

# Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

## Late August-Early September 2013



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### Rubber rabbitbrush

*Ericameria nauseosa*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Native American dye plant  
contains non-commercial  
rubber



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### Broom groundsel

*Senecio spartiodes*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Native American dye plant  
Unpalatable and toxic to  
livestock.



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### Blanket flower

*Gaillardia aristata*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

A very bright, showy plant



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### Golden aster

*Heterotheca villosa*  
(Sunflowerfamily)

Native

Common. Variable, but  
here often low, spreading  
Has insect repellent  
chemicals



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### Broom snakeweed

*Gutierrezia sarothrae*  
(Sunflower family)  
*native*

Native Americans used  
flower heads for snakebite.  
Not palatable to livestock  
so can be a sign of  
overgrazing



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### Curly-cup gumweed

*Grindelia squarrosa*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

*Extremely sticky buds.*  
*Very tolerant of dryness*  
*and poor soils. Can be*  
*used to make a yellow dye*



**Opposite leaf bahia**

*Picradeniopsis oppositifolia*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Very common along roads and trails

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**Bush sunflower**

*Helianthus pumilus*  
(Sunflower family)  
native

One of several yellow flowered sunflowers. seeds were eaten by Native Americans  
This has very sand-papery leaves

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**White prairie aster**

*Virgiulus falcatus*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Weedy aster, often abundant along roads and trails in late summer

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**Plains thistle**

*Cirsium canescens*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Looks weedy but is non-invasive and an important food for insects, butterflies

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**Scarlet globemallow**

*Sphaeralcea coccinea*  
(Mallow family)

Native

Often also called "cowboy's delight". Long blooming season

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**Common vervain**

*Verbena bracteata*  
(Vervain family)

Introduced

weed common often along paths. Found all over US

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**Skeletonweed**

*Lygodesmia juncea*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

Called skeletonweed because of almost leafless stem

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**Dotted gayfeather**

*Liatris punctata*  
(Sunflower family)

Native

This, too, is in the sunflower family. Attractive garden flower

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