Swiss Army Landscaping: Multi-use plants for connecting people with outdoor spaces

Brown Bag Lecture Series
Graham Herbst
Nebraska Forest Service
WTF?
Under-utilized Plants for Windbreaks
SHINGLE OAK (3)

SALTTOOTH OAK (3)

AM. PLUM (7)

DOMINO PINE (5)

AM. HAZELNUT (3)

BOSWAIN PINE (1)

JUNIPER (9)

ALLEGHANY VIBURNUM (5)

SERVICEBERRY (7)

GRETA 4-H WINDBREAK

GRAHAM HERBST - NFS
Bosnian pine

Mugo pine

Domingo pine
Eastern white x Mexican white

Other conifers
Sawtooth oak

Shingle oak

American hornbeam

Marcescence is the retention of dead plant organs that normally are shed.
(Semi-) Evergreen viburnums

American plum
Leadplant, Amorpha canescens
Makes a delicious “prairie tea”

One Tbs. dried leaves per cup of water; bring to boil and simmer for at least 4 minutes.
Huacatay, Tagetes minuta
Lemon Verbena, Aloysia citradora
Mountain mint – Picnanthemum tenuifolium
Good companion plant for tomatoes and strawberries
Deep tap roots break up compacted soils
Flowers and young leaves edible, cucumber-like flavor

Borage, *Borago officinalis*
Tulsi, Ocimum tenuiflorum
MOSQUITO CONTROL
by Rob Sproule

Recommended container size: 70 cm across

A  Citronella geranium
B  Marigold ‘Lemon Gem’
C  Lemon grass
D  Catnip
E  Ageratum ‘Artist Purple’
F  Lemon thyme
Pollinators

Goldenrod ‘Witchita mountains’
Wild senna
Mexican Hat

Canna lily
Heliopsis

Pollinators
Sevenson Flower, Heptacodium miconoides
Akebia quinata, Chocolate vine
Saskatoon Serviceberry
Amelanchier canadensis
The fruit was highly valued, fresh or cooked as a sauce.

They were also dried for winter use; mixed with dried buffalo meat and fat to make pemmican.

The fruit is delicious eaten fresh, used in pies, jams, muffins, chunky topping or wine.
“Juneberries are the berry for the Northwest. No farmer ought to fail to plant a patch. I have just distributed, free, wagon-loads of plants from my early plantings, which were among my plums and in the way.”

Jules Sandoz, 1903 report to the Nebraska State Horticultural Society
• Frozen Juneberries
• Juneberry-Rhubard Pie....Yummy!!
Persimmon, Diospyros virginiana
Persimmon leaves can be used to make teas.

Diospyros translated means “divine fruit”

It can be grown as a specimen or in groups for naturalizing.

Upon ripening fruit becomes sweet and may be eaten off the tree. Fruits are commonly used in syrups, jellies, ice creams or pies. Ripe fruits are too soft for shipping/sale.

The wood is extremely hard and has been used to make golf club heads, billiard cues and shoe lasts.
• Diospyros means “fruit of the Gods.” Reportedly the sweetest fruit next to the date palm! Loaded with vitamins A, B, C.
• Avoid biting into one before its time—they have big time pucker power!
• Delicious baked
Delicious baked into a bread pudding, cookies, smoothies, ice cream and flan!!
Northern pecans are hardy and have been thriving in landscapes in southeastern NE for decades.

Nutmeat is of superior quality and NE nut growers research has identified the best cultivars for Nebraska.

The husks of pecans can be used for smoking wood for meat.

Some products are made from pecan and it is a very pretty wood for building material.
Shellbark Hickory Carya laciniosa
Nebraska only has 2 native Hickory species—bitternut and shagbark.

Eastern species such as shellbark and mockemut hickory are doing well in Lincoln and other areas of SE Nebraska.

Hickories host many beautiful moths and butterflies.

Obviously noted for the tough nuts that are important food source for mammals.
The nutmeat is of premium quality and delicious in baked goods.

The husks of hickories can be used as smoking wood for meat.

![Hickory nutmeats and husks](Image)

Some products are made from hickory and it is a very pretty wood for building material.

Hickory is perfect for open cooking fires - every time! It's the choice of most restaurants for consistent quality smoky flavor.
Clove Currant

Ribes odoratum
Excellent shrub for edible landscapes with good spring flowers, summer fruit and red fall color.

Dormant branches are easy to force in spring as a woody ornamental.

The spicy, fragrant flowers are a good early season pollinator plant.

The black currants arrive in summer and make a delicious pie, jam or wine.
Hazels and Filberts
Aronia
Paw paw
Asimina triloba

http://www.pawpaw.kysu.edu/pawpaw/recipes.htm
Steamboat Trace Trail
24” circumference
35’ tall
15’ average spread
Apple tree espalier
Purple Plants
Castor Bean

Amaranth
Squash/pumpkins
Melon forms
Fresh cut flowers
Cold frames
Dead things
Hugelkultur

Building raised beds

Sun throughout the course of the day

Wind direction

Humus layer

Turf (with the grass face down)

Different kinds of bulky organic material (tree trunks, branches, roots, shrubs etc)

Stone path

Fruit trees as an additional windbreak
Grass clippings
Thank You!

Graham Herbst
402.444.7875
gherbst2@unl.edu