Sunny and Low Garden *for Pollinators*

These plants were selected for their drought tolerance and height. Most are 24" or under, ranging to 36" in the center. Plants in this design are tough enough for a dry boulevard.

Prairie Dropseed
Fine leaves create 2' high mounds of texture that will offset the height and color of the blooms around it, Prairie Dropseed is most beautiful in groups.

PD — 14 plants — *height 24"*

Wild Strawberry
This low ground-cover will spread throughout this planting, helping to stabilize soil and conserve moisture and providing tiny but delicious early summer fruit.

WS — 24 plants — *height 8"*

A low-growing native coral bell, **Alumroot** provides early blooms and it's crisp leaves will look great against the textures of Butterfly Milkweed and Prairie Dropseed grass.

AR — 6 plants — *height 24"*

Purple Prairie Clover is a graceful legume that forms a vase-shape of blooming stems beloved by pollinators. It is not a favored food of deer or rabbits and is extremely drought resistant.

PP — 6 plants — *height 24"*

Narrow Leafed Coneflower
Minnesota's only native coneflower, it is shorter than its relative Purple coneflower, but with similar flowers, Host plant of the Ottoe Skipper butterfly.

NL — 8 plants — *height 24"*

Butterfly Milkweed's
bright mid-summer fireworks attract butterflies and bees alike. Vibrant color and tough, this plant can handle boulevard conditions, Butterfly Milkweed is amazing!

BM — 12 plants — *height 24"*

Wild Bergamot
One of the best plants for attracting native pollinators, some people call it 'Sweet Leaf' because the edible foliage can be made into a minty tea.

WB — 7 plants — *height 36"*

Pearly Everlasting
attracts bees and butterflies and blooms in the hottest time of the summer when pollinator foods are sometimes scarce. Beautiful fuzzy silver foliage.

PE — 8 plants — *height 24"*

Silky Aster
This aster has a sprawling habit and is best supported by other plants. It is a host plant for Silvery Checkerspot larva. Blooms last from summer into late fall.

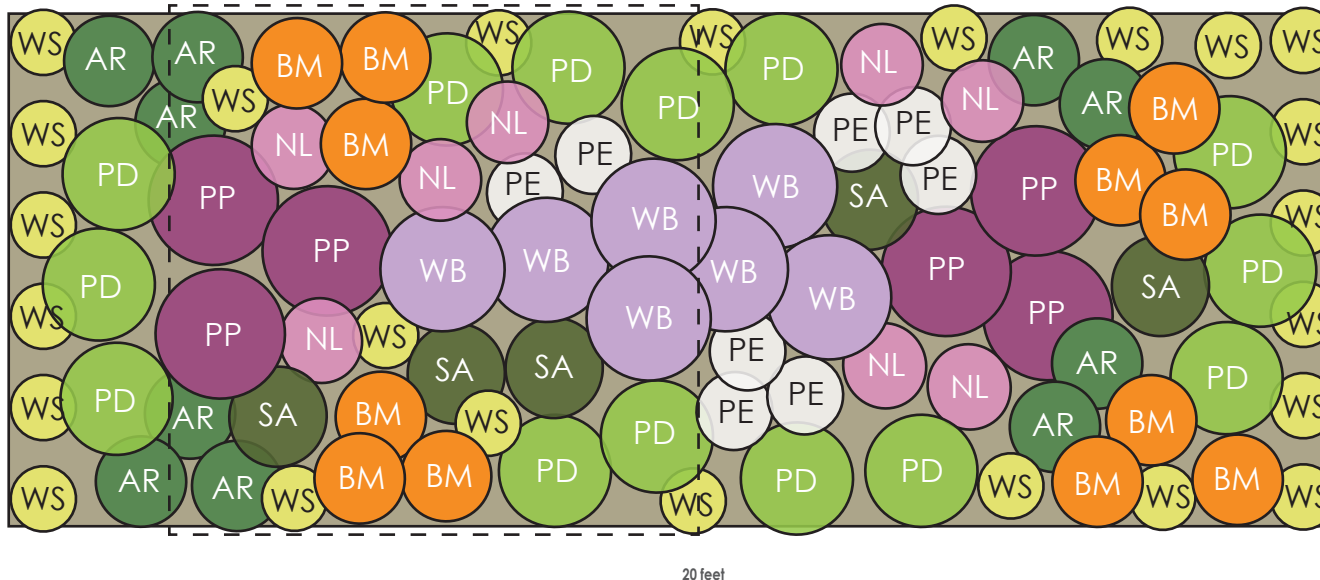**SA** — 5 plants — *height 24"*

Bloom Time

May — June — July — August — September-Oct.

