

A Few Wildflowers

Prairie Crocus



One of our first spring wildflowers. Look for 5—7 petal-like sepals that range from pale purple to white.

The soft fuzzy covering of stems and leaves insulates the plant from the early spring cold. Look for it on sunny southwest facing hillsides.

Canada Anemone



Yellow centered flowers with 5 white petal-like sepals and deeply divided toothed leaves .

Look for this summer flower in prairie, Aspen Parkland and Boreal forest.

Bergamot/Horsemint/Bee Balm



Grows tall (30+cm.) with a square stem topped by a round cluster of small purple to pink tubular flowers.

A wildflower with many common names. It has toothed leaves that grow opposite of each other and have a minty smell if crushed.

Western Canada Violet



A flower with 5 white petals and heart or spade shaped leaves. It often grows in clusters and is found across Alberta.

Check out the flower, the dark lines converging in the centre of the flower help to guide pollinating insects to the right spot.

Wild Rose/Prickly Rose



A small bush growing to 1.5 metres with compound leaves, stems covered in weak bristles and showy pink flowers.

Alberta's provincial flower is from one of three wild rose types that grow in Alberta, Latin name - *Rosa acicularis*—common name Prickly Rose.

Gaillardia/Brown-eyed Susan



Big showy flowers 4 cm. across with reddish purple to brown centres circled by bright yellow ray florets.

Look for these summer flowers on well-drained slopes and dry open areas.

Shooting Star



A perfect name as the swept back petals of the flower look like the streaming tail of a shooting star.

The plant grows in moist areas and has a rosette of leaves at its base and flowers grow from a long leafless stalk, up to 50cm. tall.

Golden Bean



Bright yellow pea-like flowers in crowded clusters on plants growing up to 40 cm. tall. An early bloomer seen in May/June.

This flower is usually the one we see blooming next after Prairie Crocus. Look on grassy hills, ditches, exposed and sandy areas.

Paintbrush



Stems up to 75 cm. tall often grow in bunches from a woody rootstock and have thin, lance-shaped leaves .

Species can range in colour from yellow to purple. Plants may join roots with other plants to steal nutrients, so can be root parasites.