

NATIVE & NATURALIZED PLANTS IN PAGOSA COUNTRY

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The value of using native and naturalized plants in your garden is that they can take care of themselves, requiring very little effort to maintain them. Thus, you do not need to improve the soil extensively or water regularly, except for a few that need moist ground.

Some natives are easy to transplant and some are virtually impossible. Transplanted natives may need some extra water and care for the first year. Some natives will volunteer in your garden uninvited. I prefer to not remove any weed that I do not know until I have seen it flower – making my decision based upon whether or not I like having that flower in the garden.

Below are listed four types of native and naturalized flowering plants that you might consider adding to your easy-care garden. If you have had success with any additional native or naturalized plants in your garden, please send me your lists and I will add them to my lists. Eventually the Mt. High Garden Club will publish the lists. To include a non-native naturalized plant, it needs to survive with little to no help from the gardener. Highly improved soil and regular watering, except for when they are first introduced, disqualify a plant from being called naturalized. Most native and naturalized plants will perform better with additional watering, but will survive without additional watering. There are also non-native flowering plants that do well in this area but are in the noxious weed list and have not been listed below.

Please remember, we are not interested in what should work, only what has successfully worked.

Thanks, Ron Chacey

The following are local native plants that have been successfully transplanted into gardens:

Golden Banner

Perky Sue

Sneeze Weed

Local Yucca

Local Potentilla

Local Iris

Yellow Coneflower

Rocky Mt. Penstemon

Local Columbine

Various bunch grasses

Local Richardson's Geranium

Local Nepeta

Nodding Onion

Pussytoes

Townsend Daisy

Crandall's Penstemon

Eaton's Penstemon

Sulphur Flower

Self-Heal

Goodyeara Orchid - shade and moist ground

Bracted Lousewort - shade and moist ground

Horsetail - shade and moist ground

Marsh Marigold - moist ground

The following are local native plants that have been successfully seeded into gardens:

Blue Flax

Mexican Hat

The following are local native plants that have successfully volunteered in gardens:

Showy Golden Eye

Local Asters

Local Lupine

Mule's Ear

Golden Rod

The following are non-native plants that have been naturalized in gardens like native plants:

Siberian Pea Shrub

Lilac

Juniper

Some varieties of Yarrow

Gaillardia Pinwheel

Centauria – Montana, Rosea & Yellow Hard Head

Cyprus Spurge

Germander

Nepeta

Some varieties of Veronica

Some varieties of Salvia

Thyme

Echinops Ritro

Lamb's Ear

Sempervivum – live forever

Some Shasta Daisy

Perennial Candytuff