

# Natives for Sunny Spots



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# Creating Natural Habitats

- Plant to suit natural topography
- Shield from winds
- Plants to suit the animals you want to attract
- Strive for diverse plantings
- Coordinate habitat with water use
- Locate food plants and feeders by shelter
- Don't use inorganic pesticides
- Arrange plants to lead shy wildlife closer
- Supplement food plants



# Native Garden Tips

- Maintain at least a small area of grass
- Prune trees and shrubs so they grow more open, like nursery-grown trees
- Limit your number of species; avoid excessively tall plants
- Plant in groups for a natural look
- Use clump-forming plants rather than spreaders



# Full Sun Native Perennials



- Generally do not like heavy clay soils
- Many will tolerate shade in morning or late afternoon
- For success need sun between 9am and 3pm
- Appreciate organic matter

# Bee Balm

## *Monarda, Wild bergamot*

- 15-48 inches tall
- Flowers bloom early to mid-summer in red, pink, purple or white
- Sun to part shade in well-drained, moist soil
- Powery mildew can be a problem
- Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees



# Coneflower

## *Echinacea spp*

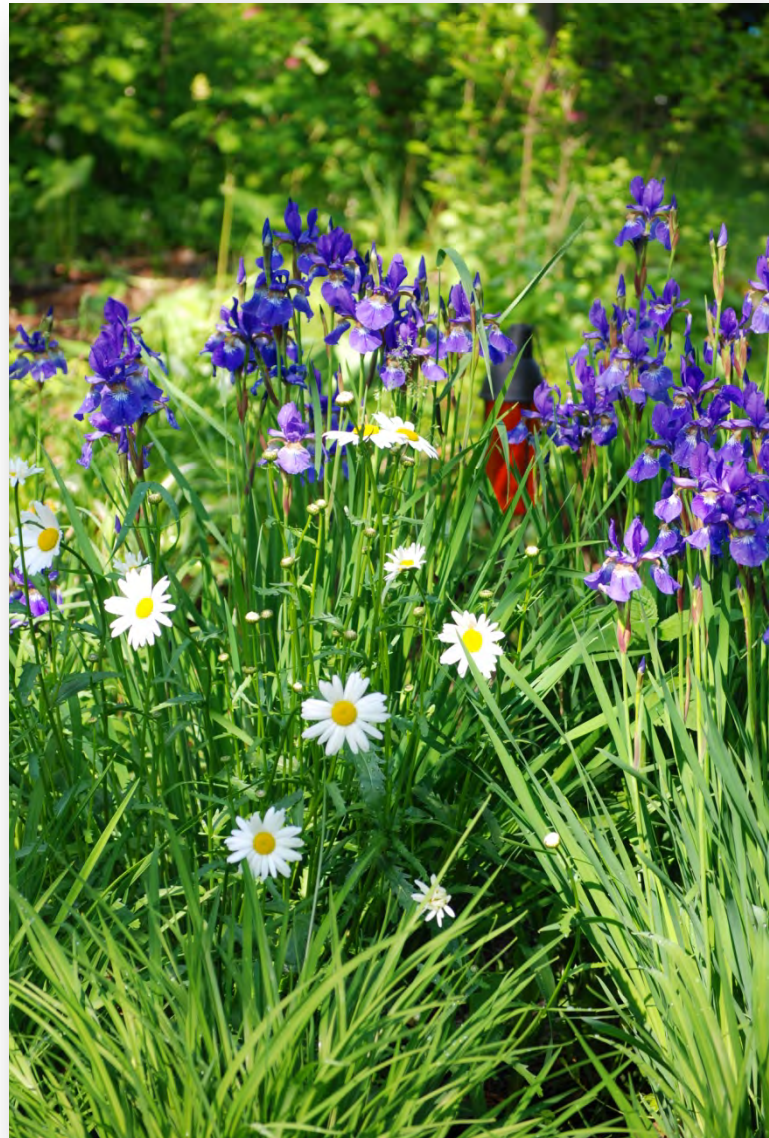


- Natives and hybrids
- 2-3 ft tall and wide
- Bloom July to August
- Full sun, well-drained soil, drought tolerant
- Reseed and hybridize easily: to keep the plants you started with, deadhead spent flowers or pull seedlings.



