



Veterans' Memorial Habitat Garden

550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Andover, MN



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

ANOKA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The perennials and shrubs listed on this set of slides provide either food, shelter, or breeding habitat for many native bees, birds, and butterflies.

We hope to educate and inspire others to incorporate habitat friendly plants in their own yards. Come take a stroll through the garden and enjoy watching the activity from all of the “Flyers who love Flowers.”

The annuals that are found in the garden or raised beds are not included on this list.

This project is a partnership between the University of Minnesota Extension, Master Gardener Program in Anoka County and Anoka County Parks and Recreation.

All photos were taken by intern Ashley Horton of the plants within the Veteran's Memorial Habitat Garden unless otherwise noted.



Part 1
Plants for Sun

Veterans' Memorial Habitat Garden



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Achillea millefolium

Common yarrow

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: June - September

Attracts: Hummingbirds

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 2 - 3'

GOOD TO KNOW

Spreads quickly

Good for naturalizing groundcover

Deer and drought resistant

Occasional Problems: Stem rot, powdery mildew, rust

Cut back in late spring before flowering to decrease plant height



Allium schoenoprasum

Chives

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: April - May

Attracts: Bees, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 1 - 1.5'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Easily grown from seed and divided

Fragrant leaves, best fresh

Deer and drought resistant

Edible flowers

Attractive flower and foliage

Occasional Problems: Root rot



Amorpha canescens

Lead plant

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: July - September

Attracts: Birds, butterflies, bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 2 - 2.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Good for naturalizing

Erosion and drought resistant

Occasional Problems: Leaf spot, rust, powdery mildew, canker



Asclepias syriaca

Common milkweed

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 1, 7, throughout

Bloom Time: June - August

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: .75 - 1'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Attracts monarch butterflies

Good for naturalizing

Deer, drought, and erosion resistant

Tolerates dry or rocky soil

Spreads quickly by rhizomes



Asclepias tuberosa

Butterfly Weed

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 2, 5
Bloom Time: June - September
Attracts: Butterflies, bees
Preferred Soil: Dry to medium
Preferred Sunlight: Full sun
Height: 1 - 2.5'
Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Attracts monarch butterflies
Low maintenance
Good for naturalizing
Deer and drought resistant
Tolerates dry/rocky soils

Occasional Problems: Rust and leaf spot, crown rot in wet soils; has taproot and does not transplant well

TOXICITY: Poisonous to Livestock



Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'

Feathered reed grass

Location in Garden: Zone 3, 6

Bloom Time: May - February

Attracts: Birds

Preferred Soil: Medium to wet

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 3 - 5'

Spread: 1.5 - 2.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Grows well in wet or clay soil

Winter interest

Good cut and dried

Occasional Problems: Rust

Prune to the ground in late winter



Cerastium tomentosum

Snow-in-summer

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: June

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Dry

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: .5 - 1'

Spread: .75 - 1'

GOOD TO KNOW

Good for ground cover

Good for naturalizing

Deer and drought resistant

Some varieties can be weedy
and invasive



MINNESOTA NATIVE

Coreopsis verticillata

Tweety tickseed

Location in Garden: Zone 5
Bloom Time: June - September
Attracts: Bees, butterflies
Preferred Soil: Dry to medium
Preferred Sunlight: Full sun
Height: 1 - 3'
Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Spreads by rhizomes
Good for naturalizing
Deer and drought resistant

Occasional Problems: Crown rot, snails and slugs

Shear in mid to late summer to promote fall rebloom. Deadhead throughout the summer to promote additional blooms



Echinacea angustifolia

Narrow-leaf coneflower

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: June - July

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 1 - 2'

Spread: .75 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Good for naturalizing

Deer and drought resistant

Tolerates multiple soils

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Japanese beetle and leaf spot



Erigeron annuus

Annual fleabane

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 5

Bloom Time: June - October

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to
Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 5'

Spread: 2 - 4'

GOOD TO KNOW

Annual lifecycle

Tolerates dry soil

Can be weedy



Eutrochium maculatum 'Gateway'

Joe Pye weed

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: July - September

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium to Wet

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 4 - 5'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Compact growth

Deer and wet soil resistant

Attractive seed heads

Occasional Problems: Leaves may scorch in dry conditions

Cut to ground in late winter



Festuca ovina glauca 'Elijah Blue'

Boulder blue fescue

Location in Garden: Zone 7
Bloom Time: June - July
Preferred Soil: Dry to medium
Preferred Sunlight: Full sun
Height: 0.75 - 1'
Spread: 0.5 - 0.75'

