

## PLANTS

### **Snow-on-the-Mountain** (*Euphorbia marginata*)



Tolerates well-drained soil.  
Needs full sun or partial shade.  
Needs little water.  
Blooms summer to early fall.  
Grows to about 2 ft.

### **Compass Plant** (*Silphium laciniatum*)



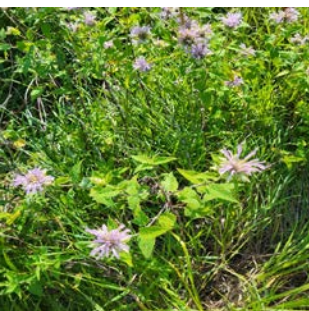
Requires full sun.  
Prefers well-drained soil.  
Needs low water amount.  
Blooms mid-summer.  
Grows 3 - 10 ft. tall.  
Name comes from leaves that point N / S on compass.

### **Common Sunflower** (*Helianthus annuus*)



Prefers sandy soils.  
Needs full sun.  
Needs low to medium water.  
Blooms in summer & fall.  
Grows from 6-10 ft tall.  
Great food for goldfinches.

### **Bee Balm /Bergamot** (*Monarda fistulosa*)



Requires full sun or partial shade.  
Needs moist soil.  
Has low water needs.  
Blooms in July.  
Grows 2 - 4 ft. tall.  
Favorite of bumblebees.

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### **Rattlesnake Master** (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)



Needs full sun.  
Needs moist/well-drained soil.  
Needs medium water.  
Blooms late early July - Sept.  
Grows 2 - 6ft tall.

### **Thick-spike Gayfeather** (*Liatris pycnostachya*)



Requires full sun.  
Prefers sandy soils.  
Needs medium water.  
Blooms late summer to fall.  
Grows up to 5 ft. tall.  
Great for native bees.

### **Common Milkweed** (*Asclepias syriaca*)



Needs low water amount.  
Requires very dry soil.  
Needs full sun.  
Blooms June-August.  
Grows up to 5 ft. tall.  
All milkweed species beneficial to Monarch and other butterflies.

### **Hoary Vervain** (*Verbena stricta*)



Grows up to 3 ft. tall.  
Prefers sandy soil.  
Needs full sun and medium water amounts.  
Blooms summer to late summer and a pollinator favorite.

# NATIVE Gardening for Urban Wildlife



Native plants important for birds,  
pollinators, and people

**LIGHTHOUSE**  
Audubon | Spring Creek Prairie  
Audubon Center



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For more on native plants and bird they benefit:  
[Audubon Plants for Birds Database](#)

## Tips for your Native Garden

*This pamphlet is here to help you make a healthy native garden while helping the environment by giving cleaner air, lower carbon dioxide levels in the air, and simply making it look nicer than only having turf grass. The greater your native plant diversity, the more bird and insect diversity in your yard.*

*This pamphlet will also show some insects and birds these plants might attract when it gets habitable for them in food and shelter. Also included are a few invasive species to look out for that could possibly ruin your garden, and how to safely get rid of them without messing with your garden.*

## Watch Out for Invasive Species

*Certain invasive species can take over your yard/garden. Musk Thistles are an invasive species that look pokey with a purple round flower head. This plant will take a lot of water out of the ground. This is not good for your native garden because your plants will need that water and nutrients. They also spread and take up space that will make the soil erode and will be harder to use. To get rid of this plant you will have to dig it up from the root.*

*The invasive Japanese Beetle has a shiny green head and brown body with black and white underside. This beetle is a destructive pest that attacks over 300 types of foliage, flowers, and fruits. This beetle will also attack your native plants as well as your vegetables. If you see any of these bugs react as soon as possible by spraying your plant with soapy water.*

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*\*photos: Audubon and Lighthouse*

## BUGS

### Bumblebees

(*Apidae*)

Over 250 species of bumblebees, usually fuzzy and larger than other bees. Do not die when they sting. Beneficial pollinators that collect nectar & pollen. Scent mark flowers they've visited.



### Dragonflies

(*Anisoptera*)

Indicators of clean water and predator of pesky mosquitoes. Known for their large complex eyes, they can bite but rarely do. Great natural pest control around the yard and garden.



### Butterflies

(*Rhopalocera*)

Almost 20,000 species of these important pollinators with beautiful transparent wings. Adults only live a few days to weeks. Larvae are caterpillars that need many native plant, like Monarchs (pictured) and milkweeds.



### Spiders

(*Araneae*)

8-legged misunderstood friends in the garden. Beneficial by eating garden pest bugs so less need for pesticides, and they don't eat garden plants. Few to no venomous garden species.



For more on these bugs and their benefits:

[Bug Guide](#)

## BIRDS

### American Goldfinch

(*Spinus tristis*)

Eats some insects, but mostly seeds, especially from thistle & sunflower. Males bright yellow with black caps & wings. Female is duller colors. Nest in shrub or saplings near open.



### House Wren

(*Troglodytes aedon*)

Mostly insectivorous. Males and females look alike, small, shades of striped/speckled brown and stiff tail. Sharp pointy beak. Nests in old woodpecker holes or birdhouses.



### Northern Cardinal

(*Cardinalis cardinalis*)

Like to eat sunflower seeds, grains, & fruits, and insects for young. Males brilliant red, orange beak/black face. Female more brown. Nest in trees, vines, shrubs, tangles up to 15ft.



### Mourning Dove

(*Zenaidura macroura*)

Eat wild grasses & grain off ground. Male with bright purple/pink neck. Females similar but more brown. Nests in dense foliage on barely made nest of sticks.



For more on these birds and their songs:

[Audubon Bird Guide](#)