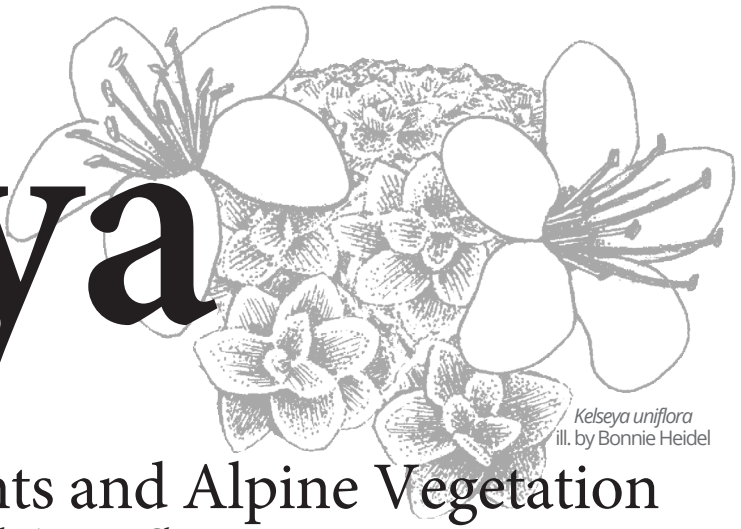
Volume 39 No. 3 | **SPRING 2026**

Kelseya

Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society



Kelseya uniflora
ill. by Bonnie Heidel

Mesotopographic Gradients and Alpine Vegetation

By Douglas N. Reynolds, Artemisia Chapter

It may seem surprising, as it once did to me, that much of a mountain range's summer alpine floral display: when and where each species flowers and their growth habit, whether cushion plant, upright forb or graminoid, are largely determined by the interactions of snowfall, wind, and topography during the depths of winter.

This is what Billings (1973) called the mesotopographic gradient's influence on plant communities that he and his students studied in the Beartooth Mountains of Wyoming and Montana. It is a topographic unit on a scale from tens to hundreds of meters such as a single ridge within a mountain range, compared to microtopographic features such as large boulders or small mounds that occur over a few meters.



Figure 1. Mesotopographic gradient above Twin Lakes, Shoshone National Forest, looking northwest, June 15, 2023. Prevailing winds come from left to right. The growing season of windward and ridge crest plant communities has begun while leeward slopes still remain buried under snow.

Especially apparent where ridges trend perpendicular to the prevailing wind direction, there is a typical pattern of snow distribution that recurs year after year: winter winds blow snow off upper windward slopes and ridge crests which is then deposited on leeward slopes as wind speed decreases in the shelter of the ridge. The upper slopes may be blown bare, storm after storm, as snow depths continue to increase on the leeward side (Figure 1).

This pattern of snow deposition influences the environment of plants in many ways, especially through the amount of exposure to abrasion and cold temperatures during the winter. Where snow accumulates, plants are insulated from harsh winter conditions and provided with additional moisture as the snow melts in the spring.

This snow distribution pattern also affects the beginning and end of the growing season in different parts of the gradient.

(Continued on page 6)

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- New book: *Alpine Mushrooms of North America*
- 2025 MNPS Grant Recipients
- A New Record of *Ephedra* for Montana
- Thank You! to our 2025 Donors

Chapter Events

Artemisia Chapter

Info: Andrea Berry at 406-665-9774; andrea.berry2@montana.edu.

Calypso Chapter

Info: Catherine Cain at 406-498-6198; nativeplants@montana.com or Karen Porter at 406-498-9728; karenwporter44@gmail.com.

Clark Fork Chapter

Info: Gunner Davies at 253-988-4702; gunnerdavies@live.com or Teagan Hayes at 920-979-9009; teagan.mtnativeplants@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. Join **Kathy Settevendemie** to explore the **Vegetation and Flora of the Caribbean**. Experience the colorful, fascinating flora of the countries that circumscribe the Caribbean Sea. Rocky Mtn. Exploration Center, 1075 South Ave. W.

Thursday, May 14, 6:30 p.m. Our **Spring Potluck** will be held at the Pineview Park Pavilion in the Upper Rattlesnake off of Rattlesnake Drive, just west of Rattlesnake School. Bring your own plate, utensils and a dish to share. No alcohol please. Call Peter at 406-728-8740 for directions.

Thursday, July 23, 5:30 p.m. MT DNRC Nursery, Missoula, MT. **Mark Majerus** will be teaching a **Native Seed Collecting Workshop**. Contact Teagan Hayes at *920-979-9009 or teagan.mtnativeplants@gmail.com.*

Eastern At-Large

Info: Kelsey Molloy at 406-654-4566; kelseym88@gmail.com.

Flathead Chapter

Info: Tara Carolin at 406-607-7670; mnps.flathead@gmail.com. Not on our email list? Contact us!

Also look for the upcoming Summer Field Trip Guide 2026, the Summer *Kelseya* and emails for additional details and new activities. Please mark mnps.flathead@gmail.com as a safe sender to keep us out of your spam folders!

Saturday, May 2, 9:30 a.m. (Stryker). **LeBeau Research Natural Area and Lichens** with **Dr. Toby Spribille**. Toby will lead a walk through this geologically complex area with steep cliffs, humid grand fir forests and Pacific yew-filled ravines. The walk will include an introduction to basic concepts of lichen identification and biology and highlight some of the rare and unusual species of the Lebeau RNA.10x hand lens highly recommended. Limit 15 people. Contact Joe Rizzi to sign up at 406-334-9583 or joefloriz@gmail.com.



Forest Floor Cup Lichen, Glacier NP, photo by Tim Rains/NPS

Monday to Friday, May 4 to 8, (Columbia Falls). Volunteer for the **Flathead Forestry Expo Plant ID Station**. Help share the joy of plant identification and appreciation with 5th graders from the Flathead Valley. Volunteer to spend a half day guiding students in an already prepared activity-based lesson. You will be partnered with an experienced presenter. Contact Tad Wehunt at 406-758-5280 or william.wehunt@usda.gov for more information or to sign up.

Thursday, May 7, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm. (Columbia Falls). **Columbia Mountain Trail**. Join **Tara Carolin** for an early season walk through diverse habitats to see species that occur in inland rainforest as well as on dry rocky slopes. We hope to find early season blooms including shooting stars, glacier lilies, serviceberry, and more beauties to be discovered. Please see May 25 trip for additional details. Limit of 12. To register, contact Tara at montara96@gmail.com.



Dodecatheon pulchellum, photo by Matt Lavin

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Columbia Falls). **Columbia Mountain Garden Tour.** Join **Forestoration, Inc.** on the third tour of a private residence that has been transformed into a beautiful and diverse landscape with hundreds of species and thousands of plants. Participants will learn all about the process from soil health, landscape design principles, plant selection, irrigation, and maintenance. Come and see both native and non-native early season blooms and experience why this garden is truly a one of a kind in the Flathead Valley! This tour is limited to 25 people and participants are asked to sign up by emailing shiva@forestoration.com. Meeting location will be disclosed after required registration is complete.

