

# LaBonte Park's Outdoor Learning Center Water-Wise and Native Plant Demonstration Garden

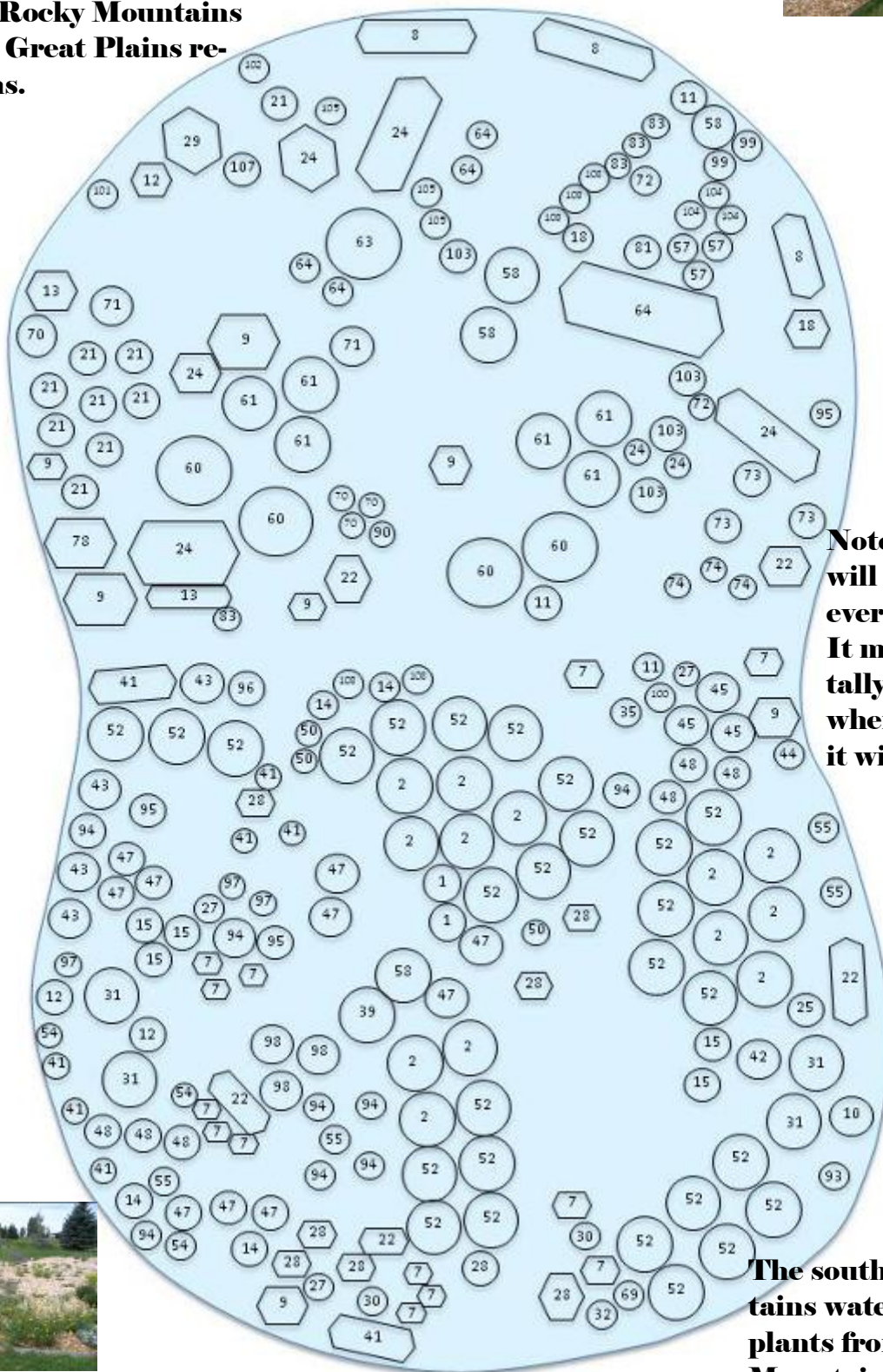


This collaborative effort was undertaken in fall 2007 to showcase the wide variety of water-wise plants that can be grown in Laramie. Most are also well-adapted to other locations in the state. These drought-tolerant species can be used in naturalistic settings or in more formal gardens. Either way, you'll end up with a landscape that uses less water, takes up less of your time, and looks great!

Updated 8/2012



The north side of this garden is dedicated to plants that are native to our area including the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains regions.



