

Sustainable Landscaping

This list contains plant species that are native to our area and unlikely to become ecological problems through cross-pollinating with native plants or spreading into the natural environment. Wherever possible, these plants should be derived from local stocks to reduce the risk of introducing nonnative varieties. All species listed are now, or soon-to be, available from Alberta sources as seed or plants; they are considered non-invasive and are not normally prone to disease. The Partial Plant Source List on the last two pages includes known potential commercial sources for the native plants; it is not an endorsement and by no means complete. Tsuut'tina promotes the use of native plants for any new plantings in order to maintain the ecological integrity of the community. However, since native plants may not always thrive in specific urban-type environments, in exceptional cases, the limited use of non-native plants may be acceptable where suitable native plants for specific purposes or settings do not exist. Use native trees and shrubs, along with rocks and non-living features to create an attractive and "wildlife-resistant" yard.

Why use native plants?

1. They're part of the natural local ecosystem and support the integrity of the natural areas.
2. They're already adapted to the soils and climate of this region and require little care once established.
3. Native plants generally tolerate browsing better. Some attract or deter different wildlife species.
4. Low maintenance landscaping is considered environmentally responsible and should be promoted over landscaping that requires regular watering, mowing, trimming or chemical inputs.
5. Turf areas should be minimized because the necessary high maintenance results in ongoing environmental impacts and pressure to use chemical herbicides to maintain a monoculture of non-native grasses.
6. Non-native plants pose a significant ecological threat to native plant and wildlife communities because their natural insect predators and diseases are absent from areas they invade. They also displace native plant species that stabilize soils and provide forage and cover for wildlife.

TREES & SHRUBS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native	FireSmart*	Palatability (deer & elk)	Comments
Coniferous Trees					
Rocky Mt. Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Native	M	Medium	May be browsed when young and flexible.
Deciduous Trees					
Mountain Maple Douglas Maple	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	Native	VL	Medium	May be available in the near future from native plant nurseries. Very attractive.
River Birch / Water Birch Black Birch	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>	Native	VL	Low	Tough, smaller, multi-branched. Small tree or tall shrub.
Paper Birch/ White Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Native	VL	Low	Needs lots of water. Delicate bark.
Western Larch	<i>Larix occidentalis</i>	Native	VL	Medium	Native to Kananaskis
Trembling Aspen Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Native	VL	High	More resistant to browsing than most poplars and willows. Aggressive, but traditional browsing has prevented its invasive tendencies.

SHRUBS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native	FireSmart*	Palatability (deer & elk)	Comments
Deciduous Shrubs					
Green alder	<i>Alnus crispa</i>	Native	VL	Medium	Prefers moister sites
Mountain/ River Alder	<i>Alnus tenuifolia</i> a.k.a. <i>A. incana</i> Alder <i>rugosa</i>	Native	VL	Low	Tends to spread out and colonize along moist areas. Seeds attractive to some birds.
Alpine Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos rubra</i>	Native	VL	Low	Very attractive, leaves turn red in fall.

Deciduous Shrubs (cont'd)					
Bog, Shrub Dwarf Birch	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	Native	L	Medium	Prefers moister sites. Nice alternative to cotoneaster. Fall colours.
Wolf Willow Silverberry	<i>Elaeagnus commutata</i>	Native	L	Medium	Very aromatic; many cultivars on market. Aggressive spreader, plant in container.
Labrador Tea	<i>Ledum groenlandicum</i>	Native	L	Low	White flowers. Evergreen leaves. Grows in boggy wet, areas.
Bracted Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Native	L	Low	Prefers damp woodlands. Grows into dense shrub.
Shrubby Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Native	L	Low	Yellow flowers. Best choice of shrubs to grow in Banff, as not attractive to ungulates or bears. Many cultivars available. The native one has silver leaves as opposed to shiny green leaves.
Wild Gooseberry Northern Gooseberry	<i>Ribes oxycanthoides</i>	Native	L	Low	Prefers moist woods or north-facing aspects. Great fall colours.
Common Wild Rose	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Native	L	Medium	Prefers moist woods. Flowers later than Prickly Rose.
Bebb's Willow Beaked Willow	<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Native	VL	High	Shrub or tall tree.
Pussy Willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>	Native	VL	High	Shrub.
Smooth Willow Gray-leaved Willow	<i>Salix glauca</i>	Native	VL	High	Erect shrub. Prefers moist areas.
Meadowsweet Birch-leaved Spirea	<i>Spiraea betulifolia</i>	Native	L	Low	Showy white flowers.
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Native	L	Medium	Tends to colonize. Good tall groundcover.
Buckbrush or Western Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>	Native	L	Medium	Can be invasive; containment recommended. Many cultivars on the market.

