



Butterfly Weed

Asclepias tuberosa

- Soil: Dry to Medium – Loess Hills Native
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Summer (June, July, Aug)
- Height: 2-3 feet
- Color: Orange
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Main attraction or small groupings, dry gardens – mix with short prairie grasses, blazing star, virginia mountain mint, nodding onion, wild bergamot or spiderwort



Bluewood Aster, Heart Leaved Aster

Aster cordifolius

- Soil: Dry to moist
- Sun: part sun to shade
- Bloom time: late summer to fall
- Height: 1-3 ft
- Color: blue-violet

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Heath aster, zigzag goldenrod
 - Use in shady gardens



Silky Aster

Aster sericeus

- Soil: Dry
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: Sept- Oct
- Height: 1-2 ft
- Color: purple

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Prairie dropseed, coneflowers
 - Doesn't spread as much as some other asters



Sideoats Gramma

Bouteloua Curtipendula

- Soil: Dry to Medium
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: July-Sept
- Height: 2-3 ft
- Fall Color: straw
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Border edges, good companion for low growing flowers
 - Warm season grass



Small Yellow Fox Sedge

Carex annectens

- Soil: Wet to Dry
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Spring (May, June)
- Height: 1 -2 ft

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Cool season grass
 - has attractive yellow spikelets of flowers
 - Use along pond edges, streams or wet areas



Pennsylvania Sedge, Common Oak Sedge

Carex pensylvanica

- Soil: Avg to dry; drought tolerant
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: early to mid spring
- Height: 6-12 inches
- Color: green
- Deer palatability: Low

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Great lawn alternative
 - Cool season grass



Long beak sedge

Carex sparengelii

- Soil: Medium to dry
- Sun: Part Sun to shade
- Bloom time: May, June, July
- Height: 2 ft
- Color: yellow
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Cool season grass
 - Plant in shade garden, great for landscaping



New Jersey Tea

Ceanothus americanus

- Soil: Dry to Medium
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: July-Oct
- Height: 2-3 ft
- Color: white

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Low hedges, plant 2 feet apart
 - Does not like to be crowded



Purple Coneflower

Echinacea purpura

- Soil: Avg to Dry, drought tolerant
- Sun: Full to part
- Bloom time: Mid to late summer
- Height: 3-4 feet
- Color: Purple
- Deer palatability: medium

- Garden uses and companion plants
 - Gray headed coneflower, wild bergamot, butterfly weed
 - Excellent in almost any garden!



Bottlebrush grass

Elymus Hystrix

- Soil: Dry to moist, drought tolerant
- Sun: part shade to shade
- Bloom time: summer
- Height: 2.5-3 ft
- Color: greenish white
- Deer palatability: Low

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Woodland garden, shade garden
 - Cool season grass



Rattlesnake Master

Eryngium Yuccifolium

- Soil: Moist to Dry – Iowa Native
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Late Summer (Aug, Sept)
- Height: 2-5 feet

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Main attraction or small groupings, in just about any garden setting – plant with blazing star for a great midsummer combo, shown here with false sunflower



Sweet Joe Pye, Purple Joe Pye

Eupatorium purpureum

- Soil: Medium to Moist
- Sun: Part Sun to Full Shade
- Bloom time: July- Sept
- Height: 4-7 ft
- Color: purple, pink
- Deer palatability: resistant

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Butterfly gardens, shade garden
 - Plant with tall bellflower or wild golden glow



June Grass

Koeleria cristata

- Soil: Dry – Loess Hills Native
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Summer (May, June, July)
- Height: 2-3 feet
- Color: Green/Yellow- Straw in Fall
- Deer Palatability: Low

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Rock gardens, dry gardens. Mix with low growing dry prairie flowers like Prairie Smoke or Purple Prairie clover



Meadow Blazing Star

Liatris ligulistylis

- Soil: medium to moist
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Aug, Sept
- Height: 3-5 ft
- Color: purple, pink
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Butterfly weed, round headed bush clover, rattlesnake master
 - butterfly gardens, or any garden! Effective in masses! Mix with grasses and flowers to help minimize weed growth
 - Flowers emit a pheromone that specifically attract monarch butterflies



Photo: Danielle Metzger

Dotted Liatris

Liatris punctata

- Soil: Dry to medium
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: July - October
- Height: 1-2 ft
- Color: purple, pink
- Deer palatability: Medium
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Butterfly weed, black-eyed susan, virginia mountain mint
 - Put in rain gardens, butterfly gardens, or any garden! Plant in foreground



Cardinal Flower

Lobelia cardinalis

- Soil: Moist to Wet
- Sun: Full to part shade
- Bloom time: July-Sept
- Height: 2-5 ft
- Color: red
- Deer palatability: medium

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Shorter life span, use in annual beds, hummingbird gardens
 - Pair with great blue lobelia, Joe pye weed



Great Blue Lobelia

Lobelia siphilitica

- Soil: Moist to Wet
- Sun: Full sun to medium shade
- Bloom time: July-Sept
- Height: 1-4 ft
- Color: Blue
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Rain garden, near the downspout
 - Pair with boneset, swamp milkweed, cardinal flower



