

Boulevard Gardens: Perennials

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Comments
<i>Achillea</i> spp.	yarrow	18"-3'	Full sun; drought tolerant; rapid grower; butterfly plant.
<i>Asclepias</i> spp.	milkweed	18"-6'	Full sun; drought tolerant; butterfly plant.
<i>Aster</i> spp.	aster	12"-5'	Full sun; fall blooms and color; many cultivars.
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower	2'-4'	Full sun; drought tolerant; butterfly plant.
<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp.	daylily	1'-3'	Full sun; tough, long lived; butterfly plant.
<i>Hosta</i> spp.	hosta	4"-4'	Light shade to full sun; many are fragrant; <i>H. lancifolia</i> is salt tolerant.
<i>Iris germanica</i>	bearded iris	4"-4'	Full sun; drought and salt tolerant; many are fragrant.
<i>Liatris</i> spp.	blazing star	2'-5'	Full sun; drought tolerant; butterfly plant.
<i>Lilium</i> spp.	Asiatic and oriental lily	18"-5'	Full sun; good cut flowers; can increase in good conditions.
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	bee balm, bergamot	12"- 4'	Full sun to part shade; butterfly plant.
<i>Narcissus</i> spp.	daffodil, jonquil	6"-2'	Welcomes spring; long lived; deer and squirrels do not eat.
<i>Nepeta</i> spp.	catmint	6-30"	Full sun; drought tolerant; large groundcover; very tough and vigorous.
<i>Paeonia lactiflora</i>	peony	2-3'	Full sun; long lived; cut flowers; cut back in late fall to minimize botrytis blight.
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	Russian sage	3-4'	Full sun; drought tolerant; fragrant; sub-shrub; cut back in spring after new growth has started.
<i>Phalaris arundinaceae</i> 'Feeseys' Form'	ribbon grass	30"	Full sun; drought and salt tolerant; rhizomes are confined by pavement; remove any all-green plants that develop.
<i>Phlox paniculata</i>	garden phlox	3-4'	Full sun; butterfly plant; hundreds of cultivars; tough.
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	gloriosa daisy	12"-10'	Full sun; drought tolerant; 'Goldstrum' is about 30"; old fashioned 'Golden Glow' is 5-6' and makes a tall screen.
<i>Sedum</i> spp.	stonecrop, sedum	6"-2'	Easy; full sun; groundcover and upright forms; fall color and winter interest; attracts many insects.
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	lamb's ear	6-15"	Full sun; drought tolerant; large, soft silver foliage looks good with pastels and burgundy perennials.
<i>Veronica</i> spp.	speedwell	12"-3'	Full sun; drought tolerant; blue, white, or pink flowers.
<i>Yucca filimentosa</i>	yucca	30"	Full sun; drought and salt tolerant; flowers up to 5' tall.

Boulevards are tough sites known for dry, poor soil and salt from the winter. These plants have been selected based on their ability to live and flourish in these difficult urban sites.

Compiled by Rose Bush, Ramsey County Master Gardener. Rose became a Master Grdener in 2001 and has a 4-year-old boulevard garden that includes most of these plants. A handful of these tried and true, easy, versatile perennials were used in a Habitat for Humanity landscaping project led by Master Gardeners.



A boulevard garden can be in the front yard, as shown here on this St. Paul street.



Iris and salvia are tough perennials for a boulevard garden.