



Perennials for Your Yard!

New Releases and Old Favorites for a Bespoke Landscape

Plant Selection Basics – Design for Success!

- Choose the right plant for the right place!
 - Consider site exposure (sun, wind, slope)
 - Consider your irrigation system – choose plants that will thrive with what you have
 - Group plants with similar water needs on the same irrigation zones
 - “Drought tolerant” doesn’t always equal “no water”
 - Know your Utah “limitations”
 - High pH soils and water, low humidity, and the pitfalls of generic plant tags
- New plantings have different needs than established plantings
 - Perennials are considered established at 3 years, shrubs and trees at 5
 - Fertilizing generalizations – Utah general amendments



Masterwort

Latin Name: *Astrantia major*

Popular Cultivars: 'Star of Fire', 'Star of Billions', 'Burgundy Masterpiece'

USDA Zone: 4a – 7b

Height: 24-30"

Spread: 24"

Exposure: Part Shade

Water Use: Moderate

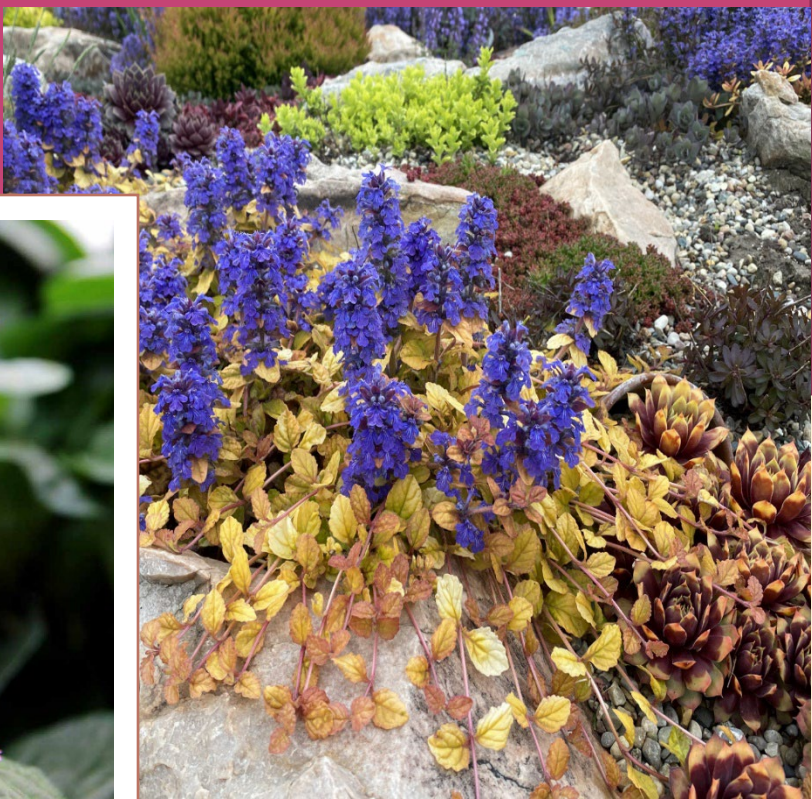
Flower Color: Deep Red, Pink, or White

Leaf Color: Green or variegated

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: No

Description: Tall showy flowers begin in late June – the flowers emerge a wine-red and fade to a pink. Long blooming on strong stems, this perennial is great in cut flower arrangements. Not the most water-wise plant, this shade lover would like regular watering in the height of summer.



Ajuga or Bugleweed

Latin Name: *Actaea simplex*
(*Cimicifuga racemosa* previously)

Popular Cultivars: 'Burgundy Glow', 'Noble Nightingale' NEW 2025 – 'NOVA Pink'

USDA Zone: 5a - 9a

Height: 6"

Spread: 3'- unlimited

Exposure: Full Sun to Part Shade

Water Use: Moderate

Flower Color: Blue, Purple, White, Pink

Leaf Color: Deep Burgundy, variegated options

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: No

Description: Quick to establish, native to mostly Europe and Asia. Xeric friendly groundcover that comes in multiple shades and shapes of leaves, and has an amazing show of blooms in the late spring.



Cape Fuchsia

Latin Name: *Phygelius* spp.

Popular Cultivars: NEW for 2024! 'Colorburst Series' from Terra Nova – Rose, Red, Yellow, & Orange

USDA Zone: 7a – 10b

Height: 24-30"

Spread: 24"

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: Red, orange, pink, or yellow

Leaf Color: Green

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: No

Description: This one might be a zone pusher for some of you – but it may flourish near a warm south wall and with a layer of winter mulch. Acting much like a *Salvia*, it attracts all the birds and the bees to the yard! Blooms from May-October! Water Wise once established and good for Xeric gardens.



