"*Favorite Flowers of Chesapeake Master Gardeners*"

Catmint by Sandy West

Latin Name: **Nepeta Racemosa "Walker's Low"**
Common name: **Catmint**
Family: **Lamiaceae**

First photo from my yard, just beginning to bloom. Second photo from Missouri Botanical Gardens.com in full bloom.

I have enjoyed having Catmint in my perennial garden for many years. I enjoy the size of it and the fact that it is compact and grows in a circular pattern and the lavender flowers are lovely. It pairs well with almost any other perennial flower. It is a shorter perennial so it can be in the front row with taller flowers behind it. It has come back faithfully for over 15 years and is not invasive.
It is native to Caucusus and northers Iran but adapts well to the Chesapeake climate.
I first purchased it at a local nursery and have not had to replace it since I planted it which is not the case for all of my perennials. It has no serious insect or disease problems and deer do not like to eat it and they do often munch on my hostas and daylilies.

Plant Specs:
Zone: 4 to 8
Height: 2.00 to 2.50 feet, Spread: 2.50 to 3.00 feet
Bloom Time: April to September
Bloom: Lavender Blue
Sun: Full sun or part shade
Water: Dry to medium
Maintenance: Low
Tolerant: Deer, Drought, Dry Soil

Source: Missouri Botanical Garden.com