PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

FIRST: WATER DRY POTS

When you get your plants home, poke your finger into each pot to check the moisture. If the soil is dry, water until it runs out the bottom of the pot. This makes the plant easier to remove from the pot in one piece without damaging the roots.

UNTIL YOU PLANT, KEEP PLANTS IN A PROTECTED SPOT

Keep them out of direct sun and strong wind and check daily for water. Potted plants can dry out or overheat quickly so try to get them planted within a few days.

PREPARE THE SITE

Clear the planting site of other vegetation before planting. There are several ways to do this, including smothering with cardboard, sod removal, and herbicide. The best method for you depends on the size of your site and what plants are present now.

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO PLANT

1. Lay out your pots on the prepared site, spaced about 12 inches apart.
2. Dig a hole slightly larger than the root ball. Set the soil aside in a bucket or tarp.
3. Squeeze the pot on all sides to loosen it and then gently pull on the top growth and wiggle. If the plant doesn't slide out easily, push up from the bottom of the pot.
4. Place the plant in the hole so the top of the plant's soil is level with the ground.
5. Refill the hole with soil and gently press down so the plant is firmly supported.
   - Bagged soil is optional. If used, mix it with the site's original soil.
6. Water gently and deeply to settle soil around the roots.
7. Apply a thin layer of mulch (1-2") to help retain moisture and prevent weeds while your native plants get established.
8. Mark your new plant with the tag for the first season, as a reminder to care for it.

ONGOING CARE

For the first month, check your plants daily and water deeply when the soil is dry.

- In spring and fall, you may only need to water a few times.
- In summer, especially in hot conditions, more frequent watering may be necessary.
- Once your plants are established, they should rarely require watering.

Enjoy sharing your garden with pollinators and other wildlife!

TEND
native plants