Native Plants in the Landscape
Grasses and Forbes (non-woody perennials)

By Kathy Hutton, Plants of the Wild, Tekoa, WA. [www.plantsofthewild.com](http://www.plantsofthewild.com)

NODDING ONION – Allium cernuum
- Pink to white flowers in summer
- Onion like leaves
- Drought tolerant
- Bulbs can be divided

WESTERNASTER – Aster occidentalis
- Blooms late in summer
- Spreads easily from seed
  - Good choice for naturalizing
  - Can be weedy in smaller, formal garden
- Fairly drought tolerant but needs late season moisture
- Good fall nectar source for butterflies, bees and birds

ARROWLEAF BALSAMROOT – Balsamorhiza sagittata
- Flowers very early in spring
- Drought tolerant, goes dormant during summer after flowering
- Needs full sun and good drainage
- Deep taproot so difficult to relocate

COMMON CAMAS – Camassia quamash
- Blooms in early spring
- Easiest to plant bulbs in fall
- Likes spring moisture and then drought tolerant

DEERHORN CLARKIA – Clarkia pulchella
- Annual that reseeds easily, but doesn’t become weedy
- Drought tolerant
- Disease can be a problem with too much water

BLUE BELLS – Campanula rotundifolia
- 6-18” tall with bell-shaped flowers
- Prefers moist soil and partial shade
- Blooms throughout the summer

OREGON SUNSHINE – Eriophyllum lanatum
- Small plant with gray foliage
- Prefers dry and full sun
• Disease problems with too much water

BLANKETFLOWER – Gaillardia aristata
• 1-2’ tall with yellow to orange flowers
• Flowers throughout the summer and into fall with moisture
• Easy to grow
• Short lived perennial, but reseeds itself
• Deer tolerant

WILD BABY’S BREATH – Gallium boreale
• 1-3’ tall with white flower clusters in early spring
• Prefers moist, partial shade areas, but will grow in full sun
• Spreads by root and can reseed in moister areas
• Good for naturalizing

STICKY GERANIUM – Geranium viscosissimum
• Flower throughout summer with some moisture
• Drought tolerant, but will go dormant during summer heat and re-grow and flower with a moist fall
• Re-seeds itself with ejection of seed, so can spread throughout an area

PRAIRIE SMOKE - Geum triflorum
• Flowers early in spring
• Nice foliage
• Interesting seed heads
• Prefers full sun to partial shade and a well drained soil

LITTLE SUNFLOWER – Helianthella uniflora
• 2-4’ tall with yellow flower late spring to early summer
• Drought tolerant
• Likes full sun to partial shade
• Great pollinator species and birds love the seeds

ROUNDLEAF ALUMROOT – Heuchera cylindrical
• 18-24” tall clumping perennial with pale yellow flowers in late spring
• Prefers full sun to partial shade
• Prefers moist, well-drained soils
• Attractive evergreen foliage
• Attracts bees, butterflies and birds

MISSOURI IRIS – Iris missouriensis
• Needs a moist site
• Blooms in mid to late May
• Grows from short, thick rhizomes
BLUE FLAX – Linum lewisii
- Easy to grow from seed
- Needs open area in full sun
- Flowers open in morning and drop in afternoon, new flowers open the next day

SILKY LUPINE – Lupinus sericeus
- Blooms mid-summer
- Short lived perennial, but reseeds
- Drought tolerant

PENSTEMON ATTENUATUS – Taper-Leaf Penstemon
- Found in both pale yellow and blue flowered forms
- Great plant for the garden
- Fairly drought tolerant

SLENDER CINQUEFOIL – Potentilla gracilis
- Flowers mid summer
- Nice foliage
- Prefers full sun to partial shade
- Deer tolerant
- Great for butterfly gardens

MISSOURI GOLDENROD – Solidago canadensis
- Masses of bright yellow flowers in late summer
- Full sun to partial shade
- Drought tolerant
- Good for naturalizing and erosion control
- Not good for small or formal gardens

BLUE EYED GRASS – Sisyrinchium idahoense
- Grows in moist areas and flowers in spring
- Easy to grow
- Nice semi-evergreen foliage
- Deer tolerant

SYNTHYRIS MISSURICA – Mountain Kittentails
- Flowers early in the spring
- Full sun to partial shade
- Leaves add interest into summer
- Deer tolerant

IDAHO FESCUE – Festuca idahoensis
- Short bunchgrass 8-12” tall
- Fine textured
To enrich education through diversity, the University of Idaho is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution.

University of Idaho and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating

- Usually slight bluish tint
- Dry, full sun

**BLUEBUNCH WHEATGRASS – Pseudoroegneria spicata**
- Bunchgrass 18-24” tall
- Bluish tint
- Wider blade

**TUFTED HAIRGRASS – Deschampsia caespitosa**
- Bunchgrass 18-24” tall
- Course textured fine blade
- Feathery seed heads

**BASIN WILDRYE – Leymus cinerus**
- Large bunchgrass 3-4’ tall
- Drought tolerant, prefers full sun
- Wide blade

**BLUE WILD RYE – Leymus glauca**
- Large bunchgrass 3-4’ tall
- Likes spring moisture, prefers full sun
- Wide blade with bluish hue

**INDIAN RICEGRASS – Achnatherum hymenoides**
- Bunchgrass 1-2’ tall
- Very drought tolerant, full sun
- 2-3” seed depth is crucial for germination

Plants can be ordered online and shipped from their nursery in Tekoa, WA.