</i>	moist	partial to full shade	loam	P	≤ 3 ft		W	R or W; poison	shady woods	
bee-plant, Rocky Mountain	<i>Cleome serrulata</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	A	≤ 4 ft		Pi-Pu	Pods; self-seeds	meadows; dry banks	

WILDFLOWERS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
bitterroot Montana state flower	<i>Lewisia rediviva</i>	dry	full sun	sand to gravelly; well drained	P	≤ 3 in	whither before it flowers	showy; W to Pi to Rose		rock garden; no competition	
blanket flower	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	dry to moist	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 2 ft		showy; R, O, & Y		meadows; border; easy from seed	butterfly
bluebells, oblongleaf	<i>Mertensia oblongifolia</i>	moist in spring; dry in summer	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 7 in	blue-green	Bl		meadows	
blue-eyed grass, mountain	<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	moist	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 10 in	grass-like	Bl-Pu		meadows	
columbine, yellow	<i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	moist	partial to full shade	loam	P	≤ 15 in	delicate	Y			humming-bird
coneflower, pale purple	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in	hairy	Pu		medicinal; rock garden	butterfly; birds
coneflower, prairie	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	dry; water in drought	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 3ft		R-Y	self-seeds	meadows; rock garden	
crazyweed, rabbit-foot	<i>Oxytropis lagopus</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 6 in		Pu	Pods	meadows; rock garden	
crazyweed, silky; white locoweed	<i>Oxytropis sericea</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 10 in		cream	Pods	meadows; rock garden	
daisy, cut-leaved	<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	dry	full sun	sand; rocky	P	≤ 8 in		W	self-seeds	rock garden	
death-camas, mountain	<i>Zigadenus elegans</i>	mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in	grass-like	W		meadows	
dogbane, spreading	<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	dry	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 28 in		Pi		erosion control; spreads	

WILDFLOWERS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
dotted gayfeather; blazing star	<i>Liatrix punctata</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 18 in	dark G	Pu		meadows; drought tolerant; rock garden	
evening primrose, common	<i>Oenothera villosa</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	B	≤ 24 in		Y		disturbed areas	
evening primrose, desert; gumbo lily	<i>Oenothera caespitosa</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 5 in		W; fades next day		no competition; rock garden	wildlife; browse
false Solomon's seal	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	moist	partial to full shade	loam	P	≤ 2.5 ft	lily-like	W	R	erosion control; streambank	
fireweed	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun	loam	P	≤ 4 ft	willow-like	Pi		old burns; spreads	
flax, Lewis's blue	<i>Linum lewisii</i> (<i>L. perenne</i>)	dry to moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 3 ft		light Bl	self-seeds	meadows; spreads	
fleabane, showy	<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial sun	coarse texture	P	≤ 24 in		La		meadows	
forget-me-not, Howard's alpine	<i>Eritrichium howardii</i>	dry	full sun	limestone	P	short; cushion plant	small; hairy	Bl		rock garden	
gentian, pleated	<i>Gentiana affinis</i>	moist	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 12 in		Bl-Pu		meadows	
geranium, sticky	<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 3 ft		Pi-Pu		meadows	
geranium, white	<i>Geranium richardsonii</i>	dry to moist	partial to full shade	sand to loam	P	≤ 2 ft		W		meadows; open woods	

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Common Name	Scientific Name										
globemallow, red	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 10 in	G-Gy	O		disturbed areas; no competition; drought tol.	
goldenrod, stiff	<i>Solidago rigida</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sand	P	≤ 3 ft		Y		meadows	bees
hairy golden-aster	<i>Chrysopsis (Heterotheca) villosa</i>	dry	full sun	light to med. tex.	P	≤ 12 in		Y		spreads; rock garden	
harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in		Bl-W		meadows	
hedysarum, Northern	<i>Hedysarum boreale</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun	medium texture	P	≤ 15 in	G-Gy; hairy	R-Pu	Pods	meadows	
hoary chaenactis	<i>Chaenactis douglasii</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 12 in		W-Pi		rock garden	
horsemint; bee balm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 3 ft	dark G; fragrant; edible	light Pu		easy to grow	butterfly; bees; hummingbird
iris, Rocky Mountain	<i>Iris missouriensis</i>	moist with summer dry	partial to full sun	rich org.; sand to clay	P	≤ 3 ft	G; sword-shaped	Bl		erosion control; spreads	birds; bees
larkspur, little	<i>Delphinium bicolor</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun	loam	P	≤ 12 in		Pu		meadows; rock garden	hummingbird
locoweed, showy	<i>Oxytropis splendens</i>	moist	full sun	loam	P	≤ 15 in		Pu	Pods	meadows	
lupine, silvery	<i>Lupinus argenteus</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 30 in	silvery G	Bl	Pods; self-seeds	meadows; spreads	

