



General seeding instructions

Seed storage: Store seed in your fridge or a cool, dry place. Make sure the seed does not come in contact with moisture.

Timing: We highly recommend a fall seeding for our meadow mix, generally October - November. After the first frost or snow, but before snow sticks to the ground is a perfect time to seed native species. If you miss this window, seed in April - May. You may want to follow up with an additional fall sowing. If you are seeding with grass only, you can seed in the Spring or Fall. Spring seeding usually occurs from April - June when the ground begins to warm up and precipitation is more common.

Preparing your site:

- Start with weeding and removing any unwanted vegetation if you can. Be thorough or you will regret it in the future when your undesired vegetation bounces back. The better your preparation, the more successful your project will be!
 - Consider using herbicide to clear the area of plants that spread via rhizomes or are otherwise not effectively controlled by manual removal (weeding by hand)
- Know your soil.
 - Clay Loam - sticky and often described like peanut butter
 - Mix 1:1 native clay soil with crusher fines or coarse sand (DO NOT USE FINE SAND - THIS WILL MAKE CONCRETE.) You can also add some compost
 - Sand Loam - granular like sugar, easily breaks apart
 - Add compost
 - Silt Loam - EUREKA! Smooth but also breaks apart. No need to amend
- Ideally, you want 4-6" of good, non-compacted soil to place your seed in. Plow or rototill your area to a 4-6" depth and amend as needed, depending on your soil, before seeding. At a minimum, soil should be roughed up by dragging across your site with equipment or using a rake to loosen the soil.

Seeding:

- You can broadcast seeds by hand or using seeder spreader equipment. Seeding the meadow mix by hand is recommended because of the variable seed sizes included in the mix.
- Broadcast approximately half of your seed while making passes over your site in one direction and then broadcast the rest of the seed while making passes across your site from the perpendicular direction. Don't worry too much about clumped seed if seeding by hand, you can just rake it out a bit to spread the seed around.
- After seeding, lightly rake the seed into the soil. Ideally, seed will sit in the top ¼" to ½" inch of soil.
- Lightly water in seed. During germination, you will want to keep the area moist. If seeding in fall or early spring you can likely rely on natural precipitation. Water lightly as needed and once germination is complete, move to deep and infrequent water.
- You can mulch your site with no more than 1 inch of straw or woody mulch. Mulching helps hold soil moisture, can aid with weed control, regulates soil temperature, gives a nice appearance, and will protect seed during the sensitive germination stage.
 - Lightly water in seed to improve seed soil contact before mulching
 - Mix mulch up before spreading to expose it evenly to air
 - Don't add too much! We recommend 1" when mulching a seeded site.

Watering:

- Focus on deep and infrequent watering:
 - Saturate soil 4-6" with each watering
 - Water again when the top 1-2" is dry or plants start to show signs of wilt. If you're not sure, it means you can wait another day or two
- Once established, this garden will only need supplemental watering during extended dry, hot periods