



Your Native Wildflower Landscape

Congratulations on choosing a native landscape. Your decision is the right choice for the land - and will have lasting benefits for you and your community. Now, sit back and enjoy the show of wildflowers, native grasses, songbirds and butterflies as the years progress.

Why Go “Native?”

In North America, we define a plant species as “native” if it grew here prior to European settlement. Native species are naturally adapted to local soils, climates and, as an added bonus, tolerate naturally occurring pests and disease. That means that native landscapes thrive and bloom even with reduced maintenance, such as watering, mowing, and the application of pesticides and fertilizers—making them environmentally friendly and cost-efficient.

Throughout the year, native species provide food and habitat for beneficial wildlife. Because nearly everything in your landscape is native, you may find that songbirds and butterflies prefer your yard over the neighbors. That’s because they have been co-adapting for thousands of years to feed and serve one another. They’ve grown up together.



What’s Planted Out There?

Your landscape has been planted with native perennial live plant plugs, which naturally occur in to your region. The first thing you may notice is that all the “wildflowers” aren’t actually flowers at all! That’s true. Your native landscape is a mini-ecosystem containing flowers, grasses and grass-like species.

You may notice that many of the plants are quite small at first. The species planted in your landscape are young perennials. Because they are perennials, they put most of their energy into root system development for the first couple of years. Once they have established themselves underground, they begin to put on a show of growth and color.

What Should I Expect of my Wildflower Landscape?

For those used to turf grass lawns, a young native landscape may not look like much at first. But, in time, this planting will develop into a beautiful landscape of great ecological value that produces colorful blooms and textures throughout the year.

Typically, it takes about three years for the wildflower landscape to fully develop. During the first year, you will see small plants, with a little color. Over the next two years, the plants will grow in size and become more colorful, eventually creating a natural landscape that provides form, color and habitat all year (grasses in particular add interest even in winter months). You will also see an increase in butterfly and bird visits and notice additional “ecosystem services” native species provide, such as habitat, cooling, erosion control and stormwater management. It will take time (and a little patience) but the results and benefits of your native wildflower landscape are well worth the wait, trust us.