Perennials

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Herbaceous Perennials

- Most perennials are non-woody.
- Most perennials have a season of dormancy.
- They have a season of blooms.
  - Bloom length can vary from 2 weeks to 4 months
Correct Perennial Planting is Critical for Success

- Plant in well drained soil
- Soil pH of 6 – 6.5 best
- Space most plants on 2’ centers
- Avoid planting too deep
- Divide when plants become crowded -- usually every 3 to 5 years
Dividing Perennials

- Divide spring bloomers in the fall
- Divide fall bloomers in the spring
- Summer bloomers can be divided spring or fall.
Maintenance of perennials

- Water
- Fertilization needs vary
- Staking
- Deadheading
Perennial staking
Landscape fabric
Mulch
Weed early and often
- Match conditions
  - Wet/dry
  - Sun/shade
Think seasonality
Shade Perennials
Lenten Rose (Helleborus orientalis)
Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra spectabilis*)
Foxglove

*Digitalis purpurea*
Ferns
Holly Fern
Brunnera ‘Jack Frost’
New Heucheras

‘Peach Flambe’

‘Citronelle’
Celandine Poppy
(*Stylophorum diphyllum*)
Hosta – Great Expectations
Solomon's Seal

*Polygonatum odoratum*

'Variegatum'
Perennial Begonias-
*Begonia grandis*
Toadlily (*Tricrytis hirta*) blooms in October
Sun Perennials
Peony (Paeonia)

- Hundreds of selections
- Colors of red, white and pink
- Often live for 100 plus years
- Good soil preparation allows for earlier blooming
- Good cut flower
Hens & Chicks
Echeveria
Japanese Anemones
Candytuft  \textit{(Iberis sempervirens)}
Artemisia Powis Castle – Silver Leaf Wormwood
Euphorbia – Canyon Gold
Tritoma – Red Hot Poker
Hardy Hibiscus

*Hibiscus coccineus* ‘Eruption’

*Hibiscus moscheutos*
Echinacea – Purple Coneflower

Sunrise

Magnus
‘Summer Sky’

‘Sundown’
Daylily
Hemerocallis sp.
Aesclepias tuberosa – Butterfly Weed
Black Eyed Susan
(Rudbeckia sp.)

Goldsturm

‘Prairie Sun’
Gaillardia

Arizona Sun

Sundance Bicolor
Gaillardia

‘Fanfare’  ‘Oranges and Lemons’
Joe Pye Weed – ‘Little Joe’
Eupatorium fistulosum
Salvia ‘Golden Delicious’
Ornamental Grasses

Pennisetum

Miscanthus

Hakonechloa
Japanese Forest Grass
Feather Reed Grass
*Calamagrostis x acutiflora*

Karl Foerster
Perennial Border