



**NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE  
FEDERATION**








**Garden  
for  
Wildlife™**











## Plant List Recommendations for Monarch Gardens Communities near Denver, CO





















This area is located in the High Plains Ecoregion within the larger **Great Plains Ecoregion**, at the edge of the **Rocky Mountain Ecoregion**. The following plant recommendations can be used to achieve the 80% native plant requirement to obtain Monarch Garden Certification.

Plant Category	Common Name Scientific Name	Bloom Time	Bloom Color	Height	Spread	Light Conditions	Cover	Host	Nectar /Pollen	Wildlife Value
<b>Milkweed *Required</b>	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i> Swamp Milkweed	summer	pink	3-4'	2-3'			✓	✓	
	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i> Showy Milkweed	summer-fall	pink/ green/ purple	2-4'	1-2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterfly Milkweed	summer	orange/ yellow	1-3'	0.5- 1.5'			✓	✓	
<b>Flowering Perennials</b>	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> Common Yarrow	spring- summer	yellow/ white	3'	2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i> Colorado Blue Columbine	spring- summer	blue/ white	1-3'	1-2'				✓	
	<i>Artemisia sp. (frigida, ludoviciana)</i> Sagebrush – Prairie, White	spring- summer	yellow/ white	1-3'	1'		✓	✓	✓	

<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i> Purple Poppy Mallow/ Wine Cups	spring	magenta	0.5-1'	0.5-3'				✓	
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> Harebells	spring- summer	blue	0.5-1'	0.5'				✓	
<i>Cleome (Peritoma) serrulata</i> (annual) Rocky Mountain Beeplant	summer	pink/ purple	1-5'	1-4'			✓	✓	
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> Plains Coreopsis	spring	yellow/ red	1.5-4'	1-1.5'				✓	
<i>Dalea purpurea</i> Purple Prairie Clover	summer	purple	1-3'	1.5'		✓	✓	✓	
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i> Showy Fleabane	summer	purple	1.5-2'	2'			✓	✓	
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i> Sulphur Buckwheat	spring- summer	yellow	0.5-4'	1-3'			✓	✓	
<i>Fragaria sp. (vesca, virginiana)</i> Strawberry – Woodland, Virginia	spring	white	0.5'	1'			✓	✓	
<i>Gaillardia sp. (aristata, pulchella)</i> Blanketflower/ Indian Blanket	spring- summer	red/ yellow/ orange	0.5-2'	0.5- 1.5'			✓	✓	
<i>Grindelia squarrosa</i> Curlycup Gumweed	summer	yellow	0.5-3'	1-4'			✓	✓	
<i>Helianthus sp. (annuus, maximilianii, petiolaris)</i> Sunflower – Common, Maximilian, Prairie	summer- fall	yellow	2-10'	2-4'		✓	✓	✓	

<i>Heterotheca villosa</i> Hairy False Goldenaster	spring- fall	yellow	3'	1-2'			✓	✓	
<i>Liatrix punctata</i> Spotted Gayfeather	summer	purple	1-2'	1-2'			✓	✓	
<i>Lupinus sp. (alpestris, argenteus)</i> Lupine – Great Basin, Silvery	summer	blue	1-4'	1-4'			✓	✓	
<i>Machaeranthera tanacetifolia</i> Tahoka Daisy/ Tansy-aster (annual)	spring	purple	0.5-2'	1-3'				✓	
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> Wild Bergamot/ Bee Balm/ Horsemint	spring- summer	lavender	2-4'	2'			✓	✓	
<i>Oenothera caespitosa</i> Tufted Evening Primrose	spring	white	1'	2'				✓	
<i>Penstemon sp. (secundiflorus, strictus, virens)</i> Penstemon – Side-bells, Rocky Mt., Blue Mist	spring- summer	lavendar / pink/ blue/ purple	1-2.5'	1-2'			✓	✓	
<i>Ratibida columnifera</i> Mexican Hat	spring- fall	red/ yellow	1-3'	1-1.5'			✓	✓	
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> Blackeyed Susan	summer- fall	yellow	1.5-3.5'	1-2'			✓	✓	
<i>Solidago sp. (missouriensis, nemoralis)</i> Goldenrod – Missouri, Gray	summer- fall	yellow	1-3'	0.5-2'			✓	✓	
<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i> Scarlet Globe-Mallow	spring- summer	pink/ red	0.5-1'	1'			✓	✓	

