

# Firescaping Guide

## **Overview**

**Firescaping** is a landscaping technique focused on reducing wildfire risk around homes and other structures. It involves strategic plant selection, placement, and the use of fire-resistant materials to create defensible spaces and minimize the potential for fire spread. Core principles include:

- Firewise Plant Selection
- Creating Defensible Space
- Performing Regular Maintenance

This guide has been developed by Tri-County Firesafe Working group to help you apply firescaping principles to your home. Our plant guide is focused on species that thrive in Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties, Montana.

For more information, visit our website!



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### Questions? We are here to help.



P.O. Box 934 Helena, MT 59624-0934 email: exdir@tcfswg.org

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### **Firewise Demonstration Garden**

Visit the *TCFWG Firewise Demonstration Garden* at the Montana City Volunteer Fire Station #1 for an example of a thriving firewise garden!

1192 Hwy 282, Montana City, MT 59634

# Terms and Definitions

### **Defensible Space**

The area around a building that has been modified to slow or stop the spread of wildfire. Management of vegetation and other combustible materials creates a buffer zone that reduces the risk of fire igniting the structure and provides a safer area for firefighters.

### **Firewise Plants**

Plants that are less susceptible to ignition and slower to burn because they are:

- High in moisture, soap (saponins), pectin, and/or latex content
- Smaller in size
- Minimal amounts of volatile oils and resins
- Usually can withstand some amount of drought

These plants help create a fire-resistant landscape within the home ignition zone.

### **Hazardous Fuels**

Living or dead vegetation that can easily ignite and spread fire, contributing to its intensity, severity, and difficulty of control. These fuels can include dry grasses, shrubs, fallen trees, dense forests, and other combustible materials. When fuels accumulate, they can allow fires to burn hotter, faster, and with higher flame lengths, making them more dangerous.

### **Home Ignition Zone (HIZ)**

The area around a house, extending out to 200 feet, where actions can be taken to reduce the risk of a wildfire igniting the home. It's a buffer zone around the house where homeowners can create defensible space by managing vegetation and modifying the structure to make it more fire-resistant.

### Wildfire Risk Mitigation

Wildfire risk is the likelihood of a wildfire occurring and the potential negative impacts it could have. It's a combination of hazard (likelihood and intensity of a fire) and vulnerability (exposure and susceptibility of things people care about to fire). Wildfire risk mitigation is proactive steps taken to reduce the likelihood and severity of wildfires, as well as to minimize their impact on people, property, and the environment.

### Wildland Urban Interface

Areas where homes and other structures intermingle with or are adjacent to wildland vegetation. This creates a zone where wildfires pose a greater risk to human life and property.

### **Montana City Firewise Rating System**

This guide rates plants for firewise characteristics using a system that can result in a maximum of 18 points for flowering plants and 15 for shrubs. Points are allotted for moisture, soap/latex/pectin/succulent features, oils, height, drought resistance, and deer resistance.

# Core Principles

# **Core Principle 1: Firewise Plant Selection**

Selecting firewise plants is key for firescaping. It's also important to know what NOT to select. Juniper trees and bushes are highly flammable and should not be within the defensible space around your home. The purpose of this guide is to provide you information on firewise plants that thrive in Lewis & Clark, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties of MT. Our selections are firewise, deer and drought resistant, and Zone 3 hardy.



# Defensible Space: Reduced Fuel Zone Reduced Fuel Zone: 30 ft. to 100 ft.

# **Core Principle 2: Create Defensible Space**

Creating defensible space in your home ignition zone is about reducing combustible materials in this area. There are many factors for landscaping in addition to firewise plants, such as the materials you use for decks, fences, and garden boxes. Your free home assessment will provide detailed recommendations in 3 zones: within 5' of your structure, 5-30, and 30-200'. Visit www.tcfswg.org to apply today.

### **Core Principle 4: Maintenance**

Firewise landscaping must be maintained over time. Remember to keep trees pruned and dry grasses/weeds trimmed within your defensible space. Check also for dead plant material build-up near and on your home.



