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

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

Scientific Name	Common Name
Anemone patens	Pasqueflower
Antennaria neglecta	Field Pussytoes
Antennaria rosea	Rosy Pussytoes
Arnica cordifolia	Heart-leaf Arnica
Balsamorhiza sagittata	Arrow-leaf Balsamroot
Camassia quamash	Blue Camas
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell
Clarkia pulchella	Elkhorns
Dodecatheon	Shooting Star
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho Fescue
Festuca scabrella	Rough Fescue
Fragaria spp.	Strawberry
Gaillardia aristata	Blanketflower

Geranium viscosissimum	Sticky Geranium
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke
Lupinus spp.	Lupine
Monarda fistulosa	Beebalm or Wild Bergamot
Penstemon spp.	Beardtongue
Pseudoroegneria spicata (Agropyron spicatum)	Bluebunch Wheatgrass
Ratibida columnifera	Mexican Hat or Coneflower
Stipa richardsonii	Richardson's Needlegrass
Zigadenus venomous	Common Death Camus

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

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

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:** On the campus of Flathead Valley Community College, Highway 93 North of Kalispell, 777 Grandview Drive, behind Blake Hall. 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. Garden is in full sun with no irrigation.
- For further information, contact: Bill McClaren at 257-2540, Kalispell.
- **Best viewing:** Early June. Bill McClaren offers a guided tour 1st Wednesday in June, 7:00pm.

Scientific Name	Common Name
Allium schoenoprasum	chives
Anaphalis margaritacea	Pearly Everlasting
	Pasqueflower
Anemone patens	
Antennaria microphylla	Rosy Pussytoes
Balsamorhiza sagittata	Arrow-leaf Balsamroot
Cornus sericea (aka Cornus stolonifera)	Red Osier Dogwood
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho Fescue
Fragaria virginiana	Mountain Strawberry
Gaillardia aristata	Blanketflower
Geranium viscosissimum	Sticky Geranium
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke
Heuchera cylindrica	Round-leaf Alumroot
Juniperus scopulorum	Rocky Mountain juniper
Linum lewisii	Blue Flax
Penstemon albertinus	Alberta Penstemon
Penstemon confertus	Yellow Penstemon
Penstemon procerus	Little Penstemon
Philadelphus lewisii	Mockorange or Syringa
Polemonium pulcherrimum	Showy Jacob's Ladder
Pentaphylloides floribunda (aka Potentilla	Shrubby Cinquefoil
fruticosa)	
Prunus virginiana	Common chokecherry
Pseudoroegneria spicata (aka Agropyron	Bluebunch wheatgrass
spicatus)	
Ribes aureum	Golden currant
Rosa gymnocarpa	Baldhip Rose
Sisyrinchium montanum	Montana Blue-eyed Grass
Solidago canadensis	Canada Goldenrod
Spiraea betulifolia	spiraea
Symphoricarpos albus	Common snowberry

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, Ecologist, at 888-7817 or call for a tour.
- **Best viewing:** Available for viewing during daylight hours from Sunday through Saturday.

Scientific Name	Common Name
Abies lasiocarpa (aka Abies bifolia)	Rocky Mountain Subalpine Fir
Achillea millefolium	Common Yarrow
Anaphalis margaritacea	Pearly Everlasting
Anemone multifida	Cliff Anemone or Pacific Anemone
Antennaria neglecta	Field Pussytoes
Antennaria rosea	Pink Pussytoes
Aquilegia flavescens	Yellow Columbine
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Common Bearberry or Kinnikinnick
Arnica cordifolia	Heart-leaf Arnica
Artemisia frigida	Fringed Sagewort
Artemisia ludoviciana	Western Mugwort or Prairie Sagewort
Aster conspicuous	Showy Aster
Berberis repens (aka Mahonia repens)	Creeping Oregon Grape
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell
Corydalis sempervirens	Pink Corydalis
Dryas drummondii	Yellow Mountain Avens

Epilobium alpinum (aka E.	Alpine Willowherb	
anagallidifolium)		
Epilobium angustifolium	Fireweed	
Erigeron peregrinus	Wandering Daisy or Subalpine Daisy	
Erigeron speciosus	Showy Fleabane	
Eriogonum umbellatum	Sulphur Buckwheat	
Fragaria virginiana	Wild Strawberry	
Gaillardia aristata	Blanketflower	
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke	
Hedysarum boreale	Sweetvetch or Northern Hedysarum	
Hedysarum sulphurescens	Yellow Sweetvetch or Yellow Hedysarum	
Hypericum formosum	Western St. John's-wort	
Iliamna rivularis	Mountain Hollyhock	
Lewisia pygmaea	Dwarf Lewisia or Pygmy Bitterroot	
Linnaea borealis	Twinflower	
Lupinus sericeus	Silky Lupine	
Monarda fistulosa	Beebalm or Wild Bergamot	
Papaver pygmaeum	Alpine Glacier Poppy	
Paxistima myrsinites	Mountain-Lover or Boxwood	
Penstemon confertus	Yellow Beardtongue	
Phacelia hastata	Silver-leaf Phacelia	
Philadelphus lewisii	Mockorange or Syringa	
Polemonium pulcherrimum	Showy Jacob's Ladder	
Potentilla fruticosa	Shrubby Cinquefoil	
Oxyria digyna	Mountain Sorrel	
Oxytropis splendens	Showy Crazyweed or Locoweed	
Rosa woodsii	Wood's Rose	
Sedum lanceolatum	Lance-leaf Stonecrop	
Solidago canadensis	Canada Goldenrod or Meadow Goldenrod	
Spiraea betulifolia	White Meadowsweet or Birch-leaf Spirea	
Spiraea splendens	Subalpine Spirea or Pink Spirea	
Symphoricarpos albus	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 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 most glorious during the summer months.

