

NATIVE TREES OF NEBRASKA

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sun	Moist.	Ht.	Bloom Period	Comments
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	F-P	W-A	75-100'	Mar-Apr	Lace-like leaves with white bloom on the underside
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	F-P	A	50-75'	Mar-May	Greenish-yellow flowers (spring); yellow to orange (fall)
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	F-P	A	75-100'	Mar-Jun	Yellow to golden-brown fall color; squirrels eat nuts
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	F	A	60-100'	Feb-Apr	Mild yellow fall color; warty trunk is interesting in winter
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	S-P	A-D	15-30'	Mar-May	In April, clusters of rosy-pink flowers line branches, trunk
Downy Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus mollis</i>	F-P	A-D	35-50'	May-Jun	White spring flowers become red fruit; yellow fall color
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	F-P	A	75-120'	Apr-May	Yellow, maroon-purple fall color; butterfly larval plant
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	F	A	50-75'	Apr-Jun	Grows rapidly; yellow fall color
Kentucky Coffee Tree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	F	A	75-100'	Jun	Pinnate compound leaves; male, female separate plants
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	F	A	99-125'	Apr-May	Edible nuts in fall; beautiful, wildlife-friendly tree
Prairie Crabapple	<i>Malus ioensis</i>	F	A-D	20-30'	May-Jun	Fragrant pink flowers become very tart fruit; suckering
Ironwood	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	S-P	A	30-50'	Apr	Cream-colored fruit looks like hops; yellow fall color
American Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	F-P	W-A	75-100'	Mar-Apr	Leaves drop all summer; mottled white bark
Eastern Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	F	W-A	100'	Feb-Apr	Modest fall color; can be messy
Wild Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	F-P	A-D	20-35'	Apr-May	White, fragrant flowers (spring); red, yellow fruit (sum.)
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	F-P	A	50-60'	Mar-Jun	Messy tree; small edible berries in summer attract birds
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	F	A-D	80-100'	Mar-May	Brown, red, wine fall color; acorns eaten by wildlife
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	F	A-D	80-100'	Mar-May	Mild yellow-brown fall color
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	S-P	A	75-100'	Mar-May	Russet to bright red fall color; grows rapidly
American Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	P	A	60-125'	Apr-Jul	Wood for carving; nectar makes honey; birds like seeds
<u>Sun Exposure</u>	<u>Soil Moisture</u>					
F = Full Sun	W = Wet					
P = Part Sun	A = Average					
S = Shade	D = Dry					

