

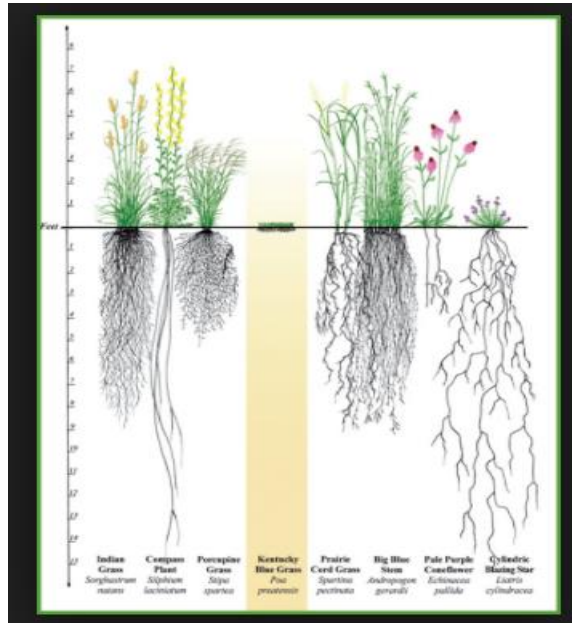
Benefits of Native Plants

- Native Plants do not require fertilizers. Vast amounts of fertilizers run off into lakes, river and streams harming the aquatic life.
- Native plants require fewer pesticide than lawns. Nationally, over 70 million pounds of pesticides are applied to lawns each year. People and pets in contact with chemically treated lawns and gardens can be exposed to pesticides.
- Native plants require less water than lawns. In urban areas, lawn and irrigation uses as much as 30% of the water consumption a home uses in the summer. Many native Midwest plants increase the soil's capacity to store water.
- Native plants provide shelter and food for wildlife. Native plants attract a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. Mowed lawns are of little use to most wildlife.
- Native plants save money. A study by Applied Ecological Services (Brodhead, WI) of larger properties estimates that over a 20 year period, a prairie or a wetland totals \$3,000 per acre versus \$20,000 per acre for non native turf grasses.



Blue-Eyed Mary plant

Native grasses are long lived and have little insect and disease problems. They improve the soil and reduce erosion because their root system is extensive. While typical turf grass develops roots within 2-6 inches of soil depth, native grasses exceed eight feet down deep. Once established, they do not need fertilization or water.



Example of native plants root structure

You can choose the right type of plant that meets your needs.

Contact a local nursery or garden center and ask questions.

Black-Eyed Susan are native to our area... they are pictured below:

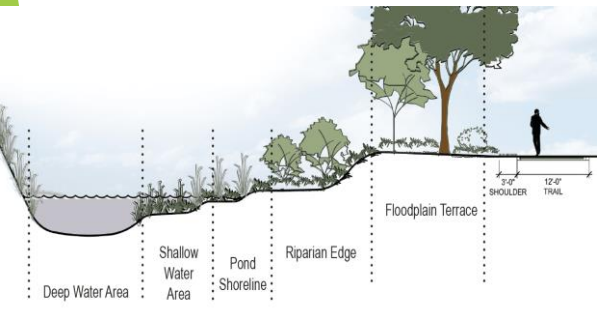


Banks and Slopes (Stabilizing Matrix Species)

Big Bluestem *Andropogon gerardii*
 Brown Fox Sedge *Carex vulpinoidea*
 Canada Wild Rye *Elymus canadensis*
 Streambank Rye *Elymus riparius*
 Silky Wild Rye *Elymus villosus*
 Virginia Wild Rye *Elymus virginicus*
 Torrey's Rush *Juncus torreyi*
 Evening Primrose *Oenothera biennis*
 Switch Grass *Panicum virgatum*
 Indian Grass *Sorghastrum nutans*
 Prairie Cord Grass *Spartina pectinata*
 Blue Vervain *Verbena hastata*

Per the Indiana Drainage Handbook, native plants are mostly used for protecting streambanks from erosive forces of flowing water and provide a natural, pleasing appearance.

Native plants help provide shade by woody vegetation which helps maintain lower water temperatures and provides wildlife habitat.



If your yard looks like this...



Then stop mowing so close to the edge and think about planting native plants!



Jewelweed

For more Information...
 Floyd County Stormwater
 Pine View Government Center
 2524 Corydon Pike Suite #201
 New Albany IN 47150
 Phone: 812-949-5446

Native Plants and Waterways

How they interact and protect our environment.



Plants that are native to Indiana offer so many benefits - especially to landscape design and land reclamation and restoration. One might wonder, "Why grow anything else?" Many native plants are seldom spread to environments that they are not welcome - a common problem with many exotic, non-native plants. Many native species like tulip trees, hydrangeas, black chokeberry, purple coneflower, cardinal flower and ostrich ferns are available in nurseries.

