



McConnell Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

NURSERY

2008 Bulletproof Perennials for the Redding Area

Easy to grow plants with great foliage, form, and blooms

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Aloe striatula (HARDY ALOE)

Luscious yellow flower spikes flushed with orange rise above rambling, succulent foliage. Attractive to hummingbirds. Excellent plant for containers or beds. Grows 5-6 ft. high x 15 ft. wide, but can easily be kept more compact with occasional hard pruning. Little to moderate water.



Artemisia 'Powis Castle' (ARTEMISIA)

Planted solely for its exquisite silvery, lacy foliage. Excellent background plant for bright flowers, especially purples and yellows. Airy mound grows 3 ft. high x 6 ft. wide. To freshen appearance, prune back foliage in March to main branches. Little to moderate water.



Aster x frikartii 'Mönch' (MÖNCH ASTER)

Profuse, lavender blue, 2-3 inch flowers with yellow centers. Blooms from early summer and into fall. Deadhead if needed. Grows 2 ft. high x 2 ft. wide with a fine-leaved, rounded form. Regular water, full sun or partial shade. Attracts butterflies.



Coreopsis verticillata
'Moonbeam'
(MOONBEAM COREOPSIS)

Delicate, rounded 2 ft. x 2 ft. mounds of fine narrow leaves. Small, daisy-like flowers in a shade of pale yellow that seems to go with every other color. Blooms summer through autumn if sheared back after initial bloom. Semi-drought tolerant. Named Perennial of the Year in 1995.



Dianthus 'Amazon Hybrids'
(SWEET WILLIAM)

Huge, bright purple, red, or pink flower clusters on long, tough stems appearing for a very long period in spring through summer. Good cut flower. Grows 1.5-3 ft. high x 1 ft. wide. Regular water, light shade in hottest climates. Deadhead 2-3 times per season.



Dianthus caryophyllus
'Can Can Scarlet'
(BORDER CARNATION)

A low-growing plant for the front of the border, reaching 1 ft. high x 1 ft. wide. Grass-like, gray-green foliage. Fragrant, 2-inch, red double flowers in mid-summer. Deadhead as needed. Regular water.



Euphorbia rigida
(BLUE EUPHORBIA)

Striking foliage plant growing 2 ft. high x 3-5 ft. wide. Whorled, gray-green leaves. Unusual, chartreuse flowers appear in late winter/early spring. Remove spent stems at base. Wear gloves when pruning, as sap causes skin rash. Tolerates drought and full sun.



Iris pseudacorus
(YELLOW FLAG IRIS)

A statuesque plant growing 3-5 ft. high x 1-2 ft. wide, and spreading by rhizomes. Bright yellow, 3 inch flowers on 4-7 ft. high stems. Upright, sword-like foliage. Tolerates full sun with roots submerged in water or in moist soils; partial shade in drier conditions.



Phormium tenax
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'Atropurpureum' or 'Bronze'
(NEW ZEALAND FLAX)

Bold foliage accent plant in either green or burgundy-bronze leaves. Grows in loose, upright clumps 6-7 ft. high and 6-7 ft. wide. Maintenance limited to removing occasional dead leaves. Takes almost any soil and little to regular watering, Tolerates light shade, or full sun with regular water. Stronger foliage color in full sun locations.



Rudbeckia fulgida
(BLACK-EYED SUSAN)
Many varieties available

Summer-long color performance if cut back after first blooms are finished. Grows 3 ft. high x 3 ft. wide and spreading somewhat with age. Bright yellow-gold, 2 to 3 inch flowers with brown central cones. Moderate to regular water. Full sun.



Rudbeckia hirta
(GLORIOSA DAISY)
Many varieties available

Cheerful, daisy-like blooms 5-7 inches wide in shades of yellow and orange. Full sun perennial that grows 1-3 ft. high x 1.5 ft. wide, depending on variety. Summer-long bloom if deadheaded. Moderate to regular water.



Salvia clevelandii
(CLEVELAND SAGE or
CALIFORNIA BLUE SAGE)

Attractive native shrub with violet-blue flowers set in whorls on long stems. Gray-green leaves have a distinctive fragrance. Prune hard when young and occasionally thereafter to improve form and structure. Drought tolerant, but grows fast with moderate water to 3-5 ft. high x 5-8 ft. wide. Sun to part shade.



Salvia farinacea varieties
including 'Mystic Spires,' 'Victoria,'
and 'Evolution'
(MEALYCUP SAGE HYBRIDS)

A profusely blooming perennial with flower spikes in shades of violet-blue to lavender to white. Depending on variety, it will get 1-3 ft. high x 1-2 ft. wide. A seasonal favorite. Regular water; drought-tolerant. Full sun; heat tolerant.



Salvia greggii
(AUTUMN SAGE)
Many varieties available

Blooms throughout summer and fall in colors ranging from purple-red through true reds, rose pinks, and whites. Grows 1-4 ft. high x 1-4 ft. wide in a loose upright form. Deadhead as needed to extend bloom period. Cut back moderately to hard in late winter/early spring. Little to moderate water. Does well in sunny, afternoon shade or partly shaded sites.



Salvia lyrata
(LYRE-LEAF SAGE)

Attractive foliage, reddish in some varieties, is beautifully marked with the shape of a lyre or harp. Lavender blooms from spring through mid-summer on petite 1.5 ft. high x 1 ft. wide plant. Good for hummingbirds, bees and butterflies. Performs best with regular water in partial shade.



Scabiosa columbaria
'Butterfly Blue'
(PINCUSHION FLOWER)

Dainty and compact plant for the front of the border or in pots, growing 1 ft. high x 2 ft. wide in full sun. Deep lavender blue, 2 inch flowers are held high above foliage on 12-15 inch stems. Summer-long bloom. Deadhead as needed. Moderate to regular water.



Solidago rugosa 'Fireworks'
(GOLDENROD)

A festive burst of color growing 3 ft. high x 2 ft. wide. Narrow streamers of tiny yellow flowers appear all over plant in mid-summer and into fall when so many other plants have finished their blooming. Plant in full sun for best bloom. Moderate water.



Verbena bonariensis
(UPRIGHT VERBENA)

Tall, airy, see-through stems carry branches of purple flower clusters. Self-sows, so you'll always have some to give away. Summer-long bloom. Deadhead if needed. Grows 3-6 ft. high x 1-3 ft. wide. Full sun needed for best display. Develops mildew in shade. Moderate to regular water.



Zauschneria californica
(**Epilobium canum**)
(CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA)

Non-stop late season bloomer with orange to red flowers set off by gray-green foliage. A California native that is very attractive to hummingbirds. Grows 1 ft. high x 2-4 ft. wide. Tolerant of little to regular water. Sunny sites with good drainage. Other hybrids and cultivars can grow 2-3 ft. high x 3-4 ft. wide.

