

Planting a Seed...

Barb Holtz, OPN Seed





P



American lawns cover an area 3X larger than any irrigated crop in the United States.



That's about the size of the state of Texas!

Turf by the numbers...



How much water
used daily for
outdoor
irrigation?

9 billion
gallons



How much
fertilizer &
pesticides applied
annually?

3 mil. tons &
30,000 tons
respectively



How much
gasoline burned
caring for lawns
each year?

800 million
gallons
(17 mil. gallons spilled)

Good News!



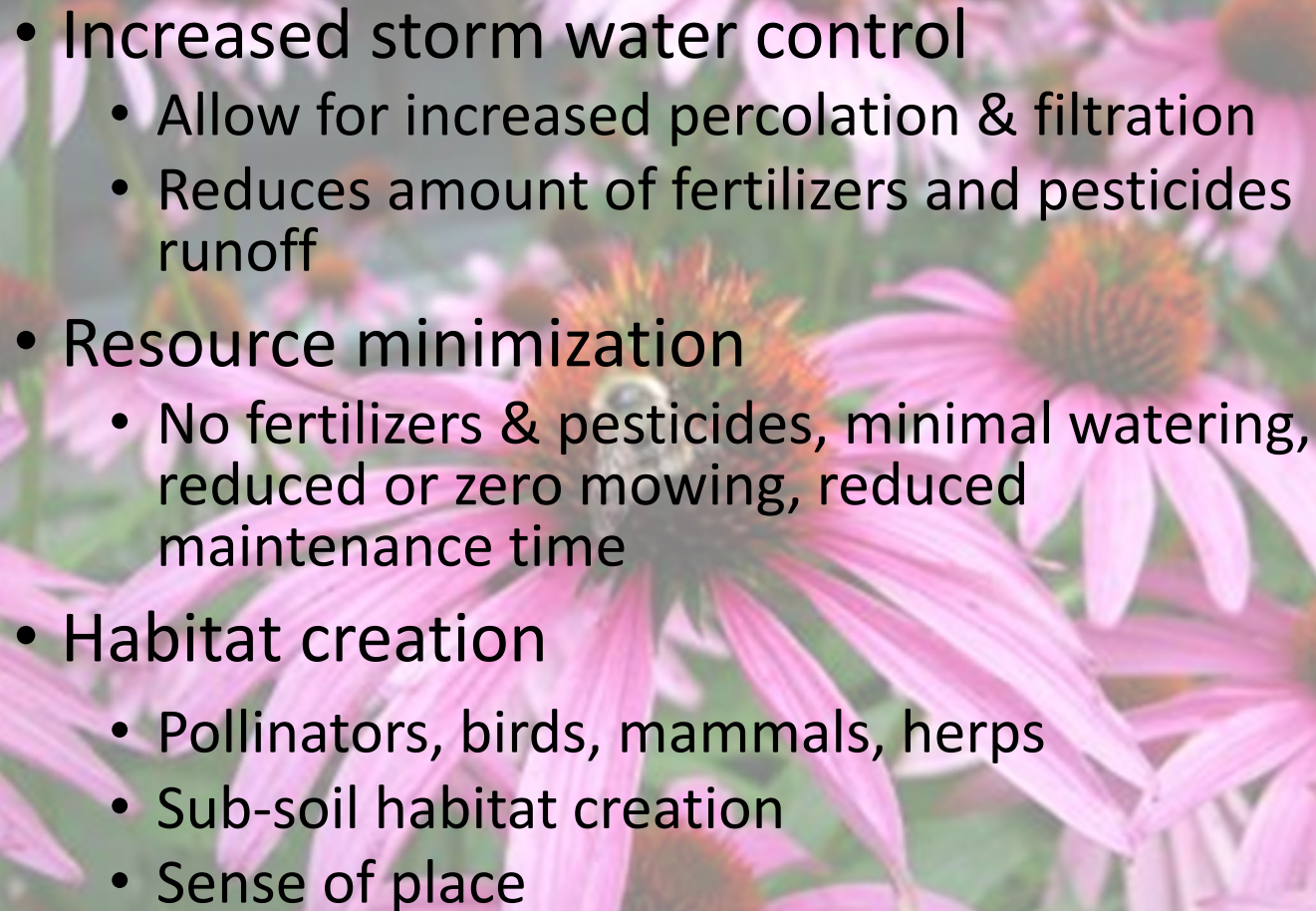


What is considered native?

- A species that was indigenous to the region prior to European settlement (350 years)
- Pure natives (open pollinated) are not manipulated for specific attributes – high genetic diversity

Why natives?

Environment, Economics, Ethics

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- A background image of several pink coneflowers (Echinacea) with prominent orange-brown centers, set against a green background.
- Increased storm water control
 - Allow for increased percolation & filtration
 - Reduces amount of fertilizers and pesticides runoff
 - Resource minimization
 - No fertilizers & pesticides, minimal watering, reduced or zero mowing, reduced maintenance time
 - Habitat creation
 - Pollinators, birds, mammals, herps
 - Sub-soil habitat creation
 - Sense of place

P

A photograph of a field of flowers, featuring red and yellow blossoms with green foliage. The word "Prep" is overlaid in a large, black, sans-serif font within a semi-transparent white rectangular box in the upper center of the image.

Prep

Simple Solution for Small Gardens:

1. Place cardboard or 10 layers of newspaper over area
2. Cover with 2-3" wood chips (hardwood mulch)
3. Seed directly into mulch
4. May want to incorporate hardscape border



Seeding Medium



For everything a season...

