

**Montana City Demonstration Garden  
Plant & Tree Planting List**

Firewise, deer and drought resistant, zone 3 hardy. Species excerpted from MSU Extension publication MT200101AG "Fire-Resistant Plant for Montana Landscapes" with edits.

*Attributes of Firewise Plants:*

- 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

*Firewise Characteristics:* Mostly taken from "Fire Resistance of Plants Master Database & Placement of Species Within Firewise Landscape Zones for Southern Idaho"

MT City Firewise Rating is based on the following:

**Moisture:** High = 3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0. **Soap/Latex/Pectin/Succulent:** High = 3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0. **Oils:** High = 0; Moderate = 1; Low = 3.

**Height:** Low= 3 (groundcover), Medium (6-12") = 1, Tall (>12")= 0. **Drought Resist:** High= 3; Moderate= 1; Low = 0. **Deer Resist:** High=3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0

*Total Points available: 18*

Grasses

Common Name	Scientific Name	Life Cycle	Season/Maturity	Growth form/Height	MT City Firewise Rating	Firewise Characteristics
Fescue, cultivar lawn "Scottish Links"	<i>Festuca spp hybrid</i>	Perennial	Cool season/Summer	Rhizomatous/6 inches	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	Low growing; high drought resistance; high deer resistance;
Fescue cultivar slope	<i>Festuca spp hybrid</i>	Perennial	Cool season/Summer	Rhizomatous/6 inches	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	Low growing; high drought resistance; high deer resistance;
Idaho fescue	<i>Festuca Idahoensis</i>	Perennial	Cool season/Summer	Bunchgrass/ 1 ft	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	Low growing; high drought resistance; high deer resistance;
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Perennial	Warm season/Summer	Bunchgrass/ 1-3 ft	3+0+3+2+3+3=14	Medium height; high drought resistance; high deer resistance;

FLOWERING PLANTS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Life Cycle	Bloom time	Color/growth form/ht	MT City Firewise Rating	Firewise Characteristics
Allium, Nodding onion	<i>Allium spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	Pink/single bulb/6 in	3+1+3+1+3+3=14	High moisture, modsoap, low oils;
Anemone	<i>Anemone</i>	Perennial	Spring	White/mounding/8 in	1+0+3+1+1+3=9	High deer resistance
Asiatic lily	<i>Lilium</i>	Perennial	Late spring/summer	Various/Single/8 in	1+0+3+1+1+3=9	High deer resistance
Aster	<i>Aster spp.</i>	Perennial	Late Summer/Fall	White, blue/spreading/14 in	3+0+3+0+3+3=12	High moisture, low oils. Deer like this
Bee balm	<i>Monarda spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	Various/Single/12 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=10	High deer resistance
Blanket flower	<i>Gaillardia spp.</i>	Perennial	Late Summer	Yellow or red/Single/10 in.	1+0+3+1+3+3= 11	Medium-high moisture, low oils
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia spp</i>	Perennial	Late Summer/Fall	Yellow/spreading/10 in	1+0+3+0+1+3= 8	Medium moisture, deer resistant
Bugleweed	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Perennial	Late spring/summer	Purple/white/spreading/2"	3+0+3+3+0+3=12	MSU calls this an invasive species.
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Perennial	Late Spring	Orange/Single/14 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	High moisture, low oils

