Get to Know our Wildflowers!

Did you know that aside from our widely known Mexican Gold Poppy many other plants and wildflowers grow around our museum trails and gardens? While some of these were used for medicinal purposes in the past, others are simply lovely to look at! Can you find some of these wildflowers in our Wilderness Park? Can you find any others not included in our list?

Parry’s Penstemon, *penstemon parryi*
Grows in desert washes. This wildflower can reach four feet high. Hummingbirds, moths, bees and other insects love this flower’s nectar.

Dogweed Parralena, *thymophylla pentachaeta*
A low-growing perennial that blooms between spring and fall. It provides nectar and larval food for the yellow sulphur butterfly.

Spreading Fleabane Daisy, *erigeron divergens*
The fleabane daisy likes sandy or gravelly soil and spreads easily. Petals often have a hint of lavender at the tips or on the underside.

Desert Marigold, *baileya multiradiata*
Will grow with small amounts of rain and almost year round when moisture is present. Leaves are a grayish color and covered in woolly hairs. Easy to grow from seeds in desert landscapes.

Spear Globemallow, *sphaeralcea hastulata*
Found in the Western half of the United States, this wildflower has many variabilities within the species. Plants from the same family were used by indigenous groups for medicinal purposes.

Sand Bells, *nama hispidum (hispida)*
Only reach about five inches high yet can spread into a large low mound. These wildflowers prefer sandy soil to grow.

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