Mountain Spirea
*Spiraea (densiflora) splendens*

This little California native shrub will be familiar to many. With its showy summer display of pink powder puff blossoms, it has delighted many a mountain hiker. Looking very refined in its often rugged surroundings, it occurs commonly in meadows and near water sources at elevations ranging from 2-11,000 feet. Its thicketing stems reach heights of around 2 ½ feet high by 4 feet across and are clad in leaves of a nice, soft green that turns to yellow before dropping in fall. The pink, fuzzy blossoms, which are quite attractive to butterflies and bees, appear at variable times during the summer depending on elevation, usually in late summer, but earlier at lower elevations, and will repeat if the plant is sheared lightly after bloom. Easily cultivated and a sweet little addition to the native or pollinator garden.

Sun to part shade
Zones 5-9