Friday, May 15, 9:00 a.m. (Bigfork). **Phillips/Beardance Trail on Crane Mt.** Join **Pat Jaquith** to hike up to 6 miles on Trail #373 over varied terrain with a great assortment of colorful wildflowers. There are some steep sections, but we'll be rewarded with great views of Flathead Lake. Bring water, lunch, and be prepared for a good hike! Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the trailhead on the west side of Route 35. Limited to 12 participants. For more information and to sign up, contact Pat at pjaquith07@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 16, 9:30 a.m. (Swan Valley). **Lion Creek.** Take an easy hike up the Lion Creek Trail, in the Swan Valley, for viewing spring wildflowers with **Maria Mantas**, plant ecologist. We will visit open forests, shrubfields, and bedrock plant communities. Call Maria at 406-407-2045 for more information, to reserve a spot, and inquire about carpooling opportunities.

Tuesday, May 19, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Columbia Falls). **Cedar Flats Trails.** Learn about forest plants and hunt for wildflowers on the Cedar Flats Trails in our backyard north of Columbia Falls. The terrain is gentle, and our journey will be less than two miles. Limit 12 people. Contact **Rachel Potter** at jrepotter@gmail.com to reserve a spot, find out where to meet, and for last-minute changes.

Monday, May 25, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm. (Columbia Falls). **Columbia Mountain Trail.** Join **Ellen Horowitz** for a 2.5-hour evening wildflower walk. We'll travel through a variety of habitat types – from moist forests to dry open slopes. Expect an easy pace with lots of stops to view big, bold blossoms like those of balsamroot, and less conspicuous beauties that include orchids and mitreworts. The trail is moderately difficult (about one mile round-trip and 300 feet elevation gain). Walking sticks are recommended. This walk is limited to 12 participants. Registration required. Please contact Ellen at *horowitz@centurytel.net* to register. Be sure to include your phone number when registering.

Saturday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. (Polson). **Loon Lake Ranch.** Join us while we explore intact intermountain grasslands on the largest conservation easement in northwest Montana. Loon Lake Ranch near Polson is more than 15,000 acres of recently conserved land by the Montana Land Reliance. Led by **Mark Schiltz** with the **Montana Land Reliance** and **Maria Mantas**, plant ecologist. Call Maria at 406-407-2045 to reserve a spot and inquire about carpooling opportunities.

Sunday, May 31, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Bumble Bee Atlas Training (Columbia Falls). The Bumble Bee Atlas field season starts June 1! To kick off the season, join **Michelle Toshack (Montana Bumblebee Atlas) and Tabitha Graves (USGS)** for the Columbia Falls field day (~10 minutes outside of town). We will practice catching, photographing, and releasing bumble bees. This is a great way to practice the protocol if you're a new volunteer or want a refresher. Participating in the atlas program is fun and a great way to learn more about interactions between native plants and these incredible animals. Register for the event here: *bumblebeeatlas.org/pages/events*. Contact Tabitha Graves at 406-589-6645 or *tgraves@usgs.gov* with questions.



A bumblebee pollinates a paintbrush in Glacier National Park, NPS photo

Saturday, June 6, 9:30 a.m. (Tobacco Valley). **Black Lake.** A saunter through the Tobacco Plains to look for bitterroot, milkweed and other grassland species. Meet at the Historical Village in Eureka. Call **Joe Rizzi** at 406-334-9583 for more information and to reserve a spot.

Thursday, June 18, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Carpool from Columbia Falls). **Lubec Hills Trail Wildflowers.** Enjoy the magnificent views and prolific wildflower displays of the Lubec Lake Trail system east of GNP. Meet at Columbia Heights and Route 206 Park and Ride area at 9:00 a.m. Be prepared for the weather and hiking 3 - 4 miles with considerable elevation gain. Bring a lunch and hiking poles. This trip is limited to 12 participants. For more information or to sign up contact **Pat Jaquith** at: *pjaquith07@gmail.com*.

Last week of July, Location TBD. Mark Majerus will be teaching a **Native Seed Collecting Workshop** and a **Grass ID Workshop**. Contact Rachael Potter at *jrepotter@gmail.com*.

All Season: Glacier National Park Huckleberry Phenology Citizen Science. Taking a hike in or near Glacier National Park? You can help scientists understand huckleberry phenology in this region. Huckleberries are an important food source for wildlife, including grizzly bears. The park is collecting data to understand how weather and other factors influence the phenology, or timing, of berry ripeness. Contact Glacier National Park's citizen science program for a link to a DIY training that provides all the tools you will need to record data while you enjoy your day, at *glac_citizen_science@nps.gov* or call 406.888.7986.

Kelsey Chapter

Info: Elena Johnson (president) or Jane Fournier (secretary) at kelseychaptermnps@gmail.com.

Maka Flora Chapter

Info: Libby Knotts at 406-774-3778; libbyknotts@gmail.com.

Valley of Flowers Chapter

Info: Contact Gretchen Rupp for program details or to be added to the Valley of Flowers Chapter "Friends" e-mail list, at 406-586-8363; beesgrmt@gmail.com.

Wednesday, April 22, 7:00 p.m. A Botanical Expedition in Iran. Kelly Steele will present her 2004 trip to Iran, which was sponsored by the National Geographic Society with the goal of collecting plants for use by western scientists and setting up scientific collaborations between botanists in Iran and the United States. Room 108 of the Plant Bioscience Building, west side of 11th Avenue on the MSU campus – parking could not be more convenient.

Saturday, May 16. Hiking the Hogback. Climb the ridge trail atop this prominent geological feature on private land in the Paradise Valley. The south face of this steep, knife-edged ridge hosts rocky, xeric plant communities, while the north side supports coniferous forest and associated understory plants. To sign up, contact leader **Gretchen Rupp** at *beesgrmt@gmail.com* or 406-586-8363 (don't hesitate to leave a message).

Western At-Large

Info: Jon Reny at 406-334-0459; jreny@kvis.net.

Saturday, April 25. Yaak River and Falls Walk. This hike starts on terraces overlooking Yaak Falls with beds of glacier lilies and other early bloomers, then an easy 1 - 2 mile round trip walk downstream along the Yaak River on the Dipper Trail #704. The trail has little elevation change, but has uneven, rocky tread. We'll see some big (and small) trees, old mine shafts, and perhaps calypso orchids and Geyer's biscuitroot. Contact **Betty Kuropat** at *blueirismt@gmail.com*.

Saturday, May 16. Old Highway 2 Trail. Easy. 2 - 3 miles. This low-elevation trail meanders through a mixed forested basin with minimal elevation gain - perfect for a relaxed outing. Along the way, we'll explore the diversity of native and non-native plants, with a special focus on identifying spring wildflowers in bloom. The trail also offers beautiful views overlooking the Kootenai River Valley and the southern end of the Purcell Mountains. Contact **Pat McLeod** at *pat_mcleod@yahoo.com*.

Saturday, May 23. Berray Mountain. Moderate hike, 4 miles total. Gain in elevation of about 1,800 feet. This walk goes through a number of plant communities as you gain elevation. Last year, over 35 species were recorded in bloom. Total distance of the hike depends on snow and the group's energy. Contact **Eric Dickinson** at *ericdickinson99@gmail.com*.

THE STATE-WIDE FIELD TRIP FLIER IS COMING!
Please check your mailbox in early May

Saturday, May 30. White Pine Creek (Trout Creek, MT). Moderate walking for under a half mile, as there is no trail to follow and it is a bit brushy. Once there, however, we will find some rather uncommon orchids. Based on where everyone is traveling from, we may carpool from Libby or just meet up in Trout Creek. Contact **Kat Thomas** at *katthomas0316@gmail.com*.

