



Welcome!





Welcome!

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Introducing Native Plants to Your Home landscape

presented by
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from



Why Native Plants?

- ◆ Conservation

- 1) Native plants and pollinators are losing habitat as a result of development and invasive species
- 2) Some species of pollinators and plants require each other for survival
- 3) You can find a native plant that is perfect for any spot in your yard
- 4) They are beautiful...



Native plants are Beautiful!



Prairie smoke



New England aster



Butterfly milkweed



Monkey flower



Prairie onion



Coreopsis

Planning Your Garden

- 1) Know your space – soil type, moisture, sun
- 2) Select your style – formal, natural or anywhere in between. This influences your plant selection nearly as much as #1
- 3) Familiarize yourself with native plants – talk to a professional, visit other gardens, native plant websites...check bloom season and height
- 4) Fill the seasons – always have blooms and cover
- 5) Pollinator double-check – the more diversity the better

Garden Examples

- ◆ Average to dry, sunny site – perfect for a prairie



Golden Alexanders



Purple coneflower



Butterfly milkweed



Rough blazing star



Sky blue aster



White prairie clover

Garden Examples

- ◆ Wet, sunny to part shade – potential rain garden



Blue lobelia



Swamp milkweed



Canada anemone



False aster



Marsh marigold



Joe pye weed

Garden Examples

◆ Shady, trouble spot



Pennsylvania sedge



Wild ginger



Wild geranium



Large-flowered bellwort



Red baneberry



Bush honeysuckle

Formal vs. Natural – choose your plants wisely

- ◆ Well-behaved native plants won't spread quickly or flop over.
 - ◆ Examples: butterfly milkweed, purple coneflower, blazing star, wild indigo, Jacob's ladder, bellwort, jack-in-the-pulpit, meadow rue
- ◆ Some plants are more wild...
 - ◆ Examples: stiff goldenrod, prairie sage, yellow coneflower, cup plant, columbine, wild strawberry, heart-leaved aster

From Lawn to Landscape Turf Removal Methods

- ◆ 1) Sod cutter – good way to remove weeds with shallow roots (creeping charlie), hard work
- ◆ 2) Solarization – Lay down clear plastic in June, July, August. Kills lawn, weeds and seeds. Should be done in 2-3 months.
- ◆ 3) Smothering/Sheet mulching – lay down layers of cardboard/newspaper, compost/soil. Can be started any time of year, seeded right away or planted after a season of decomposition.



Planting Tips

- ◆ Try not to disturb the roots on fussy plants, spiderwort and butterfly milkweed for example.
- ◆ Plant at the correct depth
- ◆ Water during the first growing season

Video: adding species

Video: how to plant <https://youtu.be/UUBozhEslIU>

Video: not finished <https://youtu.be/iEoLQgFma2U>

Video: too deep <https://youtu.be/IVcxz5ctXSk>

Video: too high <https://youtu.be/8DoThJqahdg>

Garden Maintenance

- ◆ Leave as much as you can over the winter and into spring. If you do cut early, stack it somewhere on site.
- ◆ Don't rake woodland gardens unless you want a clean mulch look.
- ◆ Late April/May you can cut back last year's stalks to ground level and compost, mow/rake prairie plantings if you can't burn.

Video: How and when to clean up
<https://youtu.be/pOowDoQvAz8>

Enjoy (and share) your new space!

Goldfinches LOVE Cup plant

<https://youtu.be/hKJIqlbBJJE>

Native bee and Obedient plant

<https://youtu.be/B6DmpImMiUU>

Native bees LOVE Bellwort

<https://youtu.be/npj7mliC4rU>

Milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.)









Pollinator Plant Sale

A fundraiser for the Nicollet County Historical Society
April 17 - May 15, 2021

Garden enthusiasts can choose from an array of beautiful native pollinator plants perfect for different garden sizes and types, from shorelines to rock gardens. Many of these are excellent plants for attracting butterflies, hummingbirds, and other wildlife to a backyard.

Visit nchsmn.org for details.
Questions? Contact us at info@nchsmn.org
or call 507-934-2160



Thank you.

