Summer Sanctuary

Designed by Julie Viel, Horticulturalist for City of Boulder

A longstanding Garden In A Box favorite, Summer Sanctuary (formerly called Cool Connection) returns with its soft hues of pinks, purples, and blues. Featuring Husker Red Penstemon, Dwarf Blue Larkspur, and Rose Queen Salvia, you'll be sure to attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, and the rich reds of Switchgrass in late summer are a striking addition. Summer Sanctuary includes 23 plants and has four unique 72 sq. ft. plant by number designs.

- Full sun exposure (minimum of 6 hrs of direct sun per day)
- Planting map covers 72 sq ft
- Blooms spring to fall
- Xeric (low water)
- Hardiness maximum of 7,000 ft

Individual Plant Information

BLUE GRAMA GRASS - *Bouteloua gracilis*

QTY. 3

This Rocky Mountain native grass has "eyelash-like" spikelets that grow horizontally on its stems. 'Blue Grama' stays colorful through the fall season.

- Mature height 1-2' Mature spread 1-2'
- Full sun
- Very low water needs
- Blooms summer to fall
- Attracts birds

CARE: This adaptable grass thrives in most soils except very heavy and very wet clay. Be sure to not let this grass sit in wet soils for long.

CORAL CANYON TWINSPUR - *Diascia integerrima* 'Coral Canyon'

QTY. 4

Displays elegant grey-green foliage with many pale pink flowers per stem.

- Mature height 12-15" Mature spread 8-12"
- Full sun to filtered shade
- Low water needs
- Blooms late spring to summer
- Attracts butterflies
- Resists deer

CARE: This highly adaptable member plant will thrive in well-drained soil.

DOUBLE BUBBLEMINT HYSSOP - *Agastache cana*

QTY. 1

This woody-based perennial has pointed oval light-green foliage found along gracefully long stems and striking, richly pink tubular flowers that have a slight bubblegum fragrance.

- Mature height 2-3' Mature spread 18-24"
- Full sun
- Low water needs
- Blooms mid-summer to fall
- Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies
- Resists deer

CARE: Water regularly for the first season to establish the root system. Make sure the soil is well drained, as Hyssop does not tolerate soil that is constantly wet. After it is established, it is very drought tolerant.

DWARF BLUE LARKSPUR - *Delphinium grandiflorum* 'Blue Butterfly'

QTY. 3

Features masses of vivid blue flowers that spring from low and bushy foliage with bright green leaves. Each flower has five petal-like sepals, surrounding small and fuzzy "true petals".

- Mature height 12-15" Mature spread 12-18"
- Full sun
- Medium water needs
- Blooms early summer
- Attracts bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
- Resists rabbits

CARE: Regular watering will do this plant well. Warning: All parts of plant are poisonous if ingested. Toxic to dogs, cats and horses.

HIMALAYAN SAGE - *Phlomis cashmeriana*

QTY. 3

This sage's lavender-pink blooms stand nestled at the base of the large furry leaves. This remains attractive throughout the growing season.

- Mature height 24-36" Mature spread 18-24"
- Filtered shade
- Medium water needs
- Blooms spring to early summer
- Attracts bees, birds, butterflies
- Resists deer

CARE: Thrives in sandy or clay loam soils. Overwatering makes the plant leggy and prone to flopping.

HUSKER RED PENSTEMON - *Penstemon digitalis* 'Huskers Red'

QTY. 3

A thick mound of striking reddish-green foliage with erect stalks carry open spires of pure white flowers with hints of pink.

- Mature height 2-3' Mature spread 18-24"
- Sun to part shade
- Low water needs
- Blooms late spring to early summer
- Attracts bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
- Resists deer

CARE: Plants may be staked, if necessary to support growth. Does appreciate some sun, and may begin to flop if it's not getting enough.

PRAIRIE WINECUPS - *Callirhoe involucrata*

QTY. 3

These pink, chalice-shaped flowers complement the silver and deeply lobed foliage. Winecups will spread creating a delightful mat of foliage studded with showy pink blooms.

- Mature height 6-12" Mature spread 2-3'
- Full sun
- Low to medium water needs
- Blooms early summer to fall
- Attracts bees, butterflies
- Resists deer

CARE: Referred to as the "Buffalo Rose" because they grow well in dry, rocky areas like prairies, pastures, open woods, and roadsides. Due to long taproot, transplanting is not encouraged. Prune back to reduce legginess.

SHENANDOAH RED SWITCHGRASS - *Panicum virgatum* 'Shenandoah'

QTY. 3

Switchgrass forms elegantly tall, dense stands of green changing to deep red throughout the summer and ending the season as a burgundy wine color in the fall.

- Mature height 3-4' Mature spread 12-18"
- Full sun
- Low water needs
- Blooms late summer
- Attracts birds, butterflies

CARE: Extremely drought tolerant and grows well in any type of soil.

