

Guide to Perennials for Echo, OR area

Note: to see images of any of these flowers, type the name into Google Images and you will see many examples.

Yarrow (Achillea) Hardy native plant still found in fields around town (white flowers). Cultivars are available in yellows, oranges, reds, etc. Use as a cut flower, to attract butterflies, deer resistant, honey plant. Hardy Zone 4; Great plant for Xeriscaping. Examples in Wine Barrel planters along Thielsen Street. Sun.



Bugleweed (Ajuga) . A great ground cover, but can get into the lawn. Deer resistant; Foliage is deep green with purple and even tri-color; Shade-lover; Zone 4.

Basket of Gold (Alyssum saxatilis). This is the perennial alyssum, not the annual with white or purple flowers. It has yellow flower clusters and makes a great ground cover. It needs full sun and well-drained soil. It is a good selection for xeriscaping. Zone 3.



Columbine (Aquilegia). Another wildflower that has been hybridized like crazy. As well as the original orange and cream colored it can be found in many colors and double flowers, giant flowers etc. Will self-sow. Attracts butterflies; Deer Resistant. Shade to partial sun; Cut Flower, Zone 4-5.



Astilbe. This shade loving plant provides beautiful feathery plumes of white, purple, pink or reddish flower and



ferny foliage. It can grow to 4 feet tall, but does need lots of water. Zone 3.

Aster. The aster is a staple of the cottage garden in its perennial form. The New England Aster is a great addition to the garden for fall flowers



Coreopsis. (Tickseed) Annual, but will self-sow. Original are yellow and will continue to bloom as long as deadheaded. New cultivars can be found in bi-color, deep burgundy and many other colors. Zone 4-5. Cut Flower; Attracts Butterflies. Good for Xeriscaping. Full Sun.



Crocosmia. Masses of small flowers on long stems (see example in Park Rose Garden Near old Wagon Wheel). Grows from bulbs; Has foliage similar to glads. Now available in oranges, reds, yellows. Zone 5. Full Sun.



Delphinium. The tall stocks of these showy perennials make a beautiful addition to the garden in shades of blue or white. They will need staking in our windy climate. Three different colors of Delphinium are growing in the Bonanza Street Garden just north of city hall. Sun. Zone 3. Some cultivars are long-lived and deer resistant. Great cut flower.



Dianthus (Carnation & Pinks). Hardy spreading plant in a variety of colors and patterns great for borders or rock gardens.



Zone 3.

Bleeding Heart. (*Dicentra spectabilis*).

You can see a couple of examples of Bleeding Heart growing in the garden just north of city hall. The traditional form has pink heart shaped flowers with white tongue. It needs shade. A white cultivar and one with yellow-green foliage are now available. Zone 2. Once established these are long lived and as a result are found in many older gardens.

Coneflower (*Echinacea*). The Coneflower has come along way from its days as a the purple coneflower growing as a wildflower on the prairie. Now available in countless sizes and colors, the daisy-like coneflower is a staple of the cottage garden. It tolerates heat and drought and blooms all summer. Several cultivars are in the park garden and north of city hall. Zone 3

Blanketflower (*Gaillardia*). A great native plant that is beautiful in its original color form-red and yellow and daisy like form. Great as a cut flower, honey plant, heat resistant, butterfly plant, xeriscaping. Zone 4-5. New cultivars are burgundy, yellow with orange rime, etc. (Garden along Museum on Bonanza Street has a Yellow Cultivar with large flowers and original form is in whiskey barrels between museum and city hall.

Hardy Geranium. (*Cranesbill*)

This not the annual geranium used in containers, though that does well here also, this is a perennial that is great for rock gardens, ground covers and even containers. Zone 4-5. Native is a purplish red, but many culti-



vars in the blue/purple, magenta to almost black are available. Examples can be found in the park and garden north of city hall. Full to partial sun. This plant has become a volunteer along the garden path through the park filling in an area with little irrigation.

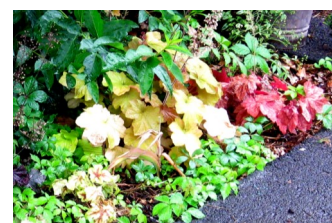
Daylily (*Hemerocallis*).

This tuber/bulb Flower is very versatile. It can grow in containers, in the ground. It will survive in boggy areas or can be used for banks to hold the soil and for xeriscaping. The grass-like leaves are attractive even when not blooming. This plant has been used in containers and planting all over town and the golf course. Zone 4. Available in numerous colors, but the old-fashioned one were yellow/orange and brown/orange with small flower. Attractive to birds and wildlife.



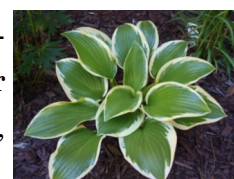
Coral Bells (*Heuchera*/*Heucherella*).