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Common Name	Scientific Name										
mint, field	<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	wet	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 3 ft	aromatic edible	La		streamside; spreads	bees
monkeyflower, Lewis's	<i>Mimulus lewisii</i>	wet with flowing water	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 2 ft		R		creeks; ponds; spreads	
mountain lily; sand lily	<i>Leucocrinum montanum</i>	dry to mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 5 in		W; fragrant		meadows; woods	
onion, nodding	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	moist	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 24 in	edible leaves & bulb	W-Pi		meadows	
pasqueflower	<i>Anemone patens</i>	moist, but tolerates dry	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 10 in	G; long hairs	Bl-Pu; Large	feathery seed	meadows; rock garden	
pearly everlasting	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in	G-Gy	W		meadows; fls. dry well	
penstemon, Alberta	<i>Penstemon albertinus</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in	dark G & Pu	Bl		border	humming-bird
penstemon, fuzzy-tongue	<i>Penstemon eriantherus</i>	dry	full sun	light; sandy, gravelly	P	≤ 6 in	G-Gy	light Bl to La		rock garden	humming-bird
penstemon, shining	<i>Penstemon nitidus</i>	dry	full sun	coarse to med.	P	≤ 12 in		Bl to Pi		rock garden	humming-bird
penstemon, small-flowered	<i>Penstemon procerus</i>	dry; water in drought	partial to full sun	most types	P	≤ 20 in		dark Bl to Pu	self-seeds	rock garden	humming-bird
phacelia, silverleaf	<i>Phacelia hastata</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sand	P	≤ 15 in	hairy	W-La		disturbed area; rock garden	

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Common Name	Scientific Name										
polemonium, skunk-leaved; Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i>	dry with slight moist	full sun	sand	P	≤ 12 in		vivid Bl		border; rock garden	
prairie smoke	<i>Geum triflorum</i>	dry to slight moist	full sun	loam	P	≤ 8 in		fls seem dark Pi; Y petals	feathery seed	rock garden; forms clumps	
prairie-clover, purple	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	dry to slight moist	full sun	med. tex.	P	≤ 20 in		rose to Pu	Pods	border; meadows	
prairie-clover, white	<i>Dalea candida</i>	dry to slight moist	full sun	coarse to med. tex.	P	≤ 24 in		W	Pods	border; meadows	
Rocky Mountain douglasia	<i>Douglasia montana</i>	dry	full sun	sand	P	short cushion plant	G with red mounds	Pi to Rose		rock garden	
sage, old man	<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	dry to slight moist	full sun	med. texture	P	≤ 24 in	aromatic	not showy		erosion control; ceremonial	
scarlet gilia	<i>Ipomopsis (Gilia) aggregata</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	B/P	≤ 24 in	1 st year = ferny rosette	showy; R	self-seeds	border; rock garden	humming-bird; browse
stemless hymenoxys	<i>Hymenoxys acaulis</i>	dry	full sun	calcareous rocky	P	≤ 10 in	G-Gy	Y		rock garden	
stonecrop, lance-leaved	<i>Sedum lanceolatum</i>	dry	full sun	rocky; thin soil	P	≤ 6 in	suc-culent	Y		rock garden	butterfly
sunflower, common	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	dry	full sun	med. tex.	A	≤ 6 ft		Y		border	bees; birds; wildlife
thermopsis, round-leaved	<i>Thermopsis rhombifolia</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 15 in		Y	Pods	erosion control; spreads	
townsendia, Hooker's	<i>Townsendia hookeri</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 3 in; cushion		W		rock garden	