Saturday, June 6. Bitterroots at Gopher Hill. Moderate 4 mile hike. We will walk on a road and through a number of rocky openings on the way to viewing Montana's state flower. These shallow soils areas always hold a variety of spring flowers. There will be excellent views of Lake Koocanusa also. Contact **Jon Reny** at *jreny@kvis.net*.



Native Plant Conservation Conference

"Plants, Fire and Conservation"

Tuesday - Wednesday, April 14 -15, 2026

Please join us for the 2026 Native Plant Conservation Conference at the University of Montana in Missoula. This year's program brings together leading voices in botany, ecology, and land stewardship for two days of learning and collaboration. The event is open to the public and is especially relevant for practitioners across federal, state, Tribal, and local governments as well as nonprofits, academia, private industry, and members of MNPS. You may attend one or both days in person at UM's University Center or online via Zoom.

Day 1: "Plants, Fire and Conservation" Seminar spotlights the intersection of native plant conservation and fire. Featuring ten western Montana experts who will share insights on fire behavior, post-fire recovery, and using fire as a tool to support native plant and wildlife diversity. A Careers in Conservation panel discussion will also be held following the presentations, giving students the opportunity to engage more directly with our speakers, ask questions, and build connections through networking.

Day 2: Montana's Potential/Species of Concern (P/SOC) vascular plants - revising state ranks, designating species of concern, and digital data collection across platforms. Participants will walk through the state ranking process, using real examples from the ongoing P/SOC rank revision effort. Facilitated discussions will invite attendees to share feedback, re-evaluate what it means for a plant to be considered a Species of Concern, and explore how tools like iNaturalist, Citizen Botany, Survey123, and regional herbaria portals are improving observation reporting for both rare and exotic plants. Day 2 is particularly pertinent to land management practitioners.

Attendance will be in-person or virtual. This event is open to the public. Details, such as registration fees, full agenda, speaker list, and virtual access instructions, are available on the MNPS website: *mtnativeplants.org*.

- Registration: Available online or at the door on the day of the event. Register online at *mtnativeplants.org/conservation/conservation-conferences/conservation-conference/*.
- Transportation: Out-of-town attendees staying near campus are encouraged to walk to UM. Optional permits to park on campus will be available for purchase with registration.



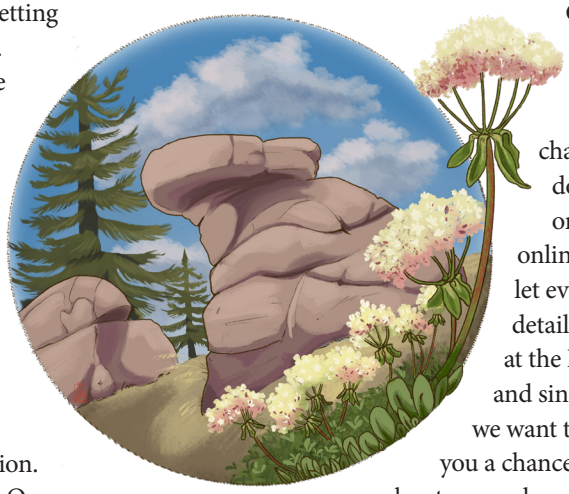
Prescribed burn, Photo by Jonathan Moor, BLM

Botany on the Batholith

2026 MNPS Native Plant Rendezvous, June 26 - 28

The Valley of Flowers chapter will be hosting the 2026 MNPS Native Plant Rendezvous at Homestake Lodge near Butte. Just three miles off I-90 on a well-maintained road, the lodge is nestled right beneath the Continental Divide, within the Boulder Batholith – an inspiring setting for plant lovers and geology enthusiasts alike. Accommodations will include plenty of space for RV and tent camping (with porta-potties, but no hookups), a limited number of dorm beds in the main lodge, and motel options in nearby Butte (15 miles).

The event will feature a full weekend of learning, community, and celebration. In addition to our 37th annual membership meeting, we'll enjoy workshops, field trips, evening programs, merchandise and fundraising offerings, and more. Group events will take place in a large outdoor pavilion. Breakfasts and dinners will be catered by The Ore Cart of Butte. Never attended one of these events? You'll find the gathering inclusive and fun for all skill levels! Expanded descriptions of workshops, field trips, and more will be on the registration webpage at *mtnativeplants.org*. See flyer insert in this newsletter for more details.



Attendance is limited to 175 people, and registration is online only this year, starting April 10th at *mtnativeplants.org*. Students may register at a reduced rate. PLUS: Students, check with your local chapter for scholarships to help defray your costs to attend.

Can't make it to the Rendezvous? You can still show your support through our Spring Online Fundraising Auction. The Valley of Flowers chapter has received so many generous donations from area businesses and organizations that we are hosting an online auction during late April - May to let everyone in on the fun. Stay tuned for details! We will still have a silent auction at the Rendezvous, but for the sake of space and since a few of the items are date sensitive, we want to make them available early and give you a chance to plan for them. Start daydreaming about: a couple passes to the Red Ants Pants Music Festival; a stay and dinners at Lake Hotel in Yellowstone National Park, Patagonia gear, and more! A final note: we kindly ask that members refrain from bringing any donations for our fundraiser at the Rendezvous – we are officially at capacity!

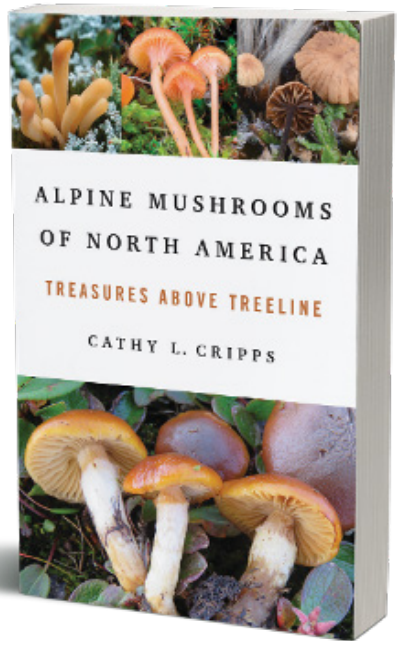
Botany on the Batholith artwork created by Mikayla Tryer of Irma Studios, Bozeman

ALPINE MUSHROOMS OF NORTH AMERICA

Treasures above Treeline

CATHY L. CRIPPS

A singular guide to mushrooms on mountain tops



Little-known and hard to find, the tiny mushrooms that grow above the treeline offer mycophiles rare opportunities—but also index the advance of global climate change. Cathy L. Cripps's comprehensive nature guide draws on the twenty-five years of collecting and research that have made her North America's foremost expert on alpine fungi.

Easy to use and charged with cutting-edge science, *Alpine Mushrooms of North America* is an expert guide to mycology's final frontier.

CATHY L. CRIPPS is an emeritus professor of mycology at Montana State University. She is the coauthor of *The Essential Guide to Rocky Mountain Mushrooms by Habitat* and the editor of *Fungi in Forest Ecosystems: Systematics, Diversity, and Ecology*.

SPECIAL 30% DISCOUNT: Use Promo Code F25UIP when ordering from *press.uillinois.edu*, to receive a 30% discount. Offer good until June 30, 2027. Also available on Amazon, and coming soon to Country Bookshelf in Bozeman.



