Modern Grid Planting *for Pollinators*

Modern Grid planting provide a more modern look compared to other native planting designs. This type of planting works well in a wide boulevard or in a large planting area.

Pussytoes

These low-growing fuzzy plants slowly form carpets of foliage. In the spring their flowers rise up gracefully 6"-8" above their leaves.

PT — 15 plants
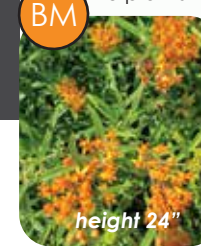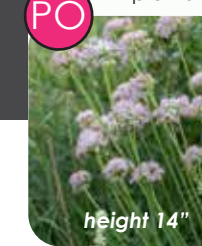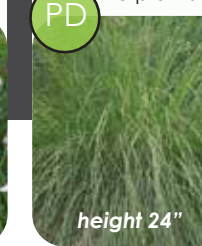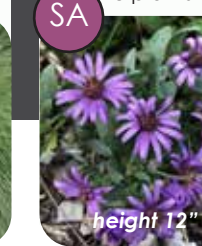
height 12"

Large-Flowered Beardtongue

This plant has showy spikes of flowers that are attractive to bumblebees and hummingbirds. It is drought tolerant and adds visual impact to any native planting.

LB — 6 plants

height 24"

Brown Fox Sedge

is found in Minnesota from the Metro north, primarily in wet woods, floodplains, and wetland edges.

FS — 15 plants

height 36"

Narrow-leaved Coneflower

blooms in mid-late summer. Its tall flowers are attractive to butterflies and are striking above the matrix of grass and sedge. NLC is drought-tolerant of tallgrass prairies.

NL — 9 plants

height 36"

Butterfly Milkweed's

bright mid-summer fireworks attract butterflies and bees alike. Vibrant color and tough, this plant can handle boulevard conditions, Butterfly Milkweed is amazing!

BM — 15 plants

height 24"

Prairie Onion

Lavender colored stary blooms in mid-summer rise from bright green clump forming flat-leafed foliage. Will slowly create colonies as the plants become more established.

PO — 12 plants

height 14"

Prairie Dropseed

Fine leaves create 2' high mounds of texture that will offset the height and color of the blooms around it, Prairie Dropseed is most beautiful in groups.

PD — 15 plants

height 24"

Silky Aster

This aster has a sprawling habit and is best supported by other plants. It is a host plant for Silvery Checkerspot larva. Blooms last from summer into late fall.

SA — 8 plants

height 12"

Bloom Time

May — June — July — August — September-Oct.

Note:
Start planting by creating a grid; alternating the grass and sedge species. Distance from these plants should be 2'

Then, place the flowering species in groups of 2 or 3 in the space between the grasses/sedges.

Keep your plant palette simple in this design for more visual impact, but make sure you are using plants that flower throughout the growing season.

20 feet

6 feet
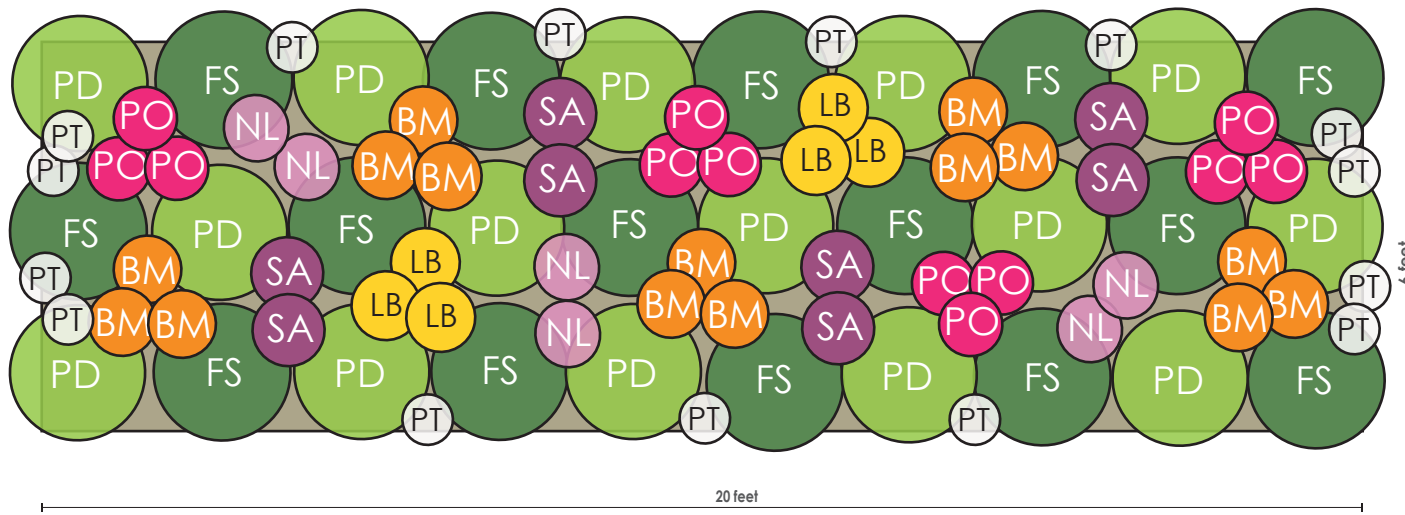
Featured Pollinator:
Sweat Bees
Lasioglossum spp.