(Flowering Plants cont.)						
Canterbury bells	<i>Campanula medium</i>	biennial	Spring Summer	White, pink, purple/Single. Reseeds itself . Short-lived biennial	1+0+3+0+3+1= 8	Moderate moisture, Drought resistance
Coneflower	<i>Echinacea spp</i>	Perennial	Summer, Fall	White, pink, purple, red, yellow/ spreading/24 in	1+0+3+0+1+3= 8	Medium moisture, low oil
Coreopsis (tickseed)	<i>Coreopsis spp.</i>	Perennial	Summer, Fall	Yellow, orange, pink, white/ single/8 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	High moisture, low oil
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia spp.</i>	Perennial	Summer	Yellow, pink, white, blue/single/8 in	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	High moisture, low oils
Cupflower	<i>Maxus reptans</i>	Perennial	Summer	Pink/spreading/2"	3+0+3+3+1+3=13	Deer resistant, little information
Coral bells	<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i>	Perennial	Spring Summer	Pink/Low growing mound /2 in	2+0+3+3+1+1=10	Medium moisture, low oils
Daffodils	<i>Narcissus spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	yellow, white/bulb/8 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	High moisture, low oils, deer resistant
Daisy, painted	<i>Tanacetum coccineum</i>	Perennial	Spring/early summer	Pink/spreading/24"	1+0+3+0+1+3= 8	Deer resistant
Daisy, Shasta	<i>Leucanthemum x superbum</i>	Perennial	Summer	White/mounding/8 in	1+0+3+1+0+3=12	Medium moisture, low oil
Daylily	<i>Hemerocaulis spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	Yellow, Orange,pink/Spreading/18"	3+3+3+1+1+3=14	Deer resistant
Delphinium	<i>Delphinium spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	Blue	3+0+3+0+1+3=10	High moisture, low oil, deer resistant
Dianthus/Pinks	<i>Dianthus spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, pink, red/ spreading/4 in	1+1+3+3+1+3=15	Medium moisture, med soap, deer resistant
False wild Indigo	<i>Baptisia</i>	Perennial	Summer	Blue /yellow/24"	3+0+3+0+3+3=12	High moisture, low oil, deer resistant
False Rockcress	<i>Aubrieta gracilis</i>	Perennial	Spring	Blue/spreading 2"	1+0+3+3+1+3=11	Deer resistant
Flax*	<i>Linum perenne</i>	Perennial	Spring	Blue/Reseeds and spreads/12in	1+0+3+1+3+3=11	Deer resistant
Fleabane	<i>Erigeron linearis</i>	Perennial	Summer	Purple, pink/spreading/16 in	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	Deer resistant
Geranium, Perennial	<i>Geranium spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	Purple, pink/Single/8'	3+0+3+1+3+3=10	Deer resistant
Geranium, Cranesbill	<i>G. macrorrhizum</i>	Perennial	Spring/early summer	Pink, white /spreading/6 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=10	Deer resistant
Globemallow, scarlet	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	Perennial	Spring	Orange/single/3 in	1+0+3+3+1+3=11	Deer resistant
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	Yellow	3+0+3+0+1+3=10	High moisture, low oils
Hen and chicks	<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i>	Perennial	Summer	Mat-forming, succulent	3+3+3+3+1+0=13	High moisture, high soap, der destroy this
Hyacinths	<i>Hyacinthus orientalis</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, blue, pink, red/single/8 in	3+3+3+1+1+3=14	High soap, deer resistant
Ice plant	<i>Delosperma spp HARDY</i>	Perennial	Summer-Fall	Purple, yellow, pink, white, orange/mat forming/3 in	3+3+3+3+3+3=18	High moisture, high soap.NOT HARDY Zone 4. deer resistant
Iris	<i>Iris spp.</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, blue/mat forming/14 in	3+0+3+0+3+3=12	High moisture, low oil. Deer resistant
Kinninnick/bearberry (subshrub)	<i>Arctostaphylos spp</i>	Perennial	Spring, Summer	Pink/Ground cover/3 in	1+0+1+3+3+3=11	Medium moisture, medium oils
Lewisia	<i>Lewisia x longipetala</i>	Perennial	Summer	Pink/Succulent/3 in	1+1+3+3+1+0=9	Medium moisture, medium soap
Liatris/Dotted gay feather	<i>Liatris spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	purple, pink/Single/24"	2+0+3+0+3+3=11	Medium moisture, low oils
Lily, various	<i>Lilium spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	Orange,Pink, Yellow/Single bulb/24"	3+3+3+1+1+3=14	Deer resistant
Lungwort	<i>Pulmonaria hybrid</i>	Perennial	Summer	Purple/spreading/6"	1+3+3+1+1+3=12	Deer resistant, high soap, poisonous to pets!
Lupine	<i>Lupinus spp.</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, yellow, pink, blue, red/Single/14 in	3+0+3+1+1+3=11	High moisture, deer resistant
Mexican hat	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Perennial	Late summer, fall	Yellow, red/Single/24"	1+0+3+0+1+3=8	Deer resistant
Myosotis/forget me not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Perennial	Spring	Blue/groundcover	3+0+3+1+3+3=15	Deer resistant
Peony	<i>Paeonia spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	Various/Single/36 in	1+0+3+0+1+3=8	Medium moisture, deer resistant
Penstemon/beard's tongue	<i>Penstemon spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, pink, blue/mat forming/6 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	High moisture, deer resistant