**Note: This map will be revised every 2-3 years. It may not be totally accurate when you visit but it will be close.**



**The south side contains water-wise plants from the Rocky Mountain region and beyond.**

## Water-Wise Demo Bed List of Plants (listed by map number)

### PERENNIALS

3. Wild four o'clock, *Mirabilis multiflora*
4. Sunset penstemon, *Penstemon clutei*
5. Basket of Gold, *Aurinaria saxatilis*
6. Lambs ear ('Silver Carpet'), *Stachys byzantina*
7. Dianthus ('Firewitch'), *Dianthus gratianopolitanus*
8. Rocky Mountain penstemon, *Penstemon strictus*
9. Small-leaf pussytoes ('McClintock'), *Antennaria parvifolia*
10. Artemisia ('Silver Brocade'), *Artemisia stelleriana*
11. Poppy mallow, *Callirhoe involucrata*
12. Upright prairie coneflower (yellow form), *Ratibida columnifera*
13. Blanket flower ('Goblin'), *Gaillardia* sp.
14. Missouri evening primrose, *Oenothera macrocarpa*
15. Pineleaf penstemon, *Penstemon pinifolius*
18. Dotted blazing star, *Liatris punctata*
22. Sulfur buckwheat ('Kannah Creek'), *Eriogonum umbellatum*
23. Large beardtongue, *Penstemon grandiflorus*
24. Purple prairie clover, *Petalostemon purpureum*
25. Aster ('Purple Dome'), *Aster novi-angliae*
26. Yellow iceplant, *Delosperma nubigenum*
27. Hens and chicks (green), *Sempervivum* spp.
28. Blue wooly veronica, *Veronica pectinata*
29. Colorado blue columbine, *Aquilegia coerulea*
30. Dwarf bearded iris ('Mr. Roberts'), *Iris germanica*
32. Pink wild snapdragon, *Penstemon palmeri*
34. Narrow-leaf coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*
35. European cutleaf sage, *Salvia jurisicii*
39. Russian sage, *Perovskia atriplicifolia*
41. Creeping phlox ('Emerald Cushion Blue'), *Phlox subulata*
42. Variegated iris ('Variegata'), *Iris pallida*
43. Snow daisy, *Tanacetum niveum*
44. Rose campion ('Atrosanguinea'), *Lychnis coronaria*
45. Salvia ('May Night'), *Salvia nemerosa*
46. Blue sage, *Salvia azurea*
47. Purple coneflower, *Echinacea purpurea*
48. Sedum ('Autumn Joy'), *Sedum spectabile*
50. Serbian yarrow, *Achillea serbica*
51. Wasatch beardtongue, *Penstemon cyananthus*
52. Catmint ('Walker's Low'), *Nepeta* sp.
54. Hens and chicks (purple), *Sempervivum* spp.
55. Penstemon, miscellaneous species
58. Perennial sunflower, *Helianthus maximiliani*
66. Desert prince's plume, *Stanleya pinnata*
69. Bladderpod, *Alyssoides utriculata*
70. White evening primrose, *Oenothera caespitosa*
72. Scarlet gilia, *Ipomopsis aggregata*
73. Hummingbird trumpet ('Orange Carpet'), *Zauschneria garrettii*
74. Bitterroot ('Edithae'), *Lewisia* hybrid
78. Native penstemon, *Penstemon* sp.
79. Butterfly milkweed, *Asclepias tuberosa*
83. Pasqueflower, *Pulsatilla patens*

84. Upright prairie coneflower (red-brown form) *Ratibida columnifera*
90. Sugarbowl clematis, *Clematis scottii*
93. Iris (intermediate size), *Iris* spp.
94. Iris, *Iris* spp.
95. Firecracker penstemon, *Penstemon eatonii*
96. Partridge feather, *Tanacetum densum* ssp. *amani*
97. Sedum ('Angelina'), *Sedum rupestre*
98. Yarrow ('Moonshine'), *Achillea* hybrid
99. Sand phlox, *Phlox bifida*
100. Blue spruce sedum, *Sedum reflexum*
101. Short penstemon, *Penstemon* sp.
102. Rosy pussytoes, *Antennaria* sp.
104. Penstemon ('Elfin Pink'), *Penstemon barbatus*
105. Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*
106. Jones' bluestar, *Amsonia jonesii*
107. Blue mist penstemon, *Penstemon virens*
108. Kelsey's phlox ('Lemhi Purple'), *Phlox kelseyi*

### SHRUBS

31. Creeping sand cherry ('Pawnee Buttes'), *Prunus besseyi*
60. Sand cherry, *Prunus besseyi*
61. Golden currant, *Ribes aureum*
63. Woods' rose, *Rosa woodsii*
71. Fernbush, *Chamaebatiaria millefolium*
81. Apache plume, *Fallugia paradoxa*
103. Mountain mahogany, *Cercocarpus montanus*

### GRASSES

1. Tall wheatgrass ('Jose Select'), *Elytrigia elongata*
2. Blue avena grass, *Helictotrichon sempervirens*
21. Big bluestem, *Andropogon gerardii*
57. Switchgrass ('Heavy Metal'), *Panicum virgatum*
64. Little bluestem ('Blaze'), *Schizachyrium scoparium*



Reported to be deer resistant\*



Reported to be rabbit resistant\*

**\* Nothing is a sure bet when it comes to wildlife eating your plants, except perhaps proper fencing.**

## Water-Wise Demo Bed List of Plants

(by genus; map number is shown in parentheses)

### PERENNIALS

#### *Achillea*

- A. serbica*, Serbian yarrow (50)
- Achillea* hybrid ('Moonshine'), Yarrow (98)

