

Native Plants at Noon

July 2022

Native Garden links:	Deep Roots: https://deeproots.org/plant-a-garden/
Missouri Department of Conservation sites/links	MDC Conservation Areas: https://mdc.mo.gov/conservation-areas-search Missouri Conservationist Magazine: https://extra.mdc.mo.gov/marketing/conmag.php
Native Plants highlighted	Smooth sumac (<i>Rhus glabra</i>) Sideoats Grama (<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>) Prairie blazing star (<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>) Rattlesnake master (<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>) Purple passionflower (<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>)
Tools and accessories	Felco 2 hand pruners— link Tool holder for belt—5 pocket general purpose holster (Velcro attachment) – link
Recommended Reading	Make Ink —Jason Logan

Answers to Questions left in chat

Could you name a few natives that would fill in a big area quickly, no more than four feet tall, and look decent through winter?	This depends on the type of site you have and what vegetation was there before. If you have full sun you may consider Missouri Coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia missouriensis</i>) or Little Bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>). For shade or sun, Columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>) would be good. If you are dealing with competing aggressive or invasive species, you will need to treat and remove them prior to planting.
I planted a smooth sumac this spring and a few weeks ago all the leaves died. I have continued to water it hoping it will come back next year. I am wondering if I am wasting water or will it survive?	With hot temperatures and little rainfall this summer much of our native plants are feeling the heat! You may notice leaves drooping or falling off as plants direct and conserve their energy in their roots. You can test the stem for life by gently bending it at various points. If it's pliable, it's still alive! If it breaks easily, that portion has died. Hopefully you're getting rain this week as we are in Kansas City. Otherwise give your plants water when they look stressed, especially in their first year of planting.

<p>Are there any grasses that do well in shade?</p>	<p>Look to sedges for shady areas. Oak sedge (<i>Carex albicans</i>) and Pennsylvania Sedge (<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>) have fine texture and work well in shade/part shade. We noticed our Palm Sedge (<i>Carex muskingumensis</i>) does well in full shade at the Discovery Center too. I like to incorporate grasses and sedges into my designs as a contrast in texture and transition from lawn to garden.</p>
<p>Would the grasses draw deer down to my "city" yard? There are more & more entering the neighborhoods, during the summer instead of just in the winter.</p>	<p>As we lose natural areas we will see more wildlife in our backyards as animals like deer are looking for habitat and food resources. My philosophy is to plant more than enough for ourselves so wildlife can enjoy the benefits of native plants too.</p>
<p>can rattlesnake master take wet soil periodically like in a rain garden?</p>	<p>Potentially – we have noticed this prairie species, Rattlesnake Master (<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>) planted in storm water runoffs around the city. I would say as long as there isn't consistent standing water and plenty of direct sun it may be okay. Sometimes you'll be pleasantly surprised when you push the boundaries of what you think native plants can handle.</p>
<p>My rose verbena hasn't bloomed. I planted 2 plants in May.</p>	<p>Your plants may not bloom until their second year. We've had some areas at the Discovery Center where our Rose Verbena (<i>Glandularia canadensis</i>) has thrived and in other spots not so much. We think they'd benefit from a bit of water and perhaps less competition from neighboring plants.</p>
<p>The Liatris / Blazing Star the purple flowering part is now all brown. :(Why?</p>	<p>Interesting! Did the flower already bloom and is it going to seed? It could also be that we've had very little rainfall and perhaps it's stressing your plant. Hopefully next year you'll have a wonderful show of blooms!</p>
<p>Where did you find the round galvanized containers?</p>	<p>We purchased the metal culverts from one of our contractors through MDC. I would suggest you research your local farm supply stores to see if they have something similar. Deep Roots staff has seen them at Family Center in St. Joseph, MO.</p>
<p>I have an area I cleared of honeysuckle, and now sumac is running rampant. Control?</p>	<p>First I would identify the type of sumac as there are four different species commonly found in Missouri. We recommend letting native sumac fill in areas that were once full of honeysuckle as they provide food and habitat for native wildlife. Sumacs Fragrant Sumac; Winged Sumac; Smooth Sumac; Staghorn Sumac MDC Teacher Portal</p>
<p>Any upcoming opportunities you all are offering?</p>	<p>Join us for upcoming programs like our monthly in-person Native Landscape Chat every first Friday at 1:00pm. Also join us for Monarch Mania on Saturday, September 10th where we'll have different family-friendly activities and give away free milkweed and pollinator plants! Check our website for more information about upcoming programs: Events Missouri Department of Conservation (mo.gov)</p>