Native Flowering Perennials of Nebraska

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sun	Moist.	Ht.	Bloom Period	Comments
Common Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	F-S	W-A	3-6'	Jul-Nov	Flat-top clusters of small white flowers in the fall
Sweetscented Joe-Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	P-S	A	2-6'	July-Sept	Large pink flowers attract butterflies in dorves (Aug-Sept)
Flowering Spurge	<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	F	A	1-3'	Jun-Aug	Small white flowers with green, yellow centers (Jun-Sept)
Virginia Strawberry	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	F-P	A-D	3-6"	Apr-Jun	Spring flowers become tasty fruit in early summer
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	F	A-D	2-4'	Jun-Sep	3-4" flowers are red with yellow accents at petal edges
Spotted Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	S-P	A	1-3'	Mar-Jul	1" lavender-purple flowers in spring and summer
Common Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	F	W-A	2-5'	Jul-Oct	Daisy-like flowers with red, yellow petals in late summer
Smooth Oxeye	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	F	A	3-4'	Jul-Sep	Clump forming; gold flowers (sum); birds, butterflies like
Eastern Waterleaf	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	S-P	A	1'	May-Jun	White or dark violet blooms May-August
Great St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum pyramidatum</i>	P-S	A	2-6'	Jun-Aug	Large bright flowers give contrast with dark green foliage
Roundhead Lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	F	A-D	2-4'	Jun-Jul	Bronze seedheads attract and feed birds
Tall Blazing Star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	F	A-D	1-4'	Aug-Sep	Pinkish-purple stalks of interesting flowers Aug-Sept.
Prairie Blazing Star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	F	W-A	2-5'	Aug-Dec	Rounded fluffy rose-purple flowerheads on long spikes
Turk's Cap Lily	<i>Lilium michiganese</i>	F-S	W-A	2-5'	Jul-Aug	Large flowers with yellow-orange spotted, curved petals
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	P	W-A	2-3'	Jul-Oct	Elongated clusters of pale-dark blue flowers late sum-fall
Common Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	F	A-D	2-4'	Jul-Aug	Lemon-scented yellow flowers open at dusk, close by noon
Foxglove Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	F-P	A	2-5'	May-Jul	Long-blooming pure white flowers June into midsummer
Large Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>	F	A-D	2-3'	May-Jul	Resembles lavender foxglove; attracts hummingbirds
White Prairie Clover	<i>Dalea candida Michx.</i>	F	A	1-2'	Jun-Jul	Dense white 1-3" cylindrical flower spikes on 1-3' stalks
Button Eryngo	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	F	A	4-6'	May-Aug	Yucca-like foliage; flowers in spherical thistle-like heads
Purple Prairie Clover	<i>Dalea purpurea Vent.</i>	F	A-D	1-2'	Jun-Jul	Dense bright purple cylindrical flower spikes on 1-3' stalks
<u>Sun Exposure</u>	<u>Soil Moisture</u>					
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Wholeleaf Rosinweed	<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	F	A	2-6'	Jun-Oct	Bright, yellow daisy-like flowers in late summer
Compass Plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	F	A	3-12'	Jul-Sep	Sunflower-like flowers; basal leaves orient North-South
Cup Plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	F	A	3-6'	Jul-Sep	Sunflower-like flowers; pairs of cup-forming leaves
Prairie Blue-Eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium campestre</i>	F	A-D	8-15"	May-Jun	Iris-like foliage topped with delightful 5" light blue flowers
Gray Goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	F	A-D	6-20"	Jul-Sep	Arching stalks of golden yellow flowers bloom in fall
Stiff Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rigida</i>	F	A-D	1-5'	Jul-Sep	Bright yellow flat-topped flowers loved by birds, butterflies
Showy Goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	F-P	A-D	1-5'	Jul-Sep	Foot-long wands of blazing yellow in early autumn
Purple Meadow Rue	<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	S-P	A	3-5'	Jun-Aug	Branched sprays of tiny purplish-white flowers (May-July)
Blue Verbena	<i>Verbena gastata</i>	F-P	A	2-5'	Jun-Sep	Small blue flowers crowded into terminal spikes (Jun-Oct)
Prairie Ironweed	<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	F	A	2-5'	Jul-Sep	Blast of crimson color in fall; plant has good posture
Common Blue Violet	<i>Viola papilionacea</i>	S-P	A	4-8"	Mar-Jun	Excellent groundcover with purple flowers in the spring
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	F-S	A	1-3'	Apr-Aug	Bright yellow color can brighten up a shady spot
Smooth Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>	S	A	1-5'.5"	Mar-Jun	bell-shaped greenish-white flowers hang from leaf axils
Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	F-P	W-A	2-3'	May-Sep	Mint aroma; clusters of white flowers attract butterflies
Upright Prairie Coneflower	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	F	A-D	1.5-3'	Jun-Jul	Black cone-shaped head, drooping red or yellow petals
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	F-P	A-D	1/2'-4"	Jul-Sep	flower heads with 10-20 bright yellow petals, sum-fall
Pitcher Sage	<i>Salvia pitcheri</i>	F	D	2-4'	Aug-Sep	Tall, lanky; blooms in fall; butterflies, hummingbirds like
Partridge Pea	<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	P	A-D	1-3'	Jun-Oct	1-1.5" flowers with 5 bright yellow petals bloom sum-fall
Carolina Larkspur	<i>Delphinium virescens</i>	F	A-D	1-4'	Apr-Jul	Interesting white flowers June-July
Showy Ticktrefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	F-P	A	2-6'	Jun-Sep	Branches covered with pink-purple pea-like flowers (sum)
Blacksamson Echinacea	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	F	A-D	1.5-3'	Jun-Jul	Purple flowers with brown centers attract butterflies
Blue Phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	F-P	A	1-2.5'	May-Jun	Covered with 1.5" rosy lavender to pink flowers in spring
Prairie Phlox	<i>Phlox andicola</i>	F	A-D	1-2'	May-Jun	Bright pink spring flowers make strong visual impact
Obedient Plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	F-P	A	2-4'	Aug-Nov	Resembles pink foxglove; flowers can be moved, stay put
Longbract Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia bracteata</i>	P-S	A	1'-2'	Jun-Jul	The flowers are slightly fragrant, The three broadly ovate petals are generally bright blue
False Indigo	<i>Amorpha L.</i>	F-P	A	1'3'	Mar-Jun	Cone shaped cream colored flowers
Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera L.</i>	F	A-D	2'-4'	Jul-Aug	Lemon-scented yellow flowers open at dusk, close by noon