#### *Alyssoides utriculata*, Bladderpod (69)

#### *Amsonia jonesii*, Jones' bluestar (106)

#### *Antennaria*

- A. parvifolia* ('McClintock'), Small-leaf pussytoes (9)
- A. rosea*, Rosy pussytoes (102)

#### *Aquilegia coerulea*, Colorado blue columbine (29)

#### *Artemisia stelleriana* ('Silver Brocade'), Artemisia (10)

#### *Asclepias tuberosa*, Butterfly milkweed (79)

#### *Aster novi-angliae* ('Purple Dome'), Aster (25)

#### *Baptisia australis*, False indigo (92)

#### *Callirhoe involucrata*, Poppy mallow (11)

#### *Clematis scottii*, Sugarbowl clematis (90)

#### *Delosperma nubigenum*, Yellow iceplant (26)

#### *Dianthus gratianopolitanus* ('Firewitch'), Dianthus (7)

#### *Echinacea*

- E. angustifolia*, Narrow-leaf coneflower (34)
- E. purpurea*, Purple coneflower (47)

#### *Eriogonum umbellatum* ('Kannah Creek'), Sulfur buckwheat (22)

#### *Gaillardia* sp. ('Goblin'), Blanket flower (13)

#### *Helianthus maximiliani*, Perennial sunflower (58)

#### *Ipomopsis aggregata*, Scarlet gilia (72)

#### *Iris*

- I. germanica* ('Mr. Roberts'), Dwarf bearded iris (30)
- I. pallida* ('Variegata'), Variegated iris (42)
- Iris* spp. (intermediate size), Iris (93)
- Iris* spp., Iris (94)

#### *Lewisia* hybrid ('Edithae'), Bitterroot (74)

#### *Liatris punctata*, Dotted blazing star (18)

#### *Lychnis coronaria* ('Atrosanguinea'), Rose campion (44)

#### *Mirabilis multiflora*, Wild four o'clock (3)

#### *Nepeta* sp. ('Walker's Low'), Catmint (52)

#### *Oenothera*

- O. caespitosa*, White evening primrose (70)
- O. macrocarpa*, Missouri evening primrose (14)

#### *Penstemon*

- P. barbatus* 'Elfin Pink', Elfin pink penstemon (104)
- P. clutei*, Sunset penstemon (4)
- P. cyananthus*, Wasatch beardtongue (51)
- P. eatonii*, Firecracker penstemon (95)
- P. grandiflorus*, Large beardtongue (23)
- P. palmeri*, Pink wild snapdragon (32)
- P. pinifolius*, Pineleaf penstemon (15)
- P. strictus*, Rocky Mountain penstemon (8)
- P. virens*, Blue mist penstemon (107)
- Penstemon* sp., Native penstemon (78)
- Penstemon* sp., Short penstemon (101)
- Miscellaneous *Penstemon* species (55)

#### *Perovskia atriplicifolia*, Russian sage (39)

#### *Petalostemon purpureum*, Purple prairie clover (24)

#### *Phlox*

- P. bifida*, Sand phlox (99)
- P. subulata* ('Emerald Cushion Blue'), Creeping phlox (41)
- P. kelseyi* ('Lemhi Purple'), Kelsey's phlox (108)

#### *Pulsatilla patens*, Pasqueflower (83)

#### *Ratibida columnifera*, Upright prairie coneflower Yellow form (12)

#### Red-brown form (84)

#### *Rudbeckia hirta*, Black-eyed Susan (105)

#### *Salvia*

- S. jurisicii*, European cutleaf sage (35)
- S. nemerosa* ('May Night'), Salvia (45)
- S. azurea* (46)

#### *Sedum*

- S. spectabile* ('Autumn Joy'), Sedum (48)
- S. reflexum*, Blue spruce sedum (100)
- S. rupestre* ('Angelina'), Sedum (97)

#### *Sempervivum* spp.

- Green hens and chicks (27)
- Purple hens and chicks (54)

#### *Stachys byzantina* ('Silver Carpet'), Lambs ear (6)

#### *Stanleya pinnata*, Desert prince's plume (66)

#### *Tanacetum*

- T. densum* ssp. *amani*, Partridge feather (96)
- T. niveum*, Snow daisy (43)

#### *Veronica pectinata*, Blue wooly veronica (28)

#### *Zauschneria garrettii* ('Orange Carpet'), Hummingbird trumpet (73)

### SHRUBS

#### *Amorpha canescens*, Leadplant (20)

#### *Cercocarpus montanus*, Mountain mahogany (103)

#### *Chamaebatiaria millefolium*, Fernbush (71)

#### *Fallugia paradoxa*, Apache plume (81)

#### *Prunus besseyi*

- 'Pawnee Buttes' creeping sand cherry (31)
- Sand cherry (60)

#### *Ribes aureum*, Golden currant (61)

#### *Rosa woodsii*, Woods' rose (63)

### GRASSES

#### *Andropogon gerardii*, Big bluestem (21)

#### *Elytrigia elongata* ('Jose Select'), Tall wheatgrass (1)

#### *Helictotrichon sempervirens*, Blue avena grass (2)

#### *Panicum virgatum* ('Heavy Metal'), Switchgrass (57)

#### *Schizachyrium scoparium* ('Blaze'), Little bluestem (64)

## **Notes & observations:**

### **About the site**

The Demonstration Garden soil is a gravel loam topped by about 6 inches of red clay soil. It gets full sun and plenty of wind (and cold) for a site in town, because of open exposure on the western side. Most of the plants at this site require plentiful sunlight. This garden is where we trial plants that show potential for Laramie gardens. As some should be considered experimental for our area, we recommend that you re-search these plants thoroughly before introducing them into your garden.

