

Native Landscaping Maintenance Requirements

With a City-approved landscaping plan, property owners may voluntarily convert turf grass and other high-maintenance or problematic areas to native landscaping to reduce mowing, fertilizing, and watering needs and/or help address erosion or drainage issues. Native grasses, perennial plants, shrubs and trees slow down rainwater, aerate soil and help water percolate into the ground, reducing erosion and flooding. Native landscaping may include, but is not limited to, prairie or wetland reconstruction, wildlife habitat, rain gardens, or other drainage or erosion control projects.

Signage and regular maintenance of native landscaping is necessary to enhance aesthetics, public understanding and acceptance, and ecological function. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain all native landscaped areas in accordance with the approved Native Landscape Maintenance Agreement. This page provides a starting point and general guidance on the recommended maintenance along with the recommended frequency for each item.

Maintenance Activities	Suggested Schedule
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey seedlings to determine germination success; overseed/replant as necessary Spot spray herbicide if needed (apply per manufacture’s label in/near waterbodies) Mow weeds before they go to seed 	Years 1 and 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair erosion Repair or replace signage Adjust grading/soils to ensure water does not stand for longer than 72 hours Mow or remove weeds; spot spray herbicide if needed 	As Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove and properly dispose all trash and debris Replace vegetation in bare areas per approved landscape plan to maintain a density to prevent erosion Remove invasive species 	Semi-Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mow or burn prairie plants in accordance with city and state laws 	Annually

Resources

Shaw Nature Reserve Native Landscaping Manual:

www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativeLandscapingManual/NativeLandscapingManual.aspx

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District Landscape Guide for Stormwater BMP Design:

www.shawnature.org/nativeland/MSD.aspx