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White Prairie Clover	<i>Dalea candida</i>	F	A	1'-2'	Jun-Sep	Demse wjote 1'-3' cylindrical flower spikes on 1'-3' stalks
Hoary Vervain	<i>Verbena stricta</i>	F	A	2'-4'	Jul-Sep	An important nectar source for butterflies, Hoary Vervain is an important component of butterfly gardens
Praire Rose	<i>Rosa arkansana</i>	F-P	A	6"-3'	May-Sep	Flowers are 1½ to 2 inches across with 5 broad, rounded petals with wavy edges often notched at the tip.
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	P	D	3'	Jun-Jul	Native American tribes used leadplant in many ways. Most made a tea from the leaves and drank the tea, sometimes as a medicine to treat ailments such as pinworms, eczema, rheumatism, neuralgia, open wounds, and cuts.
Narrow-leaf Milkweed	<i>Asclepias stenophylla</i>	F	A	1'-3'	Jun-Aug	People have used milkweed for fiber, food, and medicine all over the United States. Milkweed sap contains a lethal brew of cardenolides (heart poison), which produces vomiting in low doses and death in higher doses.
Whorled Milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	F	A	1'-3'	May-Sep	Profusion of tiny white flowers in fall
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	F	A-D	1'-2'	Jul-Aug	Pink to white flower in the spring
Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	F	A-D	1'-2'	Jun-Jul	Brilliant orange flowers attract butterglies June-August
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	F	A	2'-6'	May-Aug	The Cherokee drank an infusion of common milkweed root and virgin's bower for backaches. The Cherokee, Iroquois, and Rappahannock used the sap to remove warts, for ringworm, and for bee stings. The Cherokee used the plant as a laxative
Purple Milkweed	<i>Asclepias Purpurascens</i>	F-P	A	2'-3'	May-Jul	Fragrant flowers are popular with pollinators
Showy Milkweed	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	F	A	1 1/2-3'	May-Sep	Blue green leaves with clusters of rose-colored flowers
Sullivant's Milkweed	<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	F	A	2'-3'	Jun-Aug	Pinkish rose to purple blooms. Also known as Prairie Milkweed
Green Milkweed	<i>Asclepias viridis</i>	F	A	4'	Jun-Aug	White flowers, mostly one per plant. Also known as green antelopehorn.
Jack-In-The-Pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	P	A	1'-2'	Mar-Jun	Pretty purple flowers are some of milkweed's finest
Meadow Garlic	<i>Allium canadense</i>	F	A	1'-2'	May-Jul	Upright and topped with white or pink flowers
Foxglove Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	F	A-D	2'-5'	May-Jul	Long-blooming pure white flower June into mid-summer
Light PoppyMallow	<i>Callirhoe alcaeoides</i>	A	A	2'	Mar-May	Masses of chalice shaped magenta flowers on trailing, deeply lobed foliage. Excellent as a rock garden plant or ground cover, each plant can spread up to three feet in width.

Nebraska Pollinator Friendly Ornamentals

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sun	Moist.	Ht.	Bloom Period	Comments
Bachelor's Button/Garden Cornflower	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	F	A	6"-2'	May-Oct	Repeated sowings will get repeated blooms. Dies in summer heat
Creeping Zinnia	<i>Sanvitalia spp.</i>	F	A	6"	Jun-Oct	Straight growth, tiny flowers used as a ground cover
Garden Cosmos	<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	F	A	18"-60"	Jun-Oct	White, pink or crimson flowers. Do not overwater
Rainbow Pink Dianthus	<i>Dianthus chinensis</i>	P	A	6-18"	May-Sep	Well-drained soils, heat tolerant, assorted blooming colors
Geranium	<i>Pelargonium x hortorum</i>	F	A	10-25"	varies	Red, pink, white, salmon blooms. Can be grown from seed
Marigold	<i>Assorted</i>	F	A	6"-40"	May-Oct	Brilliant blooms, good for edging and containers
Salvia	<i>Salvia (assorted)</i>	F-P	A	18"-24"	May-Oct	Assorted bloom colors, blooms throughout summer and fall
Elegant Zinnia	<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	F	A	6"-40"	Jun-Oct	Bedding plant, select mildew resistant cultivars
Catnip	<i>Nepeta cataria</i>	F	D	12"-18"	Jun-Aug	Blue to purple blooms
Dill	<i>Anethum graveolens</i>	F	A	2'-3'	Jul-Sep	Annual that reseeds