Figure 2. Upper windward slope, May 30, 2023. Cushion plant, Douglasia montana, in flower.

On the upper slopes and ridge tops where there is little winter snow accumulation, the growing season begins early, as soon as temperatures rise above freezing, but may end sooner from drought, however, as the only source of additional moisture is from seasonal precipitation which may be sporadic and evaporates quickly.

In contrast, where snow accumulates, especially on leeward slopes, the growing season can't begin until plants are exposed by snowmelt. Growth may continue later into the summer, however, because of the moisture provided by melting snow which may last all summer for plants below large snow fields. Where snow accumulation is deep and long-lasting, however, plants may be limited by a short growing season with little time to reproduce before cold temperatures return in the fall. Ridge tops and beneath long-lasting snow beds are the extremes. Along other parts of the gradient on lower windward and lee slopes, the start of the growing season and its length, as well as water availability, may be intermediate (Table 1).

	Windward slope	Ridge crest	Lee slope	Snow bed	Basin
Exposure to wind and cold	Medium to high	High	Low	Low	Low
Water availability	Medium	Low	Medium	High	High
Growing season start, length	Early, Medium	Earliest, Short	Later, Medium	Latest, Short	Later, Medium
Vegetation and characteristic species	Meadow to cushion *Geum rossii*	Cushion plants *Douglasia montana*	Meadow *Deschampsia caespitosa*	Scattered *Oxyria digyna*	Bog, *Caltha leptosepala*

Table 1. Characteristics at different locations along a mesotopographic gradient.

These different physical factors, exposure and water availability, result in a mosaic of vegetation types with differing plant adaptations, often over quite small distances. On ridge tops, cushion plants are common among bare areas of soil. Their low compact stature and small, tightly packed leaves can tolerate wind exposure and resist evaporation and lack of water from melting snow (Figure 2).

In intermediate areas where snow accumulation limits wind exposure and melting snow provides extra moisture during the growing season, upright graminoids and forbs predominate. Below snowbeds, moisture is available for the entire growing season and mosses, bog plants, and even dwarf willows may be found (Figure 3).



Figure 3. View from top of lee slope meadow over a late-lying snowbed to bog below, July 27, 2023.

Beneath late-melting snowbeds, with a resulting very short growing season, few plants and lots of bare ground exist where species like *Oxyria digyna* benefit from little competition and the ability to reproduce quickly from stored underground carbohydrates (Figure 4).



Fig. 4. Scattered plants of Oxyria digyna in a late-melting snowbed.

As this pattern of wind, snow, topography and resulting vegetation repeats year after year, different soil types develop: coarse, shallow mineral soils on ridges and beneath snowbeds, more organic deeper soils in intermediate areas, and deep, highly organic soils in wet boggy areas. These differences further influence the species that are successful in different parts of the gradient.

Although published more than 60 years ago, the study by Johnson and Billings (1962) presents a comprehensive account of the physical environment, soil processes, flora and vegetation along mesotopographic gradients in the Beartooth Mountains.

I often reverse the familiar adage of "not being able to see the forest for the trees" which implies that one often loses the big picture in the details. When looking over the green carpet of alpine tundra ("the forest") while driving the Beartooth Highway, it is easy not to notice the "trees" of different plant communities controlled by the unseen interactions of wind, snowfall, and topography during the winter.

References:

Billings, W. D. (1973). Arctic and alpine vegetations: Similarities, differences, and susceptibility to disturbance. *Bioscience, 23*(12) 697-704.

Johnson, Philip L. and W. D. Billings (1962). The alpine vegetation of the Beartooth Plateau in relation to cryopedogenic processes and patterns. *Ecological Monographs, 32*(2) 105-135.

Plant Life Down Under

By Peter Lesica, Clark Fork Chapter

Every autumn bears come down out of the mountains into my neighborhood looking for food to carry them through the winter. Meanwhile my neighbor Archie is busy canning and drying and freezing food from his garden in preparation for the dark days. What about plants; do they do that too? Annual plants and short-lived perennials put most of their energy into making seeds that ensure the next generation. However, long-lived perennials do the same thing as Archie - they stash away food, but it's just not as obvious.

In temperate climates, most trees and shrubs sequester carbohydrates during the growing season and store it in their long-lived, above-ground trunks and stems. Herbaceous perennials have different strategies because their above-ground stems die off every autumn and return in the spring from buds at or below the ground. Plants with below-ground buds and storage organs are called geophytes. Geophytes have evolved with several different kinds of storage organs. Unfortunately, it's hard for botanists to learn about geophyte storage strategies unless they have a shovel and don't mind getting dirty. Since plants don't care to have someone digging them up, let's take a brief look at geophyte storage organs on paper.

Perhaps the most well-known geophytic storage organs are rhizomes, relatively slender, horizontal organs that are common among grasses. People who have gardens with smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) or quack grass (*Elymus repens*) are familiar with this type of geophyte. Similar to rhizomes, tuberous roots are part of the root system that functions in storage and are wider than fibrous roots of the same plant. Nutrients stored within tuberous roots are drawn upon to fuel bud growth elsewhere in the plant. Other types geophytes have below-ground, storage organs that support buds. Bulbs are also common in our flora; onions (*Allium*) are a good example. They consist of one or more buds surrounded by layers of leaves that function in storage, photosynthesis, and protection. Corms are similar except that stem tissue rather than leaves is the main repository for carbohydrates and water. Corms are commonly replaced annually from buds on the old corm. The hypocotyl is the region of stem below the cotyledons but above the root. It is sometimes swollen and functions as a storage organ as in the garden beet (*Beta vulgaris*). Stem tubers are localized expansions of belowground stems. Potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*) have thin belowground stems connected to swollen stem tubers. It can be difficult to distinguish between stem tubers, corms, and swollen hypocotyls.

Obviously having storage organs below ground is important for a plant's survival. Having regenerative buds below ground can be important too. Bud banks play a role in community ecology just as important as that of seed banks. In habitats such as grasslands, forest understory, and arctic tundra, establishment from seeds is rare due to high mortality of seedlings, so that the vast majority of new shoots are recruited from the bud bank. There is a lot of botany below the ground, just be careful with your shovel.

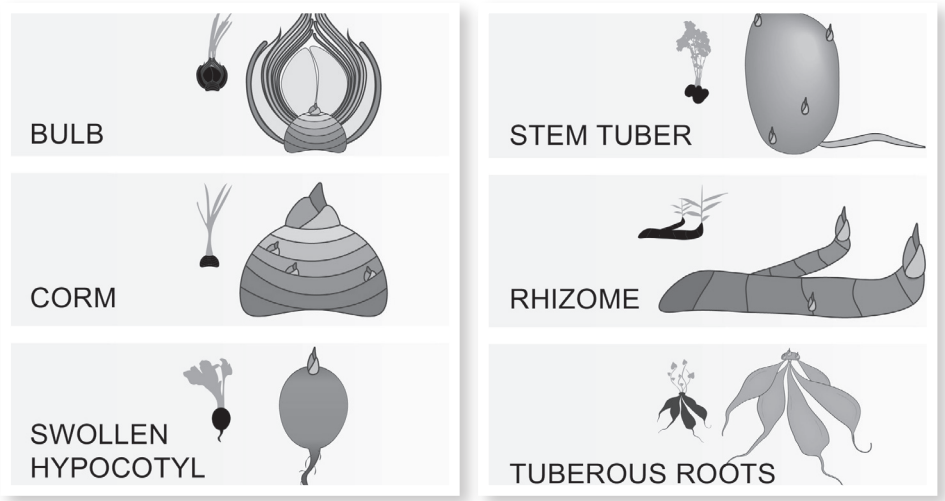
(continued on page 8)

(Plant Life Down Under, continued from page 7)

Further reading:

Ott, J.P. et al. (2019). The ecology and significance of below-ground bud banks in plants. *Annals of Botany, 123*, 1099–1118.