Note:
To make this planting smaller, eliminate the center portion of the design, *shown in the dotted black line.*

Keep plants in groups to create more visual impact and make it easier for pollinators to forage efficiently.

Low growing plants are on the edges, taller plants in the center.

20 feet — 8 feet

Featured Pollinator:
Minnesota's State Bee Rusty-Patched Bumble Bee
Bombus affinis

Key nectar and pollen plants include **Purple Prairie Clover, Narrow Leafed Coneflower, Butterfly Milkweed, Wild Bergamot and Silky Aster**

Substitutions *for selected species*

Use plants found within their natural range, this helps protect nearby native plant communities and provides plant species that are sure to be compatible with local insect populations.

Prairie Dropseed

Little Bluestem, Side Oats Grama, Hairy Grama, Blue Grama, Purple Love Grass, Pennsylvania Sedge*, Bicknell's Sedge

Wild Strawberry

Pussytoes, Bearberry*, False Strawberry*, Wild Petunia, Prairie Smoke, Harebells*, Ground Plum

Alumroot

Bishop's Cap*, Wild Ginger*, Prairie Coreopsis, Prairie Onion, Jacob's Ladder*, Wild Geranium*, Oval-leaf Milkweed

Purple Prairie Clover

Lead Plant, Wild Lupine, Wild Blue Indigo^, Cream Wild Indigo^, Giant Hyssop, Hoary Vervain, Sneezeweed^, Canada Anemone

Narrow Leafed Coneflower

Dense Blazingstar, Purple Coneflower, Pale Coneflower, Prairie Onion, Foxglove Penstemon, Large-Flowered Penstemon, Sweet Black-Eyed Susan

Butterfly Milkweed

Common Milkweed, Whorled Milkweed, Prairie Larkspur, Evening Primrose, Flowering Spurge, Lead Plant, Prairie Phlox, Wild Blue Phlox*

Wild Bergamot

Spotted Bee Balm, Mountain Mint *, New Jersey Tea, Culver's Root, Black Cohosh*

Pearly Everlasting

Common Yarrow, Calico Aster*, Prairie Rose^

Silky Aster

Heath Aster, Aromatic Aster, Sky Blue Aster^, Maryland Figwort, White Upland Aster, Giant Hyssop, White Sage, Cream Gentian, Stiff Goldenrod
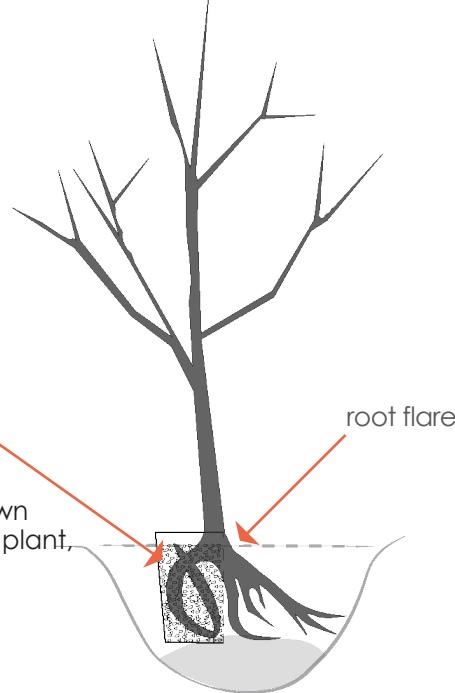
* Shade alternative   ^ Larger Plant -use 1 plant to replace 3 shown in template

Planting Tips *for new gardeners*

TREES & SHRUBS
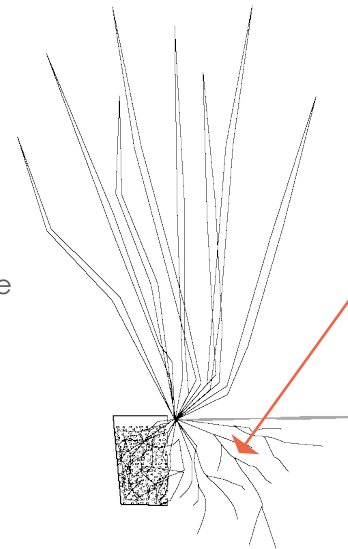
PERENNIAL PLANTS

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat page

- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot. Remove the pot.

- Loosen roots and remove any roots that have growing a circle around the base of the plant.

- The soil level should be just below the flare of the tree or shrub and the base of your plant.

- Spread roots, then re-fill hole. Tamp soil down gently around the roots. Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the trunk.

  Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer

root flare

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat web-page

- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot.

- Remove the pot.

- Loosen roots and remove any roots growing in a circle around the base of the plant.

- Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the stem.

- Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer.

Updated: July 27, 2024