

MOUNTAIN SHADOWS

Designed by Bill Melvin of Ecoscape Environmental Design



- 1 - Alpine Aster
- 2 - Blue Balloon Flower
- 3 - Blue Cranesbill
- 4 - Corsican Violet

- 5 - Crimson Star Columbine
- 6 - Edelweiss
- 7 - Husker Red Penstemon
- 8 - Northern Sea Oats Grass

- 9 - Sticky Geranium
- 10 - Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies
- 11 - White Daylily

1 Alpine Aster

Aster alpinus 'Goliath'

Mature Height: 6-12"

Mature Spread: 15-18"

Hardy To: 8,500'

Water: Low

Flower Color: Lavender-Blue

Flower Season: Late Spring to Early Summer

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds

Resistant To: Deer, Rabbits

Description: Alpine Aster is an early-blooming perennial often grown in rock gardens or used for edging in garden borders. Large, pale lilac-blue "daisies" are followed by fluffy seed heads above a dense carpet of bright green spoon-shaped leaves. This variety forms clumps and spreads through slow-creeping stems. The 'Goliath' is a variety of *aster alpinus*, which is a native of slopes, tundra, and coastlines in the upper latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere. Alpine Aster is drought-tolerant, deer and rabbit resistant, and it grows best at high altitudes. It makes a great cut flower.

Care: Alpine Aster is a low-maintenance plant. Deadhead as needed. This perennial is not particularly long-lived, so allow it to self-seed to produce successive generations.

2 Blue Balloon Flower

Platycodon grandiflorus 'Mariesii'

Mature Height: 18-24"

Mature Spread: 12-18"

Hardy To: 7,500'

Water: Medium

Flower Color: Blue

Flower Season: Mid-Summer

Resistant To: Deer

Description: Large deep blue "balloons" inflate and then burst open into bell-shaped blossoms. Foliage is deep green and compact. Slow to emerge in spring, the Blue Balloon Flower is well worth the wait. It is long lived and a reliable bloomer. It is deer resistant and thrives in almost any well-drained soil. It makes a good cut flower.

Care: This plant is easy to grow, trouble-free, and tolerant of neglect. Remove dead stems after the leaves drop in fall. Cut the whole plant back to 6 inches after the first frost. Can be cut back by half in late May/early June to promote bushiness and keep it compact. Division is not recommended due to potential disturbance of this plant's long tap root system. Avoid letting the soil get too moist.

Fun Fact: Its dried root is used widely in Eastern medicine.

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Blue Cranesbill*Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'***Mature Height:** 18-24"**Mature Spread:** 2-3'**Hardy To:** 8,000'**Water:** Medium**Flower Color:** Violet-Blue**Flower Season:** Early Summer**Resistant To:** Deer, Rabbits

Description: Large, grayish-green leaves create a broad rounded clump casting violet-blue wide faced flowers. Blue Cranesbill makes a great woodland garden or background plant. Adding some multi-seasonal interest, the foliage of this plant takes on brilliant orange and red tones in autumn. It is deer and rabbit resistant and adaptable to a variety of growing conditions.

Care: Although Blue Cranesbill can tolerate drought once established, it appreciates moist, well-drained soils. Shear back the foliage immediately after flowering to allow a flush of new growth. Can be divided every 3 to 4 years. Too much shade will make this plant less compact with fewer flowers.

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Corsican Violet*Viola corsica***Mature Height:** 6-8"**Mature Spread:** 6-8"**Hardy To:** 9,000'**Water:** Medium**Flower Color:** Purplish-Blue**Flower Season:** Early Spring to Late Summer

Description: Prolific purplish-blue flowers hang over a low growing tuft of rich green foliage. A hardier, lesser-known version of pansy similar to the popular winter pansy, Corsican Violets flower throughout the spring and can self-seed over time to create a river of flowing purple blooms. These plants are drought and shade tolerant and an attractive addition to rock gardens or pots. They can adapt to clayey and gravelly soils, and they are more reliably perennial than most other pansies.

Care: Remove faded blooms regularly to encourage more buds to form, but be sure to leave a few deadheads if you want the plant to self-sow. This plant will self-sow when the site suits it well.

Fun Fact: Their flowers are edible.

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Crimson Star Columbine*Aquilegia 'Crimson Star'***Mature Height:** 24-30"**Mature Spread:** 24-30"**Hardy To:** 10,000'**Water:** Medium**Flower Color:** Red**Flower Season:** Spring**Attracts:** Hummingbirds, Butterflies**Resistant To:** Deer, Rabbits

Description: Columbines have been favored as garden perennials for centuries, and this particular variety is a truly spectacular show in the garden. Often attracting hummingbirds that sip from the blossoms, these plants boast fern-like green foliage adorned with crimson-red flowers with a white center. The Crimson Star Columbine is drought and shade tolerant and deer and rabbit resistant. They make excellent cut flowers, and can last up to two weeks in a vase.

