



Plant Select®  
Smart plants for the right places

CLICK TO SEARCH RIGHT PLANT RIGHT PLACE

*If you're new to our newsletter, cheers! For 28 years, our nonprofit has tested and selected plants that thrive in the intermountain regions and high plains, so you can create waterwise landscapes that are beautiful, low maintenance and have a positive environmental impact — no matter your skill level.*

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**Plant Select's goal is to create smart plant choices for a new American landscape inspired by the Rocky Mountain region**

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### **A warm welcome to our new Plant Select members:**

- [LandDesign](#) – Denver, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- [Norris Design](#) – Fort Collins, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- Anton Fleith – Individual Ambassador
- Chris Emma Strand – Individual Ambassador
- Donna Farley-Wade – Individual Ambassador
- Evelyn Clark – Individual Ambassador
- Janice Kolk – Individual Ambassador
- Kathleen Petock – Individual Ambassador
- Laurie Shirai-Akau – Individual Ambassador
- Lynn Robinson – Individual Ambassador
- Molly Anderson – Individual Ambassador
- Patricia Ewert – Individual Ambassador
- Sharon Faircloth – Individual Ambassador
- Tris Downer – Individual Ambassador

**And thanks to all who've renewed their memberships!**

[Learn how to become a Plant Select member](#) Landscape Professional, Retail, Wholesale, Mail Order, Local Government or Individual Ambassador

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**Bring on the heat**



## with low-water, plant-forward park strips

Tired of keeping your bluegrass lawn alive between the sidewalk and street? Reimagine your park strip (aka, inferno strip) with beautiful, low-water plants!

Here are a few eye-catching examples for inspiration, whether you want to water less, boost your curb appeal, or create a happy place for pollinators and wildlife.



Colorado Springs park strip with [HALF PINT® pineleaf penstemon](#) (*Penstemon pinifolius* 'Compactum'). For a similar look, add [Guernsey Green juniper](#) (*Juniperus horizontalis* 'Guernsey Green') and [LITTLE TRUDY® catmint](#) (*Nepeta* 'Psfike' PP 18,904).



Denver park strip featuring [TABLE MOUNTAIN® ice plant](#) (*Delosperma* 'John Proffitt') and just out-of-view [Sea Foam sage](#) (*Artemisia versicolor* 'Sea Foam').





Denver Botanic Gardens park strip with [Sea Foam sage](#) (*Artemisia versicolor* 'Sea Foam'), [GRANITA raspberry ice plant](#) (*Delosperma* 'PJS01D') and [GRANITA orange ice plant](#) (*Delosperma* 'PJS02S').

Same park strip one month later with [winecups](#) (*Callirhoe involucrata*), [Engelmann's daisy](#) (*Engelmannia peristenia*) and [ORANGE CARPET® hummingbird trumpet](#) (*Epilobium canum* subsp. *garrettii* 'PWWG01S').

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### 3 tips for successful park strip design



#### Texture

Combine different leaf tones and textures to create contrast. You'll add interest even when plants aren't in bloom.



#### Plant size

Keep plants on the shorter side to minimize road obstructions. Consider how wide plants will grow.

**Tip:** Winecups (above) looks lovely in a park strip, but center it so it has room to spread horizontally. It can swallow up sidewalks!



#### Winter interest

Include [plants that look interesting even in winter](#), so your park strip has year-round curb appeal.

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#### NATIVE PLANT FEATURE

### In the garden with Grace and Ross Chocolate flower (*Berlandiera lyrata*)



Learn about highly fragrant chocolate flower from **Grace Johnson** of Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms.

[Watch video >](#)



Discover how to care for chocolate flower and help it spread with **Ross Shrigley** of Plant Select.

[Watch video >](#)

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### July plant questions... answered!



"Can I prune [HOT WINGS® Tatarian maple](#) during the summer?"

June and July can be good months to prune HOT WINGS® Tatarian maple, if necessary. Wait until after the tree has fully leafed out.

