

A photograph of a garden scene. In the foreground, there are several large yellow sunflowers with dark brown centers. To the right and in the background, there are numerous purple flowers, possibly Salvia or similar, with small, clustered blossoms. The background shows a wooden fence and a grey roof under a clear blue sky. The overall lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Using Native Annuals in Your Landscape

Presented by Betsy Dudash

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A close-up photograph of a cluster of small, light orange flowers with a green, fuzzy center, set against a dark background. The flowers are arranged in a dense, rounded cluster, and the center is covered in fine, green, fuzzy hairs. The background is dark and out of focus, highlighting the texture and color of the flowers.

Why Use Native Annuals?

Native Annuals vs. Non-Native Ones

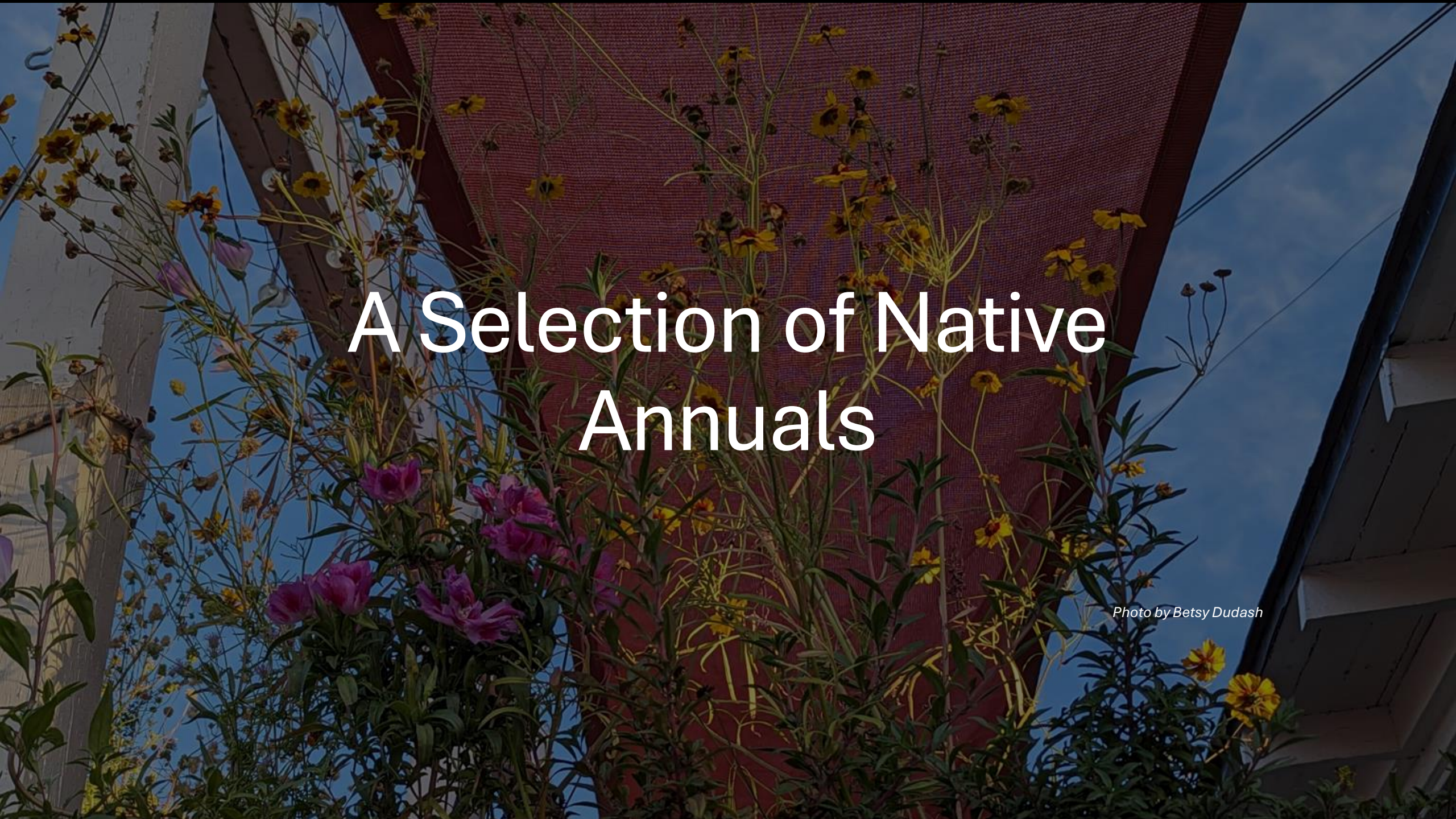
A tall purple flower spike with a hummingbird hovering nearby. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown.

