

# Butterfly Bounty

Designed by Deryn Davidson, CSU Extension



Butterfly Bounty is a four-season fiesta for pollinators of all shapes and sizes, but especially the butterflies, with this 98 square foot perennial garden featuring 27 full sun xeric plants. Brilliant Poppies invite the honey bees in spring. In summer, butterflies feast on Gayfeather and Black-Eyed Susans. The Coronado® Hyssop provides hummingbirds fall refreshment and Coneflower provides winter meals for birds.



Full sun exposure  
(minimum of 6 hrs of direct sun per day)



Planting maps cover 98 sq. ft.



Blooms early spring to fall



Low water needs



Hardiness maximum of 7,000 ft.

## Individual Plant Information

**N** indicates a native plant

### COMMON WHITE YARROW - *Achillea millefolium* **N**

QTY. 2



A spreading clump of finely cut grayish-green, very fragrant foliage produces erect leafy stalks topped by tight clusters of white flowers.



Mature height 1-2'  
Mature spread 2-3'



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms summer



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Best in hot, dry, sunny locations, these flowers thrive on neglect and do not need pampering. Basal foliage will remain attractive throughout the winter.

### BLUE GRAMA GRASS - *Bouteloua gracilis* **N**

QTY. 2



This Rocky Mountain native grass has eyelashlike 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.

### RED BEE BALM - *Monarda* 'Cambridge Scarlet' **N**

QTY. 4



A flowering member of the mint family, its signature fountain-shaped blooms and aromatic foliage is reminiscent of mint and orange making it hard to forget.



Mature height 2-3'  
Mature spread 12-18"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms midsummer



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** In general, this hardy perennial thrives best in moist to slightly dry soils in sunny, dry locations. If you'd like a bushier plant, cut back stem tips early in the season.

## CHOCOLATE FLOWER - *Berlandiera lyrata* N

QTY. 2



Native to the southwestern US, this bright yellow, daisy-like flower blooms at night and emits a distinct milk chocolate fragrance in the early morning hours.



Mature height 1-2"  
Mature spread 12-18"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms summer to fall



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies



Resists deer



**CARE:** This hardy and easy-to-care-for perennial is adaptable to a wide spectrum of conditions. However, it tends to prefer soil that is not amended and thrives best in full sun locations but will tolerate light shade. Once established, it requires very little water. If overwatered, it will become extra leggy. This plant can sprawl a bit.

## CORONADO® HYSSOP - *Agastache aurantiaca* 'Coronado' N

QTY. 1



Native to the Southwestern US, this hyssop has silvery green leaves on slim, branched stems with large numbers of curved, pale orange flowers from mid-summer until the first frost.



Mature height 15-18"  
Mature height 15-18"



Adaptable



Low water needs



Blooms summer to fall



Attracts birds, hummingbirds



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** This hardy plant does well in a variety of soils, except waterlogged soils. Prefers dry, well drained soil in full sun with afternoon shade during hot summers. Avoid overly fertilized or enriched soils. Mulch sparingly.

## BLUE SPRUCE STONECROP - *Sedum* 'Blue Spruce'

QTY. 3



This evergreen perennial has a low-growing, trailing habit with blue-green, conifer-like leaves and yellow star-shaped flowers on reddish-hued stems. A vigorous grower.



Mature height 4-6"  
Mature height 12-15"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms summer



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Prefers full sun or part shade. Only occasional watering needed once established. This low-maintenance sedum can handle some neglect!

## FASSEN'S CATMINT - *Nepeta x faassenii*

QTY. 3



Known for its long bloom season, it has abundant lavender-colored and fragrant blooms produce at the stem tips from spring through late summer.



Mature height 18-24"  
Mature spread 18-24"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms spring to late summer



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Catmint is an easy-to-care-for plant that can self-seed readily if not cut back throughout the growing season. Does not need much additional watering once established.

## GAY BUTTERFLY - *Asclepias tuberosa* N

QTY. 1



Intense tangerine orange flower clusters invite droves of butterflies. A host plant for Monarchs in particular, but hummingbirds also cherish its abundant nectar.



Mature height 18-36"  
Mature spread 18-24"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms mid to late summer



Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds



Resists deer



**CARE:** Low maintenance and tough, it is slow to establish (2-3 years) but long lived. It's late to emerge in spring but will self-sow readily. Asclepias do best in sunny locations with sandy soils but tolerate poor or average soils. Division not recommended due to long tap root.

## LITTLE BLUESTEM GRASS - *Schizachyrium scoparium* N

QTY. 3



This native grass' kaleidoscope of color starts as blue-gray pastels in the summer and exhibits bronze tones in the fall with white fluffy seed heads.



