

## Two shrubs dominate the cover on Soapstone hills



### Three leaf sumac

*Rhus trilobata* (Sumac family) native.

This shrub produces red, fuzzy berries that were used by native Americans to make a lemonade-like drink. The branches could be used for arrow shafts.



### Mountain mahogany

*Cercocarpus montanus* (Rose family) native.

The seed have furry tails that curl and straighten with changes in moisture. When on the ground, this motion allows them to plant themselves.

## Soapstone Prairie Plants Early September



### Rubber rabbitbrush

*Ericameria nauseosa* (Sunflower family) native.

Large mounded shrubs. Iconic symbols of late summer through fall. Can yield yellow dye. It was once hoped that its latex sap could be used for rubber manufacturing, but it was not economically feasible.



### Hairy goldenaster

*Heterotheca villosa* (Sunflower family) native. low growing plants with small flowers. The foliage has dense soft hairs. Just starting to bloom, Much smaller and less abundant than Prairie sunflower.



### Broom-like ragwort

*Senecio spartiodes*. (Sunflowerfamily)  
Just beginning to bloom  
flower heads have long scraggly yellow rays.



### Dotted gayfeather

*Liatris punctata* (Sunflower family) native  
Glandular dots on flowers and foliage. One of the very few blooming plants this time of year that isn't yellow!

### Prairie sunflower or Bush sunflower

*Helianthus pumilus* (Sunflower family) native.  
Bushy plants with multiple stems create a profusion of blooms in the landscape. The leaves are small with tiny stiff bristles that make them feel like sandpaper. Americans relished the seeds.



### Broom snakeweed

*Gutierrezia sarothrae* (Sunflower family)  
native  
Low mounding plants, whose stems could be bound together for a short a broom. The flowers were also used topically for snakebite.



### White prairie clover

*Dalea candida* (Pea family) native  
Small plants,.As a member of the Pea family these can fix nitrogen from the atmosphere to enrich the soil. Drought and deer resistant.