# **GRASSES**

PLANT NAME: Fescue	e, cultivar lawn "Scottish
Scientific Name	Festuca spp hybrid
Life Cycle	Perennial
Season/ Maturity	Cool season / summer
Growth Form/Height	Rhizomatous / 6 inches
Firewise	Low growing, high drought resistance, high deer resistance
Characteristics	sistance, mgn deer resistance
<b>MT City Firewise Rating</b>	15



PLANT NAME: Fescue cultivar slope	
Scientific Name	Festuca spp. hybrid
Life Cycle	Perennial
Season/ Maturity	Cold season / summer
Growth Form/Height	Rhizomatous / 6 inches
Firewise Characteristics	Low growing, high drought resistance, high deer resistance
MT City Firewise Rating	15



PLANT NAME: Idaho fescue		
Scientific Name	Festuca Idahoensis	
Life Cycle	Perennial	
Season/ Maturity	Cool season / Summer	
Growth Form/Height	Bunchgrass / 1 foot	
Firewise Characteristics	Low growing, high drought resistance, high deer resistance	
MT City Firewise Rating	15	



PLANT NAME: Little bluestem	
Scientific Name	Schizachyrium scoparium
Life Cycle	Perennial
Season/ Maturity	Warm season / summer
Growth Form/Height	Bunchgrass / 1-3 feet
Firewise	Medium height, high drought
Characteristics	resistance, high deer resistance
MT City Firewise Rating	14



PLANT NAME: Allium, Nodding onion		
Scientific Name	Allium spp.	
Life Cycle	Perennial	
Bloom Time	Spring	
Growth Form/Height	Pink /single bulb/ 6 inches	
Firewise	High moisture, modsoap, low oil	
Characteristics		
MT City Firewise Rating	14	



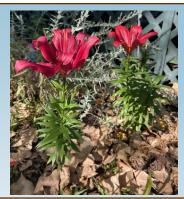
### **PLANT NAME: Anemone**

Scientific Name	Anemone
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
<b>Growth Form/Height</b>	White / mounding / 8 inches
Firewise	High deer resistance
Characteristics	



### MT City Firewise Rating 9

PLANT NAME: Asiation	c lilly
Scientific Name	Lillium
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring / summer
Growth Form/Height	Various / single / 8 inches
Firewise	High deer resistance
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	9



### **PLANT NAME: Aster**

Scientific Name	Aster spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late summer / fall
Growth Form/Height	White, blue / spreading / 14 in
Firewise	High moisture, low oil. Deer like
Characteristics	this species.
MT City Firewise Rating	12



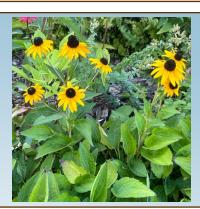
PLANT NAME: Bee balm		
Scientific Name	Mondarda spp	
Life Cycle	Perennial	
Bloom Time	Summer	
Growth Form/Height	Various / single / 12 inches	
Firewise	High deer resistance	
Characteristics		
MT City Firewise Rating	10	



PLANT NAME: Blanket flower		
Scientific Name	Gaillardia spp.	
Life Cycle	Perennial	
Bloom Time	Late summer	
Growth Form/Height	Yellow or red / single / 10 inches	
Firewise	Medium-high moisture, low oil	
Characteristics		
MT City Firewise Rating	11	



PLANT NAME: Black-eyed Susan		
Scientific Name	Rudbeckia spp.	
Life Cycle	Perennial	
Bloom Time	Late summer / fall	
Growth Form/Height	Yellow / spreading / 10 inches	
Firewise	Medium moisture, deer resistant	
Characteristics		
MT City Firewise Rating	8	



PLANT NAME: Bugleweed	
Scientific Name	Ajuga reptans
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring / summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple/white/spreading/2 inches
Firewise	MSU considers this an invasive
Characteristics	species.
MT City Firewise Rating	12