# Iris

- Native & Hybrids
- Full sun, well-drained
- Divide mid to late summer every 3-5 years for good blooms
- Iris borer – remove foliage in fall, if brown streaks on leaves – dig rhizomes and dip in solution of 1 part bleach to 4 parts water



# Columbine

## *Aquilegia*

- Self-seeder, cross hybrids easily
- Hybrids tend to be short-lived
- Full to part sun; moist, well-drained soil
- Bloom in spring







Photo: Larry Allain @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

# Butterfly Weed

## *Asclepias tuberosa*

- Native to dry prairies
- Flowers from late spring to late summer
- Attracts butterflies
- Moist to dry soils in full sun to light shade
- Mature plants tolerate dry soil

# Aster

## *Aster novae-angliae*

- Native, fall-bloomer
- Moist, average soil in full sun to part shade
- Likes consistent moisture
- Pinch back stems in late May for bushier plants
- Divide plants in spring every 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- Avoid too much nitrogen which results in floppy plants and abundant foliage



# Turtlehead

## *Chelone*

- White turtlehead native to moist prairies
- Evenly moist to wet, rich soil in full sun to light shade
- Mature plants will tolerate dry spells
- Bloom late summer and early fall
- Plants spread by rhizomes but do not become invasive





# Joe-pye weed

## *Eupatorium purpureum*



- Native to wet slopes, low prairies and woodlands
- Prefers moist, average to rich soil in full sun to light shade
- Tolerates drier conditions
- Easy to grow once established
- Divide in spring or fall
- Reseeds
- Plants too close may suffer from powdery mildew

# Obedient Plant

## *Physostegia virginiana*



- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil but will tolerate drier conditions and part shade
- Showy native, fall flowers
- Spreads aggressively by underground rhizomes
- Plant in shade for less aggressive or plant 'Miss Manners' (white), 'Variegata' (pale pink), or 'Vivid' (Rose)

# Blazing Star or Gayfeather

## *Liatris spicata*



- Native to prairies, savannas
- Showing pink-purple flower spikes in summer
- Moist, fertile, well-drained soil in full sun
- Once established, somewhat drought resistant
- Plants can reseed
- Wisconsin's special concern list
- Attracts bees, hummingbirds, butterflies



# Black-eyed Susan

## *Rudbeckia hirta* var. *pulcherrima*

- Native in variety of WI habitats
- Biennial or short-lived perennial
- Blooms attract bees and butterflies
- Winter interest
- Adapts well to container culture
- Sow seeds two years in a row for yearly blooming, once established plants will self-seed
- Rich soils tend to produce weak-stemmed plants



# Soapwort (*Saponaria x lemperfii*)

- Tolerate heat and humidity
- Full sun, well-drained soil
- About 12 inches high
- Tolerates wet soil and drought
- Deer Resistant





# Spiderwort

## *Tradescantia*

- Native to dry, sandy grasslands and open woodlands
- Drought and heat tolerant
- Plants may go dormant after flowering, cut foliage to ground after flowering to keep plants neat and halt seed production
- Reseed and in fertile soil can become aggressive
- Lean, well-drained soil in full sun or light shade





# Plants for Pollinators

- **Perennial Favorites:**  
Bee Balm, Shasta Daisy,  
Coreopsis, Verbena,  
Phlox, Aster,  
Coneflower, Sedum,  
Yarrow, Butterfly Weed
- **Host Plants:** Butterfly  
Weed, Violet,  
Milkweed, Hollyhock



# Thank You



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[www.northcountrymgv.org](http://www.northcountrymgv.org)