- Seed (after seed bank in controlled)
 - Spring seeding
 - After ground thaws until June 15
 - Dormant seeding
 - After soil temperatures are below 50°F (mid-Nov.)
 - Before freeze thaw cycle begins
 - Frost seeding
 - From beginning of freeze thaw cycle until spring
 - Take into account *stratification* requirements



A photograph of a garden scene featuring tall yellow flowers and red flowers with green foliage. The image is framed by a green border. Two semi-transparent white rectangular boxes are overlaid on the image, containing the text "Prep" and "Patience" respectively.

Prep

Patience

Expectations 1, 2, 3

- Depends on site
- Typically annuals will bloom first year, perennials will have green growth
- Biennials bloom second year
- Perennials bloom third year



A vibrant field of flowers, featuring tall yellow daisy-like flowers and clusters of red, star-shaped flowers. The plants are surrounded by lush green foliage. The background shows a clear blue sky and more distant greenery.

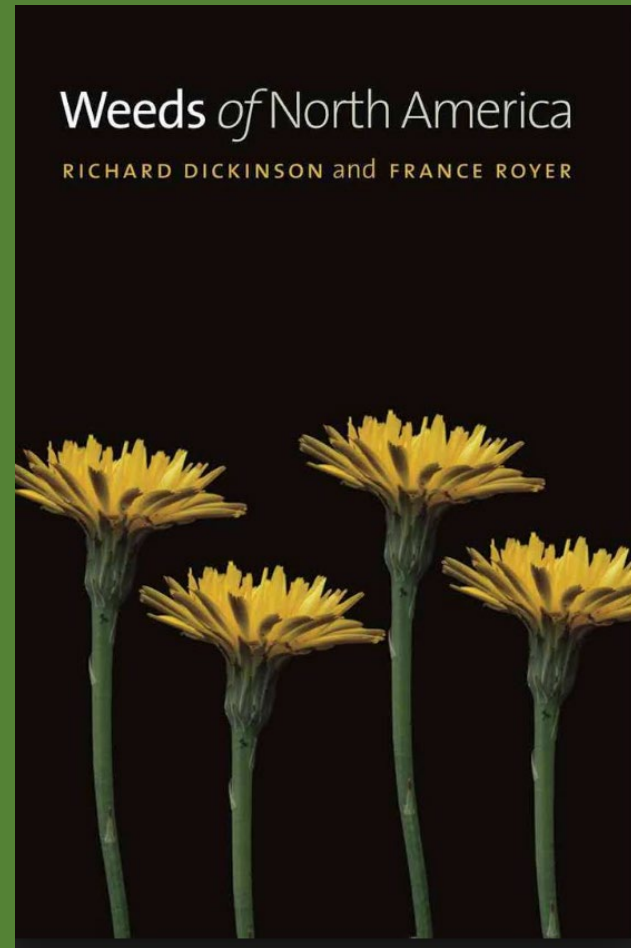
Prep

Patience

Persistence

No such thing as NO MAINTENANCE gardening!

- Removing undesirable species
 - Key is to start with sterile medium
 - Physically remove
 - Kill with herbicide
- Cutting seed heads of nearby species you don't want to seed into your bed



PATIO CHAIR!





NATIVE



A word about
‘NATIVARS’



Native plants	3
Butterflies	2
Other insects	13
Birds	2
Mammals	2



Native plants	113
Butterflies	33
Other insects	51
Birds	37
Mammals	9

50' X 100' lot size

Photos/Study by Toni Stahl & Marc Apfelstadt, Habitat Ambassador/Host, NWF

Lawn Mixes



Clover Lawn Mix



Bee Lawn Mix



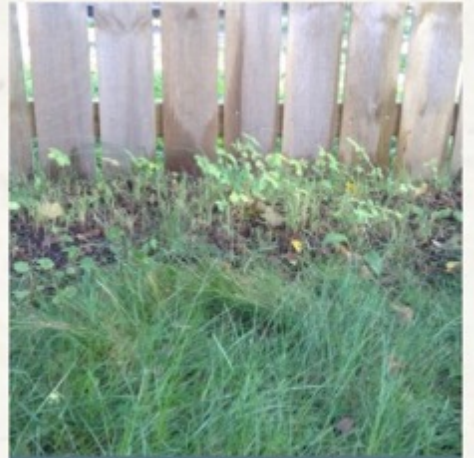
Flowering Lawn Mix



Freedom Lawn I



Freedom Lawn II



Freedom Lawn III



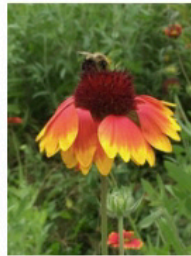


April is Ohio Native Plant Month

www.ohionativeplantmonth.org

ONPM Pocket Pollinator Garden Seed Packet

Square feet of lawn restored to native plant habitats in Ohio in 2021: _____



This year we would like to see how much lawn area in Ohio we can convert to healthy native plant habitats. If you replace some lawn in 2021, please write to send us a picture (no people please) and tell us the number of square feet you converted. Pictures can be emailed to OhioNativePlantMonth@gmail.com

Why Replacing Lawn with Native Gardens is Important

Lawns are the largest crop in the US covering almost 40 million acres. They require mowing, feeding with fertilizer, treating for insects and funguses, watering during droughts, aerating, over-seeding and more. They provide no nectar or pollen for bees, no food for butterflies, native birds, or insects, and no shelter for wildlife.

If every homeowner, organization, and business replaces a sunny area of lawn (very small to very large) with a garden to support pollinators and wildlife, the cumulative impact across Ohio will make a difference.





Prairie On!

opnseed.com