### **Warm-season grasses**

Many of the ornamental grasses in the horticultural trade that are native to Wyoming are “warm-season grasses”. In our area (elevation) “cool-season grasses” grow best. Therefore, some of these warm-season grasses may struggle or die unless they are planted in a warm microclimate.

### **Reseeding**

“Reseeds” generally means that the plants produce seed, some of which germinates the next year, creating new plants. Some plants don’t reseed (they are sterile or reproduce by other means). Others reseed a little and some reseed a lot. Reseeding can be beneficial if you are trying to fill in an area with that same plant type. It can be a problem if a plant reseeds a lot and you either have other types of plants near it or you otherwise want to keep it only in one location. The seedlings can either out-compete other kinds of plants or spread across your garden. Also, a plant that reseeds a lot in one location may not do so in another. Some seedlings are easier to pull out than others. Deadheading (cutting off flower stalks after flowering is over but before seed is released) can control reseeding somewhat. **If you ever see a plant that is reseeding and spreading a lot into a wild/natural area, consider killing the seedlings and the parent plants immediately—a few plants have been known to escape cultivation and become weeds (non-native plants are of particular concern).**

### **Native Plants**

Not all native plants are “nice” in a domesticated setting such as a residential garden. When released from the pressures keeping them in check in their native environment (poor soils, lack of water, competition from other plants, herbivory, etc.) they can spread prolifically in your garden either by abundant seed production or by spreading vegetatively underground. These traits may or may not be desirable in your setting. Get to know what you can about them before you plant, then observe them for several years in your garden.

# Wild Four O' Clock

3

*Mirabilis multiflora*



Height: 1-3'  
Width: 2-4'  
Very long lived;  
Resents transplanting.  
Reseeds.



# Sunset Penstemon

4

*Penstemon clutei*



Height: 40"  
Width: 12-18"  
Reseeds moderately.

# Basket-of-Gold

5

*Aurinia saxatilis*, *Alyssum saxatile*



Height: 6-15"  
Width: 12-18" (or wider)  
Bright spring color. Grey-green inconspicuous foliage. Older plants can get ratty looking. Trim back to renew after bloom.



# 'Silver Carpet' Lambs Ear

6

*Stachys byzantina*

Height: 8-10"  
Width: 12-24" (or much wider)  
Foliage looks good all summer; groundcover.  
Planted 2007.



## 'Firewitch' Dianthus

7

*Dianthus gratianopolitanus*

Height: 6-8"  
Width: 8-12"  
Cut back after  
flowering to en-  
joy the foliage.  
Reseeds a little.  
Planted 2007.



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## Rocky Mountain Penstemon

8

*Penstemon strictus*



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Native  
Easy to grow;  
can get powdery  
mildew. Can re-  
seed a lot! Dead-  
head to avoid re-  
seeding. Planted  
2007.





# Small-Leaf Pussytoes 'McClintock' 9

*Antennaria parvifolia*

Height: 1-2"  
Width: 8-12"  
Native plant common in our region; spreading ground-cover; about 6" tall in flower. In dry years can winter burn a bit. Planted 2007.



# 'Silver Brocade' Artemisia 10

*Artemisia stelleriana*



Height: 8-12"  
Width: 1-2' (or wider)  
Can cut back after flowering to enjoy the foliage.  
Planted 2007.



# Poppy Mallow

*Callirhoe involucrata*



11

Height: 6-12"  
Width: 2-3'  
Native  
Resents trans-  
planting. Re-  
seeds. Planted  
2007.



# Prairie Coneflower

*Ratibida columnifera*

12



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 18-24"  
Native  
Long bloom period;  
short lived but re-  
seeds moderately.  
Flowers can be yel-  
low or burnt or-  
ange. Planted  
2007.



# Blanket Flower

13

*Gaillardia*



Height: 12-18"  
Width: 12-18"  
Native hybrid.  
Reseeds a fair amount. Planted 2007.



# Missouri Evening Primrose

14

*Oenothera macrocarpa*

Height: 12-18"  
Width: 18-24"  
Low-growing, sprawling plant; grows quickly from seed and often blooms its first year. Seems long-lived. Planted 2007.



# Pineleaf Penstemon

*Penstemon pinifolius*

15



Height: 6-8"  
Width: 12-15"  
Long-blooming  
penstemon for  
the front of the  
border; reseeds  
a bit. Planted  
2007.



# Gayfeather

*Liatris punctata*

18

Height: 12-18"  
Width: 6-12"  
Native  
Drought tolerant.  
Takes a few years to  
bulk up. Planted  
2007.