(Flowering Plants cont.)						
Phlox	<i>Phlox spp</i>	Perennial	Spring	White, pink, blue/mat forming/3 in	1+0+3+3+1+3=11	Mderate moisture, deer resistant
Poppy, iceland	<i>Papaver nudicaule</i>	Perennial	Spring	Red/spreading/24 in	1+1+3+3+1+3=12	Medium moisture, medium latex
Poppy, Oriental	<i>Papaver orientalis</i>	Perennial	Spring,early summe	Organge, pink/Single/18"	1+1+3+3+1+3=12	Medium moisture, medium latex
Poppymallow, purple	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	Perennial	Summer/Fall	Pink, purple* aggressive?/prostrate spreading/3 in	3+0+3+3+3+1= 13	High moisture, low oils, Drought resistant,
Prunella	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Perennial	Late Spring	Purple, white/spreading/6 in	1+3+3+1+1+3=14	Medium moisture, high soap; Soap in leaves and roots
Red hot Poker	<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>	Perennial	Spring	Red-yellow/Single/12 in	3+3+3+1+3+3=16	High moisture, high soap
Scabiosa /pincushion flower	<i>Scabiosa japonica</i>	Perennial	Summer	Purple, pink/Mounding/6"	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	Drought and deer resistant
Scarlet beebalm/ Scarlet gaura	<i>Oenothera suffrutescens (Gaura coccinea)</i>	Perennial	Summer	Pink-white/8 in	1+0+3+1+3+3=11	No information on soap or pectin
Silver mound (dusty miller)	<i>Artemisia schmidtiana</i>	Perennial	Foliage plant all summer	Blue foliage/Mound shape Requires division every 2-3 yrs/12 - 24 in	3+0+1+1+3+3=11	Medium oils
Sneezewort/Pearl Achillea	<i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	Perennial	Spring to late summer	White to red/Mounding/12-16 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	Very deer resistant
Snow-in-summer	<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	Perennial	Sping/summer	white, blue foliage/spreading mound/4'	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	Deer resistant
Soapwort	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Perennial	Summer/Fall	Pink, white/mat forming/4 in	1+3+3+3+3+3=17	Succulent, high soap
Stonecrop	<i>Sedum spp</i>	Perennial	Summer, Fall	Red, pink, yellow, white/mat forming-single/2 in-12 in	3+3+3+3+3+3=18	Succulent, high soap
Strawberry, pink	<i>Fragaria anamassa</i>	Perennial	Spring, summer	Pink, white/spreading/4 in.	3+2+3+2+2+3=15	Deer resistant
Sunflower, small	<i>Helianthus pumilus</i>	Perennial	Summer	Yellow/single/28 in	1+0+3+3+1+3=11	Deer resistant
Thrift, common	<i>Amerua maritima</i>	Perennial	Spring	Pink/mat forming, spreading/4 in	1+0+1+3+1+3=9	Moderate moisture ,Has moderate oil content.
Thyme, ground cover	<i>Thymus spp</i>	Perennial	Late spring, summer	Purple/matforming/2 in	3+0+1+3+3+3=13	Deer resistant
Townsend's daisy	<i>Townsendia hookeri</i>	Perennial	Late spring	Purple/mounding/6 in	1+0+3+1+3+3=11	Medium moisture, low oil
Veronica/Speedwell	<i>Veronica spp</i>	Perennial	Spring, Summer	Purple, white/spreading/ 2-8 in	3+0+3+3+1+3=13	High moisture, low oil.
Variegated Iris	<i>Iris spp.</i>	Perennial	Sping	Purple,white-green foliage/spreading/14 in	3+3+3+1+3+3=16	Deer and drought resistant
Vinca	<i>Vinca minor</i>	Perennial	Summer	Purple, spreading/2 in	3+0+3+3+3+3=15	High moisture, low oil.
Yarrow	<i>Achillea spp</i>	Perennial	Summer	White, red/mat forming/14 in	3+0+3+1+3+3=13	Not highly flammable, deer resistant
Yucca	<i>Yucca spp (fast growing var)</i>	Perennial	Summer	White/18"/single/12 in	3+3+3+1+3+3=16	High moisture, high soap

65 flowering plant species

MT City Firewise Rating is based on the following:

**Moisture:** High = 3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0. **Soap/Latex/Pectin/Succulent:** High = 3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0. **Oils:** High = 0; Moderate = 1; Low = 3.