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Common Name	Scientific Name										
townsendia, Parry's	<i>Townsendia parryi</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	B	≤ 10 in		Violet-Bl	self-seeds	rock garden	
twinpod, common	<i>Physaria didymocarpa</i>	dry	full sun	sand	B P	≤ 6 in	basal	Y	Pods; self-seeds	rock garden	
vaseflower; sugar bowl	<i>Clematis hirsutissima</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	loam	P	≤ 10 in		showy; Pu	feathery seed	meadows; rock garden	
vetch, American	<i>Vicia americana</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 3 ft		Pu		climbs; trails	
violet, yellow prairie	<i>Viola nuttallii</i>	dry	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 4 in		Y		meadows; rock garden	
Wyoming kittentails	<i>Besseyia wyomingensis</i>	dry	full sun	loam	P	≤ 7 in		Pu stamen & style		meadows; rock garden	
yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 24 in	G-Gy	W	self-seeds	meadows; medicinal	butterfly
yellow bell	<i>Fritillaria pudica</i>	dry	partial to full sun	med. loam	P	≤ 5 in	G; grass-like	Y		meadows	

GROUND COVERS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
buckwheat, sulfur	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	med. to coarse	P	≤ 12 in	basal	cream to Y		rock garden	butterfly
juniper, creeping	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sandy, rocky	P	≤ 12 in	G-E		G to Bl; edible	border; erosion control	birds (berry)
kinnikinnick	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	med. coarse	P	< 6 in	G-E	W-Pi	R	erosion control; medicinal	birds
Oregon grape, creeping	<i>Berberis (Mahonia) repens</i>	dry	full sun	med. coarse	P	≤ 12 in	G to R in fall; E	Y	Bl; edible	erosion control; medicinal	
phlox, Hood's	<i>Phlox hoodii</i>	dry	full sun	med. to coarse	P	< 6 in; cushion	G	W, Pu, Bl		rock garden; forms mats	bees
phlox, moss	<i>Phlox bryoides</i>	dry	full sun	alkaline okay	P	< 5 in; cushion	G	W		rock garden; forms mats	bees
pussy-toes, Nuttall's	<i>Antennaria parvifolia</i>	dry	full sun	fine to coarse	P	≤ 6 in		W-Pi; dioecious		rock garden; forms mats	
pussy-toes, rosy	<i>Antennaria microphylla</i>	dry	full sun	fine to coarse	P	≤ 10 in		W-Pi; dioecious		rock garden; forms mats	
pussy-toes, umber	<i>Antennaria umbrinella</i>	dry	full sun	fine to coarse	P	≤ 5 in		W-Br; dioecious		rock garden; forms mats	
twinflower	<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	moist to more moist	partial to full shade	high organic	P	< 6 in	G-E	pair of Pi flowers		under conifer trees	
whortleberry, grouse	<i>Vaccinium scoparium</i>	moist	partial to full sun	acidic okay	P	≤ 12 in	R in fall	Pi	R-Pu; edible	under conifer trees	birds (berry)
wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	tolerant of poor soil	P	≤ 5 in	G to R in fall	W	R; edible		birds (fruit)

SHRUBS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
alder, mountain	<i>Alnus incana</i>	moist, likes cold water	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 30 ft	G to Y in fall			erosion control; aggressive	bees
bitter-brush; antelope-brush	<i>Purshia tridentata</i>	dry	full sun	med. coarse; well drained	P	≤ 6 ft	G-Gy	Y		erosion control; drought tolerant	browse
buffaloberry, Canada	<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>	mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 6 ft	G; rusty dots	Br to Y; dioecious	Y to R (♀)		birds (berry)
buffaloberry, thorny	<i>Shepherdia argentea</i>	dry to some moisture	full sun	rocky, sandy, or clay; tolerates poor soil	P	≤ 10 ft	G-Gy	Br to Y; dioecious	R; edible (♀)	forms clumps; drought tolerant	birds (berry)
cherry, pin	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun		P	≤ 25 ft		W	R		browse; birds (berry); bees
chokecherry, common	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	dry to some moisture	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 15 ft	G to R in fall	W	R to Bk; edible	forms clumps; drought tolerant	birds (berry); bees; browse
cinquefoil, shrubby	<i>Pentaphylloides floribunda;</i> <i>Potentilla (Dasiphora) fruticosa</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 4 ft	G-Gy	Y		border	
currant, golden	<i>Ribes aureum</i>	moist	full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 6 ft		Y	Y-R; edible	hedge	humming-birds (flower); birds (berry); browse

