

Meadowscaping Plants



The Pacific Northwest Urban Meadowscaping (PNUM) is a collaborative partnership developing alternatives to lawn turf in our urban landscape. Beautiful meadows of bunch grasses and native wildflowers are deep rooted and drought resistant and can increase storm water infiltration, and enhance wildlife habitats for birds, pollinators and beneficial insects.

All the species listed below are available from commercial growers in the Willamette Valley

Perennial turf alternative mix

Establish variable amounts of each graminoid by densely seeding and planting propagules to meet site conditions and project goals (e.g. soil and light conditions, mowing height requirements). After establishment, no summer irrigation is required; high mow annually in late summer/early fall.

***Carex tumulicola* (foothill sedge)**

Plant this deciduous (and rhizomatous) sedge on mesic soils in full sun

***Danthonia californica* (California oatgrass)**

Plant grass on mesic/xeric soils in full sun; self sowing after establishment

***Festuca rubra ssp. commutata* (chewings fescue)**

Sow seed of this shade tolerant evergreen grass on mesic/xeric soils

***Juncus tenuis* (slender rush)**

Plant this shade tolerant deciduous rush on mesic soils; self sowing after establishment

Native annual wildflowers for meadows

Depending on project goals, sow a mix of only annual seed for a temporary meadow or over seed annuals on area planted to widely spaced perennials. Many annuals will self sow the following year.

***Clarkia amoena* (farewell to spring)**

***Clarkia purpurea* (farewell to spring)**

***Collinsia grandiflora* (blue-eyed Mary)**

***Collomia grandiflora* (grand collomia)**

***Epilobium densiflorum* (dense-spike primrose)**

Eschscholzia californica* (California poppy)

***Gilia capitata* (blue field gilia)**

***Lotus micranthus* (deervetch)**

***Lotus unifoliolatus* (mexican clover)**

***Lupinus bicolor* (bi-color lupine)**

***Lupinus polycarpus* (small flower lupine)**

***Madia elegans* (common tarweed)**

***Madia gracilis* (slender tarweed)**

***Plectritis congesta* (rosy plectritis)**

**questionably native to Portland region*

Shortgrass prairie garden

This prairie plant community for mesic soils is composed of a foundation of native Willamette Valley shortgrass prairie species + additional wildflowers to extend the season. There are several prairie gardens established in the Portland area. Contact MGWilson for details.

***Danthonia californica* (California oatgrass)**

***Festuca roemerii* (Roemer's fescue)**

***Juncus tenuis* (slender rush)**

***Koeleria cristata* (June grass)**

***Achillea millefolium* (Western yarrow)**

***Aquilegia formosa* (Western columbine)**

***Asclepias speciosa* (showy milkweed)**

***Brodiaea coronaria* (crown brodiaea)**

***Camassia quamash* (common camas lily)**

***Camassia leitchlinii* (great camas lily)**

***Collomia grandiflora* (large-leaf collomia)**

***Fragaria virginiana* v. *platypetala* (meadow strawberry)**

***Geranium oreganum* (Oregon geranium)**

***Gilia capitata* (blue field gilia)**

***Iris tenax* (tough-leafed iris)**

***Lotus purshiana* (Mexican clover)**

***Penstemon ovatus* (broad-leaf penstemon)**

***Potentilla gracilis* (slender cinquefoil)**

***Ranunculus occidentalis* (Western buttercup)**

***Sidalcea campestris* (field mallow)**

***Sidalcea virgata* (rose checkermallow)**

***Symphotrichum hallii* (hall's aster)**

***Triteleia hyacinthina* (white brodiaea)**

***Wyethia angustifolia* (mule's ears)**

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For more information on meadowscaping please visit:

<http://www.wmswcd.org/content.cfm/What-We-Do/Urban-Programs#Meadowscaping>