



Plant Select®
Smart plants for the right places

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PLACE!

If you're new to our e-newsletter, cheers! For more than 25 years, our non-profit has tested and selected waterwise plants that thrive in the high plains and intermountain regions, so you can create smart, stunning and low maintenance landscapes with a positive environmental impact—no matter what your skill level.

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

A warm welcome to our newest Plant Select members:

- [Mountain Nature Nursery LLC](#) – Eagle Mountain, Utah – Grow-to-Retail Licensed Propagator
- [Blue Mountain Nursery LLC](#) – Damascus, Oregon – Licensed Network Propagator
- [Wild Earth Gardens](#) – Boulder, Colorado – Landscape Professional Member
- Andrea Shea – Individual Ambassador
- Anne Greene – Individual Ambassador
- Diana May – Individual Ambassador
- Fred Freeh – Individual Ambassador
- Joe Mulholland – Individual Ambassador
- Lauren Butler – Individual Ambassador
- Leeza Fitzgerald – Individual Ambassador
- Marisa Vines – Individual Ambassador
- Mary Hill – Individual Ambassador
- Michelle Pacheco – Individual Ambassador
- Molly Hardman – Individual Ambassador
- Nancy Tashman – Individual Ambassador
- Pamela Pairan – Individual Ambassador
- Patricia Hall – Individual Ambassador
- Roxanne Boger – Individual Ambassador
- Sarah Morasso – Individual Ambassador
- Scott Rodgers – Individual Ambassador
- Tina Callipe – Individual Ambassador
- Wanda Lien – 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](#)

Mojave sage

A breathtaking, xeric shrub for all seasons

Mojave sage (*Salvia pachyphylla*) is a semi-evergreen, dwarf shrub with aromatic, silver-green foliage. In June, it begins producing violet flowers, surrounded by magenta bracts that offer color well into fall. Native to the higher elevations of California, Nevada and Arizona.

Success tips:

- > **Patience!** Mojave sage is slow growing. It can take up to 3 years to reach its full beauty. (It's worth the wait.)
- > **Sunny, dry locations with good drainage:** This plant thrives in the heat, and it prefers lean, well-draining soils. Dry conditions are a must for overwintering.
- > **Fall pruning after it blooms:** This helps Mojave sage keep its shape and avoid getting too woody.

[Learn more about Mojave sage >](#)



HOAs: Get big bang for your buck with western shrubs

Looking for ways to create waterwise beauty without breaking your budget? Explore western shrubs! They often:

- Need minimal to no watering (once they're established), so you can spend less time and money on irrigation.
- Grow horizontally, so it takes fewer plants to make a big impact.
- Tend to look better in their natural state (rather than heavily sheared and shaped), so you can spend less time and money on maintenance.
- Capture the essence of the intermountain west, so your community reflects local beauty.
- Provide texture and structure during the winter, so your landscape looks interesting year-round.
- Offer habitat and food for birds, bees and more.



- Can thrive in the toughest spots, like medians, slopes and those narrow strips between sidewalks and streets.

Left to right, top row: [Dwarf leadplant](#), [Fernbush](#). Second row: [Apache plume](#), [Autumn Amber sumac](#). Third row: [Mock Bearberry manzanita](#), [PAWNEE BUTTES® sand cherry](#). Fourth row: [Baby Blue rabbitbrush](#), [Blue Jazz pinyon pine](#). Bottom row: [Guernsey Green juniper](#), [SILVER TOTEM™ buffaloberry](#), [Littleleaf mountain mahogany](#).

Bring on the butterflies (And be a savvy plant shopper too)

Looking for a beautiful pollinator plant? Don't miss [Meadow Blazing Star Gayfeather](#) (*Liatris ligulistylus*). This straight-species perennial is native to New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and the high plains. It attracts butterflies and native bees in the late summer.

You'll find Meadow Blazing Star now at garden centers, but it's worth mentioning, it doesn't love being grown in a pot (like many native plants). It may look floppy or a little "ho hum" at the store.

In this short video, Plant Select's Ross Shrigley shares how to be a savvy plant shopper and how to help this native beauty shine.



Watch this quick video

** Meadow Blazing Star is more widely available this summer. If your favorite garden center or wholesale nursery isn't carrying it, ask for it! **

Congrats to our 2023 award winners!

Once a year, we recognize individuals, organizations and demonstration gardens that have gone above and beyond to advance the mission of Plant Select, whether they're on the forefront of public education, plant introductions or growing top quality plants.

Please join us in congratulating our 2023 award recipients:

Dave Kiyota: Individual Contributor Award
Lauren Springer: Individual Contributor Award
Perennial Favorites: Organizational Partner Award
Echter's Garden Center & Nursery: Organizational Partner Award
Idaho Firewise: Showcase Garden Award
Aurora Water-Wise Garden: Golden Shovel Award
Treasure Island Demonstration Garden: Golden Shovel Award



Left to right: Dave Kiyota, Lauren Springer, Ken Cox (Perennial Favorites), Jeff Echter (Echter's), Andrea Dorman (Idaho Firewise), Ross Shrigley (Plant Select), Amanda Slover and Zac Versluis (Aurora Water-Wise Garden), Amy Lentz (accepting for Treasure Island).

Image courtesy of Tate Erickson

Thanks to all who attended our 2023 Annual Conference

It was a fun-filled day of inspiring talks and lovely people. We'd like to extend a special thanks to our featured speakers—Dr. Jennifer Ackerfield, Andrea Dorman, Cynthia Bee, Grace Johnson, Mike Kintgen and Mike Bone—as well as to our volunteer planning committee.

We hope you'll join us in June 2024 for our next conference!



Images courtesy of Scott Dressel-Martin

Did you have a chance to attend Garden Wiser in May?

It was awesome to see the enthusiasm and buzz for waterwise plants at our garden center event in late May! A heartfelt thanks to all the Master Gardener volunteers, the [Colorado State University Extension](#) and the [20 garden centers](#) across Colorado and Wyoming who helped spread the waterwise love.



Smart plants for the right places
Tall, adaptable salvias



Shangri-la Sage



WINDWALKER®
Royal Red Salvia



Silver Sage

Botanical names (left to right):

Salvia moorcroftiana x *indica* | *Salvia darcyi* x *S. microphylla* 'PWIN03S' | *Salvia argentea*

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