Beardtongue

Latin Name: *Penstemon spp.*

Popular Cultivars: Harlequin Series – New Releases ‘Magenta’ lots of old favorites like ‘Electric Blue’, ‘Midnight Masquerade’, Palmer’s Penstemon, Wasatch Penstemon, Cha-Cha Series, pine leaf penstemon

USDA Zone: 4a – 8b

Height: 10-30”

Spread: 10-30”

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low-Moderate

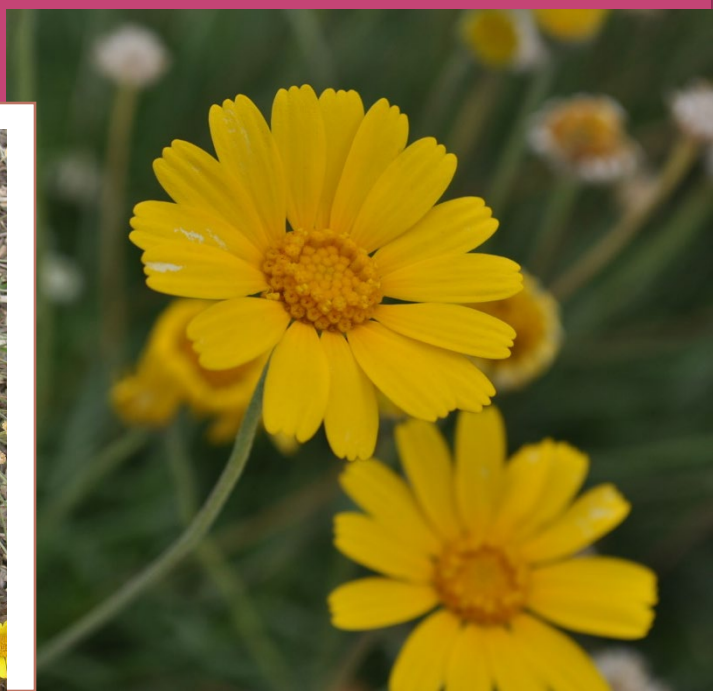
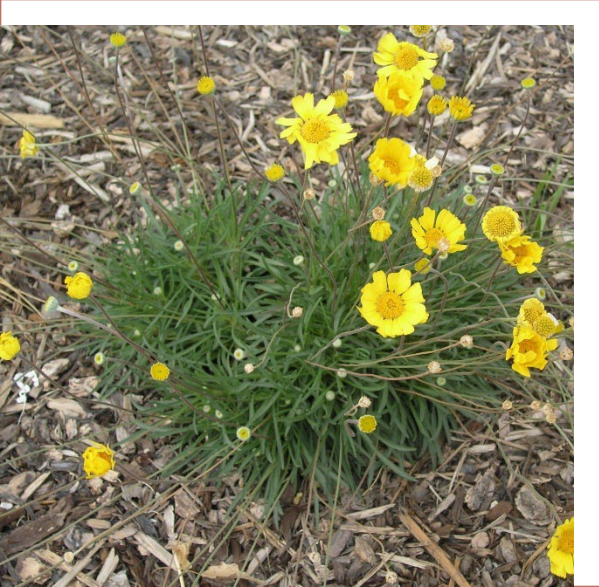
Flower Color: All colors!

Leaf Color: green or burgundy, can be evergreen

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: Yes

Description: Many penstemons are native to Utah and well suited to our arid desert climate. Some are more drought tolerant than others. New varieties are regularly released. Great for our native pollinators.



Four-Nerve Daisy

Latin Name: *Tetrandeureis acaulis* var. *Arizonica*

Popular Cultivars: 'Sol Dancer'

USDA Zone: 5a - 10a

Height: 15"

Spread: 15"

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: Yellow

Leaf Color: Green

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: Yes

Description: 'Sol Dancer' is a brain child of plant breeders and USU, this powerhouse has it all. Evergreen winter interest, and bloom time from May-October. Like most daisies, a favorite of bees and butterflies.



Catmint

Latin Name: Nepeta spp.

Popular Cultivars: 'Purr-sian Blue', 'Walker's Low', 'Cat's Meow', 'Cat's Pajamas', 'Six Hills', 'Limelight' and 'Montrose White Calamintha'

USDA Zone: 3a – 8b

Height: 12" – 30"

Spread: 20" – 30"

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: Purple, Indigo, Blue, white*

Leaf Color: Green

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: No

Description: Long blooming, there are some fun new varieties on the market. A xeric garden staple that attracts 100's of pollinators and provides a colorful impact for several seasons.