Care: Placement in partial shade will prolong flowering time. Avoid letting the soil get too soggy or heavy. In the fall, cut plants down to the basal foliage. Note - the Crimson Star is relatively short lived, so allow some to go to seed and self sow. In the spring, remove only the dead leaves. Division is not recommended; mature plants do not like to be disturbed.

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Edelweiss*Leontopodium alpinum***Mature Height:** 6-12"**Mature Spread:** 6-12"**Hardy To:** 9,000'**Water:** Low**Flower Color:** Silvery-White**Flower Season:** Early Summer**Resistant To:** Deer

Description: Compact cushions of woolly, gray foliage produce tiny, button-like flowers nestled in attractive star-shaped collars made up of linear, silver-white, downy floral leaves. Edelweiss is a well-known mountain flower native to Europe, and it is celebrated as a symbol of Austria, Switzerland, and the alpine. Found in rocky limestone outcroppings, it is well adapted to climatic extremes. The felt-like covering of its leaves and its deep fibrous roots protect it from damage caused by drought, cold, aridity, and UV rays, and allow Edelweiss to sprout new growth in the spring. It will sometimes self-seed when happy, enjoys the snow, and is deer resistant and drought tolerant. In folklore, giving this flower to a loved one was a gesture of dedication. Edelweiss can be cut and/or dried.

Care: Edelweiss needs very little maintenance and care. No pruning required. Be sure to put it in a location with good drainage. It is not an especially long-lived plant, but it can be propagated by division every couple of years. Happy plants may self-seed.

Fun Fact: Edelweiss was used traditionally in folk medicine as a remedy against abdominal and respiratory diseases.

**When necessary, Resource Central shall select appropriate plant substitutions.*

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Husker Red Penstemon*Penstemon digitalis* 'Husker Red'**Mature Height:** 2-3'**Mature Spread:** 18-24"**Hardy To:** 8,000'**Water:** Low**Flower Color:** Creamy-White**Flower Season:** Late Spring to Early Summer**Attracts:** Bees, Hummingbirds, Butterflies**Resistant To:** Deer

Description: A thick mound of striking reddish-green foliage with erect stalks carrying open spires of white flowers. The Husker Red Penstemon is not only of interest during its full bloom of summer but all year long. In autumn and winter, song birds are found feasting on its seeds, and in the chill of winter it is still visible as a tidy maroon clump of elongated deer-tongue leaves. Husker Red won the Perennial Plant Association Plant of the Year Award in 1996, and it is an extremely sturdy, easy to grow, problem-free perennial plant. It is deer resistant and drought-tolerant once established. It makes a great cut flower.

Care: Prune after the first bloom. Husker Red appreciates well-drained soil to avoid root rot and enough sun to keep its stems from flopping. Divide every 3 to 4 years to manage overgrown clumps and keep the plant vigorous. Plants can be staked if necessary.

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Northern Sea Oats Grass*Chasmanthium latifolium***Mature Height:** 2-3'**Mature Spread:** 18-24"**Hardy To:** 6,500'**Water:** Medium**Flower Color:** Beige**Flower Season:** Mid-Summer**Attracts:** Butterflies**Resistant To:** Deer

Description: A native grass with bamboo-like foliage and delightful nodding seed heads that rustle in the breeze from late summer to winter. The blue-green, bamboo-like leaves of the Northern Sea Oats Grass often turn a bright yellow-gold in the fall and remain a soft brown for most of the winter. This is a highly adaptable, low-maintenance grass that tolerates shade and drought (once established). It makes a unique cut flower in fresh or dry arrangements when cut before it is fully mature, and it is deer resistant.

Care: Once the Northern Sea Oats Grass begins to turn tattered and gray, which generally happens in late winter, cut it back to its basal rosette. This grass enjoys moist soil; however, a drier location will keep its expansion in check. This plant reseeds easily. If the colony begins to expand aggressively, remove unwanted clumps.

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Sticky Geranium*Geranium viscosissimum***Mature Height:** 1-3'**Mature Spread:** 18-24"**Hardy To:** 9,000'**Water:** Low**Flower Color:** Rose-Purple**Flower Season:** Late Spring to Summer**Attracts:** Butterflies, Birds

Description: A native *geranium* with short stems and leaves on long stalks, wild Sticky Cranesbill can be found in North American grasslands and forests as well as high elevation meadows. The silky pink flowers with delicate purple lines are attractive in early summer followed by red-toned leaves in the fall. Cranesbill is drought tolerant and happy in light shade. The sticky leaves are thought to be protocarniverous, trapping tiny insects to absorb mineral nutrition as they decay. The leaves and flowers of this plant are edible, but they are said to be rather astringent and unappealing.