# 'Kannah Creek' Sulfur Buckwheat

22

*Eriogonum umbellatum*



Height: 6-12"  
Width: 8-12"  
Native; long season of interest.  
Flowers turn rusty orange color. Nice!

 Planted 2007.

Design Hint:  
Plan for color throughout the growing season by choosing plants with different flowering times.

# Large Beardtongue

23

*Penstemon grandiflorus*

Height: 2-3'  
Width: 8-12"  
Native; large showy blooms; reseeds moderately. Short bloom period (~2 weeks). Often quite short-lived (1-2 years).



## Purple Prairie Clover

24

*Petalostemon purpureus* (also *Dalea purpurea*)

Height: 2-3'  
Width: 1-2'  
Native; nitrogen-fixing  
plant. Takes a couple  
years to bulk up.  
Planted 2007.



Nitrogen-fixing plants use certain bacteria to turn atmospheric nitrogen into soil nitrogen compounds that can be used by other plants.

## 'Purple Dome' Aster

25

*Aster novi-angliae*



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 18-24"  
Late summer  
bloom time.  
Hasn't been vig-  
orous in this  
bed. One plant  
still alive, barely.  
Planted 2007.

# Yellow Iceplant

*Delosperma nubigenum*

26

Height: 1-2"  
Width: 18-24" (or wider)  
Long bloom period; spreading groundcover. On edge of hardiness here. Will often live for several years then die.



# Hens and Chicks

*Sempervivum* spp.

27 & 54



Height: 2-4"  
Width: 12-18" (or wider)



Spreading groundcover. Foliage and color variants look good all summer.



## Blue Woolly Veronica

*Veronica pectinata*

28



Height: 1-2"  
Width: 12-18" (or wider)

Early summer blooms; good groundcover. Can experience "winter burn" in dry winters or very exposed locations. Planted 2007.



## Colorado Blue Columbine

*Aquilegia coerulea*

29

Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Native; reseeds a lot! Likes a bit more water than some. Can take some shade. Planted 2007.





## Dwarf Bearded Iris

30

*Iris pumila* 'Mr. Roberts'



Height: 8-12"  
Width: 8-12"  
Early bloomer,  
but foliage adds  
interest all sum-  
mer. Planted  
2007.



## Pink Wild Snapdragon

32

*Penstemon palmeri*



Height: 2-4'  
Width: 18-24"  
Large, showy fra-  
grant blooms.  
Short-lived but  
reseeds when  
happy.



## Narrow-Leaf Coneflower

34

*Echinacea angustifolia*

Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Native; more drought tolerant than *E. purpurea*, but not as large and showy; re-seeds. Takes a few years to bulk up. Shortish bloom period.



## European Cutleaf Sage

35

*Salvia jurisicii*



Height: 12"  
Width: 12-15"  
Cut back after flowering for fresh growth; reseeds moderately. Planted 2011.



# Russian Sage

*Perovskia atriplicifolia*

39



Height: 3-4'  
Width: 3-4'  
Long, late-season bloom-time; watch for reseedling. Wouldn't plant outside of town due to reseedling. Planted 2007.



# Creeping Phlox

*Phlox subulata*

41



Height: 4-6"  
Width: 12-18"  
Late-spring bloom  
Can suffer severe winterburn, esp in dry winters. Moisture-retaining clay soil may have helped creeping phlox plants in this bed. Planted 2007.



## Variegated Iris

*Iris pallida* 'Variegata'

42

Height: 2-3'  
Width: 12-18"  
Variegated foliage  
provides long sea-  
son of interest.  
Flowers are fragrant.  
Planted 2007.



## Snow Daisy

*Tanacetum niveum*

43



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 18-24"  
Reseeds mod-  
erately. Short  
lived.



# Rose Campion

*Lychnis coronaria*

44



Height: 2-3'  
Width: 18-24"  
Doesn't seem to be particularly vigorous here but reseeds.  
Planted 2007.



# 'May Night' Salvia

*Salvia nemorosa*

45

Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Longish bloom period; reseeds; cut back after blooming for fresh growth and to control reseedling.  
Planted 2007.



## Blue sage (Prairie sage)

46

*Salvia azurea*

Height: 40"

Width: 20"

Native. Very late bloomer so may not have time to bloom in more exposed areas. Tall and can flop a bit. Planted



## Purple Coneflower

47

*Echinacea purpurea*



Height: 2-3'

Width: 18-24"

Late-summer blooms; not a xeric plant in our area—performs better with plenty of supplemental water. Planted

2007.



# 'Autumn Joy' Sedum

48

*Sedum*



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Long, late-summer  
bloom time. Planted  
2007.

# Serbian Yarrow

50

*Achillea serbica*

Height: 4-8"  
Width: 12-15"  
Cut back after  
flowering to enjoy  
foliage; ground-  
cover. Planted  
2007.



# Wasatch Beardtongue

*Penstemon cyananthus*

51

Height: 2-3'  
Width: 1-2'  
Native. Gorgeous  
blue/purple flowers.  
Planted 2012.