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

Children's House Montessori Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** parking lot of Children's House Montessori School at 1301 7th St. East, Whitefish.
- **Description:** Jen Asebrook established this school garden in 2008 with wildflowers and grasses typical of grasslands and rock gardens. There is one large ponderosa pine in the garden and a few low-growing shrubs, but the garden is primarily showy native, sun-loving wildflowers of Montana.
- For further information, contact: Jen Asebrook at 863-9630, Whitefish.
- **Best viewing:** The garden is accessible any time in the spring, summer and fall months. There is a handicapped accessible sidewalk adjacent to the garden, as well as a meandering gravel path that runs through the garden. Many flowers are blooming in May and June, however, many of the aster family wildflowers bloom into the fall.

Scientific name	Common Name
Wildflowers	
Allium cernuum/Sedum stenopetalum	Nodding onion with stonecrop
Anemone multifida	cut-leaved anemone
Anemone patens	pasqueflower
Anaphalis margaritacea	Pearly everlasting
Antennaria rosea	rosy pussytoes
Arnica latifolia	Mountain arnica
Aquilegia flavescens	Yellow columbine
Arnica sororia	Twin arnica
Artemisia frigida	Fringed sagewort
Artemisia ludoviciana	prairie sage
Aster conspicuus./P. albertinus	Showy aster/Alberta penstemon
Aster engelmannii	Engelmann's aster
Aster laevis	Smooth aster
Balsamorhiza sagittata	Arrowleaf balsamroot
Campanula rotundifolia	harebell
Castilleja miniata	Red paintbrush
Clarkia puchella	Clarkia
Coreopsis tinctoria	tickseed or plains coreopsis
Echinacea angustifolia	Narrow-leaved purple coneflower
Erigonum umbellatum	Sulphur buckwheat
Erigeron peregrinus	Wandering fleabane
Gaillardia aristata	Blanketflower
Geum triflorum	Prairie smoke
Heterotheca villosa	Golden aster
Heuchera cylindrica	alumroot

Illiamna rivularis	Mountain or Wild Hollyhock	
Linum lewisii	Wild blue flax	
Lithospermum ruderale	pucoon	
Monarda fistulosa	Bee balm	
Oenothera caespitosa	white evening primrose	
Oxyytropis sericea	Silky locoweed or crazyweed	
Penstemon albertinus	Alberta penstemon	
Penstemon confertus	Yellow penstemon	
Penstemon eatonii	red penstemon	
Penstemon ellipticus	rock-vine penstemon	
Penstemon eriantherus	Fuzzy-tongue penstemon	
Penstemon fruiticosus	shrubby penstemon	
Penstemon lyallii	Lyall's penstemon	
Penstemon procerus	alpine penstemon	
Ratibida columnifera	Prairie coneflower	
Sedum lanceolatum	stonecrop	
Sedum stenopetalum	narrow-petalled stonecrop	
Senecio canus	wooly groundsel	
Grasses		
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue	
Pseudoroegneria spicata		
Tree and Shrubs		
Pinus ponderosa	Ponderosa pine	
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	kinnikinnick	
Paxistima myrsinites	Mountain lover	
Dasiphora floribundus	Shrubby cinquefoil	



CHMS Garden prior to planting, 2008



CHMS Garden after planting, 2010



Discovery Square Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** west of Discovery Square building in shady area along the sidewalk, 540 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls.
- **Description:** The Flathead Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society established this community garden in 2009 with plants native to the Flathead National Forest and Glacier National Park. In creating the <u>Discovery Square Native Plant Shade Garden</u> we wanted to highlight the lush, wet, relatively warm, forest found west of the Continental Divide. The Avalanche Campground/Avalanche Lake area in the Lake McDonald Valley of Glacier National Park is an example of this vegetation type. Western red cedar and western hemlock trees dominate this moist, shady, lower elevation forest. The shrubs, wildflowers, ferns, and grasses you'd find growing in this forest are plants we've included in this garden.

