

Dotted gayfeather

Liatris punctata (Sunflower family)

Native

Butterflies and bees pollinate this and deer like to browse it



Prickly lettuce

Lactuca serriola (Sunflower family)

Alien

Frequent weed in gardens and fields



Prairie goldenrod

Solidago missouriensis (Sunflower family)

Native

Infrequent. Contains small quantities of rubber



Showy milkweed

Asclepias speciosa (Milkweed family)

Native

Milkweeds are critical food for Monarch butterflies

Marsh milkweed

Adenolinum lewisii (Flax family)

Native

Large patch in low swampy area





Plains milkweed

Asclepias pumila (Milkweed family)

Native

Look for this hiding under a bush close to the trail on the hill



Sideoats grama

Lactuca serriola (Sunflower family)

Native

One of the most beautiful and often overlooked native grasses. Fairly frequent along trail

Blue grama

Chondrosum gracile (Grass family)

Native

A dominant of the short grass prairie. Withstands drought well and produces good forage. Tends to be inconspicuous. Also called "eyelash grass"





Buffalo grass

Buchloe dactyloides (Grass family)

Native

The other dominant of short grass prairie. Males and females are on separate plants. This is a male. These line the path edges.