Mature height 3-4'  
Mature spread 24-30"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms fall



Attracts birds



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** This highly adaptable grass is tolerant of sunbaked locations and poor soil of all varieties, but is ill-suited for shady, wet soils, which will lead to poor structure and floppy growth.

## PEARLY EVERLASTING - *Anaphalis margaritacea* N

QTY. 2



Coverings of white bracts unfurl to display small bronze disk flowers grouped in clusters at the top of wooly white stems with thin grey-green leaves.



Mature height 1-2'  
Mature spread 8-12"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms summer



Attracts butterflies



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Benefits from dry, rocky soils and thrives in even very poor soil conditions. To harvest for dried arrangements, cut before fully open and hang upside down in a cool, airy place.

## PINELEAF PENSTEMON - *Penstemon pinifolius* N

QTY. 2



This low, creeping penstemon features tubular, scarlet-orange flowers. The prolific blooms rest atop soft, green needle-like foliage, covering the plant throughout the mid-summer months.



Mature height 6-8"  
Mature spread 12-15"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms mid-summer



Attracts bees, butterflies, hummingbirds



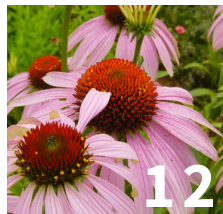
Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Penstemon varieties prefer maximum heat and sun exposure. Avoid overcrowding and enriching the soil around these finicky plants; it will shorten their lifespan. Plant high to avoid burying the crown of the plant. Mulch with bark sparingly or use gravel. Water sparingly once established.

## PURPLE CONEFLOWER - *Echinacea purpurea*

QTY. 2



A drooping purple ray of florets surround a characteristic spiny and brownish central disk, and dance atop stiff, coarse stems throughout the summer months.



Mature height 2-3'  
Mature spread 18-24"



Full sun



Low water needs



Blooms mid to late summer



Attracts bees, birds, butterflies, hummingbirds



Resists deer, rabbits



**CARE:** Low-maintenance perennial that will grow easily in average, well-drained soil. Tolerant of drought, heat and humidity.

# Plant Maintenance by Season

MAINTENANCE TASKS	PLANT
SPRING (AFTER FIRST GROWING SEASON)	
Cut back old growth or winter damage before new growth begins to show.	Common White Yarrow, Blue Grama Grass, Red Bee Balm, Chocolate Flower, Coronado® Hyssop, Fassen's Catmint, Gay Butterfly, Little Bluestem Grass, Pineleaf Penstemon, Purple Coneflower
Divide mature plants in early spring every 3 years, as needed.	Common White Yarrow, Red Bee Balm, Pearly Everlasting, Pineleaf Penstemon, Purple Coneflower
"Comb out" or remove dead foliage.	Blue Spruce Stonecrop
SUMMER	
Deadhead spent flowers to encourage new blooms and/or minimize self-seeding.	Common White Yarrow, Red Bee Balm, Chocolate Flower, Fassen's Catmint, Gay Butterfly, Pearly Everlasting
Water sparingly once established.	Coronado® Hyssop, Fassen's Catmint
FALL	
Leave last round of blooms to self-seed and/or to provide food for birds.	Blue Grama Grass, Chocolate Flower, Gay Butterfly, Little Bluestem Grass, Purple Coneflower
Do not prune or cut back! Plant susceptible to winter damage if pruned. It's best to wait until spring.	Coronado® Hyssop
Deadhead spent flowers to prevent self-seeding if this is undesired. Otherwise, leave last blooms to feed birds come winter.	Common White Yarrow, Red Bee Balm, Fassen's Catmint