Tribble, C.M. (2021). Get the shovel: morphological and evolutionary complexities of belowground organs in geophytes. *American Journal of Botany, 108*: 372–387.



2025 MNPS Grants: Funding Research, Conservation & Education

By Leah Grunzke, MNPS Administrative Assistant, Eastern At-Large

The Montana Native Plant Society is proud to offer grant funding to support research, conservation and educational activities that foster an appreciation for Montana's native plant communities. The 2025 grant cycle recently came to a close, and we were incredibly impressed by the number and variety of excellent proposals we received. From new pollinator garden plans to in-depth investigative research, it was a thrill to learn about so many exciting native plant projects underway in every corner of the state.

Huge thanks go out to our volunteer Grant Review Committee, who had the difficult task of choosing this year's winners from the 50+ proposals we received. After careful consideration, the following projects were selected for funding this year:

"Â L. Price Park Native American Ethnobotany Exhibit." Southeast Montana Area Revitalization Team (Baker, MT). Ethnobotany garden highlighting historical and cultural roots of local indigenous tribes.

"Growing Apsaalooke Abundance through Restoring Plant Knowledge." Hardin School District 17H & 1 Farm to School (Hardin, MT). Developing a native plant food forest and pollinator garden on Hardin Farm to School Program's 5-acre teaching farm.

"From Good to Great: Jay's Native American Medicinal Plant Garden Expansion Project." The Science & Conservation Center (Billings, MT). Supporting established native demonstration garden at ZooMontana.

"Effects of Logging on Native Plant Communities and Plant-Pollinator Interactions." Montana State University Dept. of Ecology (Bozeman, MT). Research studying ecological effects of local forest management actions.

In addition to the statewide grants awarded, the MNPS Clark Fork Chapter was able to offer supplemental funding to a variety of projects based in Western Montana, including:

"The Right Seed at the Right Site." Research on seedling mortality and drought performance of native forb species, guiding seed source selection to improve grassland restoration success.

"Target Range Native Plant Garden." Student-led development of an outdoor classroom featuring native Montana plants at Target Range Elementary School.

"Swan Valley Connections Native Plant Teaching Garden." Native garden development at the Swan Valley Connections Visitor Center in Condon, MT.

"Heart Lake & Burdette Creek Re-Seeding Pilot Program." Project reintroduces native species into two national forest sites previously infested with invasive weeds and monitors restoration success.

"What's That Plant? Identifying Montana's Native Flora." Provides plant identification aids to enhance student engagement at Bonner-Milltown History Center's native garden.

"Plants, Pollinators & People: Connecting Students to Montana's Living Landscapes." Assists Missoula County Extension in creating native plant gardens at schools throughout western MT.

We look forward to seeing these exciting projects unfold over the coming years! Our next grant funding cycle opens July 1, 2026. Please visit *mtnativeplants.org/board/grants-scholarships* to learn more.

The MNPS Grants & Giving program is funded entirely by donations from people like you. If you would like to contribute to the MNPS Grants & Giving Fund, you can make a tax-deductible donation at our website, *mtnativeplants.org*.

A New Record of *Ephedra* for Montana

By Bruce Maxwell, Matt Lavin, and Martin Wojciechowski, Bozeman, Montana, Valley of Flowers Chapter

Ephedra L. (common name "jointfir") is a genus of approximately 70 species of long-lived, gymnosperm shrubs that are widely distributed in arid regions in both the Old and New Worlds, ranging across North America from southern Oregon to western Colorado, south to Baja California and south-central Mexico. The genus is well known for its whorled, ephemeral scale-like leaves on jointed, green photosynthetic stems, and is one of few gymnosperms adapted to extreme aridity.

In May of 2025, one of us (B. Maxwell, along with Lee and Jim Stevenson) discovered a large plant of *Ephedra* along the Big Horn Canyon Road (MT highway 37) in Carbon County at the southern end of the Pryor Mountains, a few miles north of the Montana-Wyoming border. Then in late June, M. Lavin and M. Wojciechowski confirmed the presence and identity of the plant as that of *Ephedra viridis* Coville (Ephedraceae), with common name "Mormon tea". The single pistillate (seed-bearing) plant is found roadside on top of a roadcut in open juniper-sagebrush vegetation (see photo) at an elevation of 4360 ft (1330 m). A local search of the area failed to identify any other shrubs of this species. Based on a search of specimens using the CPNWH [*pnwherbaria.org/*] and SEINet [*swbiodiversity.org/seinet/index.php*] online database portals, the locality of this plant is about 280 miles (451 km) north of the nearest known collection locality of this species in the Flaming Gorge area, northeast of Minnie's Gap in Sweetwater County, of southwestern Wyoming (e.g., specimen K. H. Dueholm #10981, 25 August 1980, NY 70846). Specimens of this plant have been deposited at the MONT and MONTU herbaria and are now represented on the CPNWH online database and an associated iNaturalist observation.

This occurrence from Carbon County, Montana, represents not only the first known record of the genus *Ephedra* in the state of Montana but is also the northernmost occurrence of *Ephedra viridis* in North America.



Ephedra viridis, photo courtesy of Matt Lavin

Visions of Things to Come

In anticipation of the growing season, celebrating the artwork of Kathy Settevendemie, Clark Fork Chapter



Common harebell - Campanula rotundifolia



Yellow bells - Fritillaria pudica



Woodland pinedrops - Pterospora andromedea

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SUPPORTERS!

With deep gratitude to the individuals whose generosity fuels our mission to protect Montana's native plants:

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- In Memory of Robert N. Reynolds

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And 9 Anonymous Donors

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

The Montana Native Plant Society would like to welcome and thank new and returning members from the following chapters:

Artemisia Chapter
Marsha Price

Calypso Chapter
Marcell Astle
Eric Berg
Jennifer Fischer
Riley George
Josie Grigsby
Agnes Mester
Cathy Thomas
Brad Winger

Clark Fork Chapter
Amanda Berry
Joel Castle
Robert Clark
Melinda Cline
Vicki Correia
Sarah Flanary
Jennifer Gregory
Sarah Halvorson
Amanda Hendrix
Lily Hoovestal & Jon Williams
Arizona Martin
William Peters
Randy Philips
Arysa Puckett
Lucy Rummler
Kim Squires
Hannah Strobel
Joyce Ann Supak
Cindy Super
Tim Thomas & Pam MacKay Thomas
Jennifer Zaso-Hitchcock

Flathead Chapter
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Alex Baysinger
Allison Dubenezic & Levi Besaw
Elle Eberts-Robocker
Rhonda Howell
Bailey Mednansky
Cecelia Notess
Brian Sugden
Debra and Chaz Yost