Bradbury's Monarda

Monarda bradburiana

- Soil: Dry to medium
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: June, July
- Height: 1-2 ft
- Color: pink, purple
- Deer palatability: resistant
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Shorter than other Monarda species, great for home garden in landscaping



Showy Black-eyed Susan

Rudbeckia fulgida speciosa

- Soil: Medium to Moist
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: June-Sept
- Height: 4 ft
- Color: yellow
- Deer palatability: Low
- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Specimens or mass for effect, butterfly gardens, informal gardens or woodland edges

Photo credit: Danielle Metzger



Late Figwort

Scrophularia marilandica

- Soil: Medium to Dry
- Sun: Full to Part
- Bloom time: July - Oct
- Height: 6 ft
- Color: red, green
- Deer palatability: Low

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Not pretty, but the pollinators love it!
Figworts are one of the best nectar species for attracting native butterflies, bees, other insects - and birds, including the Ruby-throated Hummingbird!



Prairie Dropseed

Sporobolus heterolepis

- Soil: Dry to Moist – Loess Hills Native
- Sun: Full
- Bloom time: Late Summer (Aug, Sept)
- Height: 2-4 ft
- Color: gold
- Deer Palatability: Low

- Garden uses and companion plants:
 - Wild flowers
 - Front borders, transition from garden to lawn, informal gardens, prairie meadows

References

- **The Gardner's Guide to Prairie Plants**

by Neil Diboll & Hilary Cox

c.2023

- **A Northern Gardner's Guide to Native Plants and Pollinators**

Creating Habitat in Northeast, Great Lakes, and Upper Midwest

by Lorraine Johnson & Sheila Colla

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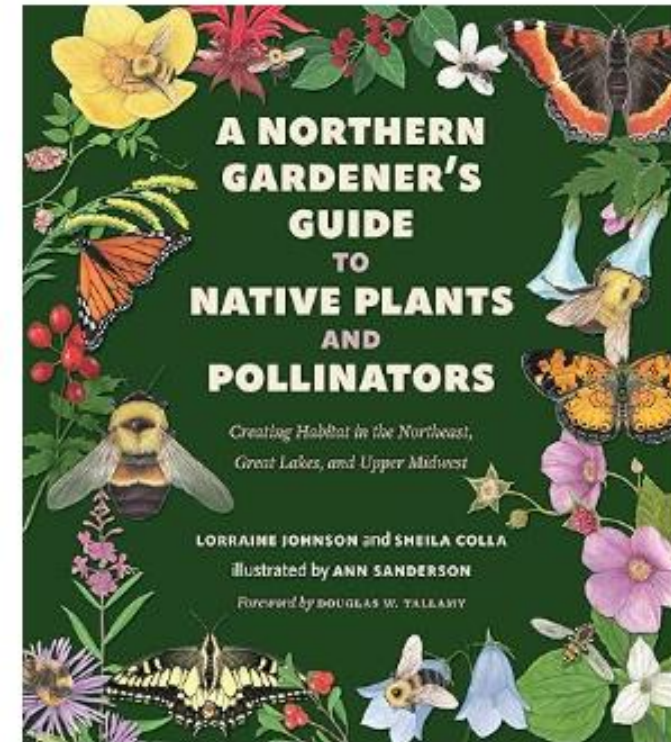
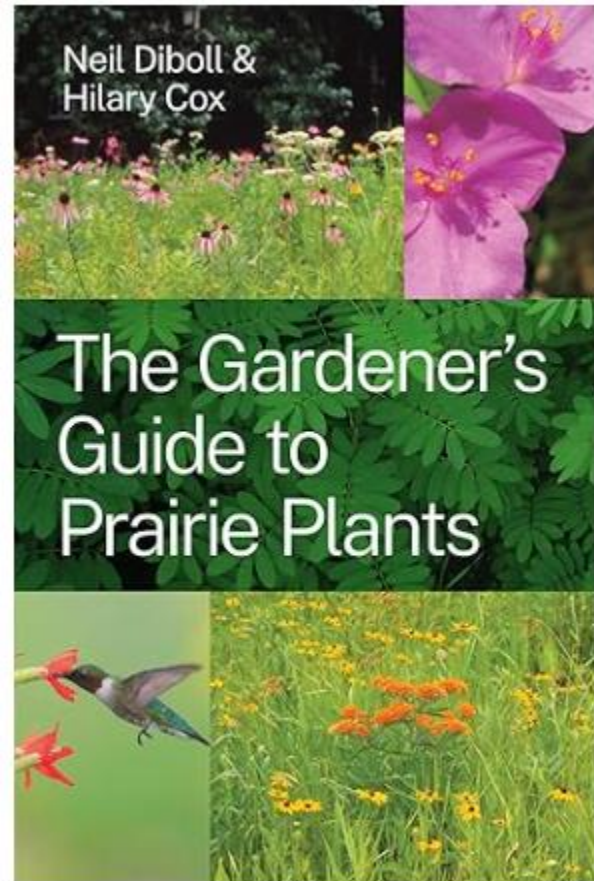




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