This plant has been around for ever in its original form with roundish green leaves and stalks with dainty pink flowers. Now however countless cultivars have



been developed for the colorful foliage burgundies, chartreuse greens, peachy green, gray/silver are some of the colors. Some have dark veining or dark leaf edges. A small garden featuring some of the Coral Bell examples has been developed north of city hall under the Forsythia. This is a shade loving plant.

Hosta. These shade to partial sun plants are noted for their foliage. Stripped,



speckled, tiny or huge leaves, these plants make great foundation plantings, or shade garden plants. Examples are in the shade garden under the pine tree in the park and under the trees in the Fort Henrietta Park entry garden.

Iberis (Candytuft). A great rock garden or border plant. Sun to light shade. Zone 3.

Iris. This old standby is now available in re-blooming varieties. Extremely versatile and hardy. Most varieties. Zone 3. Sun to part-shade.



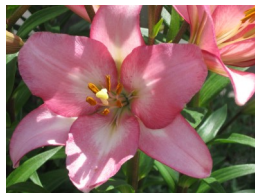
Lamium (spotted nettle). This shade to light sun ground cover is extremely hardy. While the most common flower color is lavender, white and pink are also available. Zone 3.

Liatris. This bulb is hardy to zone 3 and attracts bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. It has grassy foliage and spikes of flowers usually purple or white. Full sun.



Leucanthemum (Shasta Daisy). Zone 3.

Lilly. Asiatic, Oriental, American Hybrid, most of these colorful lilies will grow easily and with little care in our gardens. A variety of lilies in various colors have been planted around Echo in public gardens and planters over the last few years. The orientals are not quite as hardy. Zone 3.



Lobelia cardinalis. This lobelia is a perennial in the right conditions. It likes moist soil and can even be used in a bog garden. It has long stems with red flowers. Cut flowers,



birds and wildlife, native plant, attracts butterflies and humming birds. Zone 5.

Lupinus (Lupine). Lupines sport large spikes of snapdragon-like flow-

ers in a diverse array of colors. A deep purple lupine is in the circle garden in front of the Echo Hotel and a coral colored one in front of the Café. Zone 3. Lupines are in the Pea family so they “fix” nitrogen in the soil.

Poppy (*papaver orientalis*). The deep orange red oriental poppies were a staple of most old gardens, but now as well as the red poppies they are available in pinks, salmon, deep burgundy and purple. A pink one is in front of city hall and a deep burgundy one at the Fort Henrietta Park. Full-sun. Zone 3.

Peony (*Paeony*). This old favorite also does well here. Give it plenty of room and don't plant it too deep and you will have spectacular spring blooms. The only complaint about this flower is that it doesn't bloom long enough. Prefers full sun. Very long-lived.



Penstemon.

This native plant is available in many forms and colors (over 100 cultivars) and makes a great addition to the garden. It has long stalks with tubular flowers. Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds, bird and wildlife attractive. Zone 3.



Phlox. Phlox whether the upright variety or the creeping





groundcover does well in our area. The tall phlox is fragrant, a great cut flower, deer resistant and attracts butterflies. Creeping Zone 3.

Pulmonaria (Lungwort). The common name of this shade loving plant is ugly, but the plant is attractive with its grey/green spotted foliage and purple to blue flower. Zone 4. Honey plant, deer resistant.



Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*). Obedient Plant has long spires of flowers and is hardy to zone 2. It is a long-lived perennial. Moderate water. Can be spread rapidly, so pull off unwanted offshoots.



Rose (*Rosa*). No plant provides more ongoing spring to fall color than the rose. We are fortunate enough in our area to be able to grow any rose form from Hybrid Tea to miniatures, from Floribunda to groundcover roses.



Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia*). A hardy, sunflower like perennial that will also self-sow. Zone 4.



Salvia. Flowers of the perennial Salvia are similar to Speedwell (Veronica), but note differences in the leaves. This hardy plant does well in our gardens creating a colorful patch in rock gardens or cottage gardens. It ease of planting has resulted in its use all over the golf course in gardens there. Tolerates. Dry soil and attracts hummingbirds.

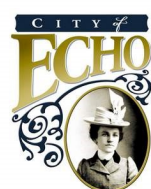


Zone 4.

Pin Cushion Flower (*Scabiosa*). Purple flower clusters on long stems bloom all summer and into the fall. As well as the purple variety a variegated and burgundy flowering form are available. Examples are north of city hall (variegated) and by the drinking fountain on Bonanza Street.



Veronica (*speedwell*). This is one of my favorites. It is hardy, given enough water and the spires of deep pink, blue or purple flowers provide color in the garden through most of the summer. Examples of Veronica are in the Main Street circle gardens. Zone 3. Prefers full sun, but will tolerate some shade.



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PO Box 9, 20 S. Bonanza, Echo, Oregon.
(541)376-8411

Author: Diane Berry.

www.echo-oregon.com
ecpl@centurytel.net