

# Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

## Late August Plants



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### Bush sunflower

*Helianthus pumilus*

native

sandpapery leaves; dominant along Lindenmeier Trail; seeds a favorite of Native Americans



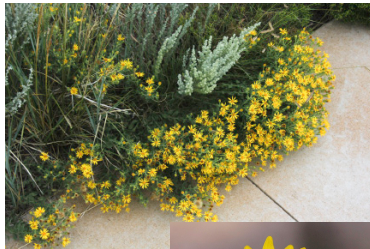
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### Threadleaf groundsel

*Senecio spartioides*

native

forms large bright clumps. Thin yellow rays and very thin leaves; toxic to livestock



Photoglass



### Hairy goldenaster

*Heterotheca villosa*

native

common along trails, often prostrate stems; flowers smaller than bush sunflower



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### Indian blanketflower

*Gaillardia aristata*

native

One of the showiest plants on the prairie



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### Curlycup gumweed

*Grindelia squarrosa*

native

very sticky buds with curled phyllaries



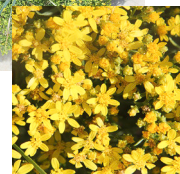
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### Broom snakeweed

*Gutierrezia sarothrae*

native

green hemisphere becomes covered with tiny yellow flowers





**Wax currant**

*Ribes cereum*

native

translucent, edible red berries; these disappear quite quickly

Photograss



**Skunkbush**

*Rhus trilobata*

native

Berries fuzzy; can make a lemonade-like drink from them

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**Dotted gayfeather**

*Liatris punctata*

native

Purple accent; common on plains at base of mountains

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**Blue grama**

*Chondrosom gracile*

native

Major constituent of short grass plains, dominant on flats; often called "Eyelash grass"

photograss



**Rough pricklypoppy**

*Argemone hispida*

native

Bright; blooms most of summer; extremely prickly; contains toxic alkaloids

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**Fringed sage**

*Artemisia frigida*

native

Important winter forage for elk and deer; gray green contrast to seasonal yellows and browns

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