**Height:** Not rated here. **Drought Resist:** High= 3; Moderate= 1; Low = 0. **Deer Resist:** High =3; Moderate = 1; Low = 0

Total Points available: 15

Shrubs

Barberry	<i>Berberis spp</i>	2 ft tall, 2 ft wide	Summer	Red or yellow foliage	1+1+3+1+1=7	Mod moisture, med pectin. Low oil
Buffaloberry, silver	<i>Eleagnus canadensis</i>	5 feet tall, 4 feet wide	Summer	Red berries	3+1+3+3+3=13	High moisture, medium soap, low oil. Soap in stems and berries
Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	3 ft tall, 2 ft wide	Summer	Yellow pink or white flowers	1+0+3+1+1=6	Medium moisture, low oil
Jubilee Bush Cherry	<i>Prunus fruticosa x P. cerasus</i>	3-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide	Late spring	White flowers	1+0+3+1+1=6	Medium moisture, low oils
Chokeberry	<i>Aronia spp</i>	2 ft tall, 2 ft wide	Summer	White flowers	1+0+3+3+1=8	Medium moisture, low oil
Cotoneaster, European	<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	5-8 ft tall, 5-8 feet wide	Late Spring	White, black berries	3+0+3+3+3=12	High moisture, low oil
Currant/Gooseberry	<i>Ribes spp</i>	4-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide	Summer	White, yellow, pink. Red to blue berries	3+0+3+3+1=10	High moisture, low oil
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus</i>	6-8 ft tall, 5-8 ft wide	Summer	White flowers, purple berries	3+3+3+3+3=15	High soap
Honeyberry	<i>Lonicera caerulea</i>	3-5 ft tall, 3 feet wide	Late spring	White flowers, blue berries	3+1+3+3+3=13	Medium pectin
Lilac	<i>Syringa spp</i>	6-8 ft tall, 5-8 ft wide	Spring	White or purple	3+0+3+1+1=8	High moisture
Mockorange (deer palatability)	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	4-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide	Summer	White flowers	3+3+3+3+1=13	High moisture, high soap, low oils
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>	4-6 ft tall, 3-5 ft wide	Summer	White flowers,	1+0+3+1+3=8	Medium moisture, low oils
Hot wings Maple	<i>Acer spp</i>	5-6.5 feet tall		Colorful Fall foliage	3+0+3+1+1=8	High moisture, low oil
Amur Maple	<i>Acer spp</i>	5-6.5 feet tall		Colorful Fall foliage	3+0+3+1+1=8	High moisture, low oil
Rose	<i>Rosa spp</i>	4-6 feet tall	Summer	Pink, yellow, orange. Red berries	3+0+3+1+1=8	High moisture, low oil
Sandcherry	<i>Prunus pumila x P. cistena</i>	8 feet tall, 8 feet wide	Summer	Purple leaves, pink flowers, red fruit	1+0+3+1+1=5	Medium moisture, low oils
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos spp</i>	3-4 feet tall, 2-3 feet wide	Summer	White flowers, white berries	3+3+3+3+3=15	High moisture, high soap/pectin, low oil.
Spirea	<i>Spirea spp</i>	Variable	Summer	White, pink	0+0+1+1+3=5	Low moisture, moderate oil, Drought toerant
Sumac, skunkbush	<i>Rhus spp</i>	Variable	Summer	Yellow flowers, Foliage red in Fall	3+3+3+3+3=15	High moisture, medium soap

19 shrub species

Trees. Must be of sufficient size and/or protected to be deer resistant

Common Name	Scientific Name
Apple, Spring snow crabapple	<i>Malus 'Spring Snow'</i>
Apple, Honeycrisp	<i>Malus spp.</i>
Chokecherry, Canada red	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Elm, Accolade	<i>Ulmus japonica x wilsoniana</i>
Hawthorn, Lavalley	<i>Crataegus lavalleyi</i>
Honeylocust, Northern Acclaim	<i>Gleditsia thriacanthos</i>
Lilac Tree	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>
Linden, harvest gold	<i>Tilia mongolica</i>
Oak, bur	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>

9 tree species

97 total spp so far (not including  
crevice garden plants)