## Wildflower Seed Packets



We want people to "do something beautiful" with the wildflower seeds, such as turning a vacant area or lawns into a pretty spot with flowers. It will improve the natural and scenic landscape of Virginia and provide plants for pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

## What's in the seed packet?

We purchase the seed in bulk from a reputable source. The mix includes native plants, listed below, and other varieties that are naturalized in Virginia and commonly found in the landscape. There are no invasive species in the mix.

According to the supplier, the mix is about 70% annual flowers and 30% perennials, including: Baby's Breath (Gysophila elegans), Dwarf Cornflower/Bachelor Button, Five Spot, Lemon Mint, African Daisy, Sweet Alyssum, Toadflax, Tall Cornflower/Bachelor Button, Red Corn Poppy, Lance Leaf Coreopsis, Mixed Red Poppy Shirley, Wild Cosmos, California Poppy, Blanket Flower, Black Eyed Susan, Wild Perennial Lupine, Purple Coneflower, Russel Lupine, Plains Coreopsis, Siberian Wallflower, Blue Flax, Scarlet Flax, Annual Red Phlox, Bright Lights Cosmos, and Gloriosa Daisy.

Listed in the Virginia Atlas of the Virginia Flora as natives:

Bachelor Button Lemon Mint Sweet Alyssum Toadflax Common Cosmos Black-eyed Susan Purple Coneflower Plains Coreopsis

## **Planting tips**

- The best time to plant is late spring *after* the last frost in spring or *before* the first frost in the fall (see map);
- Wildflowers prefer a sunny location to grow, the more sun the better;
- Wildflower seeds will sprout in almost any kind of soil, just clear some area so they don't compete with other vegetation as the sprout;

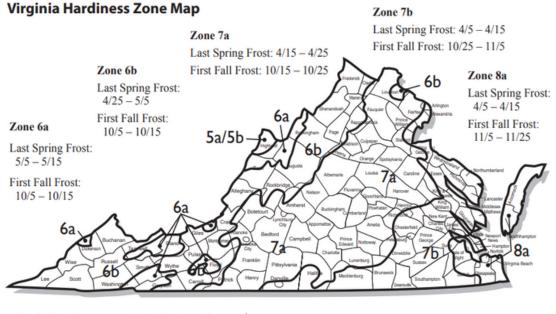


- It may be helpful to the seeds with a little "sand box" sand when you hand-broadcast (gently throw) the seeds on the soil; press them down into the soil (no more that 1/2 inch);
- Gently water the seeds to wet the soil, but not so much that the seeds puddle or run off with excess water; continue to water them as they dry out, which could be every day, for the first two weeks;
- Natural rainfall should be sufficient once the plants are established, except during dry spells.



Most wildflowers will bloom in spring and summer, but a few varieties will bloom into the fall as well.

Annual seed varieties will bloom the first season they're planted. Perennial varieties will only show limited germination in their first season after planting, but will bloom to their full potential in the following growing season.



Virginia Cooperative Extension







www.ext.vt.edu