Roses

Latin Name: *Rosa spp.*

Popular Cultivars: 'Drift' Series, 'Oso Easy' Series, 'At Last', 'Carefree Wonder'

USDA Zone: 4a – 11a

Height: 2' - 4'

Spread: 2' – 4'

Exposure: Full Sun to Part Shade

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: Rainbow assortment (except blue)

Leaf Color: Green

Pollinator Friendly: Depends on the rose

Description: I know roses aren't technically an herbaceous perennial but there are so many low maintenance varieties out there now that I would be remiss if we didn't discuss them in this presentation. They're not your MeeMaw's roses!



Stonecrop

Latin Name: *Sedum spp.*

Popular Cultivars: SunSparkler Series, and Rock n' Grow Series, Rock n' Round Series - 'Blue Pearl', 'Dream Dazzler', 'Lime Zinger', 'Lemon Jade', 'Bright Idea'

USDA Zone: 4a – 10b

Height: 4" – 24"

Spread: 12" – 24"

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: Pink/Red/Mauve or Yellow

Leaf Color: foliage accents! Lots of options

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: No

Description: These late season bloomers add a much needed punch of color when the rest of the garden is looking tired. New cultivars on the market offer tidy mounding habits and stunning foliage displays.



Maiden Grass

Latin Name: *Miscanthus spp.*

Popular Cultivars: 'Cabaret', 'Variegatus', Flame Grass, 'Huron Sunrise', 'Adagio', 'Morning Light'

USDA Zone: 5a – 9a

Height: 2' – 7'

Spread: 2' – 6'

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Use: Low

Flower Color: White inflorescence

Leaf Color: green, red, white or yellow variegated

Pollinator Friendly: No

Native: No

Description: The mark of a great plant in the garden is its versatility. Grasses can be in cottage gardens, formal gardens, used as an architectural focal or as a calm foil for other plants. While it doesn't offer nectar or other forage for pollinators, it does provide ideal cover for birds and other beneficial insects in the garden.



Hardy Geranium or Cranesbill

Latin Name: *Geranium spp.*

Popular Cultivars: 'Rozanne', 'Alba', 'Boom Chocolatta', 'Bevans', 'New Hampshire Purple'

USDA Zone: 4a – 8a

Height: 10" – 36"

Spread: 12" – 30"

Exposure: Full Sun to Part Shade

Water Use: Low - Moderate

Flower Color: Blue, Purple, Pink, or White

Leaf Color: Green, dark variegated, purple

Pollinator Friendly: Yes

Native: Some species

Description: The hardy geranium is a garden staple. Xeric, long blooming, and a wide range of colors and exposures mean there's a hardy geranium for every yard. Tall varieties for back borders, and short creeping varieties for the front of borders.

Honorable Mention

These are plants that no garden should be without:

German Bearded Iris – *Iris x germanica*

California Fuchsia – *Zauschenaria*

Purple Coneflower – *Echinacea spp.*

Peonies – *Paeonia spp.*

Hosta – ‘Plantain Lily’

Hardy Hibiscus – *Hibiscus moschata*

Daylilies – *Hemerocalis spp.*

Black-Eyed Susan - *Rudbeckia spp.*

BeeBalm – *Monarda spp.*

Lady’s Mantle – *Alchemilla vulgaris*

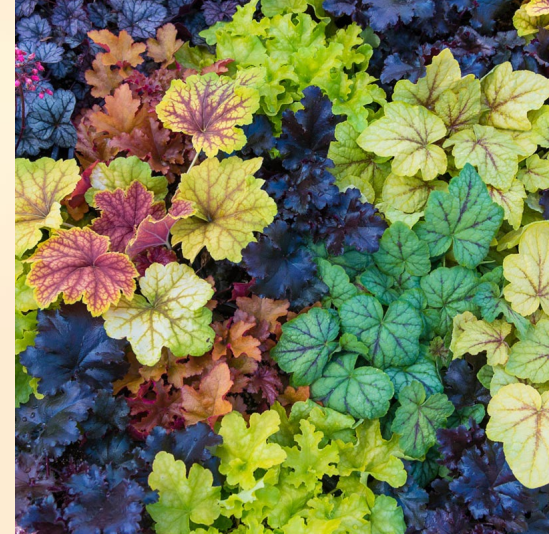
Salvia – *S. nemorosa*

Milkweed – *Asclepius tuberosa* or *A. incarnata*

Russian Sage – *Perovskia atriplicifolia*

Aster – *Symphyotrichum spp.*

Coral Bells – *Heuchera spp.*



Questions?