# Plant-by-Number Design Suggestions

Key

1. Common White Yarrow (Qty. 2)

2. Blue Grama Grass (Qty. 2)

3. Red Bee Balm (Qty. 4)

4. Chocolate Flower (Qty. 2)

5. Coronado® Hyssop (Qty. 3)

6. Blue Spruce Stonecrop (Qty. 3)
7. Fassen’s Catmint (Qty. 3)

8. Gay Butterfly (Qty. 1)

9. Little Bluestem Grass (Qty. 3)

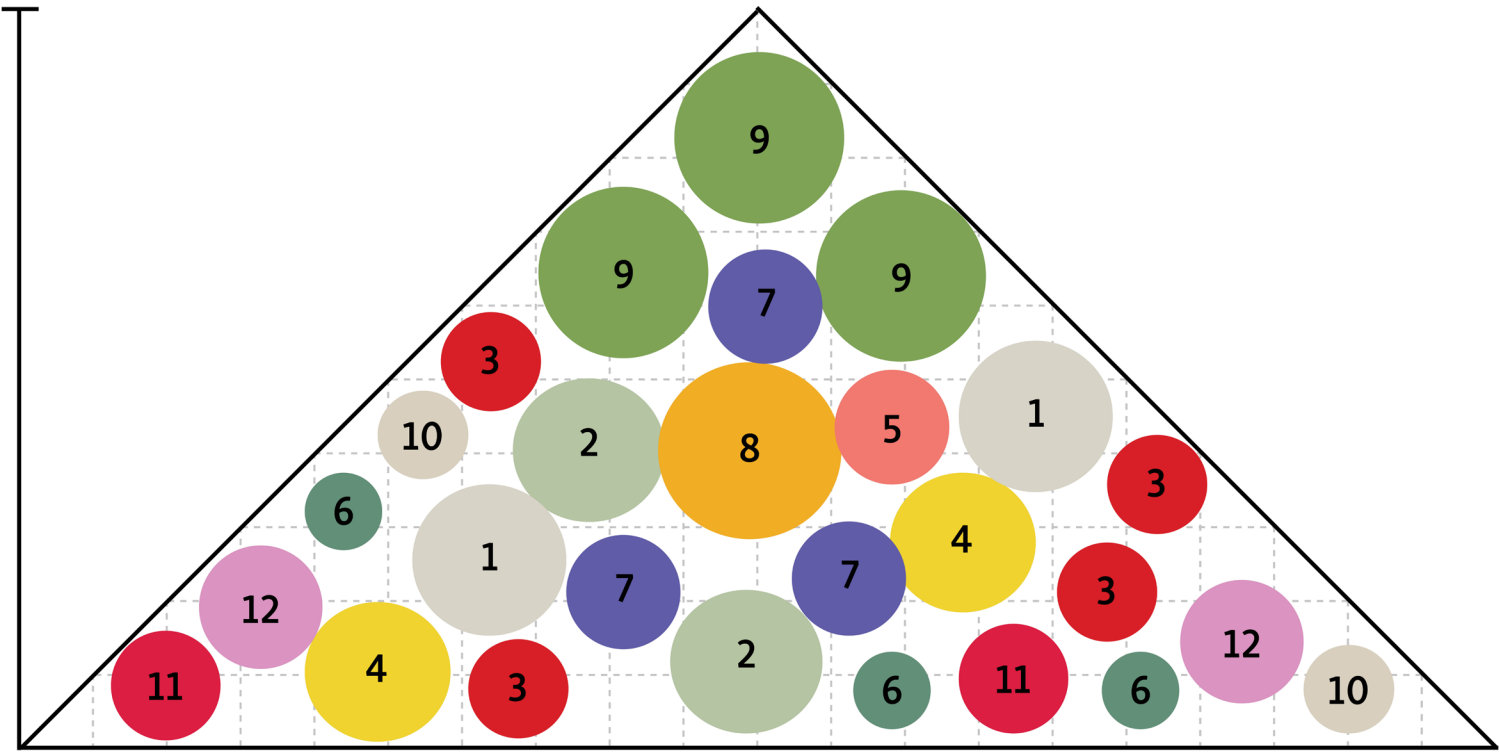
10. Pearly Everlasting (Qty. 2)