	<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i> Smooth Blue Aster	summer-fall	purple/ lavender	2-4'	1-2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Verbesina enceliodes</i> Golden Crownbeard (annual)	summer	yellow	1-4'	2-3'			✓	✓	
	<i>Viola adunca</i> Hookedspur Violet	spring- summer	blue	0.25- 0.75'	2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Viola nuttallii</i> Nuttall's Violet	spring- summer	yellow	0.25- 0.5'	1'			✓	✓	
Vines	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i> Western White Clematis	spring- summer	white	3-30'	2-6'			✓	✓	
	<i>Vitis riparia</i> Riverbank Grape	spring	white	45'	2-6'			✓		
Shrubs	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> Saskatoon Serviceberry	spring- summer	white	3-26'	10'			✓	✓	
	<i>Amorpha sp. (canescens, fruticosa)</i> Leadplant/ False Indigo	spring- summer	purple	2-12'	2-15'			✓	✓	
	<i>Artemisia sp. (cana, tridentata)</i> Sagebrush – Silver, Big	spring- summer	yellow	3-15'	3-10'		✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Atriplex canescens</i> Four-Wing Saltbush	spring	yellow	4-5'	8'			✓	✓	
	<i>Ceanothus fendleri</i> Fendler's Buckbrush	summer	white	2-6'	3-4'			✓	✓	
	<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i> Mountain Mahogany	spring	white	5-15'	4'			✓	✓	

<i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i> Yellow/ Green Rabbitbrush	spring	yellow	3'	3'			✓	✓	
<i>Cornus sericea (C. alba)</i> Redosier Dogwood	spring	white	10-15'	6-9'			✓	✓	
<i>Corylus cornuta</i> Beaked Hazelnut	winter- spring	yellow	2-15'	10-20'			✓		
<i>Crataegus erythropoda</i> Cerro Hawthorn	spring	white	16'	15'			✓	✓	
<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i> ( <i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i> ) Rubber Rabbitbrush	summer- fall	yellow	2-6'	3'			✓	✓	
<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i> Apache Plume	spring	white	4-6'	4-6'			✓	✓	
<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i> Broom Snakeweed	spring- summer	yellow	1.5-2'	2'			✓	✓	
<i>Juniperus communis</i> Common Juniper	spring	yello	2-4'	5-10'		✓	✓		
<i>Mahonia repens</i> Oregon Grape/ Creeping Mahonia	spring- summer	yellow	1-3'	0.75- 1.5'		✓	✓	✓	
<i>Prunus besseyi</i> Western Sandcherry	spring	white	4'	4'			✓	✓	
<i>Rhus trilobata (Rhus aromatica)</i> Skunkbush Sumac	spring- summer	yellow/ green	3-6'	3-6'			✓	✓	

	<i>Ribes aureum</i> Golden Currant	spring	yellow	3-6'	4'			✓	✓	    
	<i>Rosa woodsia</i> Wood's Rose	spring-summer	pink	3-9'	15'	 		✓	✓	     
	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i> Thimbleberry	spring-summer	white	1.5-8'	1.5-6'	  		✓	✓	      
Trees	<i>Abies concolor</i> White Fir	spring	red	40-50'+	20-30'	 	✓	✓		 
	<i>Acer glabrum</i> Rocky Mountain Juniper	spring	green	20-30'	12'			✓	✓	  
	<i>Alnus incana</i> Gray Alder	spring	purple	25-60'	30-50'	  		✓	✓	  
	<i>Betula occidentalis</i> Water Birch	spring	yellow	10-40'	10-30'	  		✓		 
	<i>Juniperus monosperma</i> Oneseed Juniper	spring	orange	10-15'	10-15'		✓	✓		 
	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> Rocky Mountain Juniper	spring	yellow	15-50'	3-15'		✓	✓		    
	<i>Picea engelmannii</i> Engelmann Spruce	spring	yellow	30-50'+	20-30'	 	✓	✓	✓	  
	<i>Pinus edulis</i> Piñon Pine	spring-summer	yellow	15-50'	10-15'		✓	✓		  