Deadheading some plants (removing spent flowers) often leads to fresh foliage growth and/or more flowers.

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# Walker's Low' Catmint

*Nepeta*

52



Height: 15-18"  
Width: 2-3'  
Long bloom time; can re-bloom if dead-headed. Re-seeds. Look for sterile, vegetatively propagated types. Planted 2007.





# Penstemon Species (mixed)

55



Height: varies  
Width: varies  
Generally will re-seed if happy.  
Some varieties short-lived.

# Perennial Sunflower

58

*Helianthus maximiliani*



Height: 6-10'  
Width: 18-24"  
Native  
Late-season color  
for the back of the  
border. Reseeds.



# Desert Prince's Plume

*Stanleya pinnata*

66



Height: 3'  
Width: 18-24"  
Native; concentrates selenium, can be toxic to livestock; some re-seeding.



# Bladderpod

*Alyssoides utriculata*

69

Height: 12"  
Width: 12"  
Bladder-like seed-pods lengthen season of interest; re-seeds; cut back dried pods for fresh growth. Planted 2007.



# White Tufted Evening Primrose

70

*Oenothera caespitosa*



Height: ~12"  
Width: 12-24"  
Native; Super plant! Short lived (couple of years). Reseeds (can reseed a lot depending on location). Fragrant flowered tap rooted plant so don't move it. Rabbits can chew on it. Planted 2011.

# Scarlet Gilia

*Ipomopsis aggregata*

Height: up to 3'+  
Width: 24"  
Native; Biennial or short-lived perennial. Favorite of hummingbirds. Takes up little room in garden until bursts into bloom in late summer. Reseeds a little. Planted 2011.



72



# Hummingbird Trumpet

*Zauschneria garrettii*

73



Height: 18"  
Width: 18-24"  
Native; Nice late summer color, visited by hummingbirds. Spreads underground and can cover large area. Planted 2011.



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# Bitterroot

*Lewisia x 'Edithae'*

74

Height: 4"

Width: 5"

Native. Looks a bit grumpy at moment, may not get enough water at this site.

Planted 2011.

# Native Penstemon

75

*Penstemon* sp.



Height: 18-24"  
Width: 12-18"  
Native; looks a bit like *P. strictus* but floppier, more floriferous, and a bit lighter colored. Will get around to identifying some day. Reseeds. Planted 2007.

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# Elfin Pink Penstemon

104

*Penstemon barbatus* 'Elfin Pink'

Height: 24"  
Width: 15"  
Pink flowered penstemon. Adaptable. Planted 2011.



# Butterfly Milkweed

79

*Asclepias tuberosa*

Height: 12-24"  
Width: 12"  
Native; likes well-drained soil. Takes a little while to bulk up. Food source for butterflies. Planted 2012.



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# Pasque flower

83

*Pulsatilla patens*

Height: 6"  
Width: 6"  
Native; blooms very early, followed by feathery seed heads. Goes dormant later in the year. Planted 2011.



# Prairie Coneflower

84

*Ratibida columnifera*



Height: 18-24"

Width: 18-24"

Native

Long bloom period;  
short lived but re-  
seeds moderately.

Flowers can be yellow or burnt orange.



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# Sugarbowl Clematis

90

*Clematis scottii*

Height: 12"

Width: 18"

Native; bush clematis. bit floppy. Takes a little while to bulk up. Amusing seed heads. Planted 2011.



# Iris spp.

Regular bearded & Intermediate sizes

93&94



Height: 8-36"  
Width: 8-12"  
Very water thrifty.  
Need to be divided  
every 3 years or so  
to bloom well.



# Firecracker Penstemon

*Penstemon eatonii*

95

Height: up to 3'  
Width: 12-18"  
Well-named native;  
blooms after *P.*  
*strictus*. Humming-  
birds love it. Re-  
seeds. Planted  
2011.





## Partridge Feather

*Tanacetum densum* ssp. *amani*

96



Height: 6"  
Width: 24"+  
Grown for foliage.  
Groundcover. Has  
insignificant yellow  
flowers. Planted  
2012.

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## Sedum 'Angelina'

*Sedum rupestre*

97

Height: 6"  
Width: 16"+  
Groundcover. Yellowish coloring provides contrast in the garden. Slow spreader here. Planted 2010.



# Yarrow 'Moonshine'

98

*Achillea* hybrid



Height: 24"

Width: 24"

A clumping yarrow with soft yellow flowers and gray foliage. Adaptable. Planted 2011.



# Sand Phlox

99

*Phlox bifida*

Height: 8-12"

Width: 8-12"

Native. Delightful flowers in spring. Plants are brittle; place in areas where won't get squashed. Bit hard to transplant; may need more water as it settles in. Planted 2011.



## Blue Spruce Sedum

*Sedum reflexum*

100



Height: 3-5"  
Width: 18"+  
Spreading  
groundcover;  
curious yellow  
flowers.  
Planted 2011.

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## Short Penstemon

*Penstemon sp.*

101

Height: 7"  
Width: 11"  
Native. Presently  
not identified.



