

Dave's Favs: Plant list

Two great web pages:

Photo gallery of my Boulder native plant garden for beauty and inspiration:

www.davesutherland.co/native-plants-daves-home-garden

Detailed Growing Tips for over 100 native Boulder plants:

www.bouldercolorado.gov/native-plants-growing-tips

Medium Shrubs

- **Chokecherry** (*Prunus virginiana*) - blooms mid May - June. Easy to start from seed, easy to transplant. Runners underground can make it an aggressive problem when it gets big. Deer eat the foliage. Pollinator friendly, wildlife fruit, host plant for butterflies.
- **Golden Currant** (*Ribes aureum*) - Deer may eat it. Clove-smelling bee friendly flowers.
- **Wax Currant** (*Ribes cereum*)- Deer may eat it.
- **Service Berry** (*Amalanchier alnifolia*) - Seems to reseed itself occasionally, and I have had good luck moving the seedlings. Pollinator-friendly flowers, edible wildlife fruits
- **Yucca** (*Yucca glauca*) - Sprouts well from seed in early - mid May, seedlings look like grass. The seedlings don't seem to be xeric but the large plants seem to need dry conditions. I clear all the litter away from the base of them in spring to help them stay dry. SHARP! Don't plant close to walks. Close pollinator relationship with *Pronuba* moth.

Native Flowers

- **Beebalm/Horsemint/Bergamot** (*Monarda fistulosa*) - Does well in shady moister, cooler site. Sprouts up mid-April, easy germination.
- **Curly-cup Gumweed** (*Grindelia squarrosa*) - Seeds come up in early May in quantity, look like prickly lettuce. Blooms well in August / September. Biennial, reseeds itself prolifically. Favored by many pollinators including flies and little beetles.
- **Evening Primrose, White** (*Oenothera caespitosa*) Will reseed itself. Plant lives for several years before dying. Host to white-lined sphinx caterpillars.
- **Evening Primrose, Yellow** (*Oenothera howardii*) see above
- **Gaillardia / Blanketflower** (*Gaillardia aristata*) - Seeds up in early May, first blooms appear in early June, blooms very well in August through September.

Host plant with for its pollinator, the lovely Gallardia moth.

- **Golden Banner** (*Thermopsis divaricarpa*) - Scratch seed coat to germinate. Sprouts up mid-April, blooms early to mid May. Impossible to transplant except when small. Can spread aggressively through rhizomes.
- **Goldenrod, Smooth (Canada)** (*Solidago missouriensis*) - The transplants need a lot of care and watering, and look pretty bad for a while. However, once they get established this plant spreads aggressively by underground runners.
- **Goldenrod, Tall (Stiff)** (*Oligoneuron rigida*) – Blooms in mid-late August. Hard to transplant, needs lots of water and care after moving. Reseeds itself.
- **Penstemon, Blue Mist** (*Penstemon virens*) - blooms mid- to end of May. Transplants easily from seed stock but my nursery plants all bloomed then died suddenly. Like other penstemons, lots of native bee pollinator associations.
- **Penstemon, One-sided** (*Penstemon secundiflora*) - blooms mid to end of May - June, easy to transplant. Deer will eat the flower buds off it readily.
- **Penstemon, Rocky Mountain** (*Penstemon strictus*) - blooms end of May – June with intensely blue-purple flowers. Native bees love it, and also Pollen Wasps (*Masarinae*) have an affinity for larger penstemons!
- **Penstemon, Saw-sepal** (*Penstemon glaber*) see above, more indigo blue
- **Penstemon, Tall Purple** (*Penstemon virgatus*) see above, more lavender
- **Showy Milkweed** (*Asclepias speciosa*) - easy germination, seeds come up in early - mid May. It spreads through root-suckers. Host plant for wide variety of insects including Monarch butterfly. Pollinators love the sweet flowers.
- **Sunflower** (*Helianthus pumilus*) - Sow in fall, seeds germinate early April. Sows very easily. Many bees pollinate it, and seeds feed wild birds.
- **Yarrow** (*Achillea lanulosa*) - Very transplant hardy. Stays green all winter. And may be a potential lawn grass substitute if mowed Starts blooming early June, blooms through August. May aggressively take over! Bees and butterflies pollinate it.

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