

# Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

## Early September Plants



Photoglass



### Bush sunflower

*Helianthus pumilus*  
(Sunflower family)

native

The most abundant bushy plant along roads and trails. The leaves feel like sandpaper



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### Dalmatian toadflax

*Linaria dalmatica*  
(Figwort or Plantain family)

alien

Attractive flowers but is a noxious weed as defined by the state. It is very difficult to get rid of because it produces abundant seed and has very deep roots



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### Rubber rabbitbrush

*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*  
(Sunflower family)

native

very common shrub. Has non-commercial natural rubber



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### Broom groundsel

*Senecio spartiodes*  
(Sunflower family)

native

Toxic to livestock, and unpalatable. Native American dye plant



### Fetid marigold

*Dyssodia papposa*  
(Sunflower family)

native

small urn-like flowers with unpleasant odor



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### Opposite leaf bahia

*Picradeniopsis oppositifolia*  
(Sunflower family)

native

Usually abundant along roads and trails



Photogress



### Indian ricegrass

*Achnatherum hymenoides*  
(Grass family)

native

Highly nutritious seeds used by birds and small animals. Native Americans also used this for food



Photogress

### Blue grama (often called "eyelash grass")

*Chondrosium gracile*  
(Grass family)  
native

One of most important forage plants of the short and mid-grass prairies. Dry now, but abundant



Photogress

### Curlycup gumweed

*Grindelia squarrosa*  
(Sunflower family)

native

Very tolerant of drought and poor soils. Can yield a yellow dye. The buds have the backwards curled phyllaries and are extremely sticky.



### Dotted gayfeather

*Liatris punctata*  
(Sunflower family)

native

Briiiant contrast to all the yellow. An iconic prairie flower with many common names



Photogress

### Skunkbrush

*Rhus trilobata*  
(Sumac family)

native

Lemonade-like drink can be made from the berries. Leaves are three-lobed



Photogress

### Fringed sage

*Artemisia frigida*  
(Sunflower family)

native

Smells like sage, but not the same as the culinary sage which is in another family



### Winterfat

*Krascheninnikovia lanata*  
*neomexiana*  
(Goosefoot family)

native

Good winter forage for wildlife and livestock