This large group of bees are generalist species and may visit **asters, coneflowers, goldenrod and coreopsis.**

BWSR

bwsr.state.mn.us/creating-residential-pollinator-habitat

Updated: Mar. 11, 2025

Substitutions *for selected species*

Use plants found within their natural range, this helps protect nearby native plant communities and provides plant species that are sure to be compatible with local insect populations.

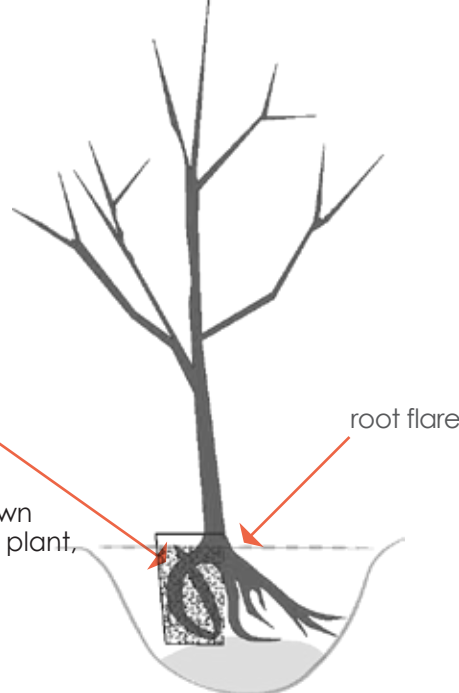| Pussytoes	Large-Flower Beardtongue	Brown Fox Sedge	Narrow-leaved Coneflower	Butterfly Milkweed	Prairie Onion	Prairie Dropseed	Silky Aster
Prairie Pussytoes, Pasque Flower, Alumroot, Wild Stawberry*, Bloodroot*, Common Violet*,	Hairy Beardtongue, Slender Beardtongue, Showy Beardtongue, Lance-Leaf Coreopsis	Plains Oval Sedge, Long Beaked Sedge*, Wood Sedge*, Palm sedge	Pale Purple Coneflower, White Prairie Clover, Prairie Coneflower, Gray-Headed Coneflower	Common Milkweed, Whorled Milkweed, Prairie Larkspur, Evening Primrose, Flowering Spurge, Lead Plant, Prairie Phlox, Wild Blue Phlox*	Showy Wild Garlic, Shooting Star, Prairie Smoke, Wood Lily, Wild Lupine	Little Bluestem, Side Oats Grama, Hairy Grama, Blue Grama, Purple Love Grass, June Grass	Heath Aster, Aromatic Aster, Maryland Figwort, White Upland Aster, White Sage, Cream Gentian, Old Field Goldenrod

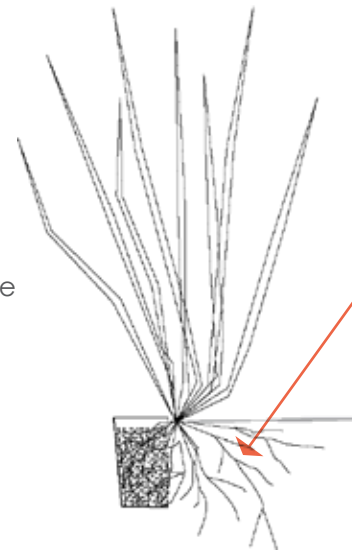All common names are consistent with Minnesota Wildflowers.

* Shade alternative

Planting Tips *for new gardeners*

TREES & SHRUBS

PERENNIAL PLANTS

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat page

- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot. Remove the pot.

- Loosen roots and remove any roots that have growing a circle around the base of the plant.

- The soil level should be just below the flare of the tree or shrub and the base of your plant.

- Spread roots, then re-fill hole. Tamp soil down gently around the roots. Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the trunk.

- Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer

root flare

- Prepare your new garden bed. Use methods found on BWSR's Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat web-page

- Dig a hole as deep and 2-3 sizes wider than the pot.

- Remove the pot.

- Loosen roots and remove any roots growing in a circle around the base of the plant.

- Mulch around the plant, but don't place mulch against the stem.

- Water immediately after planting, then once a week for the first summer.

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