Easy-To-Grow Perennials*



Hummingbird Mint (Agastache):

- Low water use once established
- Attracts humming birds
- Long blooming period—Summer until fall frost
- Likes average garden soil
- Resists deer & rabbits
- Foliage is aromatic



Pinks (Dianthus):

- Performs best with regular watering
- Likes sun to part shade
- Attracts butterflies
- There are over 300 varieties
- Some varieties are very fragrant



Blanket Flower (Gaillardia):

- Low water use once established
- Long blooming—usually summer into frost
- Prefer full sun
- Like average soil
- Grows 1-2 feet tall x 1-2 feet wide
- Attracts butterflies and resists deer and rabbits



Jupiter's Beard (Centranthus ruber):

- Prefers full sun to partial shade
- Little to moderate water usage once established
- Long showy bloom period
- Grows 3'x 3' and blooms come in shades of crimson pink to white
- Tolerates almost any soil



Yarrow (Achillea):

- Regular to low water use once established
- Long blooming period during the summer
- Blooms rise above the plants 2-4 feet
- Comes in a rainbow of colors
- Dead head old blooms for more flowers
- Resists deer and rabbits



Cool Tip:

Kathy uses an organic Rose & Flower Food to feed her perennials. She says that she is much happier with the results than with chemical fertilizers she has used in the past. And she knows it is much better for the environment.

* Perennials come back year after year





Goldsturm Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia):

- Good cut flower
- Attracts butterflies
- Prefers sun to part shade
- **2**-3 feet by 2-3 feet



Catmint (Nepeta):

- Likes full to part sun
- Blooms late spring into summer
- Low water use once established
- Likes average soil
- Attracts butterflies
- Resists rabbits



Spurge (Euphorbia myrsinites):

- Try evergreen varieties
- Blooms yellow in the spring and sports colorful foliage
- Likes well drained regular garden soil
- Low water use once established
- Grows 1-2 feet tall and 1-2 feet wide
- Resists deer



Coneflower (Echinacea):

- Long blooming period—summer into fall
- Comes in assorted colors
- Attracts butterflies
- Needs regular watering
- Resists deer
- Grows 2-4 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide



Coreopsis:

- Low water use once established
- Long blooming period all summer into fall
- Deadhead for the most blooms
- Likes full sun and average garden soil
- Select varieties such as Early Sunrise, Sunray, Zagreb, and Moonbeam



Cool Question:

What is the difference between annuals and perennials?

Annuals live for only one growing season, usually from the time they are planted until the fall. The benefit of annuals is that, as a rule of thumb, they bloom profusely & continuously during that time. Perennials live from year to year. Many will look dead during the winter, but when spring comes and the soil begins to warm up, you will see their little green heads pop up. The advantage of perennials is that you only have to plant them once and they will continue to grow and spread for years. The disadvantage is that many bloom for a short period of time. However, their foliage will add interest to the landscape even when they aren't in bloom. It is fun to mix perennials and annuals in the same bed for more color.



Pincushion Flower (Scabiosa):

- Blooms from late spring, through the summer and into the fall
- Excellent for containers
- Likes average water
- Select varieties such as Butterfly Blue and Pink Mist
- Does best in sun to part shade



Whirling Butterfly (Gaura lindheimeri):

- Likes full to part sun
- Low water use once established and likes well drained soil
- Attracts butterflies
- Grows 2-4 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide
- Too much fertilizer shortens its life
- Blooms summer into fall



Salvia Family:

- Attracts hummingbirds, bees and butterflies
- Flower colors range from white, yellow, pink, red, blue, lavender, to deep purple



Worth Mentioning:

- Cold hardy sedums
- Iceplants
- Hens & Chicks
- Coral bells

- Penstemon
- Red hot pokers
- Columbine



Cool Tip:

There are a number of plants whose flowers are insignificant, but their foliage is colorful, striking and their textures create a lot of interest. For the most part, they require very little care and add a lot of visual interest to any yard or landscape.