PLANT NAME: Butterfly weed	
Scientific Name	Asclepias tuberosa
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring
Growth Form/Height	Orange / single / 14 inches
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	13



### **PLANT NAME: Canterbury bells**

Scientific Name	Campanula medium
Life Cycle	Biennial (short lived)
Bloom Time	Spring, Summer
<b>Growth Form/Height</b>	White, pink, purple / single.
Firewise Characteristics	Reseeds itself. Moderate moisture, drought resistant



### MT City Firewise Rating 8

PLANT NAME: Coneflower	
Scientific Name	Echinacea spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer, fall
Growth Form/Height	White, pink, purple, red yellow/ spreading / 24 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Medium moisture, low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	8



## **PLANT NAME: Coreopsis (tickseed)**

Scientific Name	Coreopsis spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer, fall
Growth Form/Height	Yellow, orange, pink, white/single / 8 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Columbine	
Scientific Name	Aquilegia spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Yellow, pink, white, blue / single / 8 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	15



### **PLANT NAME: Cupflower Scientific Name** Maxus reptans **Life Cycle** Perennial **Bloom Time** Summer **Growth Form/Height** Pink / spreading / 2 inches **Firewise** Deer resistant **Characteristics**

MT City Firewise Rating 13



PLANT NAME: Coral bells	
Scientific Name	Heuchera sanguinea
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring, summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink / low growing mound / 2 in
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	10



PLANT NAME: Daffodils	
Scientific Name	Narcissus spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Yellow, white / bulb / 8 inches
Firewise	High moisture, low oil, deer re-
Characteristics	sistant
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Daisy,	painted
Scientific Name	Tanacetum coccineum
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring / early summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink / spreading / 24 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	9



PLANT NAME: Daisy,	Shasta
Scientific Name	Leucanthemum x superbum
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	White / mounding / 8 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	12



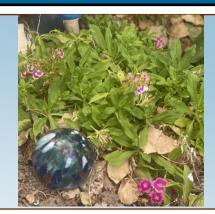
PLANT NAME: Daylily	
Scientific Name	Hemerocaulis spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Yellow, orange, pink / spreading / 18 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	14



PLANT NAME: Delphinium	
Scientific Name	Delphinium spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Blue
Firewise	High moisture, low oil, deer re-
Characteristics	sistant
MT City Firewise Rating	10



<b>PLANT NAME: Dianth</b>	us / Pinks
Scientific Name	Dianthus spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, pink, red/spreading/4 in
Firewise Characteristics	Medium moisture, medium soap, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	15



### **PLANT NAME: False wild Indigo**

Scientific Name	Baptisia
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Blue, yellow / 24 inches
Firewise Characteristics	High moisture, low oil, deer resistant



### MT City Firewise Rating 12

PLANT NAME: False Rockcress	
Scientific Name	Aubrieta gracilis
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Blue / spreading / 2 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



### **PLANT NAME: Flax**

MT City Firewise Rating 11

Scientific Name	Linum perenne
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Blue/reseeds and spreads/ 12 in
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	



<b>PLANT NAME: Fleaba</b>	ne
Scientific Name	Erigeron linearis
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple, pink / spreading / 16 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	15



PLANT NAME: Geranium, perennial	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	Geranium spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Purple, pink / single / 8 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	10



PLANT NAME: Geranium, Cranesbill	
Scientific Name	G. macrorrhizum
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring / early summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink, white / spreading /6 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	10



PLANT NAME: Globemallow, scarlet	
Scientific Name	Sphaeralcea coccinea
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Orange / single / 3 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Goldenrod	
Scientific Name	Solidago spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Yellow
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	10



PLANT NAME: Hen and chicks	
Scientific Name	Sempervivum tectorum
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Mat-forming, succulent
Firewise	High moisture, high soap, but
Characteristics	deer destroy this
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Hyacinths	
Scientific Name	Hyacinthus orientalis
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, blue, pink, red / single / 8 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High soap, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	14