SILVER BROCADE SAGE - *Artemesia stellariana* 'Silver Brocade'

QTY. 1

A wonderfully soft ground cover with deeply lobed leaves complimented by sprays of tiny yellow flowers. Its leaves are densely covered with white hairs, giving it a silvery appearance.

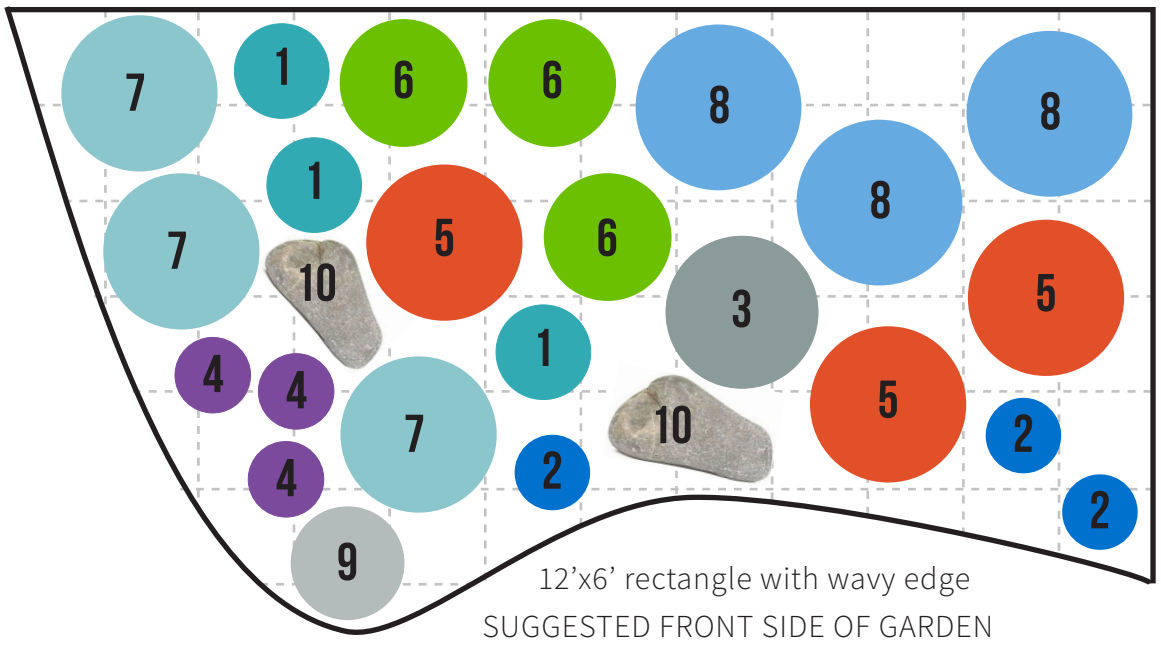
- Mature height 6-12" Mature spread 12-18"
- Full sun
- Low water needs
- Blooms summer
- Resists deer

CARE: This hardy plant easily withstands both heat and frost and prefers normal to sandy soil.

Plant Maintenance By Season

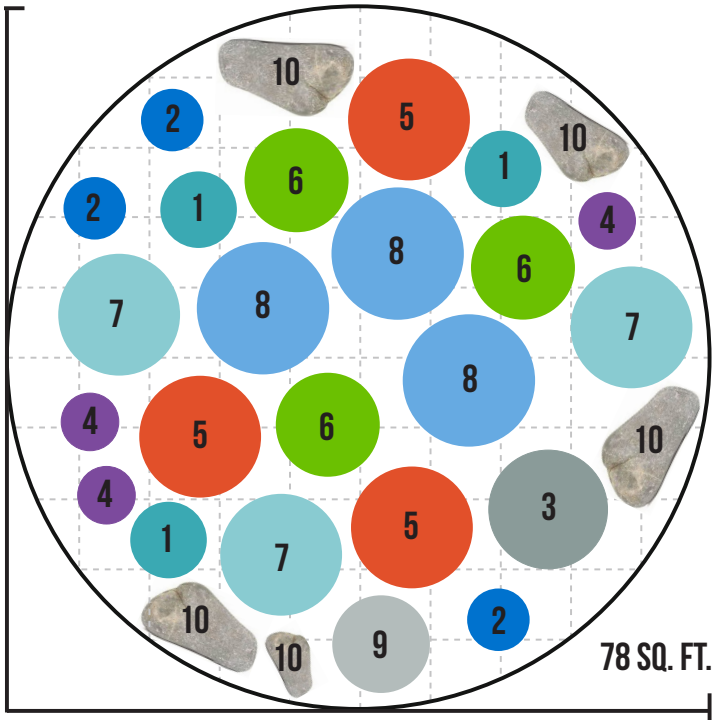
MAINTENANCE TASKS	PLANT
SPRING (AFTER FIRST GROWING SEASON)	
Cut back old growth to 6 inches before new growth begins to show.	Blue Grama Grass, Prairie Red Coneflower, Double Bubblemint Hyssop, Himalayan Sage, Husker Red Penstemon, Prairie Winecups, Shenandoah Red Switchgrass, Silver Brocade Sage
Divide mature plants, in early spring every 3 years, as needed.	Husker Red Penstemon
SUMMER	
Water sparingly once established.	Double Bubblemint Hyssop
After blooming, can cut back by one third to shape and encourage compact growth.	Silver Brocade Sage
Deadhead spent flowers to encourage new blooms.	Coral Canyon Twinspur, Husker Red Penstemon, Prairie Winecups, Silver Brocade Sage
FALL	
Leave last blooms to self-seed and/or feed the birds come winter.	Dwarf Blue Larkspur, Himalayan Sage
WINTER	
Leave stems standing over the winter to protect the crown from winter moisture.	Double Bubblemint Hyssop