Kelsey Chapter
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Gretchen Bingham
Jim Cancroft & Colleen Murphy
Peter Christensen
Morgan Estberg
Laura Ferguson
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Noelle Lynne
Sherry & Virginia Meador
Jason Parke
Mackenzie Peterson
Sam Post
Beth Sheafor
Heather Sobrepena

Valley of Flowers Chapter
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Faith Doty
Lea Laslow & Jarod Adkins
Livingston-Park Co Public Library
William & Tracy McCartney
Lavonne Rus-Ogilvie & Craig Ogilvie
Erin Shanahan
Victoria York

Eastern-At-Large
Teri Harper

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Name (please print)_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip_____

E-Mail_____

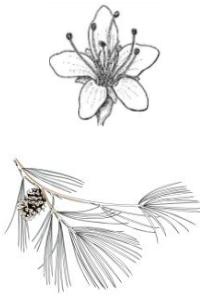
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JOIN, RENEW, OR DONATE ONLINE AT: www.mtnativeplants.org

Please notify us promptly of address changes (physical or email) at mtnativeplantmembership@gmail.com

☑	Membership Type	Dues
☐	Individual	$30
☐	Family	$50
☐	Business/Organization	$75
☐	Living Lightly/Student	$20
☐	Lifetime-Individual Only (one-time payment)	$1,000
☐	Paper Kelseya Fee Add $10 if you wish to receive a paper copy of our quarterly newsletter Kelseya, otherwise an e-version of Kelseya will be delivered via email	$10

An **additional donation** to MNPS helps support conservation action, educational programs, and botanical research. Donors will receive acknowledgement of their contribution in the spring issue of *Kelseya**. You can select from the following giving categories:







- ☐ Kelseya — $50
- ☐ Bitterroot — $100
- ☐ Lupine — $250
- ☐ Ponderosa Pine — $1000
- ☐ Other — $_____

☐ *Check if you wish your donation to be anonymous

☐ Check if you wish to be contacted for volunteer opportunities

MNPS Chapters and the Areas They Serve

Members are welcome to affiliate with any chapter. Please select ☑ your chapter affiliation.

- ❑ **Artemisia** (Yellowstone, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Rosebud, Treasure, Big Horn, Carbon, & Stillwater Counties)
- ❑ **Calypso** (Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow & parts of Madison Counties)
- ❑ **Clark Fork** (Mineral, Missoula, Powell, Granite, Ravalli & parts of Lake Counties)
- ❑ **Flathead** (Flathead & parts of Lake and Lincoln Counties)
- ❑ **Kelsey** (Lewis & Clark, Cascade, Pondera, Teton, Chouteau, Judith Basin, Meagher, Broadwater & parts of Jefferson Counties)
- ❑ **Maka Flora** (Richland, Roosevelt, McCone, Sheridan, Daniels, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Custer, Fallon, Powder River & Carter Counties)
- ❑ **Valley of Flowers** (Gallatin, Park, Sweet Grass and parts of Madison Counties)
- ❑ **Eastern-at-Large** (Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Garfield, Petroleum, Fergus, & Wheatland Counties)
- ❑ **Western-at-Large** (Sanders & parts of Lincoln Counties)

Total Enclosed $_____

Make checks payable to: **Montana Native Plant Society**
Please mail this form with your check to:

MNPS
PO Box 8783
Missoula, MT 59807-8783

Welcome to the
Montana Native Plant Society!

Membership in MNPS is on an annual basis, March 1st to February 28th. Memberships processed before November 1st will expire the following February 28th. Memberships processed after October 31st will expire February 28th of the year after.

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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Missoula, MT 59807-8783

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About Montana Native Plant Society

The Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation chartered for the purpose of preserving, conserving, and studying the native plants and plant communities of Montana, and educating the public about the value of our native flora. Contributions to MNPS are tax deductible.

Your yearly membership fee includes an electronic subscription to *Kelseya*, the quarterly newsletter of MNPS. We welcome your articles, field trip reports, book reviews, or anything that relates to native plants or the Society. Please include a line or two of "bio" information with each article. All items should be emailed to *scottguse@yahoo.com* and *jenhintzguse@gmail.com*, or mailed to: Scott and Jennifer Guse, *Kelseya* Editors, 725 Twin Lakes Road, Whitefish, MT 59937.

Summer issue submission deadline is June 10

(Upcoming deadlines: September 10, December 10, March 10)

Please send web items to our webmaster:
Carol Goffe at mnpswebmaster@gmail.com

Advertising space is available in each issue at $5/column inch. Ads must be camera-ready and must meet the guidelines set by the Board of Directors for suitable subject matter; that is, be related in some way to native plants or the interests of MNPS members.

If you would like extra copies of *Kelseya* for friends or family, contact the Newsletter co-editors at: *scottguse@yahoo.com* or *jenhintzguse@gmail.com*. No part of this publication may be reprinted without the consent of MNPS. Reprint requests should be directed to the newsletter co-editors.

Changes of address and inquiries about membership should be sent to **MNPS Membership, P.O. Box 8783, Missoula, MT 59807-8783**.

Please visit our website at www.mtnativeplants.org

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Conservation	Ashley Mattson	Missoula	461-2838
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Coordinators	Kenda Herman	Clancy	683-2737

OFFICIAL 2026 MNPS ELECTION BALLOT

Please vote for the candidate(s) of your choice, or a write-in candidate, including yourself. Fill out and mail to the address on the ballot, or go to the election page online: www.mtnativeplants.org/elections. Terms are two years. Results will be announced at the Annual General Membership Meeting on June 27, 2026 at Homestake Lodge near Butte, Montana.

CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT



( ) **KENDA HERMAN (Incumbant) -** Kenda is a biologist with a background in environmental science and plant ecology. She has worked in a range of roles supporting land management, research, and conservation goals. Kenda lives in Helena, where she is the Botany Data Assistant for the Montana Natural Heritage Program. Kenda has appreciated many years of membership to the MNPS and has served as Vice President since 2023.

( ) _____ **Write-in candidate**

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY



( ) **CAMIE WESTFALL (Incumbant) -** Camie has worked as an ecologist, GIS specialist, and data specialist for Montana state agencies over the last decade, and has served as the MNPS Secretary since 2022. She has been involved with several national and statewide natural resource monitoring efforts across a wide array of terrestrial and aquatic habitats. She lives in Helena and enjoys exploring nature and participating in the efforts of local conservation and education groups.

( ) _____ **Write-in candidate**

CANDIDATE FOR EASTERN DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE



( ) **KELSEY MOLLOY (Incumbant) -** Kelsey is a Rhode Island native who moved to Montana 12 years ago, after attending graduate school in the Canadian prairies. Although she studied grassland birds, she also became fell in love with prairie plants...even grasses! She's been a plant person since childhood and loves the way they add color and personality to each landscape. She works for The Nature Conservancy on grasslands conservation in Malta.

