

Deb's Favorite Short list of Native/Xeric Plants for Denver Landscapes*
Easy to grow/Important for wildlife/Found at most plant nurseries

Perennials

Rocky Mountain Penstemon (*Penstemon strictus*)
Blue Flax (*Linum lewisii*) (lovely tiny blue flower, open in the morning)
Desert Four O'clock (*Mirabilis multiflora*) (can take up a lot of real estate)
Gayfeather (*Liatris punctata*) (takes a while to establish)
Prairie Winecup (*Callirhoe involucrata*) (self seeds prolifically)
Prickly Poppy (argemone polyanthemos) (actually an annual but self seeds)
Blanketflower (*Gaillardia aristata*) (make sure you get the native)
Chocolate Flower (*Berlandiera lyrata*) (likes it hot and dry)
Goldenrod (*Solidago*) (really important ecosystem plant – hosts lots of caterpillars)
Pasque Flower (*Pulsatilla patens*) (blooms early in spring)
Prairie Coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*)
Prairie Zinnia (*Zinnia grandiflora*)
Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) (the white one is our native)
Sulphur Buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*) (low groundcover)
Baby Blue Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*) (late bloom in the fall)

Grasses/low bushes

Switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*)
Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
Blue grama (Blonde Ambition:
Creeping mahonia (*Mahonia Repens*) (will grow in sun or shade)
Native Rose (*Rosa woodsii*)
Leadplant (*Amorpha Canenscens*)

Large Shrubs/Small trees

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
Gambel Oak (*Quercus gambelii*)
Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)
Mountain Mahogany
Juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*)
American Plum (*Prunus Americana*)

* There are so many more! These I've found to be easiest to start with.