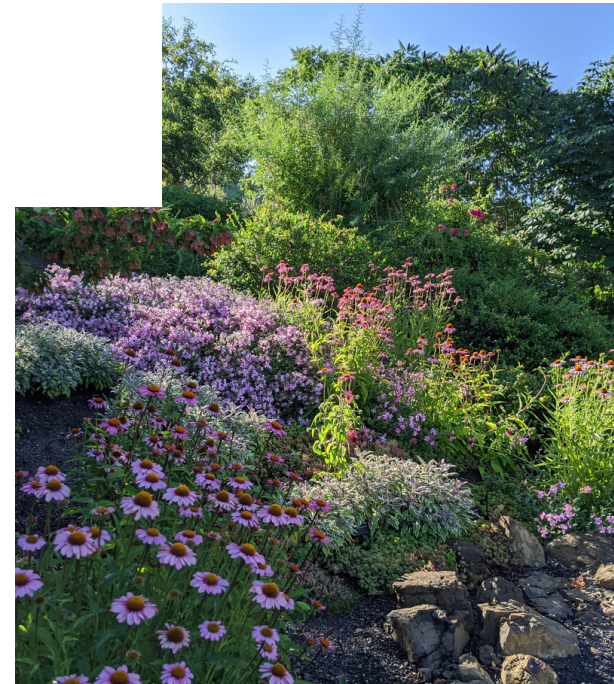


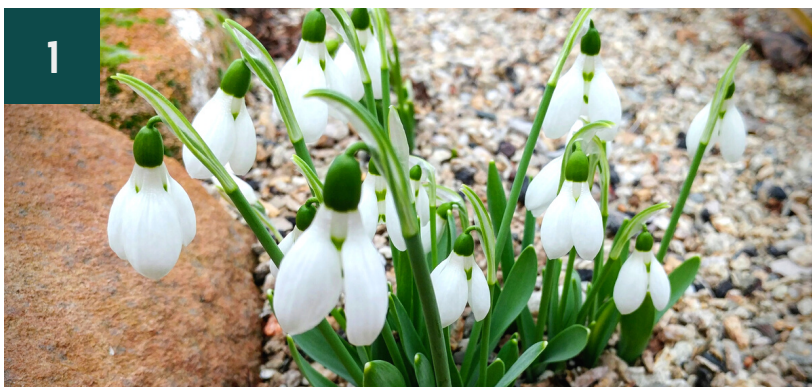
IDAHO FIREWISE

PLANTS FOR
STEEP SLOPES



Sloped hillsides pose challenges for the property owner including the potential for erosion and experiencing dry soil conditions due to exposure. Utilizing plant material can be the best solution for stabilizing slopes as well as providing shade for the soil. The best plants for steep slopes are drought tolerant, have extensive root systems, spreading foliage, and produce very little mess which aids in lowering annual maintenance needs. Sloped hillsides are a major concern in fire-prone areas due to wildfire's ability to travel faster uphill. To succeed in stabilizing steep slopes and to create safer, more resilient landscapes, Idaho Firewise recommends specific plant material from the four plant categories listed below.

All recommendations are tested plant species at the Idaho Firewise Garden, a test and demonstration site for southern Idaho.



Spring Bulbs



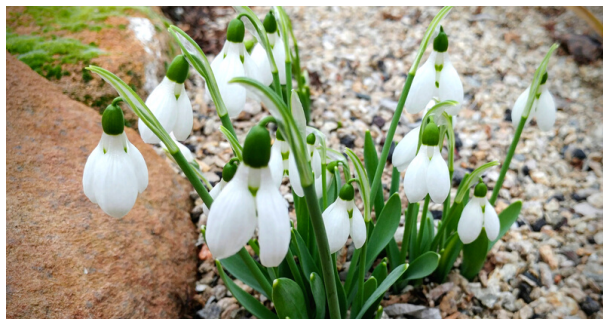
Shrubs & Small Trees



Groundcover



Perennials



Steep or hard to mow areas are ideal for spring flowering bulbs. Planted in fall, spring bulbs develop a root system during the fall and winter months. In early spring, flowering bulbs act as competitors to weeds for available soil moisture. Plant naturalizing-type bulbs to enjoy for many years.