( ) _____ **Write-in candidate**

CHAPTER AFFILIATION

Please indicate your affiliation. All members previously not affiliated have been assigned to one of the two -at-Large groups.
( ) Artemisia ( ) Calypso ( ) Clark Fork ( ) Flathead ( ) Kelsey ( ) Maka Flora ( ) Valley of Flowers ( ) Eastern-at-Large ( ) Western-at-Large

Number of paid members in your household _____ **THE MNPS ELECTORAL COLLEGE THANKS YOU!**

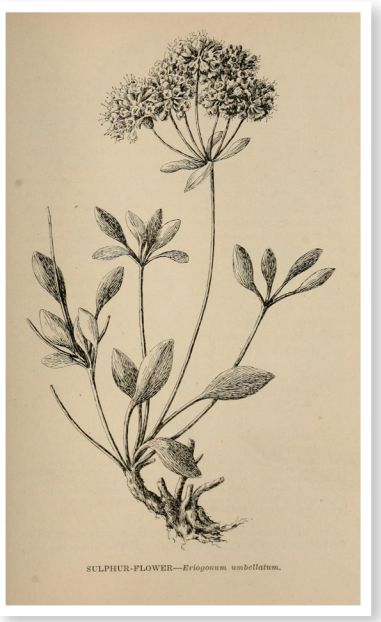
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Flower
Stamp

To: Montana Native Plant Society
Electoral College
1827 11th Avenue PMB 120
Helena, MT 59601

Fold here



Eriogonum umbellatum

Tape here

MONTANA NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY



Montana Native Plant Society

Annual Rendezvous - June 26-28, 2026

Botany on the Batholith

Join us for the MNPS 2026 Native Plant Rendezvous, where we'll explore from our base at the Homestake Lodge near Butte. Nestled beneath the Continental Divide and within the Boulder Batholith, this is an inspiring setting for plant lovers and geology enthusiasts alike. The event will feature a full weekend of learning, community, and celebration. In addition to our 37th annual meeting, we'll enjoy workshops, field trips, evening programs, merchandise sales, fundraising, and more. ***Online only registration April 10 – June 10 at mtnativeplants.org.***

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS: Sign-up during registration is required. All experience levels are welcome at all of the workshops!

Botanical Drawing: Valerie Cox will lead this low-key workshop. Pencils, sharpeners, and paper available, bring a hand lens.

Citizen Botany: Kenda Herman & Grace Hoelscher will teach survey methods to collect data for the Citizen Botany program.

Collecting Reference Specimens: Dr. Sylvia Kinosian (MSU Herbarium) and Dr. Martin Wojciechowski (MSU) will teach how to collect quality herbarium specimens, and photographic techniques of living plants for ID purposes.

FRIDAY EVENING: Valley of Flowers chapter will provide snacks, beer, non-alcoholic beer, wine, and other beverages for a social before dinner. Bring your own mug! After dinner, restoration ecologist Mark Mariano will highlight *Vegetation as Infrastructure: How Native Plants Sustain Wetland Wildlife.*

SATURDAY FIELD TRIPS: Trip sign-up is available when you arrive at camp; all trips are subject to change based on conditions. Bring water, **lunch**, and field gear. Excursions will include Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, Humbug Spires, Butte-area reclamation tours, Highland Mtn Foothills, Red Mtn, Mt. Haggin WMA, Edible and Medicinal Plants, Homestake Lodge's Moose Creek, a Boulder Batholith geology-focused tour, and more! See detailed field trip descriptions on our webpage.

SATURDAY EVENING: After dinner and our membership meeting, we'll enjoy field trip photo highlights and a variety & talent show–bring your guitar, harmonica, sketch, or favorite poem. All genres and skill levels encouraged!

AGENDA

Friday, June 26

1:00 - 6:00	Arrivals, registration, and field trip signup in the lodge
1:30 – 4:00	Workshops (pre-registration required)
4:00 - 6:00	Social at pavilion
6:00 – 7:30	Dinner at pavilion
6:30 – 7:30	MNPS board meeting
8:00	Keynote program

Saturday, June 27

7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast at pavilion
8:30 – 4:30	Field trips (pack a lunch)
3:00 – 5:30	Wayne Phillips Plant Identification Challenge
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner at pavilion
7:00 – 8:00	General membership meeting
8:00	Field trip photo show, variety & talent show

Sunday, June 28

7:00 – 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:30	Committee meetings
9:00 – 11:00	Break camp, cleanup, farewells

MEALS: Dinners and breakfasts will be provided by The Ore Cart of Butte. Lunches not provided. Although the buffet meals will each offer a variety of meat and meat-free options, please indicate if you prefer meat or vegetarian meals when you register, so our caterer can effectively plan for us. Gluten-free and dairy-free options will be available. Meals must be reserved by June 10.

PETS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT HOMESTAKE LODGE OR ANY MNPS ACTIVITIES!

For more detailed information, go to mtnativeplants.org or contact Beth Madden at (406) 224-1012 or bethmadden64@gmail.com

FACILITIES AND LODGING: The main Homestake Lodge building will host registration and sales. For meals and meetings, we will gather outdoors in the nearby pavilion. There is very limited cell service in the area, and wifi is available inside the main Homestake Lodge. Accommodations include a nearby tent/RV camping area with porta-potties & wash stations; a limited number of dorm beds in the main lodge; or off-site options in nearby Butte.

GETTING THERE: Homestake Lodge is located just three miles off the I-90 Homestake Pass exit 233. *Coming from the East*: Exit I-90 at exit 233. At the stop sign, turn right, cross over the interstate and then turn left onto FS 240. *Coming from the West*: Exit I-90 at exit 233. Straight off the ramp head right onto FS 240. *Coming from both directions*: Once on FS 240, there is a sign after the cattle guard for "Homestake Lodge 3 miles." After 3 miles, you will go under big electrical transmission lines and there will be a driveway on your right with another Homestake Lodge sign. This is the road to the Lodge. NOT RECOMMENDED TO USE GPS NAVIGATION.

Registration and payment is ONLINE-ONLY this year and is capped at 175 participants. No refunds after June 10th. If you have questions or difficulty with the online registration, enlist a friend or contact registrar Bryce Pease at (775) 560-0759 or peasebryce@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION - Join MNPS today to register at the member rate.	**Price:**	**# People**		**Total**
MNPS Member	$50			
Non-Member	$80			
Student	$25			
Children (ages 11 and under)	No Charge			
Late Registration after June 10th. Meals not available.	Add $30			
WORKSHOPS – Friday afternoon, please indicate number in party who will attend.	**Price:**	**# People**		**Total**
Botanical Drawing (15 person limit)	$10			
Citizen Botany (12 person limit)	No Charge			
Herbarium Collections (15 person limit)	$10			
MEALS - All meals will include vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free options. See the main webpage for full meal descriptions.	**Price: Adult *(Kids)***	**# Adult**	**# Kids**	**Total**
Friday Dinner - *Full taco bar with beans, chicken, taco meat, rice, corn and flour tortillas, fixings, coleslaw, desserts*	$20 (*$12*)			
Saturday Breakfast - *Breakfast eggs & meats, potatoes, muffins, yogurt, fruit, juice, coffee*	$18 *($10)*			
Saturday Dinner - *Pasta bar with meatballs, grilled chicken, grilled vegetables, marinara and alfredo, bread, salad, desserts*	$20 (*$12*)			
Sunday Breakfast - *Loaded oatmeal, granola, yogurt, scones, fruit, juice, coffee*	$18 *($10)*			
Number of attendees who prefer meat-free options:	-			
LODGING – Bathrooms with showers available in the main lodge. Portapotties with wash stations in the camping area.	**Price *Per Person***	**# People**		**Total**
Tent/Car Camping	$20			
RV Camping - No hookups/dump; No RVs over 36'.	$20	-		-
RVs <26' length				
RVs 26-36' length				
Dorms - Separate dorm rooms for men and women. First-come, first served, limited availability. We will contact you if this option is full to provide a refund.	$25			
Men's Dorm (5 beds available)				
Women's Dorm (12 beds available)				
I (we) have pre-paid lodging in cabins/yurt on-site.	No Charge			

Note: This form is provided only as a preview. There will be no mail-in registration, please visit mtnativeplants.org to register.