PLANT NAME: Ice plant	
Scientific Name	Delosperma spp HARDY
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer / fall
Growth Form/Height	Purple, yellow, pionk, white, orange / mat forming / 3 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, high soap. NOT hardy Zone 4. Deer resistant.
MT City Firewise Rating	18



PLANT NAME: Iris	
Scientific Name	Iris spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, blue / mat forming / 14 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, low oil, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	12



PLANT NAME: Kinnikinnick / bearberry	
Scientific Name	Arctostaphylos spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring / summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink / ground cover / 3 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, medium oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Lewisia	
Scientific Name	Lewisia x longipetala
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink / succulent / 3 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, medium soap
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	9



<b>PLANT NAME: Liatris</b>	/ Dotted gay feather
Scientific Name	Liatris spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple, pink / single / 24 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Lily, various	
Scientific Name	Lilium spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Orange, pink, yellow / single bulb / 24 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	14



PLANT NAME: Lungwort	
Scientific Name	<i>Pulumonaria</i> hybrid
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple / spreading / 6 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant, high soap
Characteristics	*poisonous to pets
MT City Firewise Rating	12



PLANT NAME: Lupine	
Scientific Name	Lupinus spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, yellow, pink, blue, red / single / 14 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Mexican hat	
Scientific Name	Ratibida pinnata
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late summer, fall
Growth Form/Height	Yellow, red / single / 24 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	, 8



<b>PLANT NAME: Peony</b>	
Scientific Name	Paeonia spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Various / single / 36 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



PLANT NAME: Penstemon / beard's tongue	
Scientific Name	Penstemon spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, pink, blue / mat forming / 6 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	13



<b>PLANT NAME: Phlox</b>	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	Phlox spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	White, pink, blue / mat forming / 3 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Moderate moisture, deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Poppy,	Oriental
Scientific Name	Papaver orientalis
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring, early summer
Growth Form/Height	Orange, pink / single / 18 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, medium latex
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	12



PLANT NAME: Poppy	mallow, purple
Scientific Name	Callirhoe involucrata
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer / fall
Growth Form/Height	Pink, purple (*aggressive?)/ prostrate spreading / 3 inches
Firewise	High moisture, low oil, drought
Characteristics	resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Prunella	
Scientific Name	Prunella vulgaris
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring
Growth Form/Height	Purple, white/spreading/6 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, high soap in
Characteristics	leaves and roots
MT City Firewise Rating	14



<b>PLANT NAME: Scabiosa / pincushion flower</b>	
Scientific Name	Scabiosa japonica
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple, pink /mounding/6 inches
Firewise	Drought resistant, deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	15



PLANT NAME: Scarlet beebalm/ Scarlet gaura	
Scientific Name	Oenothera suffrutescens (Gaura coccinea)
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Pink-white / 8 inches
Firewise Characterist.	No info on soap or pectin.
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Silver mound (dusty miller)	
Scientific Name	Artemisia schmidtiana
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Foliage plant all summer
Growth Form/Height	Blue foliage/mound shape requires division every 2-3 years / 12-24 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Medium oil
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Sneezewort	
Scientific Name	Achillea ptarmica
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring to late summer
<b>Growth Form/Height</b>	White to red/mounding/12-16 in
Firewise	Very deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Snow-in-summer	
Scientific Name	Cerastium tomentosum
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring / summer
Growth Form/Height	White, blue foliage / spreading mound / 4 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Deer resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Soapwort	
Scientific Name	Saponaria officinalis
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer / fall
Growth Form/Height	Pink, white/mat forming/4 in
Firewise	Succulent, high soap
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	17



PLANT NAME: Stonecrop	
Scientific Name	Sedum spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer / fall
Growth Form/Height	Red, pink, yellow, white / mat forming, single/2-12 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Succulent, high soap
MT City Firewise Rating	18



