Recommended Native Plants for Northfield

These recommendations were generated as a part of the Northfields Plants and Pollinators - Lawns to Legumes grant. These plants are some of the favorites of local pollinators, especially bumble bees like the Federally Threatened Rusty Patched Bumblebee, which is found in several areas around Northfield.

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| \* = Bumblebees in Northfield love  ✢ = Rusty patched bumblebee loves |

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| **Native Plant** | **Description** | **Blooming Season** |
| Wild Native Lupine\* | Clusters of **blue/purple**, pea-like towers at the top of 1 foot stems. | April - July |
| Smooth Penstemon | Large trumpet-shaped **purple** flowers on tall glossy green-leafed stems. 18-20 inches tall. | June, July |
| Cockspur Hawthorn | Globular deciduous tree with **white/pink** blooms. Size range: 12-36 feet. | May, June |
| Prairie Rose\* | Small clusters of green prickly stems with 5 **white/pink** petals. 1-3 inches | May-September |
| White Wild Indigo\* | Tall, lupine like stem with pea-like **white/pale-blue** flowers. Can be 2-5 feet. | April-July |
| Butterfly Milkweed\* | Bushy, flat-top clusters of **bright orange** flowers. 1-2 feet tall. Attracts butterflies. | May-September |
| Dotted Mint\* | An aromatic, tubular petaled flower.**Yellowish with purple spots**. Range from 6 inches to 3 feet tall. | April-August |
| Great Blue Lobelia | Tall, **lavender-blue** tubular flowers. Blooms bright in late summer. 1-2 feet | July-October |
| Purple Coneflower | Tall green stems with droopy thin **purple/pink** petals around a center disk. 2-4 ft stems | April-September |
| Purple Prairie Clover\*✢ | Upright wiry stems with tiny cone-like **purple** flower buds at the top. 2 feet tall max. | June-September |
| Virginia Mountain Mint | Tiny, **white** mint-like flowers atop clusters of green. 1-3 feet. | June-August |
| Wild Bergamot\* | Tall, upright, **lavender** flowers with large leaves on the stem. Flowers have shrilled petals. 2-3 feet. | July-September |
| Leadplant\* | Spike-like stems with **purple** blossoms covering them. Grows in shrubs. 1-2 feet. | June -August |
| New Jersey Tea | Leafy, dense shrub with clusters of **white** fragrant flowers at the stem ends. 3-4 feet. | May-July |
| Culver’s Root\*✢ | Unbranched, spiked stems with small **white** flowers (oval, dark green leaves) on top. 3-5 feet. | June-August |
| White Prairie Clover\* | Plant with textured leaves and ridged stems. Tiny **white** flowers packed onto dense cylindrical spikes. 1-2 feet. | June-August |
| Purple Vetch (American Vetch) | A vine with a single stem. Has **purple** flowers clumped together in flower stalks. 1-2 feet. | May-August |
| Swamp Milkweed | Large blossoms consisting of small, **purple-pink** flowers clustering at the top of branching stems. 3-4 feet. | June-August |

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| **Native Plant** | **Description** | **Blooming Season** |
| Common Milkweed | An herb with a single, tall, hairy stem. Small flowers with **green/purple** petals and large leaves. 3-4 feet. | July-September |
| Heliopsis | Upright, sunflower-like perennial. Has daisy-like flowers and **yellow/orange** tints. 3-5 feet. | June-August |
| Cup Plant | Tall perennial with large **yellow** flowers. Large green leaves on the stem. 3-6 feet. | July-September |
| Prairie Blazing Star\* | Spiked stems with **purple** stalkless flower heads on a coarse, leafy stem. 2-3 feet. | July-September |
| Purple Giant Hyssop\* | **Purplish-red** flowers on spiky stems. Leaves are ovaled and toothed. 2-5 feet. | July-September |
| Rattlesnake Master | Perennial with a thick crown and **parallel-veined leaves**. 2-5 feet. | June-September |
| Joe Pye Weed | Grow 2-8 feet tall with 3-5 inch **pink or purple** flowers. | July-September |
| Showy Tick Trefoil\* | Flowers are pea-shaped, about ½ inch long, **pink to purple**. Plant grows 2-5 feet tall. | July-September |
| Stiff Goldenrod\* | **Yellow** flowers, grows 1-4 feet tall, sun-loving. | August-September |
| Partridge Pea\* | **Yellow and maroon** flowers, grows 12-30 inches tall. | July-September |
| Meadow Blazing Star\* | **Pinkish-purple** flowers, grows 12-40 inches tall. | August-September |
| Rough Blazing Star\* | **Pink** flowers, grows 1-2 feet tall. | July-September |
| Bottle Gentian\* | Flowers may be **blue, purple, pink, or white**. Plant grows 1 foot tall. | August-September |
| Calico Aster | **White** flowers, 1-4 feet tall. | August-October |
| Field Thistle\* | Flowers are **pink, lavender or white,** and the plant grows 3-6 feet tall. | July-October |
| New England Aster\* | Flowers are **pink or purple** and 1 to 1 ½ inches across. Plants are 3-6 feet tall. | August-October |
| Showy Goldenrod\* | Sun-loving plant with small, **yellow** flowers. Plant grows 1-5 feet tall. | July-October |
| Sky Blue Aster | Flowers are **blue to blue-violet**, grows 12-40 inches tall. | August-October |
| Smooth Aster | Medium **blue to purple** flowers, height of 1-3 feet. | August-October |

Source:<https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/>

List produced by Gwen Hughes, Liv Gossard, and Sara Sarmiento Ruiz as part of St. Olaf Environmental Studies 237, Spring 2020.