## Rosey Pusseytoes

*Antennaria* sp.

102



Height: 3" (leaves)  
Width: 12"+  
Rosy-colored flowers. Bit more vigorous than McClintock's due to bit larger leaves (helpful in areas where soil blows away). May reseed under the right conditions. Planted 2012.

## Black-eyed Susan

*Rudbeckia hirta*

105

Height: ~24"  
Width: ~24"  
Native; various varieties in cultivation. Short-lived perennial; great late-summer color. Crazy re-seeder. Planted 2012.



## Jones' Bluestar

*Amsonia jonesii*

106

Height: 12"  
Width: 12"  
Native. Slow  
grower. Planted  
2012.



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## Bluemist Penstemon

*Penstemon virens*

107

Height: 8"  
Width: 10"  
Native. One of only  
a few penstemons  
that can take a little  
shade. Takes a  
couple years to bulk  
up. Nice plant.  
Planted 2007.



# Kelsey's Phlox 'Lemhi Purple'

*Phlox kelseyi*

108



Height: 1"

Width: 6"

Native. So far, so good at 2 years in the garden. A spring-time stunner. Long bloom period. Didn't get winter-burned in recent severely dry, windy winter, perhaps due to being so short. (out of wind). Planted 2011 and 2012.

# Jose Select' Tall Wheatgrass

1

*Elytrigia elongata*

Height: 4-5'  
Width: 18"  
Native; can re-  
seed heavily.  
Planted 2007



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# Blue Avena Grass

2

*Helictotrichon sempervirens*



Height: 3'  
Width: 3'  
Long season of  
interest; nice  
shape, good per-  
former. Planted  
2007.

# Big Bluestem

*Andropogon gerardii*

21



Height: 4-6'  
Width: 2-3'  
Native; warm-season grass.  
Planted 2007.

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# ‘Heavy Metal’ Switchgrass

*Panicum virgatum*

57

Height: 3-4'  
Width: 12-18"  
Native; warm-season grass.  
Planted 2007.





## **'Blaze' Little Bluestem**

**64**

*Schizachyrium scoparium*

Height: 3-4'  
Width: 18-24"  
Native; warm-season  
grass. Planted 2007.



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## **'Pawnee Buttes' Sand Cherry**

**31**

*Prunus besseyi*



Height: 15-18"  
Width: 4-6'  
Native; good  
fall color.  
Planted 2007.

# Fernbush

*Chamaebatiaria millefolium*

78



Height: up to 6'  
Width: 6'  
Native. Aromatic  
with rounded  
form. Lots of flow-  
ers.  
Planted 2011.

---

# Sand Cherry

*Prunus besseyi*

60

Height: 4-6'  
Width: 4-6'  
Native; food for  
wildlife. Can get  
mildew on leaves  
but doesn't seem to  
bother it. Suckers a  
bit. Planted 2007.

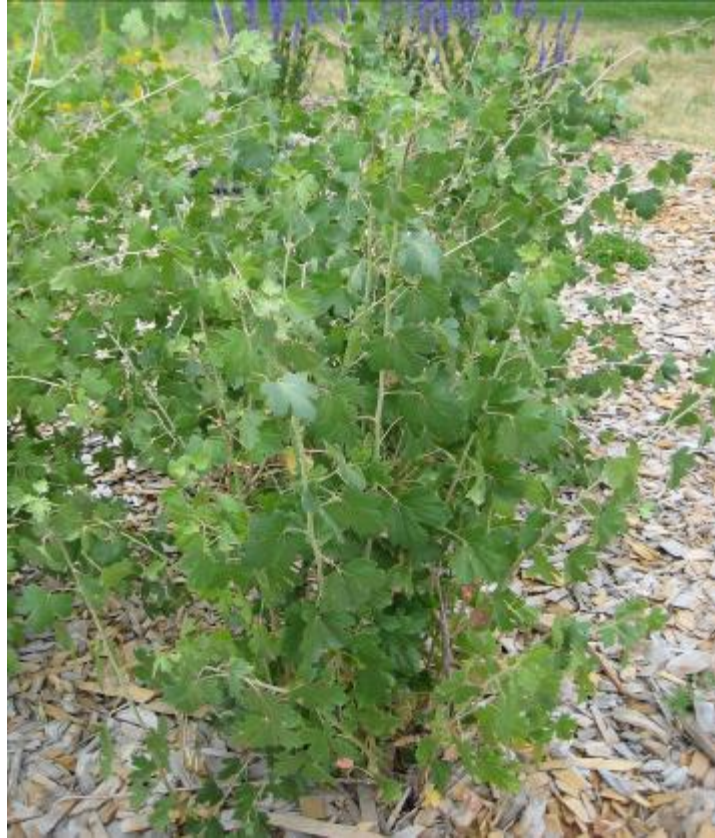


# Golden Currant

61

*Ribes aureum*

Height: 4-6'  
Width: 4-6'  
Native. Spreads  
by suckers or  
reseeding.  
Planted 2007.