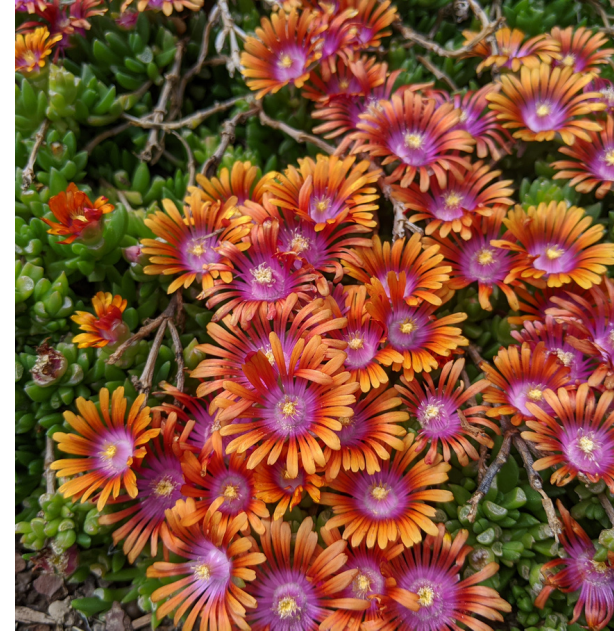
Recommendations: *Crocus* - crocus, *Fritillaria* - fritillaria, *Galanthus* - snowdrop, *Narcissus* - daffodil, *Tulipa* - tulip.

See Appendix for a full list of Idaho Firewise recommended fire-resistant plants for steep slopes.



Shrubs and small trees are natural choices for sloped hillside plantings as they provide structure and appeal to the overall design. Choose smaller statured shrubs and trees that are drought tolerant and require very little maintenance. Do not overcrowd these plants in order to prevent future overgrowth of vegetation.

Recommendations: *Acer* - compact maples, *Celtis* - hackberry, *Chaenomeles* - dwarf quince, *Cotoneaster* - cotoneaster, *Crataegus* - hawthorn, *Forsythia* - dwarf forsythia, *Rhus* - dwarf sumac, *Rosa* - rose, *Symphoricarpos* - snowberry.



Groundcovers are a great way to prevent erosion and cover sloped hillsides with color and texture. The best fire-resistant groundcovers require minimal pruning and are able to retain moisture for long periods of time.

For optimal design appeal, combine compatible groundcover species exhibiting different flowering times or textures.

Recommendations: *Delosperma* - hardy ice plant, *Marrubium* - horehound, *Mirabilis* - desert four o'clock, *Sedum* - hardy stonecrop, *Sempervivum* - hens and chicks, *Veronica* - speedwell, *Vinca* - periwinkle.



Perennials add dimension and color and reliably return each season. The best fire-resistant perennials for hillsides have deep root systems and have low water requirements. Refrain from utilizing perennials that require continuous deadheading throughout the season as foot traffic should be kept to a minimum on steep slopes.

Recommendations: *Echinacea* - coneflower, *Hemerocallis* - daylily, *Linum* - flax, *Nepeta* - catmint, *Penstemon* - beardtongue, *Sphaeralcea* - globemallow.