GOOD TO KNOW

High maintenance
Good for naturalizing
Deer and drought resistant
Tolerates drought and poor soil
Short lived, requires frequent division
Prune in early spring back to 3-4"



Gaillardia arizonica

Arizona sun blanket flower

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: May - August

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: .5 - 1'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Drought resistant

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Root rot in poorly drained soils, powdery mildew, leaf spot, aphids

Deadhead spent flowers to encourage additional blooms



Geum triflorum

Prarie smoke

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: April - June

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Dry

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: .5 - 1.5'

Spread: .5 - 1'

GOOD TO KNOW

Good for naturalizing

Deer and drought resistant

Tolerates dry soil

Occasional Problems: Root rot in poorly drained soils during winter



Ginkgo biloba

Ginkgo tree

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: April

Attracts: Birds

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 50 – 80'

Spread: 30 – 40"

GOOD TO KNOW

Good for urban use

Deer resistant

Tolerates clay soil

Slow growing



Heliopsis helianthoides

False sunflower

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: June - September

Attracts: Bees, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 6'

Spread: 2 - 4'

GOOD TO KNOW

Good cut flowers

Resistant to drought and erosion

Tolerates clay, dry, or rocky soil

Occasional problems: Aphids

Tall plants may need support

Remove spent flowers to encourage additional blooms



Hemerocallis sp.

Daylily varieties

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: July - August

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 2 - 3'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Good for naturalizing

Deer and rabbit resistant

Tolerates clay soil

Divide clumps when they become overcrowded



Iris domestica

Blackberry lily (aka Leopard lily)

Location in Garden: Zone 2

Bloom Time: July - August

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: .75 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Good cut flowers and/or dried

Showy fruit

Expands slowly by rhizomes

Occasional Problems: potential iris borer



Iris germanica

Bearded iris

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: May

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 1 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Spreads by rhizomes

Deer and drought resistant

Tolerates multiple soils

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Iris Borer, root rot, crown rot

Divide clumps to prevent overcrowding

Plant rhizomes shallowly



Liatris spicata

Blazing star

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone

Bloom Time: August - October

Attracts: Birds, hummingbirds, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Drought resistant

Tolerates multiple soils

Good cut flowers

Good for raingardens

Occasional Problems: No serious pest or disease problems



IMAGE FROM [Blazing Star | Liatris blooming at the Daniel Boone Native G... | Flickr](#)

Malus sp. Flowering crabapple

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: May - June

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 10 - 20'

Spread: 15 - 20'

GOOD TO KNOW

Ornamental tree

Colorful foliage in fall

Edible fruit

Winter interest

Tolerates air pollution

Occasional Problems: Scab, fireblight, rust, leaf spot, powdery mildew



Opuntia compressa

Prickly pear

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 7

Bloom Time: June - July

Preferred Soil: Dry

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 0.5 - 1'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Good for naturalizing

Rabbit and drought resistant

Winter interest

Edible fruit

Easily propagated by cuttings

Occasional Problems: Various rots if soil has poor drainage. Spines can cause allergic reactions. Pads shrivel up in fall and revive in spring



Origanum vulgare subsp. hirtum

Greek oregano

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: July

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 0.5 - 0.75'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Attracts honeybees

Fragrant leaves good fresh and dried

Spreads by cuttings

Deer and drought resistant

Occasional Problems: Fungal diseases, root rot, aphids, spider mites

Shear back regularly before flowering to promote new growth



Penstemon 'Dark Towers' Beardtongue

Location in Garden: Zone 2

Bloom Time: May - June

Attracts: Birds, butterflies, bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Colorful foliage

Good for naturalizing

Deer resistant

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Leaf spot, root rot, spider mites, slugs



Penstemon digitalis

Foxglove beardtongue

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 2, 7

Bloom Time: May - June

Attracts: Birds, butterflies, bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Good for naturalizing

Deer resistant

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Leaf spot, rust, rots



Perovskia atriplicifolia

Russian sage

Location in Garden: Zone 1, 3

Bloom Time: June - October

Attracts: Bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 3 - 5'

Spread: 2 - 4'

GOOD TO KNOW

Fragrant foliage

Low maintenance

Deer and rabbit resistant

Tolerates drought

Occasional Problems: Tends to flop over as growth continues

Prune to ground in late winter/early spring



Phlox subulata

Moss phlox

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 1, 7

Bloom Time: March - May

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 0.25 - 0.5'

Spread: 1 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Medium maintenance

