

KATHY ROSS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATIVE HOME GARDENS IN THE FLATHEAD AREA

Thank you to Kathy Ross for providing the following lists of recommended **NATIVE SPECIES**, **NON-NATIVES IN A NATIVE SETTING**, and **ORNAMENTAL PLANTS NOT RECOMMENDED** to the Montana Native Plant Society, Flathead Chapter. March, 2018.

RECOMMENDED NATIVE SPECIES

This list of native plants has been worked with for over 25 years on Flathead Lake properties and other areas of the Flathead Valle. These native shrubs are especially useful and easy care to add into any landscape whether it be all native or mostly ornamental plants. The list of native perennials can add color and texture to any flower garden, and as well as encourage the local biodiversity. This is by no means a complete list. Add native plants whenever possible!

TREES (for the canopy)

Birch	(<i>Betula papyrifera</i>)
Cedar	(<i>Thuja plicata</i>)
Hemlock	(<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>)
Larch	(<i>Larix occidentalis</i>)
Ponderosa	(<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)



SHRUBS (for the understory, texture and color)

Bunchberry	(<i>Cornus Canadensis</i>) groundcover
Birch-leaved Spiraea	(<i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>)
Juniper	(<i>Juniperus communis</i>)
Bog Birch	(<i>Betula glandulosa</i>)
Kinnikinnick	(<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>) groundcover
Mockorange	(<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>)
Mountain Ash	(<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>)
Mountain Lover	(<i>Paxistima myrsinites</i>)
Ninebark	(<i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>)
Ocean spray	(<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>)
Oregon Grape	(<i>Berberis repens</i>) groundcover

Rocky Mt. Maple (*Acer glabrum*)
 Red osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)
 Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
 Thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*)
 Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsia*)
 Yew (*Taxus brevifolia*)



PERENNIALS (color and texture)

Alumroot (*Heuchera cylindrical*)
 Arnica, Heart-leaf (*Arnica corifolia*)
 Blue Flax, wild (*Linum lewisii*)
 Blanket flower (*Gillardia aristata*)
 Fireweed (*Chamerion angustifolium*)
 Gay Feather (*Liatris*)
 Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)
 Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*)
 Meadowrue (*Thalictrum occidentale*)
 Pussy toes (*Antennaria sp.*) there are several good ones
 Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*)
 Sarsaparilla, wild (*Aralia nudicaulis*)
 Showy Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium pulcherrimum*)
 Stonecrop (*Sedum lanceolatum*)
 Solomon's-Seal (*Smilacina racemosa, Smilacina stellate*)
 Sticky geranium (*Geranium viscosissimum*)

NON-NATIVE PLANT SUGGESTIONS FOR USE IN NATIVE SETTING

If ornamental plants are desired in a native landscape, the following are suggested. In established local gardens the following plants have been found to blend nicely with native landscapes to add color and texture without becoming invasive but may require some pruning from time to time. These are hardy varieties which have survived Montana winters for at least 10 years or more.

SHRUBS

Juniper procumbens nana
 Dwarf white pine
 Pine 'Hillside Creeper'

Boxwoods 'Winter Gem'
Thuja occidentalis 'Rhiengold'
Rhododendrons,
Broadleaf, large evergreen varieties, 'Catawbiensa Album', Nova Zembela,
'Pride's Pink'
Broadleaf, compact evergreen varieties, Yak series, including 'Ken Janek',
'Crete'
Small leaf, evergreen early bloom, wilder looking, P.J.M. (highly
recommended)
Small leaf, deciduous azalea, wild growth habit, 'Northern Light' series,
good colors, Hardy -40 degrees. (highly recommended)
Forsythia
Callunas late summer blooming Heather. 'Silver Knight', 'Multicolor'
Ericas, spring blooming Heath, 'Mediterranean Pink', 'Springwood
White'(highly recommended)
Viburnums
Chinese Dogwood, Cornus kousa chinensis, Small tree, Z5, June, white
blooms
Hydrangea paniculata, very hardy, late blooming, does not blend as well in
native landscape but adds easy care color.
Clematis, vining, 'General Skorski', summer, purple, easy care. 'The
President', summer, purple.

PERENNIALS & BULBS

Peony
Hellebores
Tulips
Daffodils
Oriental lilies
Spigelia marilandica
Crocsmia
Edleweiss
Saponaria
Saxifraga
Echinacea
Hosta
Gentian hybrids

CONT.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTS NOT RECOMMENDED IN A NATIVE LANDSCAPE

I have found these ornamental plants to spread rapidly and become very invasive. Some may even be listed noxious weeds. Suggest not planting in a native landscape. Note: Many may be related to native species. These are the hybrids that are not recommended. See also [Guidelines for Selecting Horticultural Plant Material for Montana](#)

Hybrid Maples
European Mountain Ash
Bradford Pear
Bachlor Buttons, Centaurea family is Knapweed family
Yellow Flag Iris, Iris pseudacorus, Listed
Bellflowers, Campanula, some hybrids are listed
Violas
Scotch Broom
Loosestrife, Purple, Listed
Lady's Mantle
English ivy
Mints
Columbine hybrids
Lupine, hybrid varieties
Spiraea, some hybrid varieties
Cotoneaster
Perrennial geraniums, non-native hybrids
White daisies
Oregano
Bamboo and Ornamental grasses
Pulmonaria
Creeping Veronicas, non-native
Japanese Knotweed, Polygonum c.
Sweet Rocket/Dame's rocket, Listed