*Fire smart flammability rating: VH: very high H: high M: medium L: low VL: very low

WILDFLOWERS

*Please note that this list identifies species that are available from southern Alberta nurseries and native plant growers.
Never take plants from natural areas, protected or not.*

Common Name	Scientific Name	Colour/comments
Nodding Onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Pink. Blooms mid-summer. Likes dry open areas.
Wild Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Purple. Blooms mid-summer. Spreads.
Fairy Candelabra / Pygmy Flower	<i>Androsace septentrionalis</i>	White. Blooms very early.
Cut-leaved Anemone	<i>Anemone multifida</i>	Multicoloured. Early bloomer.
Prairie Crocus / Pasque Flower	<i>Anemone patens</i>	Purple. Early bloomer. Dry open areas.
Showy Everlasting	<i>Antennaria pulcherrima</i>	White. Blooms mid-summer. Good ground cover.
Rosy Everlasting/ Rosy Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria rosea</i>	Pink. Blooms mid-summer. Tough, good ground cover.
Blue Columbine	<i>Aquilegia brevistyla</i>	Blue. Blooms early summer.
Yellow Columbine	<i>Aquilegia flavescens</i>	Yellow. Blooms early summer. Attracts hummingbirds. Needs partial sun.
Cordilleran Arnica / Hairy Arnica	<i>Arnica mollis</i>	Yellow. Blooms early summer.
Pasture Sagewort	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Silvery foliage. Aromatic. Blooms late summer.
Prairie Sagewort / Prairie Sage	<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Improved cultivars available
Alpine Aster	<i>Aster alpinus</i>	Purple. Blooms late summer.
Arctic Aster	<i>Aster sibiricus</i>	Purple. Blooms late summer.
Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundiolia</i>	Blue. Blooms mid-late-summer. Long bloomer.
Red Indian Paintbrush	<i>Castilleja miniata</i>	Red. Plant with other plants.
Yellow Paintbrush	<i>Castilleja occidentalis</i>	Yellow. Plant with other plants
Blue Clematis / Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>	Blue-purple. Vine. Blooms early summer.
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	White. Blooms mid-summer. Likes moist soils rich in humus.
Tall Larkspur	<i>Delphinium glaucum</i>	Blue & white. Needs staking or protected site. Toxic. Good for big spaces.
Mountain Shooting Star	<i>Dodecatheon conjugens</i>	Magenta. Early bloomer. Grows in drier ground.

PARTIAL PLANT SOURCE LIST*

* from the Alberta Native Plant Council as a public service, www.anpc.ab.ca. It is not to be considered an endorsement of the organizations or their services listed below.

Alberta Nurseries & Seeds Ltd.

Phone: (403) 224-3545 Email: seed@telusplanet.net Website: www.marketland.net

Box 20 Bowden, Alberta T0M 0K0

In business 80 years, Alberta Nurseries produces container-grown native trees, shrubs, and vines. They will custom collect source-specified seed or cuttings in Alberta. They will custom grow woody plants, wildflowers, grasses and wetlands species. Free catalogue available. Sells plants wholesale and retail.

ALCLA Native Plant Restoration Inc.

Al & Pat Fedkenheuer (403) 282-6516

Email: fedkenhp@telus.net

Website: www.ALCLAnativeplants.com

3208 Bearspaw Drive NW Calgary, Alberta T2L 1T2

ALCLA deals in seeds and plants of wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs. The business offers custom growing, as well as consulting and installation services. Free species list available.

Bow Point Nursery Ltd.

Ken & Pam Wright (403) 686-4434

Fax: (403) 242-8018

Email: info@bowpoint.com

Website: www.bowpointnursery.com

244034 Range Rd 32

Calgary, Alberta T3Z 2E3

Bow Point Nursery is dedicated to the propagation of Chinook-hardy native vines, shrubs and trees grown from seed and cuttings collected in southern Alberta. They offer custom growing and harvesting. Sells plants retail and wholesale.

Eagle Lake Nurseries Ltd.

Anita Heuver, Tony Heuver (403) 934-3670

Email: gardencentre@eaglelakenurseries.com

Website: www.eaglelakenurseries.com

Box 2340 Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1K3

Native and ornamental woody plants are produced in containers at Eagle Nurseries or purchased from other prairie sources. Some plants are available in bare-root form in spring. Sells shrubs and trees wholesale and retail.

Greenview Nurseries & Tree Farm

Janet Falkenburg (403) 936-5936

Website: www.greenviewnurseries.ca

Box 12, Site 16, RR7 Calgary, Alberta T2P 4G7

Greenview Nursery propagates native trees and shrubs from cuttings collected on their property located just east of Calgary. The trees and shrubs are container-grown. Sells woody plants wholesale and retail.