Good for naturalizing

Deer and drought resistant

Good ground cover

Occasional Problems: Spider mites, nematodes, rabbits

Cut back stems halfway after flowering to stimulate further growth



Picea abies 'Nidiformis'

Bird's nest spruce

Location in Garden: Zone 3, 5

Bloom Time: Non-flowering

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 8'

Spread: 3 - 12'

GOOD TO KNOW

Evergreen

Deer and air pollution resistant

Rapid growth

Can be grown in containers

Quickly recovers from transplant shock

Occasional Problems: Canker, wood decay, needle cast and rust, aphids, bagworms, budworms, borers

Can be invasive in some areas



Picea abies 'Pendula'

Norway weeping spruce

Location in Garden: Zone 3, 4

Bloom Time: Non-flowering

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 4 – 15'

Spread: 4 – 15'

GOOD TO KNOW

Evergreen

Low maintenance

Deer and air pollution resistant

Occasional Problems: Canker, wood decay, needle cast, rust, aphids, bagworms, budworms, borers, spider mites

Can be invasive in some areas



Rudbeckia

Black-eyed susan

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 5, 7
Bloom Time: July - September
Attracts: Birds, butterflies
Preferred Soil: Dry to medium
Preferred Sunlight: Full sun
Height: 1.5 - 2'
Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance
Deer and drought resistant
Good cut flowers
Deadhead spent blooms



Salvia x sylvestris 'Mainacht'

Wood sage

Location in Garden: Zone 2, 4

Bloom Time: May - June

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 1.5 - 2'

Spread: 1 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Fragrant leaves

Deer and drought resistant

Good cut flowers

Occasional Problems: Powdery mildew, white fly, scale

Deadhead to encourage additional blooms and cut back foliage after bloom period



Sedum sp.

Location in Garden: throughout

Bloom Time: August - October

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 4'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Low maintenance

Can be grown from cuttings

Good for naturalizing and ground cover

Deer, rabbit, and drought resistant



Sempervivum tectorum

Hens and chicks

Location in Garden: Zone 4, 6

Bloom Time: June - July

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: .5 - 1'

Spread: .5 - 1.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Winter interest

Deer and drought resistant

Tolerates multiple poor soils

Spreads by offsets, forms colonies

Occasional Problems: Rust, leaf and stem rot, root rot



Sporobolus heterolepis

Prairie dropseed

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 4

Bloom Time: August - October

Attracts: Birds

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 2 - 3'

GOOD TO KNOW

Winter interest

Good for naturalizing and ground cover

Deer and drought resistant

Tolerates multiple soils

Fragrant flowers



Symphotrichum novae-angliae

New England Aster

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Location in Garden: Zone 2, 4, 5

Bloom Time: August - October

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 6'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Medium maintenance

Good for naturalizing

Good to use in rain garden

Grows best in moist well drained soil

Can tolerate some shade

Occasional Problems: Powdery mildew, aster wilt

Cut to ground after flower to prevent self-seeding



IMAGE FROM PRISCILLA BURCHER FROM [New England aster | Symphyotrichum novae-angliae \(New Englan... | Flickr](#)

Symphotrichum oblongifolium

MINNESOTA NATIVE

Aromatic Aster

Location in Garden: Zone 1, 7

Bloom Time: September -
October

Attracts: Butterflies, birds

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 2 - 3'

Spread: 1.5 - 2'

GOOD TO KNOW

Medium maintenance

Good for groundcover

Fragrant foliage

Tolerates dry, rocky, or clay soils

Occasional Problems: mildew



IMAGE FROM BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN FROM [Aromatic Aster | Symphyotrichum oblongifolium 'October Skies... | Flickr](#)

Thymus praecox arcticus

Thyme

Location in Garden: Zone 4, 7

Bloom Time: June - September

Attracts: Butterflies, bees

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 0.25 - 0.5'

Spread: 0.25 - 0.5'

GOOD TO KNOW

Winter interest

Good for naturalizing

Deer and drought resistant

Herb, fragrant leaves

Occasional Problems: Root rot in damp soils



Yucca filamentosa 'Color Guard'

Color guard yucca

Location in Garden: Zone 4, 7

Bloom Time: June - July

Attracts: Butterflies

Preferred Soil: Dry to medium

Preferred Sunlight: Full sun

Height: 3 - 6'

Spread: 2 - 3'

GOOD TO KNOW

Evergreen

Good for naturalizing

Deer, rabbit, and drought resistant

Attractive foliage

Spreads slowly by basal offsets

