

RESOURCES FOR NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING IN THE HELENA AREA

BOOKS:

Building Inside Nature's Envelope: How New Construction and Land Preservation Can Work Together. Andy Wasowski and Sally Wasowski, Oxford University Press, 2000. This is an excellent book on environmentally sensitive construction and landscaping.

Central Rocky Mountain Wildflowers. H. Wayne Phillips, Falcon Publishing, Inc., 1999. A field guide to the plants of our region with great color photographs.

Gardening with Prairie Plants. Sally Wasowski, University of Minnesota Press, 2001.

The Magic of Montana Native Plants: A Gardener's Guide to Growing Over 150 Species From Seed. Sheila Morrison. 2003. Available for \$17.95 + \$3.00 postage from Montana Native Plant Press, 3912 Lincoln Road, Missoula, MT 59802. Provides detailed information on how to successfully grow native plants from seed.

Plants of the Rocky Mountains. Kershaw, MacKinnon and Alaback. Lone Pine Field Guide. 1998. This book provides keys and color photographs of wildflowers, trees, shrubs and some grasses. They are not all from our area of the Rockies, but the book is a good reference for Montana.

Source Guide for Native Plants of Montana. Published by the Montana Native Plant Society. To order, send \$6.00 payable to MNPS to: MNPS Publications, 1270 Lower Sweet Grass Road, Big Timber, MT 59011. Provides a list of 55 sources for over 500 species of Montana native plants.

Waterwise and Native Plants for Missoula County. Helen Atthowe, et al. Available for \$10 from the Missoula County Extension Service, 126 West Spruce, Missoula, MT 59802. Excellent information on specific native plant requirements. Covers many native species that do well in the Helena area.

NATIVE PLANT LIST FOR THE HELENA AREA:

Flora of Mount Helena Species List. The list includes nearly 300 species that occur on Mount Helena. The list includes both native and exotic species and tells you which are which! To get a copy write to the Montana Native Plant Society, Kelsey Chapter, 314 Travis Creek Road, Clancy, MT 59634; e-mail: drakekath64@msn.com or call 406-449-6586. For a hard copy, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. An electronic file can be requested at no cost.

WEBSITES:

California Native Plant Society, Gardening with Native Plants

http://www.cnps.org/links/grow_links.htm

Not local, but a lot of good information about gardening with natives. Contains a beautiful photo gallery organized by habitat.

Colorado State University, Gardening with Native Plants

<http://herbarium.biology.colostate.edu/gardening.htm>

There are about 50,000 herbarium specimens in the database and the entire collection is in the process of being computerized. There is also a brief gardening article with some beautiful photos.

Environmental Protection Agency, Green Landscaping with Native Plants

<http://www.epa.gov/greenacres/tips.html>

General information for the whole United States that includes the benefits of gardening with native plants and landscaping hints.

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

<http://www.wildflower.org/>

With native plant listings by state, beautiful color photos of every plant, information on seed collecting and much more, this site is loaded with information on gardening and landscaping with native plants

Montana Native Plant Society

<http://www.umt.edu/mnps/>

The website provides contacts for local MNPS chapters, reprints articles from the Society's newsletter, and provides links to Society publications, including an article on how to grow *Echinacea* and the *Guidelines for Selecting Horticultural Plant Material for Montana*.

Montana State University Extension Publications Catalog

<http://www.montana.edu/wwwpb/pubs/>

This website allows you to order Extension Service publication online. The general information is good, but they offer little specific advice on natives, so care should be taken when selecting recommended species.

Native Plants Journal and Native Plant Network

<http://nativeplants.for.uidaho.edu/>

Provides information and abstracts for the *Native Plants Journal*, a practical guide for planting and growing native plants, and the Native Plant Network, which provides a searchable database of native plant production methods.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

<http://plants.usda.gov/>

This site provides a huge plant database with a photo gallery of many of the plants, fact sheets on individual species, links to other plant related sites and state and federal noxious weed lists.

Perennial Gardening on the Prairies

<http://www.em.ca/garden/>

The "Wildflowers" link takes you to the Canadian Prairie Wildflowers page which is a native wildflowers list. This listing contains multiple beautiful color photographs of plants, descriptions and habitat information. Though oriented toward Saskatchewan, many of the species are also common to our prairie areas. A fantastic perennial gardening site, but not all species listed are natives.

Washington Native Plant Society - Gardening

<http://www.wnps.org/gardening.html>

Excellent site with many helpful links (for both the wet and dry sides of the state). The "Photos" link contains about 60 stunning photographs and information on habitat, blooming time and range.

Washington State University Extension Service, Gardening with Native Plants,

<http://gardening.wsu.edu/nwnative/>

The Plant Identification Database contains descriptions, habitat, advantages/disadvantages, propagation information and photos or drawings. It is primarily of plants from wetter habitats.