



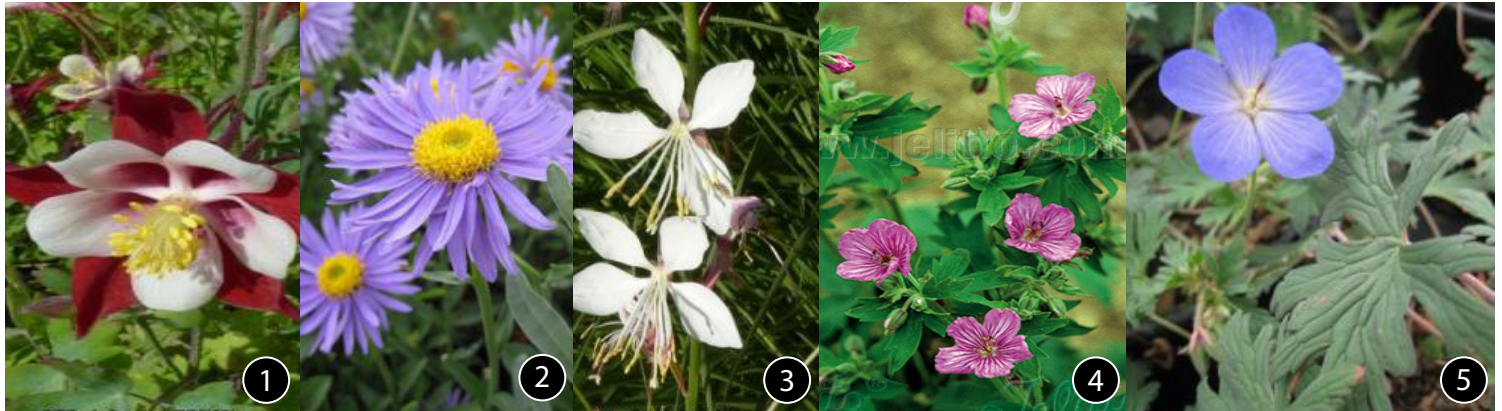
CENTER FOR
ReSource Conservation

Garden In A Box

Mountain Shadows Garden

28 Plants ♦ \$144 (\$119 with discount)
Height Range: 6"-3'
Colorful: Early Spring to Late Summer

Designed by:
Bill Melvin
Managing Director and Owner of
Ecoscape Environmental Design



1 - Crimson Star Columbine

2 - Alpine Aster

3 - Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies

4 - Sticky Cranesbill or Sticky Geranium

5 - Blue Cranesbill

6 - Northern Sea Oats Grass

7 - White Daylily

8 - Edelweiss

9 - Husker Red Penstemon

10 - Blue Balloon Flower

11- Corsican Violet

1 - Crimson Star Columbine

Latin Name: Aquilegia 'Crimson Star'

Mature Height: 24-30"

Mature Spread: 24-30"

Hardy To: 10,000'

Water: Medium

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 spring, remove only the dead leaves. Division is not recommended; mature plants do not like to be disturbed.

Water: Medium

Exposure: Sun to Filtered Shade

Flower Color: Red

Flower Season: Spring

Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies



2 - Alpine Aster

Latin Name: Aster alpinus 'Goliath'

Mature Height: 6-12"

Mature Spread: 15-18"

Hardy To: 8,500'

Water: Low

Resistant To: Deer, Rabbits

Exposure: Sun to Filtered Shade

Flower Color: Lavender- Blue

Flower Season: Late Spring to Early Summer

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds

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 selection 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 and 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.

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3 - Summer Breeze Whirling Butterflies

Latin Name: Gaura lindheimeri 'Summer Breeze'

Mature Height: 2-3'

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 6,500'

Water: Low

Exposure: Sun to Filtered Shade

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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4 - Sticky Cranesbill or Sticky Geranium

Latin Name: Geranium viscosissimum

Mature Height: 1-3"

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 9,000'

Water: Low

Exposure: Full to Part Sun

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 eleva-

tion 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.

Traditional Uses: 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.



5 - Blue Cranesbill

Latin Name: Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'

Mature Height: 18-24"

Mature Spread: 2-3'

Hardy To: 8,000'

Water: Medium

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.

Exposure: Adaptable

Flower Color: Violet-Blue

Flower Season: Early Summer

Resistant To: Deer, Rabbits

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.



6 - Northern Sea Oats Grass

Latin Name: Chasmanthium latifolium

Mature Height: 2-3'

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 6,500'

Water: Medium

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 Northern Sea Oats Grass often turn 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.

Exposure: Sun to Shade

Flower Color: Beige

Flower Season: Mid-Summer

Attracts: Butterflies

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.