MNPS 2025 BUDGET FINAL *Prepared by: Laurie Kurth*

MNPS BUDGET SUMMARY

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
General Fund	27660.00	34822.50	(38980.00)	(37288.69)	(2466.19)
Grants and Giving Fund	14100.00	18873.05	(21550.00)	(14616.71)	4256.34
TOTALS	41760.00	53695.55	(60530.00)	(51905.40)	1790.15

GENERAL FUND

GENERAL OPERATING INCOME AND EXPENSES	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
Membership	21000.00	22928.07	(5900.00)	(5677.42)	17250.65
Dues and Fees	21000.00	22928.07	(1200.00)	(1233.42)	21694.65
Chapter Portion	0.00	0.00	(4200.00)	(4444.00)	(4444.00)
Membership database system	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	0.00
Newsletter	660.00	730.00	(10400.00)	(9503.20)	(8773.20)
Operating Budget	1000.00	1482.68	(13480.00)	(11424.31)	(9941.63)
Awards	0.00	0.00	(600.00)	(135.00)	(135.00)
Committees	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	0.00	0.00
Contracts	0.00	0.00	(7680.00)	(7677.00)	(7677.00)
Board Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	(699.99)	(699.99)
Interest	1000.00	1482.68	0.00	0.00	1482.68
Website	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(1243.00)	(1243.00)
Zoom	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(753.21)	(753.21)
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Publications	0.00	0.00	(1400.00)	(583.55)	(583.55)
Operating Expenses	0.00	0.00	(300.00)	(332.56)	(332.56)
At-Large Expenses	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	0.00
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GOE TOTALS	22660.00	25140.75	(29780.00)	(26604.93)	(1464.18)
SPECIAL PROJECTS					
Annual Meeting	5000.00	9381.00	(5000.00)	(9381.00)	0.00
Plant Conservation Conference	0.00	0.00	0.00	(400.00)	(400.00)
Citizen Botany Project	0.00	0.00	(3000.00)	0.00	0.00
MNPS Presents!	0.00	0.00	(1200.00)	(600.00)	(600.00)
Chapter Projects	0.00	300.75	0.00	(302.76)	(2.01)
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	5000.00	9681.75	(9200.00)	(10683.76)	(1002.01)
GENERAL FUND TOTALS	27660.00	34822.50	(38980.00)	(37288.69)	(2466.19)

GRANTS AND GIVING FUND

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
INCOME	14100.00	18873.05	(300.00)	(166.72)	18706.33
Donation	14000.00	18601.54	(300.00)	(166.72)	18434.82
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	100.00	271.51	0.00	0.00	271.51
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS AND GIVING	0.00	0.00	(21250.00)	(14449.99)	(14449.99)
Scholarships	0.00	0.00	(4000.00)	(4000.00)	(4000.00)
Grants (Solicited)	0.00	0.00	(13500.00)	(6750.00)	(6750.00)
Gifts (Unsolicited)					
MT Herbaria Donation	0.00	0.00	(2000.00)	(2000.00)	(2000.00)
MT Audubon Donation	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(1000.00)	(1000.00)
Other	0.00	0.00	(750.00)	(699.99)	(699.99)
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND 2024 TOTALS	14100.00	18873.05	(21550.00)	(14616.71)	4256.34
Carryover from previous year	9865.29				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND PROPOSED FUNDS	23965.29				
Grants awarded that will pay out after completion	(6750.00)				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND AVAILABLE FUNDS	7371.63				

MNPS PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET 2/27/2026 *Prepared by: Laurie Kurth*

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
MNPS BUDGET SUMMARY					
General Fund	32510.00	13942.75	(54390.00)	(15609.09)	(1666.34)
Grants and Giving Fund	14100.00	4729.12	(14550.00)	0.00	4729.12
TOTALS	46610.00	18671.87	(68940.00)	(15609.09)	3062.78

GENERAL FUND

GENERAL OPERATING INCOME AND EXPENSES	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
Membership	21000.00	11545.00	(5900.00)	(613.91)	10931.09
Dues and Fees	21000.00	11545.00	(1200.00)	(613.91)	**10931.09**
Chapter Portion	0.00	0.00	(4200.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Membership database system	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Newsletter	660.00	400.00	(10400.00)	(1945.00)	(1545.00)
Operating Budget	1000.00	42.75	(18540.00)	(1522.61)	(1479.86)
Awards	0.00	0.00	(600.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Committees	0.00	0.00	(2000.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Contracts	0.00	0.00	(8640.00)	(1224.75)	**(1224.75)**
Board Expenses	0.00	0.00	(750.00)	(13.60)	**(13.60)**
Interest	1000.00	42.75	0.00	0.00	**42.75**
Website	0.00	0.00	(1200.00)	(180.50)	**(180.50)**
Zoom	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(103.76)	**(103.76)**
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Publications	0.00	0.00	(3550.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Operating Expenses	0.00	0.00	(300.00)	0.00	**0.00**
At-Large Expenses	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
GOE TOTALS	22660.00	11987.75	(34840.00)	(4081.52)	7906.23
SPECIAL PROJECTS					
Annual Meeting	5000.00	1940.00	(5000.00)	(5312.57)	**(3372.57)**
Plant Conservation Conference	4500.00	0.00	(6000.00)	0.00	**0.00**
Citizen Botany Project	0.00	0.00	(6000.00)	(6000.00)	**(6000.00)**
MNPS Presents!	0.00	0.00	(1200.00)	(200.00)	**(200.00)**
Chapter Projects	350.00	15.00	(1350.00)	(15.00)	0.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	9850.00	1955.00	(19550.00)	(11527.57)	(9572.57)
GENERAL FUND TOTALS	32510.00	13942.75	(54390.00)	(15609.09)	(1666.34)

GRANTS AND GIVING FUND

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Variance
INCOME	14100.00	4729.12	(300.00)	0.00	4729.12
Donation	14000.00	4710.00	(300.00)	0.00	**4710.00**
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Interest	100.00	19.12	0.00	0.00	**19.12**
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
GRANTS AND GIVING	0.00	0.00	(14250.00)	0.00	0.00
Scholarships	0.00	0.00	(2500.00)	0.00	0.00
Grants (Solicited)	0.00	0.00	(8500.00)	0.00	0.00
Gifts (Unsolicited)					
MT Herbaria Donation	0.00	0.00	(2500.00)	0.00	0.00
MT Audubon Donation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	(750.00)	0.00	0.00
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND 2024 TOTALS	14100.00	4729.12	(14550.00)	0.00	4729.12
Carryover from previous year	14121.63				
Grants awarded that will pay out after completion	(6750.00)				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND PROPOSED FUNDS	21471.63				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND AVAILABLE FUNDS	12100.75				