

GARDENING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

FAQ + What to Expect

Native Plant Vendors in Eastern WA

BFI Native Seeds ^

Warden, WA 98857

www.bfinativeplants.com

(509) 765-6348

Derby Canyon Natives

Peshastin, WA 98847

www.derbycanyonnatives.com

(509) 548-9404

Desert Jewels Nursery*

Spokane, WA 99206

www.desertjewelsnursery.com

(509) 893-3771

Humble Roots

Mosier, OR

www.humblerootsnursery.com/

503.449.3694 @humblerootsnursery

Plants of the Wild^

Tekoa, WA 99033

plantsofthewild.com/

(509) 284-2848

Rainier Seeds Inc. ^

Davenport, WA 99122

www.rainierseeds.com

Tapteal Native Plants LLC*

West Richland, WA

www.taptealnativeplants.com

(509) 578-6446 @taptealnativeplants

Tribal Native Nursery

Pendleton, OR 97801

(541) 278-8525

WildLands Nursery Inc^

Richland, WA 99354

www.wildlands-inc.com

(509)375-4177

^ denotes emphasis in restoration and/or large scale projects

*denotes design services are offered

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO PLANT?

OCTOBER—Early MARCH. Why? When the plants go dormant, (ie. above ground sleep for winter) they are less prone to reacting negatively to the stresses of transplanting. Most of our precipitation falls during this time period, meaning water is more readily available to newly planted species. Cool season planting also allows plants to acclimate to their new home and establish themselves before the extreme temperatures of spring and summer.

WHAT'S THE LEAD TIME BETWEEN ORDERING PLANTS OR SEEDS AND PLANTING?

Most native plants are grown from seeds that are planted in Fall. For larger projects or contract growing 2-3 years lead time is recommended. Connect with your local native plant nursery to learn more about availability and how to order.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE A PLANTING TO LOOK ESTABLISHED?

First they sleep, then they creep, then they leap! Generally, it takes 3 or more years for a native planting to fill in. The first couple seasons they spend building a strong root system that helps them withstand the heat and drought of our region.

WILL A NATIVE PLANTING BE NO MAINTENANCE?

There is no such thing as a zero maintenance landscape, especially if we want it to look a certain way! However, choosing the right plant for the right place can greatly reduce the amount of time, energy and inputs needed for a healthy planting. Native plants require less water, no fertilizer and no mowing compared to a conventional lawn. Depending upon the plants in your space, seasonal pruning or trimming may be recommended, but overall, most native plants will not require much in terms of management.

Will Native Plants need to be irrigated?

Yes, all plants should be irrigated initially and as the species dictates. Species that require less than 10" precipitation annually can be taken off drip irrigation once they're established.

HOW AND WHEN TO WATER

Watering deeply less frequently encourages plants to build strong, deep root systems as opposed to shallow roots near the surface of the soil. As a general rule, water new plantings at least once per week for the first couple seasons or as needed to help them establish. Once established, species requiring less than 10" should not need supplemental water, however, you can opt to water 1x every couple weeks to extend bloom times.

As you get to know the plants in your space, you can adjust the watering times up and down based on the microclimate/plant health. Just remember, many of our shrub-steppe species survive and thrive with less and often don't respond well to being over watered.

Drip Irrigation		Hand Watering		How Often	Time
Precipitation Range	Emitter Size	Oz	Cups		
<10 inch water requirement	(0.5 GPH)*	8*	1 cup*	1-2 x a month	15 minutes
10-15 inch water requirement	0.5 GPH	16	2 cups	1x wk	15 minutes
15-20 inch water requirement	1.0 GPH	32	4 cups	1x wk	15 minutes
20-30 inch water requirement	2.0 GPH	64	8 cups	2x wk	30 minutes
>30 inch water requirement	Adjustable 0-10 GPH	320	up to 2.5 gal	2x wk	45 minutes

* May elect to use drip irrigation on a temporary basis when planted in the fall through the first summer if longer blooming periods/faster establishment is desired. If planted in the spring, some supplemental water will be required for establishment.

GARDEN WITH NATIVE PLANTS TO...

Save Water — Support Pollinators — Build Resilience — Create Community

Connect with your local conservation district to learn more about conservation programs and services available in your area.



Benton Conservation District
www.bentoncd.org



Franklin Conservation District
www.franklincd.org



Heritage Gardens
of the Columbia River Basin

Heritage Garden Program
www.hgcd.info