



### Rough pricklypoppy

*Argemone hispida*. (Poppy family)  
Large white very visible flowers with very prickly foliage.



### Needle-n-thread

*Hesperostipa comata* (Grass family)  
native.  
Tall, beautiful grass that shines with the light behind it and waves in the wind. The seed has a very sharp point and a long awn (tail).



### Blanket flower

*Gaillardia aristata* (Sunflower family)  
native. Bright yellow-gold flowers common along trails.



### Common wild geranium

*Geranium caespitosum* (Geranium family)  
native.  
Delicate pink flowers with fine purple lines that guide pollinators to nectar. Blooming since May.

## Soapstone Prairie Plants Mid July



### Prairie sunflower or Bush sunflower

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



### Scarlet gaura

*Gaura coccinea* (Sunflower family) native. Small plants with spidery, delicate flowers red on opening, fading to light pink. Common along trails; drought tolerant.



### Mariposa lily

*Calochortus gunnisonii* (Lily family). Scientific name from Greek meaning beautiful grass. because the leaves are narrow and grass-like.



### Larkspur

*Delphinium geyeri* (Buttercup family) native. Beautiful and abundant this year. Toxic to cattle but not to sheep or wildlife.



Bud shoot and bud



Flowers Often moth pollinated. Moth lays eggs inside of pod. Larvae bore through pod to emerge.

### Yucca

*Yucca glauca* (Agave family) native. Very abundant this year. Native Americans made cordage from leaf fibers, and shampoo from pounded roots.



Seeds are thin black disks.

Pods