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# Wood's Rose

63

*Rosa woodsii*



Height: 3-6'  
Width: 3-6'  
Native; fragrant  
flowers, can  
spread to form  
thickets. Planted  
2007.

# Apache Plume

*Fallugia paradoxa*

81

Height: 4-5'  
Width: 4'  
Native. White flowers followed by fluffy seed heads. Planted 2011.



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# Mountain Mahogany

*Cerocarpus montanus*

103



Height: 4-5'  
Width: 4'  
Native; slow grower. Seedlings planted 2011.

## **Water-Wise Demo Bed Plants with Wandering Ways**

The following is a list of plants that reseed and thus may move around the demo bed. Cutting back the dead flowers (deadheading) before the plants can set seed is an easy way to control unwanted reseeding.

*Alyssoides utriculata*, Bladderpod (69)

*Aquilegia coerulea*, Colorado blue columbine (29)

*Echinacea angustifolia*, Narrow-leaf coneflower (34)

*Gaillardia* sp. ('Goblin'), Blanket flower (13)

*Helianthus maximiliani*, Perennial sunflower (58)

*Ipomopsis aggregata*, Scarlet gilia (72)

*Lychnis coronaria* ('Atrosanguinea'), Rose campion (44)

*Oenothera caespitosa*, White evening primrose (70)

*Penstemon* spp. (especially *P. strictus*, Rocky Mountain penstemon)

*Ratibida columnifera*, Upright prairie coneflower

*Salvia jurisicii*, European cutleaf sage (35)

*Salvia nemerosa* ('May Night'), Salvia (45)

*Stanleya pinnata*, Desert prince's plume (66)

*Tanacetum niveum*, Snow daisy (43)

### **SHRUBS**

*Ribes aureum*, Golden currant (61)

*Rosa woodsii*, Woods' rose (63)

### **GRASSES**

*Elytrigia elongata* ('Jose Select'), Tall wheatgrass (1)

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## **Plants that were formerly in the garden:**

**Saskatoon Serviceberry (#37)** *Amelanchier alnifolia* Both plants died over the second winter. Perhaps the clay soil was a factor?

**Poppy Mallow (#11)** *Callirhoe involucrate* Many of the original plants died, but they reseeded and seedlings are doing well. Clay soil may have led to some winter rotting. Often plants from self-sown seed are more hardy than transplants.

**'Shenandoah' Switchgrass (#56)** *Panicum virgatum* All 3 plants died over the second winter

**Mountain Basket-of-Gold** *Alyssum montanum* Heavily reseeding non-native. Beautiful plant but due to its spreading nature not recommended, especially for outside of town.

**Leadplant** *Amorpha canescens* Bit of a mystery why it died. Needs good drainage so it may not have liked the clay layer that tops the garden. Grows well in other parts of town.

**Blue Fescue 'Boulder Blue'** *Festuca glauca* Fescues tend to become scruffy as they age unless they are divided. They also tend to reseed. We took it out of the garden for these reasons.

**'Indian Steel' Indian Grass** *Sorghastrum nutans* Warm season grass. Didn't like the conditions in the garden so it died.

# Resources

## Websites



<http://barnyardsandbackyards.com>—Select 'Resources'  
<http://plantselect.org>



## **Books (All available at the Albany County Public Library)**

*The Undaunted Garden: Planting for Weather-Resilient Beauty* by Lauren Springer - Great book for ideas and inspiration. Note that she doesn't mind plants that spread.

*Growing Native Plants of the Rocky Mountain Area* by Robert & Jane Dorn - Good reference book for those who want to start and grow native plants.

*High and Dry* by Robert Nold - Good book for those who want to grow plants needing no supplemental irrigation after establishment. Book has few pictures, so knowledge of plants helpful. Many can not be found at nurseries, etc. Also author is in Denver area, so keep in mind in relation to winter hardiness.

## **Other Demonstration Gardens**

Cheyenne Botanic Garden

Denver Botanic Garden

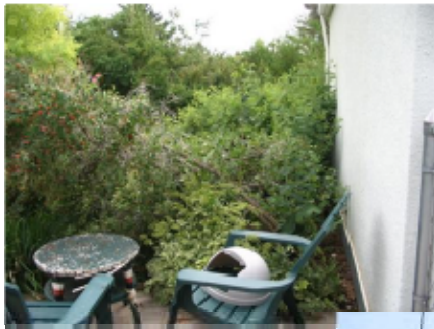
Natrona County Cooperative Extension Demo Garden

Albany County Public Library



Before

After



Before



After







Brochure by Amy Fluet (Laramie Garden Club) and Jennifer Thompson (University of Wyoming Extension). This brochure was initially compiled by Natalie Macsalka, Summer 2008 Small Acreage Outreach Project Intern (via UW Cooperative Extension Service Internship program). Brochure has been extensively revised since.

This document can be found at:

*[barnyardsandbackyards.com](http://barnyardsandbackyards.com)*

*[www.lrcd.net](http://www.lrcd.net)*

*[laramiegardenclub.org](http://laramiegardenclub.org)*

Thanks to all the various organizations and individuals who have made this community-based educational resource possible!

Happy gardening!

August 2012