Appendix: Spring Bulbs

Suitable plants for steep slopes - tested species at the Idaho Firewise Garden

Crocus vernus

Hokus Crocus™

Fritillaria imperialis

'Lutea' Crown Imperial Fritillaria

Fritillaria pudica

Yellow Fritillaria

Galanthus elwesii

Snowdrops

Narcissus

'Baby Moon' Daffodil

Narcissus

'Rapture' Daffodil

Tulipa

Wildfyre™ Wild Tulip

Tulipa humilis

'Persian Pearl' Wild Tulip

Appendix: Shrubs & Small Trees

Suitable plants for steep slopes - tested species at the Idaho Firewise Garden

<i>Acer tataricum</i> subsp. <i>ginnala</i>	Amur Maple
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	Hackberry
<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	'Spitfire' Flowering Quince
<i>Chaenomeles x superba</i>	'Jet Trail' Flowering Quince
<i>Cotoneaster adpressa</i>	'Praecox' Cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i>	'Eichholz' Cotoneaster
<i>Crataegus columbiana</i>	Columbia Hawthorn
<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	Douglas Hawthorn
<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>	'Sunrise' Forsythia
<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	Winter Jasmine
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	'Gro-Low' Sumac
<i>Rhus trilobata</i>	'Autumn Amber' Sumac
<i>Rosa</i>	'John Cabot' Rose
<i>Rosa</i>	'Nearly Wild' Rose
<i>Rosa</i>	Oso Easy® Cherry Pie Rose
<i>Rosa eglanteria</i>	Sweet Briar Rose
<i>Rosa hugonis</i>	Father Hugo Rose
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry
<i>Symphoricarpos x doorenbosii</i>	'Kolmcan' Snowberry

Appendix: Groundcover

Suitable plants for steep slopes - tested species at the Idaho Firewise Garden

<i>Delosperma</i>	'Alan's Apricot' Ice Plant
<i>Delosperma</i>	Fire Spinner® Ice Plant
<i>Delosperma congestum</i>	'Gold Nugget' Ice Plant
<i>Delosperma cooperi</i>	'John Proffitt' Ice Plant
<i>Delosperma dyeri</i>	Red Mountain® Flame Ice Plant
<i>Delosperma nubigenum</i>	Yellow Ice Plant
<i>Globularia repens</i>	'Nana' Globe Daisy
<i>Marrubium rotundifolium</i>	Silver Edged Horehound
<i>Mirabilis multiflora</i>	Desert Four-o'clock'
<i>Sedum middendorffianum</i>	Chinese Mountain Stonecrop
<i>Sedum pachyclados</i>	Gray Stonecrop
<i>Sedum reflexum</i>	'Blue Spruce' Stonecrop
<i>Sedum rupestre</i>	'Angelina' Stonecrop
<i>Sedum sichotense</i>	Stonecrop
<i>Sedum spurium</i>	'Dragon's Blood' Stonecrop
<i>Sempervivum arachnoideum</i>	Cobweb Hens & Chicks
<i>Sempervivum hybrid</i>	Hens & Chicks (various cultivars)
<i>Veronica</i>	'Waterperry Blue' Speedwell
<i>Veronica liwanensis</i>	Turkish Speedwell
<i>Vinca major</i>	'Variegata' Periwinkle
<i>Vinca minor v. atropurpurea</i>	Periwinkle

Appendix: Perennials

Suitable plants for steep slopes - tested species at the Idaho Firewise Garden

<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Coneflower
<i>Echinacea</i> hybrid	Big Sky™ Harvest Moon Coneflower
<i>Echinacea</i> hybrid	'Pixie Meadowbrite' Coneflower
<i>Echinacea paradoxa</i>	Bush's Coneflower
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	'Pica Bella' Coneflower
<i>Hemerocallis</i> hybrid	Daylily (various cultivars)
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Wild Blue Flax
<i>Linum perenne</i>	'Saphyr' Blue Flax
<i>Nepeta faassenii</i>	'Junior Walker' Catmint
<i>Nepeta x faassenii</i>	'Walker's Low' Catmint
<i>Penstemon cobaea</i>	Foxglove Penstemon
<i>Penstemon davidsonii</i>	Davidson's Penstemon
<i>Penstemon eatonii</i>	Firecracker Penstemon
<i>Penstemon pinifolius</i>	'Mersea Yellow' Pineleaf Penstemon
<i>Penstemon pinifolius</i>	Pineleaf Penstemon
<i>Penstemon strictus</i>	Rocky Mountain Penstemon
<i>Penstemon venustus</i>	Venus Penstemon
<i>Penstemon x mexicali</i>	'Pike's Peak Purple' Penstemon
<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	Desert Mallow
<i>Sphaeralcea munroana</i>	Orange Globemallow

