



# Clallam Conservation District

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## Native Pollinator Seed Mix

This year we are excited to include a pollinator seed mix in the line-up of plants we are offering through our annual native plant sale. The mix is formulated to cover 100 square feet at a density of 40 seeds per square foot, and designed to attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects.

The ideal planting time for this seed mix is early spring (March) or fall (between September 15 and November 1). If the mix is spring-planted, some of species will likely remain dormant in the soil until the fall, and vice versa for a fall planting. The seed has been exposed to cold weather for stratification to help simulate real-world conditions a seed would receive outdoors to help with germination, but it is therefore recommended to store the seeds in the fridge before planting and avoid exposure to heat.

The combination of native annuals and perennials in this seed mix provides an ongoing succession of flowers over multiple years. The seed mix even includes native bunch grasses to provide nesting habitat for bees, and to reduce weed encroachment. Contents include:

**Annual Wildflowers 34%** - Douglas Meadowfoam (*Limnanthes douglasii*), Large Flower Collomia (*Collomia grandiflora*), Globe Gilia (*Gilia capitata*), Farewell to Spring (*Clarkia amoena*), Wine Cup Clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea*), Diamond Clarkia (*Clarkia rhomboidea*), Sea Blush (*Plectritis congesta*)

**Perennial Wildflowers 35%** - Springbank Clover (*Trifolium wormskioldii*), Douglas aster (*Symphyotrichum subspicatum*), Self Heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), Western Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Large Camas (*Camassia leichtinii*), Puget Sound Gumweed (*Grindelia integrifolia*), Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), Riverbank Lupine (*Lupinus rivularis*), Rose Checkermallow (*Sidalcea virgata*), Common Camas (*Camassia quamash*), Bigleaf Lupine (*Lupinus polyphyllus*), Meadow Checkermallow (*Sidalcea campestris*), Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*) seen in photo.



**Grasses 31%** - Prairie Junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*), Blue Wild Rye (*Elymus glaucus*), Roemer's Fescue (*Festuca romerii*), California Oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*), California Brome (*Bromus carinatus*), Tufted Hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), Meadow Barley (*Horedum brachyantherum*)

## Tips for Establishing Native Pollinators from Seed

When planting native grass and wildflower seed, you should first create bare, weed-free ground. Ideally you should try to maintain this bare ground for at least several weeks or months to allow any dormant weed seeds to germinate so you can immediately remove the seedlings.

Covering areas to be planted with plastic tarps, or sheet-mulching areas with cardboard and a thick layer of clean, weed-free compost are two additional excellent ways to prepare small areas for establishing with native meadow plants from seed.

When planting, you hand scatter seed directly onto the soil surface, agitating the seed mixture periodically during sowing to ensure the seed remains evenly mixed (i.e. so the heavy seed does not sink to the bottom of your mixture). Do not bury native seed or cover it with soil, most native grasses and wildflowers have small seeds and establish best when they germinate on the soil surface following a few weeks of rainfall. For a wonderful publication that covers all of this in depth with color photos, please refer to Establishing Pollinator Meadows from Seed found on the Xerces Society website at <http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/EstablishingPollinatorMeadows.pdf>