SHRUBS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
currant, wax	<i>Ribes cereum</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	rocky or sandy	P	≤ 5 ft		W - Pi	R	border; hedge	birds (berry)
dogwood, red-osier	<i>Cornus sericea</i> (<i>C. stolonifera</i>)	moist	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 10 ft	R-Pu in fall; stems R	W	W to pale Bl	erosion control; forms clumps	browse; birds
elderberry, black	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	moist	partial sun	rich, rocky	P	≤ 6 ft		W	Bk; edible, if cooked	medicinal	bees; birds; bears (berry)
elderberry, blue	<i>Sambucus cerulea</i>	moist	full sun to full shade	sand to clay	P	≤ 10 ft	bright G	W	Bl; edible	medicinal	bees; birds (berry)
hawthorn, black	<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 20 ft	fall colors; thorns	W	Bk; edible	erosion control; hedge; medicinal	birds (berry)
juniper, common	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; rocky	P	≤ 5 ft	G-E		G to Bl; edible	border; erosion control; medicinal	birds (berry)
Lewis's mock orange; syringa	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	dry to some moisture	partial to full sun	alkaline; sand to loam	P	≤ 7 ft	G to Y in fall	W; fragrant		ornamental drought tolerant	birds (fruit); browse
maple, Rocky Mountain	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	mod. moist	partial to full shade	sand to loam	P	≤ 30 ft	fall colors; red stems				birds; bees
mountain balm; snowbrush	<i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	dry to moist	full sun	light to med. loam	P	≤ 10 ft	glossy; E	W		nitrogen fixer; old burns	browse
mountain-ash, Sitka	<i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	moist	partial sun	loam to clay; rich	P	≤ 15 ft	fall color	W	R		birds (berry)
mountain-mahogany; curl-leaf mahogany	<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	drought tolerant	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 12 ft	dark G; E			hedge	browse

SHRUBS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
ninebark	<i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>	dry	partial to full sun	sand to clay; well drained	P	≤ 6 ft		W		erosion control	
ocean spray	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 10 ft		groups of W fl.			
penstemon, bush	<i>Penstemon fruticosus</i>	dry to some moisture	partial to full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 2 ft		Bl-Pu		border	humming-bird
plum, wild	<i>Prunus americana</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 20 ft		W	R-Pu; edible	forms clumps	wildlife; birds; bees
rabbitbrush, green	<i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>	dry	full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 3 ft	G-Y	Y		good in disturbed areas	butterfly
rabbitbrush, rubber	<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	dry	full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 4 ft	G-Gy	Y		erosion control; disturbed areas	butterfly
raspberry, red	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to clay	P	3-6 ft	thorns	W	R; edible	good in disturbed areas	wildlife (fruit)
rose, prairie	<i>Rosa arkansana</i>	dry	full sun	loam	P	≤ 4 ft	thorns	deep Pi	R; edible	erosion control	wildlife; bees
rose, Wood's	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 7 ft	thorns	Pi	R; edible	hedge; spreads	bees; birds (rosehip)
sagebrush, big	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	dry	full sun	sand to clay; well drained	P	≤ 6 ft	G-Gy; aromatic; E	Y		drought tolerant; ceremonial	wildlife; browse; birds
sagebrush, fringed	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	dry	full sun	med. coarse texture	P	≤ 15 in	G-Gy; aromatic; E			drought tolerant; ceremonial	
sagebrush, silver	<i>Artemisia cana</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 5 ft	G-Gy; aromatic; E				
saltbush, four-wing	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; alkaline tolerant	P	≤ 5 ft	G-Gy; spines			disturbed areas	