11. Pineleaf Penstemon (Qty. 2)

12. Purple Coneflower (Qty. 2)

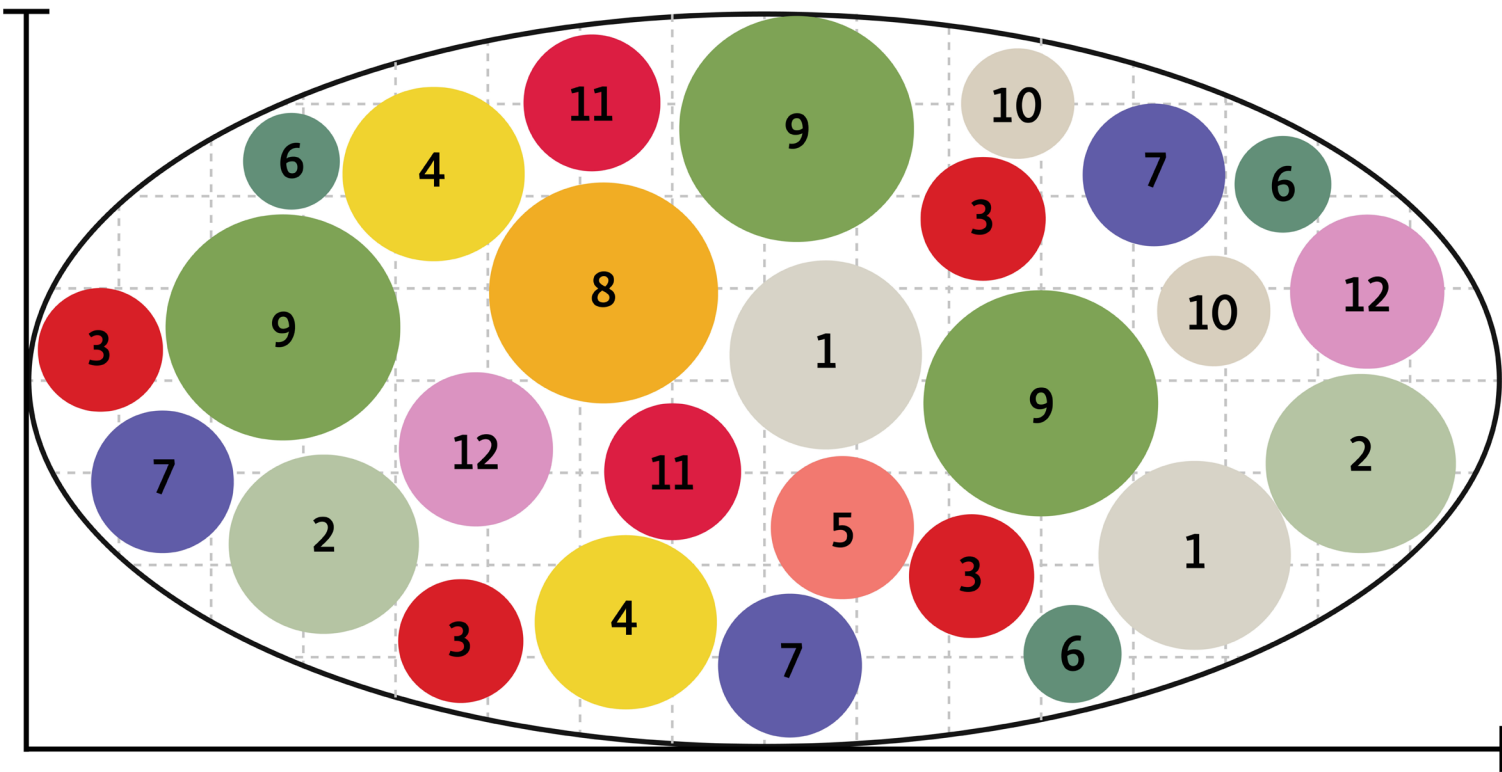
1 box = 1 square foot

Maps reflect showy bloom or foliage color.

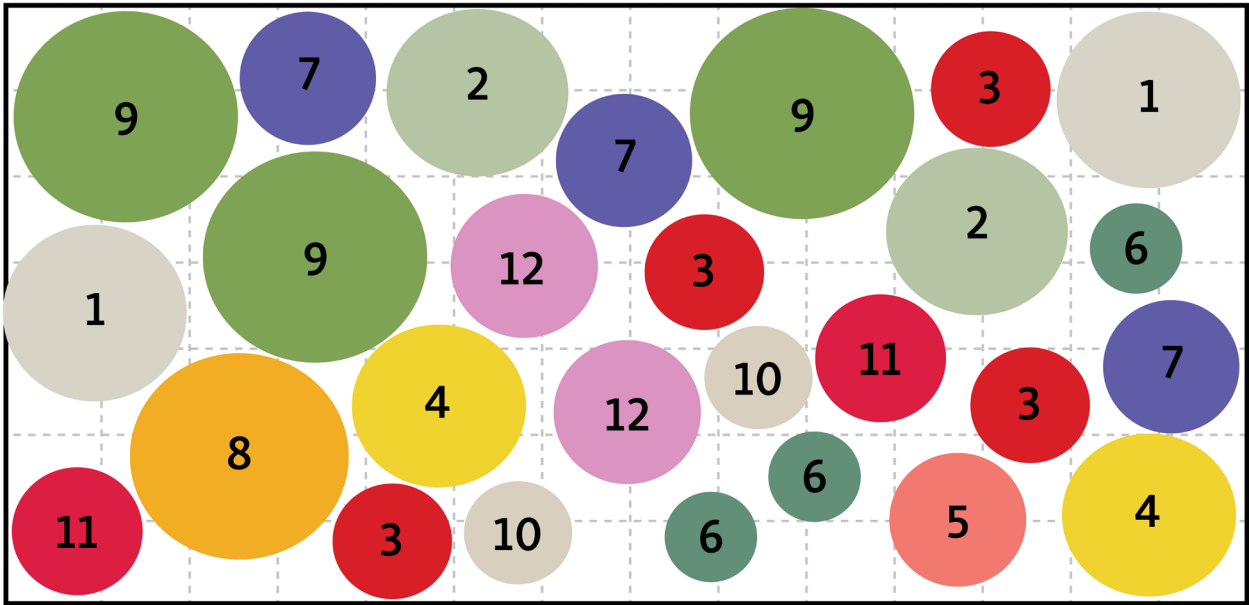


20' x 10' triangle  
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN

# Plant-by-Number Design Suggestions



8' x 16' oval  
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN



7' x 14' rectangle  
SUGGESTED FRONT SIDE OF GARDEN