PLANT NAME: Sunflower, small	
Scientific Name	Helianthus pumilus
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	Yellow / single / 28 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Thrift,	common
Scientific Name	Amerua maritima
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Pink/mat forming, spreading / 4 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Moderate moisture, moderate oil
MT City Firewise Rating	9



PLANT NAME: Thyme, ground cover	
Scientific Name	Thymus spp
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring, summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple / mat forming / 2 inches
Firewise	Deer resistant
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Townsend's daisy	
Scientific Name	Townsendia hookeri
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Late spring
Growth Form/Height	Purple/mounding/6 inches
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	11



PLANT NAME: Veronica / Speedwell	
Scientific Name	Veronica spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring, summer
Growth Form/Height	Purple, white/spreading 2-8 in
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Variegated Iris	
Scientific Name	Iris spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Spring
Growth Form/Height	Purple, white-green foliage / spreading / 14 inches
Firewise Characterist.	Deer resistant, drought resistant
MT City Firewise Rating	16



<b>PLANT NAME: Vinca</b>	
Scientific Name	Vinca minor
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
<b>Growth Form/Height</b>	Purple, spreading / 2 inches
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	15



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PLANT NAME: Yarrow	
Scientific Name	Achillea spp.
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
<b>Growth Form/Height</b>	White, red / mat forming / 14 in
Firewise	Not highly flammable, deer re-
Characteristics	sistant
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Yucca	
Scientific Name	Yucca spp. (fast growing var)
Life Cycle	Perennial
Bloom Time	Summer
Growth Form/Height	White / 18" / single / 12 inches
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, high soap
MT City Firewise Rating	16



# **SHRUBS**

PLANT NAME: Barberry	
Scientific Name	Berberis spp.
Growth Form	2 ft tall, 2 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	Red or yellow foliage
Firewise	Moderate moisture, medium
Characteristics	pectin, low oil.
MT City Firewise Rating	7



PLANT NAME: Buffaloberry, silver	
Scientific Name	Eleagnus canadensis
<b>Growth Form</b>	5 ft tall, 4 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	Red berries
Firewise	High moisture, medium soap,
Characteristics	low oil. Soap in stem & berries.
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Cinquefoil	
Scientific Name	Potentilla fruticosa
Growth Form	3 ft tall, 2 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	Yellow, pink, or white flowers
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	6



PLANT NAME: Jubilee Bush Cherry	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	Prunus fruticosa x P. cerasus
<b>Growth Form</b>	3-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide
Bloom Time	Late spring
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	6



# **SHRUBS**

PLANT NAME: Chokeberry	
Scientific Name	Aronia spp.
Growth Form	2 ft tall, 2 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



PLANT NAME: Cotoneaster, European	
Scientific Name	Cotoneaster integerriums
Growth Form	5-8 ft tall, 5-8 ft wide
Bloom Time	Late spring
Foliage & Flowers	White, black berries
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	12



PLANT NAME: Current / Gooseberry	
Scientific Name	Ribes spp.
<b>Growth Form</b>	4-6' tall, 3-5' wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White, yellow, pink. Red to blue berries
Firewise Characterist.	High moisture, low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	10



PLANT NAME: Elderberry	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	Sambucus
<b>Growth Form</b>	6-8' tall, 5-8' wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers, purple berries
Firewise	High soap
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	15



# **SHRUBS**

PLANT NAME: Honeyberry	
Scientific Name	Lonicera caerulea
<b>Growth Form</b>	3-5 ft tall, 3 ft wide
Bloom Time	Late spring
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers, blue berries
Firewise	Medium pectin
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Lilac	
Scientific Name	Syringa spp.
Growth Form	6-8 ft tall, 5-8 ft wide
Bloom Time	Spring
Foliage & Flowers	White or purple
Firewise	High moisture
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



PLANT NAME: Mockorange	
Scientific Name	Philadelphus lewisii
Growth Form	4-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers
Firewise	High moisture, high soap, low oil
Characteristics	(*deer palatability)
MT City Firewise Rating	13