	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Ponderosa Pine	spring	yellow	60-125'+	25-30'		✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Populus sp. (deltoides, angustifolia, x.acuminata)</i> Cottonwood – Eastern, Narrowleaf, Lanceleaf	spring	yellow/white	24-80'+	35-60'			✓	✓	
	<i>Prunus americana</i> American Plum	spring	white	15-25'	15-25'			✓	✓	
	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> Douglas Fir	spring	yellow	40-80'	12-20'		✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Quercus gambelii</i> Gambel Oak	spring	yellow	20-40'	15'		✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Salix amygdaloides</i> Peachleaf Willow	spring	white	35-60'	25-35'			✓	✓	
	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i> Indian Rice Grass	spring-summer	yellow	2'	1'			✓		
Grasses/ Grass-like	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> Big Bluestem	spring-summer	red/ brown/ green	4-8'	2-3'			✓	✓	
	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> Side-Oats Grama	summer-fall	yellow/ orange	1-3'	1.5-2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> Blue Grama	spring-summer	yellow/ red	1-3'	3'			✓	✓	
	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> Tufted Hairgrass	summer	yellow	5'	1-2'			✓		
	<i>Festuca idahoensis</i> Idaho/Bluebunch Fescue	spring-summer	yellow	2'	0.5'			✓		

	<i>Leymus cinereus</i> Basin Wild Rye	spring	yellow	5-9'	1-2'		✓	✓		
	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> Wand Panic Grass/ Switchgrass	summer- fall	green, brown	3-6'	2-3'		✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Little Bluestem	summer- fall	yellow/ green	2-4'	1.5-2'			✓	✓	
	<i>Sporobolus airoides</i> Alkali Sacaton	spring- summer	yellow	3-4'	2'		✓		✓	
Cacti/ Succulents	<i>Escobaria (Coryphantha)</i> <i>vivipara</i> Pink Nipple Cactus	summer	pink	4'	4'				✓	
	<i>Opuntia sp. (macrorhiza,</i> <i>polyacantha</i> Prickly Pear – Twistspine, Plains	summer	yellow/ pink	0.5'	1-1.5'			✓	✓	
	<i>Yucca glauca</i> Narrow-leaf/ Plains Yucca	spring- summer	white/ cream	2-4'	2'		✓	✓	✓	



**Additional Resources:**

NWF Native Plant Finder Host Plants for Butterfly and Moth Caterpillars: [Great Plains](#)

NWF Native Plant Finder Host Plants for Butterfly and Moth Caterpillars: [Rocky Mountains](#)

[Monarch Nectar Plants Guide: Southern Plains](#)

Colorado Native Plant Society [Gardening with Native Plants](#)

Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Association [Front Range Tree Recommendation List](#)











[Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center: Colorado Recommended](#)

[Ecoregional Revegetation Application \(ERA\)](#)

Missouri Botanical Garden [Plant Finder](#)

[The Biota of North America Taxonomic Data Center Query Page](#)

**Key to Wildlife Details:**

<b>Cover</b>	<b>Plant provides place for wildlife to rest or nest, often evergreen leaves or needles</b>		<b>Keystone species supporting butterflies, moths, and/or pollinator specialist bees critical to maintaining a healthy ecosystem</b>
<b>Host</b>	<b>Host plant to butterfly and/or moth species supporting their caterpillars</b>		<b>Foliage eaten by butterfly and/or moth caterpillars as food source necessary for survival</b>
<b>Nectar/ Pollen</b>	<b>Plant provides nectar and/or pollen as a food source</b>		<b>Nectar used by adult butterflies and/or moths</b>
	<b>Tolerates full sun 6+ hours of sun</b>		<b>Pollen used by bees</b>
	<b>Tolerates part shade 2-6 hours of sun</b>		<b>Nectar used by hummingbirds</b>
	<b>Tolerates full shade &lt;2 hours of sun</b>		<b>Seeds or fruits used by birds and/or plant provides nesting or cover to birds</b>
			<b>Seeds or fruits used by small mammals</b>