Welcome!

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This program will be recorded.
Introducing Native Plants to Your Home landscape

presented by
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from

Seed to Site LLC
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.

Video: Turf Removal Overview  https://youtu.be/yH0pMkC6mQM
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: not finished https://youtu.be/iEoLQgFma2U
Video: too deep https://youtu.be/lVcxz5ctXSk
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/hKJlqlbBJJE

Native bee and Obedient plant
https://youtu.be/B6DmplmMiUU

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.