



El Paso County Native Plant List to Attract Birds

Why Native Plants?

- They are adapted to our soils and climates
- Easier to maintain and require little or no soil amendments, fertilizer, or pesticides
- Require little or no supplemental irrigation – once established
- Support our native birds, bees, butterflies, and insects

Scientific Name	Common Name	Food	Host Plant	Mature Plant Size	Sun or Shade	Preferred Soil
GRASSES						
<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	Purple three awn	S		12-20" X 24"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Side-oats grama	S		18-30" X 18-24"	FS - PS	Well-drained
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Blue grama	S		12-14" X 12-18"	FS - PS	Well-drained
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted hair grass	S	Y	24" X 18-24"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Bluebunch fescue	S		15-16" X 15"	FS - PS	Well-drained
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	Prairie junegrass	S		12-24" X 9-18"	FS	Well-drained, rocky
<i>Muhlenbergia montana</i>	Mountain muhly	S	Y	2.5' X 2'	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>	Indian rice grass	S		12-24" X 8-12"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass	S		36-60" X 18-24"	FS	Well-drained, rocky
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little bluestem	S	Y	24-48" X 18-24"	FS	Well-drained, adaptable
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	S		36-60" X 36"	FS	Well-drained, silty-loam
<i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	Alkali-sacaton	S		36-60" X 24"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie switchgrass	S		24-36" X 24-26"	FS-PS	Well-drained, rocky
PERENNIALS						
<i>Achillea lanulosa</i>	Native yarrow	S		12" X 36"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common yarrow	S		12" X 36"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i>	Golden columbines	Nectar		30" X 18"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Prairie sage	S	Y	18 "X 18"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	Showy milkweed	S, Nectar	Y	24-36" X 48"	FS	Adaptable
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly milkweed	S, Nectar	Y	18" X 18"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebells	Nectar		12" X 6"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Prairie-clover	S	Y	18" X 18"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>	Showy daisies	S		12-18" X 12-18"	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Blanket flower	S		12" X 12"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	Sticky geraniums	Nectar		12-24" X 12-24"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Grindelia squarrosa</i>	Gumweed	S		6 – 36" H	FS – PS	Well-drained

Scientific Name	Common Name	Food	Host Plant	Mature Plant Size	Sun or Shade	Preferred Soil
<i>Heuchera spp</i>	Coral bells	Nectar		16-18" X 12-15"	PS – FS	Well-drained
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Common sunflower	S	Y	5-10' X 2'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Heliomeris multiflora</i>	Showy golden eye	S		18-30" X 18-30"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i>	Scarlet gilia	Nectar		12-30" X 12"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Dotted gayfeather	Nectar, S		24" X 12"	FS – PS	Well-drained, sandy
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Wild blue flax	S		18" X 12"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Lupinus argenteus</i>	Silver lupine	S	Y	12-36" x 12- 24"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Bee balm	Nectar	Y	24" X 24"	FS	Well-drained, fertile
<i>Penstemon barbatus</i>	Scarlet bugler penstemon	Nectar		24-36" X 12-24"	FS	Well-drained
<i>Penstemon strictus</i>	Rocky Mountain penstemon	Nectar		30" X 24"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Prairie coneflower – Mexican hat	S		18" X 12"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	S	Y	24" X 7-12"	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	Smooth aster	S	Y	36" X 12-24"	FS – PS	Well-drained
SHRUBS						
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Serviceberry	F	Y	15' X 15'	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry/Kinnickinnick	F	Y	0.5-1' X 3-6'	FS – PS	Well-drained
<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	Mountain mahogany	S		15' X 15'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	Rabbitbrush	S		2-6' X 3-4'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Red twig dogwood	F	Y	6' X 8'	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Mahonia repens</i>	Creeping mahonia	F		1' X 4'	FS – PS – S	Adaptable
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum	F	Y	12' X 10'	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Prunus besseyi</i>	Western sand cherry	F	Y	6' X 5'	FS	Well-drained
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Rocky Mountain sumac	F		5' X 6-20'	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Ribes aureum</i>	Golden currant	F	Y	6' X 5'	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Ribes cereum</i>	Wax Current	F		4' X 3'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Woods rose	F	Y	3-5' X 4-5'	FS – PS	Loam
<i>Rubus deliciosus</i>	Boulder raspberry	F	Y	8' X 6'	FS – PS	Adaptable
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry	F	Y	10-20' X 10-20'	PS – FS	Adaptable
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	F	Y	4' X 6'	FS – PS – S	Adaptable
TREES						
<i>Acer glabrum</i>	Rocky Mountain maple	N	Y	10-25' X 15-20'	FS – PS	Sandy-loam
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box elder	N	Y	30-45' x 30-40'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	Common hackberry	Insects	Y	25-45' X 30-40'	FS	Well-drained
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	Rocky Mountain juniper	F	Y	15-25' X 5-15'	FS	Well-drained
<i>Quercus gambelii</i>	Gambel oak	N	Y	5-15' X 10-15'	FS	Well-drained
<i>Picea pungens</i>	Blue spruce	N		15-80' X 8-35'	FS	Well-drained
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa pine	N	Y	45-50' X 25-30'	FS	Adaptable
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas-fir	N	Y	40-60' X 20-30'	FS	Well-drained
CACTUS						
<i>Echinocereus coccineus</i>	Claret cup cactus	Nectar		15-24" X 15-24"	FS	Well-drained

Keys:

Food: F = Fruit, N = Nuts, S = Seeds

Sun Requirements: FS = Full Sun, PS = Partial Shade, S = Shade

*Drawing of Lark bunting by Philip Martin