Plant by Number Design Suggestions

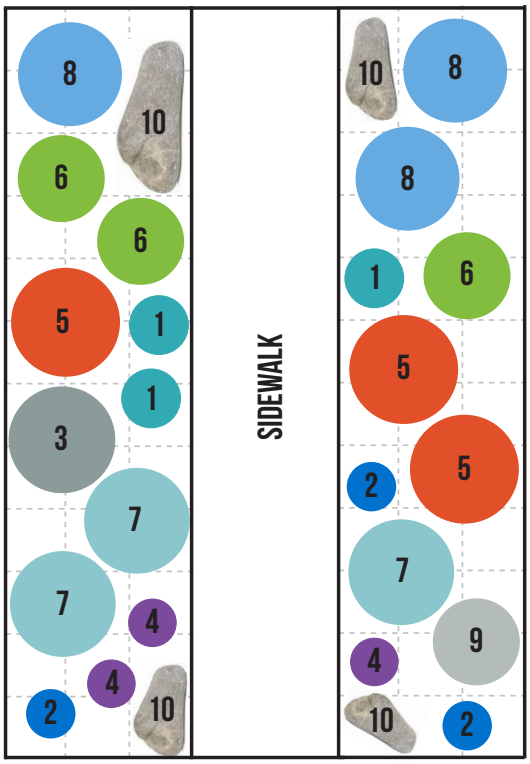


12’x6’ rectangle with wavy edge
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN

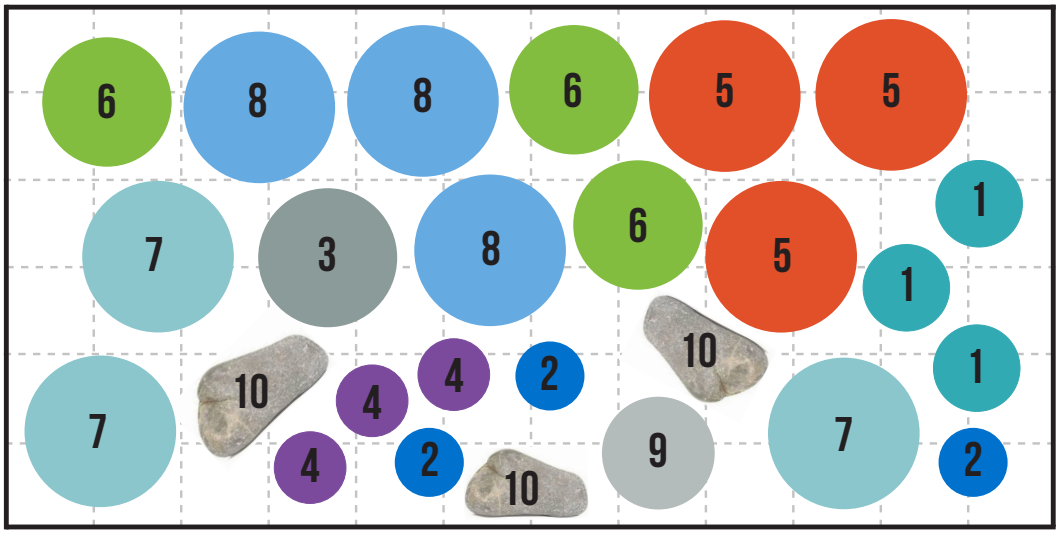
Plant by Number Design Suggestions



10’ diameter circle



12’x3’ rectangles
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN



12’x6’ rectangle
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN

Key

1. Blue Grama Grass *(Qty. 3)*
2. Coral Canyon Twinspur *(Qty.4)*
3. Double Bubblemint *(Qty. 1)*
4. Dwarf Blue Larkspur *(Qty. 3)*
5. Himalayan Sage *(Qty. 3)*
6. Husker Red Penstemon *(Qty. 3)*
7. Prairie Winecups *(Qty. 3)*
8. Shenandoah Red Switchgrass *(Qty. 3)*
9. Silver Brocade Sage *(Qty. 1)*
10. Landscaping Rock (optional) *(Qty. 3)*

1 box = 1 square foot