

SECTION 329200 – SEEDING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

A. Section Includes:

1. Eradication of existing turf and seeding with native grass and wildflower mix in areas designated on the Planting Plan.

1.2 SUBMITTALS

- A. Certification of Seed Mix: Submit supplier's documentation of seed mixture stating the botanical and common name and percentage by weight of each species and variety, and percentage of purity, germination, and weed seed. Include the production date and expiration date.
- B. Installation Schedule: Submit schedule showing anticipated planting dates within approved seeding times.
- C. Product Ordering: Native Seed mixes specified have long lead times and can sell out by end of season. Submit proof of order to ensure delivery of product to meet planned installation schedule.

1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Installer Qualifications: A qualified landscape installer whose work has resulted in successful turf and meadow establishment.
1. Installer's Field Supervision: Require Installer to maintain an experienced English speaking full-time supervisor on Project site when installation is in progress.
- B. Coordinate with general contractor (David Biche), irrigation contractor (Rainmaker), and planting contractor (McFarland). Verify that all contractors will have access to their work areas during and after installation.

1.4 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

- A. Store seed in original packaging with supplier's labels. Protect from moisture and extremes of temperature. Do not use wet seed or seed that is moldy or otherwise damaged. Use within supplier's recommended range for successful germination.

1.5 SEEDING TIMES

- A. Native Seed Mixes should be installed when soil temperatures range from 40 – 55 degrees F maximum. The general date range where these conditions are most likely to occur is late October through late April or early May. Schedule work accordingly.
- B. Weather Limitations: Proceed with planting only when weather conditions permit.
- C. Seeding outside of approved seeding times can only be performed with written approval by landscape architect. For "off-season" installations, Contractor will be required to increase standard seeding rates by 50% and insure adequate watering and protection can be maintained.
- D. Approved Seeding Times:
1. SPRING SEEDING - late April or early May when soil temperatures range from 40 – 55 degrees F maximum.
 2. FALL OR "DORMANT" SEEDING –Late October and November

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 GRASS SEED MIXES

- A. See plans for custom seed mixes for areas around the enclosures.

2.2 MULCHES

- A. Nonasphaltic Tackifier: Colloidal tackifier recommended by fiber-mulch manufacturer for slurry application; nontoxic and free of plant-growth or germination inhibitors.

2.3 EROSION-CONTROL MATERIALS for Moat Swales

- A. Erosion-Control Fiber Mesh: Biodegradable twisted jute or spun-coir mesh, a minimum of 0.92 lb/sq. yd., with 50 to 65 percent open area. Include manufacturer's recommended steel wire staples, 6 inches (150 mm) long.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION AND LAYOUT

- A. Verify layout of meadow areas in the field with Landscape Architect prior to start of work.
- B. Examine areas to receive native seed mix for compliance with requirements and other conditions affecting performance. Proceed with installation only after unsatisfactory conditions have been corrected.

3.2 PREPARATION AND ERADICATION OF EXISTING TURF AND VEGETATION

- A. Protect structures, utilities, sidewalks, pavements, and other facilities, trees, shrubs, turf and plantings from damage caused by seeding operations.
- B. Mow last year's lawn growth in area to be renovated.
- C. Apply Roundup or Rodeo herbicide at manufacturer's recommended concentration just after spring growth begins, before it reaches 6" height.
- D. Repeat herbicide application one to two weeks later as needed to address skips or persistent species.
- E. If substantial active plant tissues remain on the surface following a full kill by herbicides, a close mowing, tillage, or spot burning may be necessary to achieve good seed-to-soil contact. Inspect for polygonatum, thistle and other problem species. Do not seed until all weed growth has been eradicated.

3.3 SEEDING

- A. After approval of existing turf and vegetation eradication by Landscape Architect, apply seed at specified rate by drill seeding with no till drill and wheel. Seed depth = 1/4"-1/2". Add a bulking agent (such as kitty litter) as necessary to create an even flow of seed.
- B. Divide the seed into proportional amounts for each area of the project. If possible, seed half of the seed in one direction and make a second pass with the remaining half of the seed in a perpendicular direction until seed mix is applied evenly at specified rate.
- C. Water newly planted areas and keep moist until established.

3.4 CLEANUP AND PROTECTION

- A. Clean wheels of vehicles before leaving site to avoid tracking soil onto roads, walks, or other paved areas.
- B. Erect barricades and warning signs as required to protect newly seeded areas from traffic. Maintain barricades throughout establishment period and then remove.

3.5 MAINTENANCE OF GRASS MIXES

- A. Begin maintenance immediately after each area is planted and continue for a period of two years from date of final acceptance.
- B. Establishment Notes: The seedlings of long-lived, deep-rooted perennials typically produce more root structure than top growth, making the plants hard to identify. Some species in a native meadow take two to three years to become fully recognizable. Perennial plants do not produce flowers and seed heads until they have well-established roots. During this period, vigilant weed control (high mowing and/or an herbicide application) is necessary to assist in establishment. DO NOT FERTILIZE TO PROMOTE OR ACCELERATE TOP GROWTH.
- C. First Growing Season Maintenance

Whenever canopy (overall vegetation) reaches a height of 18" - trim with string trimmer to a height of 8" (Note: A lawn mower is not recommended as the mower height will be too low and native seedlings will be killed). Trimming will reduce competition by fast-growing weeds for sunlight, water and nutrients needed by slow-growing perennial natives. Mowing should cease by mid-September.

Weeding: Hand pull problem weeds during the first growing season at two week intervals.

- D. Second Growing Season Maintenance

- 1. Prior to new spring growth reaching a height of 2" (e.g., shortly after forsythia or redbud blooms), trim any material standing from the previous year close to the ground (approximately 2"). This will allow the soil to warm more quickly, which will stimulate the emergence and growth of native seedlings and reduce the likelihood of invasion by shrubs.
- 2. Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved herbicide. If there is a heavy infestation of ragweed or foxtail in the second growing season, trim the meadow to a height of 8". Trimming should cease by mid-September.

END OF SECTION 329200

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