You also can prune HOT WINGS® in late winter/early spring. You may get maple sap flow at that time, but typically, it [shouldn't harm the tree](#). The [sap will slow and stop](#).

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"Some leaves on my [fernbush](#) are turning yellow. What's going on?"

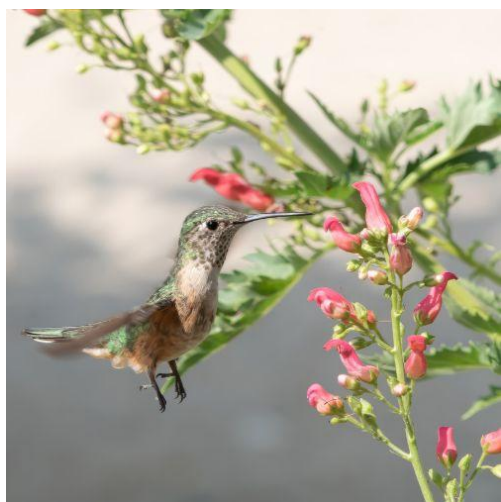
While yellow leaves can be a sign of overwatering, some leaves will naturally turn yellow on fernbush in late June and July. This is part of the shrub's normal cycle. It's dropping winter leaves.

If the yellow leaves bother you, you can gently brush them off with your hand or blow them off with a leaf blower.



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## Get to know our Rocky Mountain hummingbirds



*Broad-tailed Hummingbird collecting nectar from [Red Birds in a Tree \(Scrophularia macrantha\)](#)*

Did you know...

... we have four regional hummingbird visitors (five in Utah)?

... our smallest visitor is about the size of a large, queen bumblebee?

Jump into Utah's [Bloom Gardens magazine](#) to learn more! We chatted with our friends at [Audubon Rockies](#) about each of the hummingbird species that visit Utah, Colorado and Wyoming.

[Read article](#)

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Congrats to our 2025 Plant Select award recipients



Every year, we recognize people and organizations that have gone above and beyond in helping Plant Select transform western landscapes and raise awareness about beautiful, resilient, low water plants.

Please join us in recognizing our 2025 Partner Award recipients!

See all award winners



## New plant list: 20+ low-water plants for butterflies and moths



### Butterfly Plants

We've been adding a variety of [low-water plant lists](#) to our website. If you have a pollinator garden or simply love butterflies, check out our new list: [20+ low-water plants for butterflies and moths](#) from Plant Select.

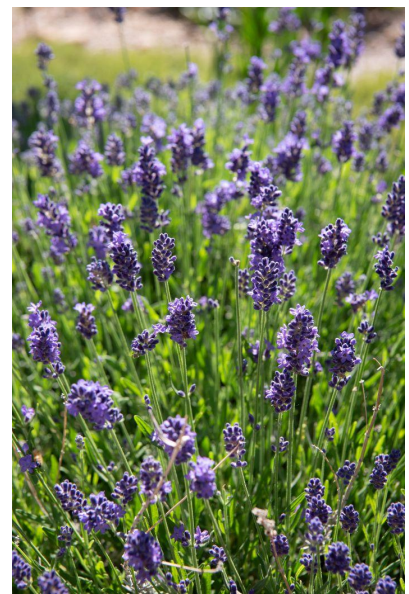
You'll find nectar plants for adult butterflies, plus options for host plants (food and habitat plants for butterfly eggs and caterpillars.)

Host plants can be beneficial for birds too, offering a source of nutrient-rich caterpillars.

Explore butterfly plants

*Our long-term goal is to add all the lists to our online plant finder tool. Stay tuned!*

## Smart plants for the right places Mid-summer dynamos



Turquoise Tails  
sedum

Hummingbird  
trumpet mint

Wee One dwarf  
English lavender

Botanical names:

*Sedum sediforme* | *Monardella macrantha* 'Marian Sampson' | *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Wee One'

## Quick links

Hummingbird  
plants

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