SHRUBS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name										
serviceberry, Western	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	mod. moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 15 ft	deep G; Y-R in fall	W	Bl-Bk; edible	erosion control	wildlife; birds (berry)
snakeweed, broom	<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 2 ft		Y		drought tolerant	
snowberry, common	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	gravelly; sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 4 ft		Pi-W	W	erosion control; spreads; drought tolerant	birds (berry); browse
spiraea, rosy	<i>Spiraea densiflora</i>	moist	partial sun	rocky slopes	P	≤ 5 ft		Pi-R			
spiraea, white; shiny-leaf	<i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>	moist	partial to full sun	sand to loam	P	≤ 1.5 ft		light G	W	spreads	
sumac, skunk-bush	<i>Rhus trilobata</i>	dry to moist	partial to full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 6 ft	dark G; R-Bz in fall	Y	R	hedge; drought tolerant	wildlife; browse; birds; bees
thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	dry to moist	full sun to full shade	sand to loam	P	≤ 6 ft	G; large	W	R; edible	stream-side	wildlife (fruit)
twinberry, black; honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	moist	partial to full shade	sand to loam	P	≤ 5 ft		Y	Bk	stream-side	wildlife (fruit)
willow, Bebb	<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	moist to wet	full sun to full shade	deep & fine	P	≤ 15 ft	R-Pu twigs	dioecious		erosion control	browse; bees
willow, Booth	<i>Salix boothii</i>	moist to wet	partial to full sun	deep & fine	P	≤ 20 ft	G both sides	dioecious		erosion ctrl; higher elevations	browse; bees
willow, sandbar	<i>Salix exigua</i>	moist to wet	partial to full sun	sand to loam; alluvial	P	≤ 13 ft	G both sides	dioecious		erosion control; forms clumps	browse; bees
winterfat	<i>Ceratoides (Krascheninnikovia) lanata</i>	dry	full sun	clay; saline or alkaline tolerant	P	≤ 3 ft				drought tolerant	browse
yucca	<i>Yucca glauca</i>	dry	full sun	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 4 ft	E; succulent	G-W		drought tolerant; ornamental	browse

TREES		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers and Fruits	Application	Wildlife
Common Name	Scientific Name									
ash, green	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	dry to wet	partial to full sun	acid to alkaline	P	≤ 60 ft	G to Y in fall	dioecious	shade	birds (seed); browse
aspen, quaking	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	very moist	partial to full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 40 ft	G to Y in fall	dioecious	shade; clumps	birds; browse
box elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	moist	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 50 ft	G to Y in fall	dioecious	wind-break; spreads	
cottonwood, Great Plains	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	very moist	full sun	loam to clay	P	≤ 98 ft	G to Y in fall	dioecious		bees
cottonwood, narrowleaf	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	moist	full sun	light to med. gravelly	P	≤ 60 ft	G to Y in fall	dioecious	erosion control	bees
Douglas-fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	dry to moist	full sun	med. coarse	P	≤ 175 ft	E		wind-break	
elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	mod. moist	partial to full sun	rich alluvial	P	≤ 98 ft	G to Y in fall		shade	
juniper, Rocky Mountain	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	dry	full sun	sand to clay	P	≤ 20 ft	E	fruits: G to Bl	drought tolerant; wind break	birds (berry); browse
pine, limber	<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	dry	full sun	light to heavy clay	P	≤ 60 ft	E		drought tolerant	birds (seed)
pine, lodgepole	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	dry to mod. moist	full sun, but cool	sand to loam; well drained	P	≤ 82 ft	E			squirrels, birds (seed)
pine, ponderosa Montana state tree	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	dry	full sun	sand to clay; alkaline tolerant; well drained	P	≤ 115 ft	E		drought & wind tolerant	birds (seed); browse
spruce, Engelmann	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	moist	partial sun	loam	P	≤ 165 ft	E		wind break	birds

VINES		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flowers	Fruits	Application
Common Name	Scientific Name									
clematis, Columbia	<i>Clematis columbiana</i>	slight moist	full shade to full sun	med. loam	P	≤ 20 ft	3 - parted	Bl-Pu	feathery seed	climbs; trails
Western virgins-bower	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	dry to slight moist	partial to full sun	med. loam	P	≤ 20 ft	> 3 - parted	W	feathery seed	climbs; trails

CACTUS		Moisture	Light	Soil Type	A, B, P	Height	Leaves	Flower	Fruit	Application
Common Name	Scientific Name									
pincushion cactus	<i>Coryphantha vivipara</i>	dry	full sun	sandy	P	≤ 3 in	succulent; spiny	Pi – Pu	G	rock garden
prickly-pear, plains	<i>Opuntia polyacantha</i>	dry	full sun	sandy	P	≤ 12 in; mat forming	succulent; spiny; pads edible	Y – R	R; edible	rock garden