7 - White Daylily

Latin Name: Hemerocallis 'Joan Senior'

Mature Height: 18-24"

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 8,000'

Attracts: Butterflies, Hummingbirds

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.

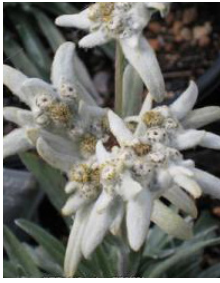
Water: Low

Exposure: Sun to Filtered Shade

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Late Spring to Early Summer

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



8 - Edelweiss

Latin Name: *Leontopodium alpinum*

Mature Height: 6-12"

Mature Spread: 6-12"

Hardy To: 9,000'

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, it enjoys the snow, and it 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.

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

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9 - Husker Red Penstemon

Latin Name: *Penstemon digitalis*

Mature Height: 2-3'

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 8,000'

Attracts: Bees, Hummingbirds, Butterflies

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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10 - Blue Balloon Flower

Latin Name: *Platycodon grandiflorus* 'Mariesii'

Mature Height: 18-24"

Mature Spread: 18-24"

Hardy To: 7,500'

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.

Traditional Uses: Its dried root is used widely in Eastern medicine.



11 - Corsican Violet

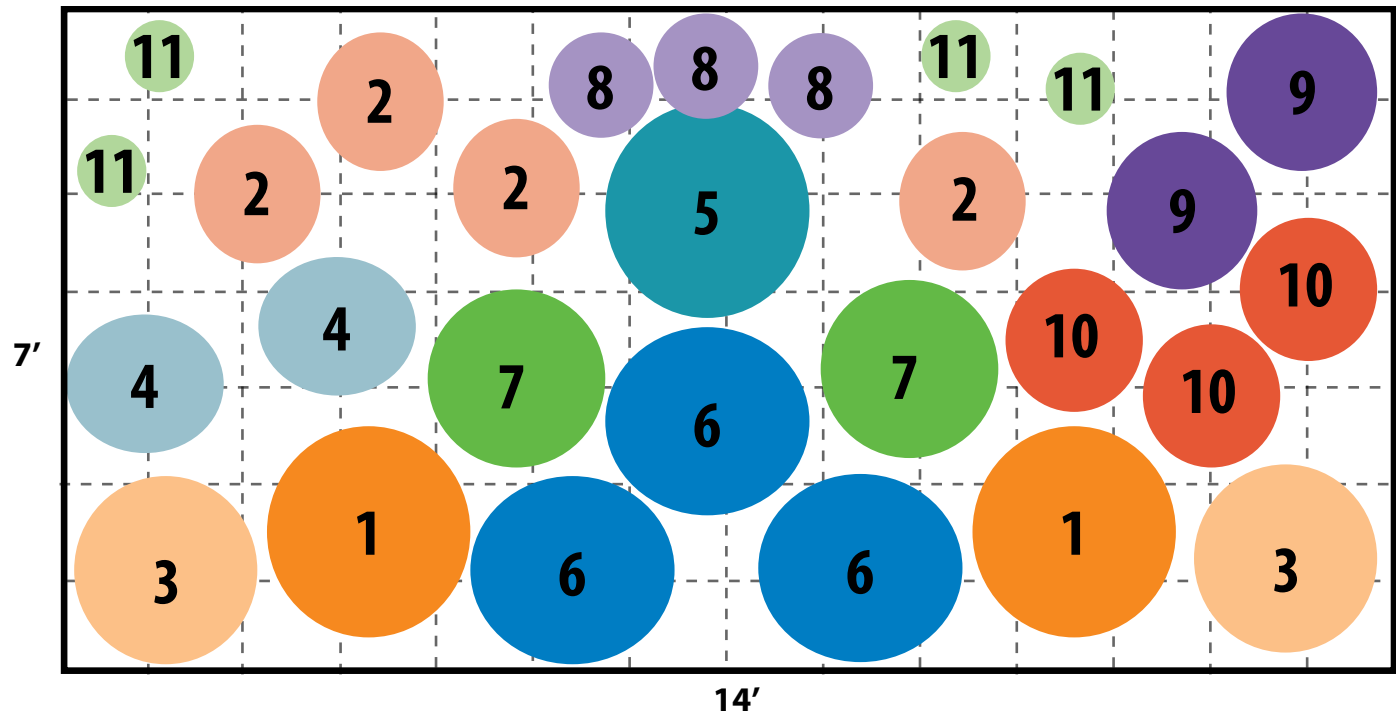
Latin Name: Viola corsica
Mature Height: 6-8"
Mature Spread: 6-8"
Hardy To: 9,000'

Water: Medium
Exposure: Adaptable
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. Their flowers are edible.

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.



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