

Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

Mid July Plants



Larkspur *Delphinium geyeri* (Hellebore family) native

Beautiful plants but toxic to most livestock except sheep



Wild Geranium

Geranium caespitosum (Geranium family) native

The darker lines on the petals guide pollinators to nectar. The garden “geranium” is not in the genus *Geranium*, but rather in the genus *Pelargonium*.



Photogragss

Prickly pear cactus *Opuntia polyacantha* (Cactus family) native.

The green pads with spines are enlarged stems. The stamens (yellow structures on top of the red structures in the flower center) are touch sensitive and close slightly when a bee lands on them ensuring good transfer of pollen. Bees are the major pollinators.