PLANT NAME: Ninebark	
Scientific Name	Physocarpus malvaceus
<b>Growth Form</b>	4-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers
Firewise	Medium moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



# SHRUBS

PLANT NAME: Hot wi	ings maple
Scientific Name	Acer spp.
Growth Form	5-6.5 ft tall
Bloom Time	N/A
Foliage & Flowers	Colorful fall foliage
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



# PLANT NAME: Amur maple

<b>Scientific Name</b>	Acer spp.
<b>Growth Form</b>	5-6.5 ft tall
Bloom Time	N/A
Foliage & Flowers	Colorful fall foliage
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



### MT City Firewise Rating 8

PLANT NAME: Rose	
Scientific Name	Rosa spp.
Growth Form	4-6 ft tall
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	Pink, yellow, orange; red berries
Firewise	High moisture, low oil
Characteristics	
MT City Firewise Rating	8



## **PLANT NAME: Sandcherry**

<b>Scientific Name</b>	Prunus pumila x P. cistena
<b>Growth Form</b>	8 ft tall, 8 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	Purple leaves, pink flowers, red fruit
Firewise Characterist.	Medium moisture, low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	5



# **SHRUBS**

PLANT NAME: Snowberry	
Scientific Name	Symphoricarpos spp.
Growth Form	3-4 ft tall, 2-3 ft wide
Bloom Time	Summer
Foliage & Flowers	White flowers, white berries
Firewise	High moisture, high soap/pectin,
Characteristics	low oil
MT City Firewise Rating	15



# PLANT NAME: SpireaScientific NameSpirea spp.Growth FormVariable

Bloom Time Summer

Foliage & Flowers White, pink

**Firewise**Characteristics
Low moisture, moderate oil, drought tolerant

MT City Firewise Rating 5

MT City Firewise Rating 15



# PLANT NAME: Sumac, skunkbush Scientific Name Rhus spp. Growth Form Variable Bloom Time Summer Foliage & Flowers Yellow flowers, foliage red in fall Firewise High moisture, medium soap Characteristics



**TREES** 

### **PLANT NAME: Apple, spring snow crabapple**

Scientific Name Malus 'Spring Snow'

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** Spring

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### **PLANT NAME: Apple, Honeycrisp**

**Scientific Name** *Malus spp.* 

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** Spring

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### PLANT NAME: Chokecherry, Canada red

Scientific Name Prunus virginiana

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** Spring

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### **PLANT NAME: Elm, Accolade**

**Scientific Name** Ulmus japonica x wilsoniana

**Growth Form** 

Bloom Time N/A

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

Characteristics

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



**TREES** 

### **PLANT NAME: Hawthorn, Lavalle**

Scientific Name Crategus lavallei

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** 

**Foliage & Flowers** 

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### **PLANT NAME: Honeylocust, Northern Acclaim**

**Scientific Name** Gleditsia trhiancanthos

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** 

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### **PLANT NAME: Lilac tree**

Scientific Name Syringa reticulata

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** 

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

**Characteristics** 

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



### **PLANT NAME: Linden, Harvest Gold**

**Scientific Name** Tilia mongolica

**Growth Form** 

**Bloom Time** 

Foliage & Flowers

**Firewise** 

Characteristics

**MT City Firewise Rating** 



**TREES** 

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# Summary Information

- This guide includes 4 grass species, 65 flowering plant species, 19 shrub species, and 9 tree species for aa total of 97 species.
- Trees must be of sufficient size and/or protected to be deer resistant.
- Species are excerpted from MSU Extension Publication MT200101AG, "Fire-Resistant Plants for Montana Landscapes" with edits.
- Firewise characteristics are derived from "Fire Resistance of Plants Master Database & Placement of Species within Firewise Landscape Zones for Southern Idaho.
- Crevice garden plants are not included in this catalogue.



Please consider becoming a

FRIEND OF THE FIRE WISE GARDEN

Weeding and maintenance are ongoing and we're looking for volunteers to help!

If you are interested in becoming a or would like a tour, email us at exdir@tcfswg.org