Native plant gardens often seem to represent more drought-tolerant, sun-loving native plants. Finding and keeping an area shady and moist can be a challenge.

Bright, bold colors are less common in shade tolerant plants than in sun-loving ones. Flowers are usually produced less abundantly in the shade as well. For these reasons, shade gardens are often more subtle and restful than sunny ones. Plant textures, forms, and slight color differences become more important elements of the design.

- *For further information, contact:* Terry Divoky at 387-5527, West Glacier.
- **Best viewing:** The garden is accessible any time in the spring, summer and fall months. There is a handicapped accessible sidewalk adjacent to the garden. Flowering plants in the spring and summer.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Family
Flowers	(21 species)	
alumroot	Heuchera cylindrica	Saxifrage
heartleaf arnica	Arnica cordifolia	Aster
smooth aster	Aster laevis	Aster
beargrass	Xerophyllum tenax	Lily
bunchberry dogwood	Cornus canadensis	Dogwood
devil's club	Oplopanax horridus	Ginseng
Hooker's fairy bells	Prosartes [Disporum] hookeri	Lily
foamflower	Tiarella trifoliata	Saxifrage
fringecup	Tellima grandiflora	Saxifrage
wild ginger	Asarum caudatum	Ginseng
glacier lily	Erythronium grandiflorum	Lily
Brewer's mitrewort	Mitella breweri	Saxifrage
wood's pussytoes	Antennaria racemosa	Aster

queen-cup bead lily	Clintonia uniflora	Lily
false solomom seal	Smilacina [Maianthemum] racemosa	Lily
starry solomon seal	Smilacina [Maianthemum]stellata	Lily
twinflower	Linnaea borealis	Honeysuckle
American vetch	Vicia americana	Legume
early blue violet	Viola glabella	Violet
yellow violet	Viola adunca	Violet
pink wintergreen	Pyrola asarifolia	Wintergreen
Ferns	(5 species)	
bladder fern	Cystopteris fragilis	Bladder Fern
lady fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Wood Fern
northern oak fern	Gymnocarpium dryopteris	Wood Fern
Spinulose wood fern	Dryopteris carthusian	Wood Fern
sword Fern	Polystichum munitum	Holly Fern
Shrubs	(8 species)	
chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	Rose
golden currant	Ribes aureum	Current
kinnikinnick	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Heath
Rocky mtn maple	Acer glabrum	Maple
mountain spray	Holidiscus discolor	Rose
pink spiraea	Spiraea densiflora	Rose
red osier dogwood	Cornus stolonifera	Dogwood
thimbleberry	Rubus parviflorus	Rose
Sedges	(1 species)	
sedge	Carex spp	Sedge
Trees	(1 species)	
western hemlock	Tsuga heterophylla	Pine

Updated 10/21/2010





Planting Glacier Discovery Square Garden, 2009

Center School Museum Native Plant Garden

- **Location:** Museum at Central School, 124 2nd Ave. E, Kalispell, gardens located on the south and north sides of Museum.
- **Description:** Garden on north side of building in shade, the two gardens on the south side are in partial shade. Garden is irrigated and has organic leaf compost.
- For further information, contact: Bill McLaren at 257-2540, Kalispell.
- **Best viewing:** Tour-1st Wed in June, 7:00 PM

Common Name	Species	
Kinnickinnick	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	
Strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	
Rocky Mountain Maple	Acer glabrum	
Serviceberry	Amelanchier alnifolia	
Redosier Dogwood	Cornus sericea	
Common Juniper	Juniperus communis	
Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	
Woods Rose	Rosa woodsii	
Elderberry	Sambucus racemosa	
Buffaloberry	Shepherdia canandensis	
Mountain Ash	Sorbus scopulina	
Spirea	Spiraea betulifolia	
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus	
Bunchberry	Cornus canadensis	
Rocky Mtn. Juniper	Juniperus scopulorum	
Oregon Grape	Mahonia repens	
Red Raspberry	Rubus idaeus	
Thimbleberry	Rubus parviflorus	
Baldhip Rose	Rosa gymnocarpa	
Douglas Fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii	
Bog Birch	Betula glandulosa	
Idaho Fescue	Festuca idahoensis	
Alpine bluegrass	Poa alpina	
Pearly Everlasting	Anaphalis margaritacea	
Pasqueflower	Anemone patens	
Rosy Pussytoes	Antennaria microphylla	
Echinacea	Echinacea angustifolia	
Alumroot	Heuchera cylindrical	
Heart-leaf arnica	Arnica cordifolia	
Alpine aster	Aster alpgenus	
Blanket Flower	Gaillardia aristata	
Blue-eyed Grass	Sisyrinchium angustifloium	
Red Columbine	Aquilegia formosa	
Yellow Columbine	Aquilegia flavescens	
Coreopsis	Coreopsis atkinsoniana	
Evening Primrose	Oenothera caespitosa	