Care: Sticky Cranesbill is a low-maintenance plant. Do not overwater. To prevent any unwanted plants, remove the seed heads before they are fully ripe.

Fun Fact: Native Peoples have used Sticky Cranesbill as a cold remedy, dermatological aid, treatment for sore eyes, food preservative, and in love potions. Herbalists use this herb to stop bleeding.

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Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies*Gaura lindheimeri* 'Summer Breeze'**Mature Height:** 2-3'**Mature Spread:** 18-24"**Hardy To:** 6,500'**Water:** Low**Flower Color:** White**Flower Season:** Summer to Fall

Description: A loosely branching perennial with wand-like panicles, Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies gives the impression of butterflies whirling in the breeze. This is a long-blooming perennial with pink buds that consistently open to white flowers from midsummer into autumn. 'Summer Breeze' is a selection of *gaura lindheimeri*, which is a native to the southern central and western United States and Mexico. This plant is heat, drought, and shade tolerant, and it does best in well-drained soils.

Care: Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies requires little to no care. Deadhead regularly to promote bushier growth. This plant does not self-seed. Division is rarely necessary, but it can be done to yield more plants. To divide, dig out the small, newer offsets from the edge of the clump in spring or fall. The deep, mature tap roots of this plant do not like to be disturbed.

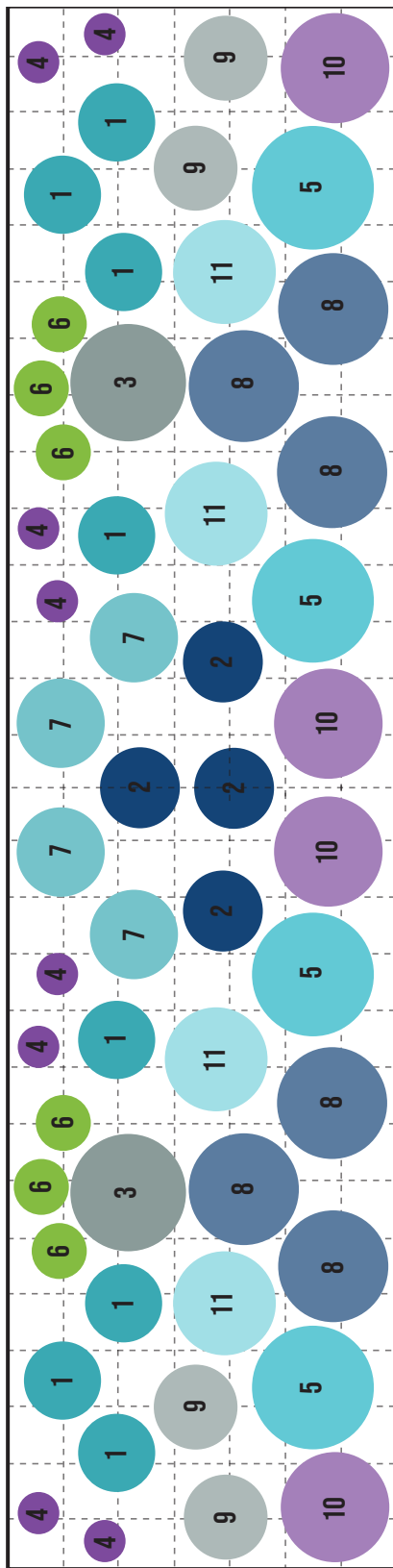
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White Daylily*Hemerocallis 'Joan Senior'***Mature Height:** 18-24"**Mature Spread:** 18-24"**Hardy To:** 8,000'**Water:** Low**Flower Color:** White**Flower Season:** Late Spring to Early Summer**Attracts:** Butterflies, Hummingbirds**Resistant To:** Rabbits

Description: Petals of white blossoms that are ruffled and slightly recurved with a pale yellow watermark and soft lime-green eye make 'Joan Senior' one of the most popular Daylilies. This plant flowers June through July and will rebloom if deadheaded. 'Joan Senior' is a tough plant that can survive harsh conditions such as slopes, poor and dry soils, and placement near pavement that is salted in the winter. This plant is

very drought tolerant, adaptable to a wide range of growing conditions, and rabbit resistant.

Care: Deadhead regularly. Remove old, dead foliage in late winter. Divide every 3 to 4 years.

1 PLANT BY NUMBER DESIGN OPTION:*This side is the FRONT of the garden!*

7' x 28'

1 box = 1 square foot

Plant Key

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