Recommended Perennials:

**Lavender** thrives in warm, well-drained soil and full sun. Lavender is a tough plant and is extremely drought resistant, once established. The highly fragrant blossoms are excellent for cutting and drying, and harvesting the flowers will keep them well shaped and encourage new growth. Here on the high desert, where lavender may suffer some winter die-back, you don’t want to do an early spring pruning until you see some new green growth at the base of the plant.

**Nepeta**, or Cat Mint, as its name implies, is a member if the mint family that can be very attractive to cats! Blooms will start in early summer and repeat through the growing season. Nepeta has an aromatic, delicate, lacy grey-green foliage. The flowers can be white, pink or lavender-blue, and bloom on long spikes. Nepeta has a somewhat sprawling growth habit, making it a nice plant for edges and along paths.

**Snow in Summer** is a drought tolerant ground cover with silvery-gray foliage covered with masses of snow white flowers, blooming in early summer. A beautiful, super easy groundcover for full sun and poor soil! Perfect for Central Oregon!

**Basket of Gold** is a wonderful rock garden plant bursting with bright yellow blossoms that are attractive to bees, butterflies and birds. Drought-tolerant and very low maintenance, it is suitable for xeriscaping.

**Coreopsis**, also known as "Tickseed," is a low maintenance, drought tolerant and long blooming, plant that is great in a sunny flower border. Coreopsis will bloom best in full sun, but it can also be successfully grown in partial shade. The plants may get a bit lankier in partial shade, but they will adapt. In areas with intense dry, heat, Coreopsis may even prefer some afternoon shade.

**Gaillardia**, also called a blank flower, grows 1-1⁄2 to 2 feet tall. The summer daisy-like blooms range in bright colors from buff to red to brown. They will grow under very harsh and dry conditions, making them good for xeriscaping here on the high desert.

**Monarda Beebalm** is often used in beds and borders to encourage and increase the appearance of hummingbirds, pollinating insects, and helpful insects that hunt garden pests. These plants prefer full sun and moist yet well-drained soil. Plants grown in partial shade or filtered sun have are more likely spread horizontally and flower less.
Soapwort is an easy to grow perennial that forms a carpet of five petaled, pink flowers in varying shades. Rock Soapwort is often used in rock gardens, on hillsides, or as groundcover for hard to reach and maintain areas. The plants are just about maintenance free. Rock Soapwort also grows well in containers and hanging baskets.

Bleeding Hearts are traditional favorites in shade gardens. As the plants' common name suggests, bleeding hearts bear heart-shaped flowers with a small "drop of blood" dangling from the bottom. Bleeding hearts usually reach 2'-3' in height with a similar spread. The flowers are either pink or white, and they appear in the spring. Grow bleeding hearts in partial shade to full shade, in a well-drained soil.

Hostas are extremely popular, hardy perennials grown primarily for their beautiful foliage. They are easy to grow, shade-tolerant plants. Leaves come in a wide range of shapes, colors, sizes, and textures and may be solid in color or variegated in different combinations of blue, green, white, and gold.

Shasta Daisies have bright white flowers with cheery yellow "faces" that contrast nicely with the glossy, dark green foliage. These happy flowers will liven up any garden bed, and also make great cutting flowers. Shasta daisies bloom over a long period, from early summer until fall, forming tidy clumps from 2 to 3 feet tall and up to 2 feet across.

Hops, is a climbing perennial that grows more than 20 feet tall, with soft green leaves throughout the summer. With its vigorous growth and densely twining stems, it forms a thick cover for a fence, arbor or a low building, in just a few weeks. While there may not be much growth the first year, when the roots are established a healthy hops vine can grow up to one foot in a day! Be sure to provide plenty of space for this plant.

Echinacea, also called purple coneflowers are a robust, drought tolerant perennial. Flowers bloom on sturdy, elongated stems and have soft lavender or purple petals surrounding a red-orange, coned center. They prefer full sun to partial shade in fertile, well-drained soils. Absolutely beautiful!

Sedums and Succulents offer unique textures and colors with their thick foliage and delicate flowers. They are able to withstand heat, lots of sunlight and require little watering. These qualities make them great to use in xeriscaping and rock gardening as well as in well-draining spots in a perennial border or container gardens. We have a great selection of these plants that will thrive in Central Oregon.

Iris are a popular and easy to grow perennial. The word Iris means rainbow and, like their name they come in many colors such as blue and purple, white and yellow, pink and orange, brown and red, and even black, but the majority of Iris flowers are in purple tones. The most common larger varieties are great at the back of the flower bed or as a cutting flower.

Silver Lace Vine is one of the fastest growing vines in the garden. Give this vine an inch and it will take a trellis. It has lots of small, fragrant white or light greenish flowers in the fall. You’ll see flowers from around mid-August to frost. Grow it in the full sun, but it will tolerate shade and dry soils as well. Be sure to give it something to climb on as it twines around its support. Make the support very strong for this large climbing plant.