Natives

- Adapted to local or regional conditions
- Nectar, pollen, & seed sources for native bees, butterflies, moths, other insects, hummingbirds, & birds
- Add more interesting seasonal color
- Inexpensive seeds/plants & often self-sow easily
- Share seedlings with family & friends w/out violating plant patents

Non-natives

- May require lots of water + fertilization through the season
- Often attract only honeybees, not native insects
- Some annuals have been bred for a long blooming period and don't produce pollen or nectar, so they don't attract insects or birds
- Can be expensive
- Some are protected by plant patents



A Selection of Native Annuals

Photo by Betsy Dudash

Globe Gilia*

Gilia capitata

- Bloom period: Late spring /early summer
- Flower color: Blue
- Height: 6”-24”
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Good
- Uses: In containers or in the landscape
- How to grow: Sow in fall or early spring
- Comments: Very attractive to bees and butterflies.
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives
- *Photo by Betsy Dudash*





Diamond Clarkia *Clarkia rhomboidea*

- Bloom period: Late spring-summer
- Flower color: Bright pink
- Height: 1-3'
- Sun exposure: Full sun/part shade
- Drought tolerance: Medium-dry
- Uses: Pollinator gardens, rock gardens, meadows
- How to grow: Best sown outside in fall
- Comments: Attract native bees and butterflies. Host plant for butterfly and moth larvae. **Has great potential for urban sites with poor soil.**

Maiden or Small-Headed Clover

Trifolium microcephalum

- Bloom period: Late spring/early summer
- Flower color: Pink
- Height: 3-12”
- Sun exposure: Full sun/part shade
- Drought tolerance: Medium-dry
- Uses: Seasonal groundcover on slopes or rocky areas.
- How to grow: No pretreatment needed, so sow in fall or spring
- Comments: Very attractive to bees and several species of butterflies and moths. Fixes nitrogen.





Farewell to Spring* *Clarkia amoena*

- Bloom period: Early to mid-summer
- Flower color: Pink with white streaks
- Height: 2'
- Sun exposure: Full sun/part shade
- Drought tolerance: Dry to medium
- Uses: Mass plantings, cutting garden, containers
- How to grow: Sow outside or start in pots in early spring
- Comments: Readily reseeds. Attracts bees and butterflies. Host plant for moth larvae
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives

Large-Flowered Collomia *Collomia grandiflora*

- Bloom period: Mid-spring to mid-summer
- Flower color: Salmon, white, or yellow
- Height: 1-2'
- Sun exposure: Full sun/part shade
- Drought tolerance: Dry-medium
- Uses: Cottage gardens, cutting gardens, woodland gardens, naturalized areas, containers
- How to grow: Sow outside in fall
- Comments: Attractive to pollinators. Provides nectar for moths and butterflies. Readily reseeds.





Yellow Beeplant*

Peritoma lutea

- Bloom period: Summer
- Flower color: Yellow
- Height: 1-2'
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Excellent
- Uses: Disturbed areas, pollinator garden, large containers
- How to grow: Sow outside in fall or start in pots
- Comments: Attracts 140+ native bee species!!!
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives

Hoary Tansyaster*

Dieteria canescens

- Bloom period: Early to late summer/early fall
- Flower color: Pale to dark purple
- Height: 6-30”
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Excellent
- Uses: Disturbed sites, pollinator gardens, and in native landscapes
- How to grow: Seed in late fall
- Comments: **Competes with invasives such as cheatgrass and knapweed.** Attracts pollinators and other insects. Provides food for birds and mammals.
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives





Plains Coreopsis*

Coreopsis tinctoria

- Bloom period: Late spring to frost
- Flower color: Yellow with red centers, all red, all yellow
- Height: 2-4'
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Excellent
- Uses: Disturbed areas, companion plant for vegetable gardens, pollinator gardens, cutting gardens, containers
- How to grow: Seed in fall or spring. Readily reseeds
- Comments: Host for moth caterpillars. Attracts bees and butterflies. Produces seeds for songbirds.
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives
- *Photo by Betsy Dudash*

Rocky Mountain Beeplant*

Peritoma serrulata

Bloom period: Summer-early fall

Flower color: Pink/white/purple

Height: 4-5' (or taller with extra water)

Sun exposure: Full sun/part shade

Drought tolerance: Excellent

Uses: Background plant, screening,
pollinator garden, in large containers

How to grow: Sow outside in fall to early
spring

Comments: Will be covered in bees all
season long; also attracts hummingbirds
and other pollinators

*Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives

Photo by Betsy Dudash





Plus a Couple of Biennials

Photo by Betsy Dudash



Dusty Maidens*

Chaenactis douglasii

- Bloom period: Late summer
- Flower color: White to pinkish
- Height: 1-2'
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Excellent
- Uses: Rock gardens, disturbed sites
- How to grow: Sow outside in fall to early winter
- Comments: Biennial or short-lived perennial. Pollen and nectar source for many insects, including native bees.
- *Being grown by Derby Canyon Natives

Scarlet Gilia

Ipomopsis aggregata

- Bloom period: Early to mid-summer
- Flower color: Orange-red
- Height: 1-3'
- Sun exposure: Full sun
- Drought tolerance: Very good (12-30" annual precipitation)
- Uses: Pollinator gardens, rock gardens
- How to grow: Seed in fall or early spring. May be difficult to germinate.
- Comments: Biennial. Very attractive to hummingbirds and other pollinators.
- *Photo by Betsy Dudash*



A low-angle photograph of several purple flowers with many small petals, growing on thin green stems. The flowers are in the foreground, and behind them is a white, textured surface, possibly a wall or a large piece of paper, which is slightly out of focus. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Any questions so far?

Ideas for Planters


- Globe Gilia + Farewell to Spring + Large-Flowered Collomia
- Globe Gilia + Yellow Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster
- Globe Gilia + Farewell to Spring + Hoary Tansyaster
- Large-Flowered Collomia + Farewell to Spring + Yellow Beeplant
- Farewell to Spring + Yellow Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster
- Plains Coreopsis + Yellow Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster
- Plains Coreopsis + Rocky Mountain Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster (Need to use very large planter(s) for this group!)



Annual Pollinator Garden Ideas

- Globe Gilia + Farewell to Spring + Diamond Clarkia + Yellow Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster
- Diamond Clarkia + Farewell to Spring + Yellow Beeplant + Hoary Tansyaster + Rocky Mountain Beeplant
- Large-Flowered Collomia + Globe Gilia + Maiden Clover + Plains Coreopsis + Rocky Mountain Beeplant



A photograph of a field of pink and orange flowers, likely Clarkia amoena, with a sign in the foreground that reads "Farewell-to-spring Clarkia amoena". The background shows a dark, hazy landscape with mountains.

Farewell-to-spring
Clarkia amoena

Native Annuals in the Landscape

- Use to fill in bare spaces among young perennials, groundcovers, and shrubs until they fill in.
- Use in masses under young trees that don't provide much shade.
- Use as temporary cover for disturbed areas (such as construction sites) that you don't want to leave bare or that you don't have the time or budget to fully develop.
- Use to create a permanent garden that blooms and reseeds itself year after year.



Growing and Maintaining Native Annuals

Photo by Betsy Dudash



Starting Seeds

- Many native plant seeds require moist stratification, which means that they must be in contact with moist soil for a minimum amount of time (typically 30-60 days) before they can break dormancy and germinate. This is why some seeds need to be sown outside or in pots in a cold location in the fall or winter.
- For direct-seeding outside, make sure the soil is completely free of weeds and other plants, then rake it before seeding. Scatter the seeds lightly then walk on the ground for good seed-to-soil contact.
- Seedlings will emerge in the spring. You can relocate some or pot some up to share with friends and family.

Maintenance

- Annuals planted in containers will require more water than those planted in the ground.
- Some plants, such as Plains Coreopsis and Rocky Mountain Beeplant, can grow leggy and flop over if overwatered.
- Farewell to Spring, Plains Coreopsis, and Large-Flowered Collomia make good cut flowers. You don't need to deadhead the others; bees, butterflies, moths, and birds will use the pollen, nectar, and seeds.
- Avoid fall clean-up; the dead plants can provide winter habitat for insects. Wait till you see regular pollinator activity in the spring before cleaning up last year's plants.



Plant and Seed Sources

- Derby Canyon Natives, Peshastin, WA: derbycanyonnatives.com, mel@derbycanyonnatives.com, 509.240.9792
- Northwest Meadowscares Conservation Seed Co., Port Townsend, WA (seeds only): northwestmeadowscares.com, info@northwestmeadowscares.com
- Western Native Seed, Coaldale, CO (seeds only): westernnativeseed.com, info@westernnativeseed.com, 719.942.3935 . Click on the plant name to get detailed information, including a map showing its native range.



Any final questions?

Thank you for joining us!

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