

Sheridan Wildflower Garden

Native Grasses

Andropogon gerardii (Big Bluestem)



- Leaf: Upright clump of stems with flattened leaves
- Plant height: 90 to 240 cm tall
- Flowers/Fruit: Flowering stems rise in late summer above the foliage clump bearing purplish-red three-parted, finger-like flower clusters
- Flowering period: April to June (Early Season)
- Water: Dry to medium
- Ontario native: Yes
- Attracts: Butterflies, Birds, Grasshoppers
- Other notes: Perennial. Its extensive root system makes this a good grass for erosion control
- References:
 - https://cvc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/1302_Naturescaping_Mar1-Sm_1pagespread.pdf
 - <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=g720>

Sorghastrum nutans (Indian Grass)



- Leaf: Upright clumps of slender, blue-green leaves. Foliage turns orange-yellow in the fall
- Plant height: 90 to 240 cm tall
- Flowers/Fruit: Stiff, vertical flowering stems, topped with narrow, feathery, light brown flower panicles rise above the foliage clump
- Flowering period: September to February (Winter Season)
- Water: Dry to medium
- Ontario native: Yes
- Attracts: Birds
- Other notes: Perennial. Flowering grass with delicate bronze seed head. Its extensive root system makes this a good grass for erosion control
- References:
 - https://cvc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/1302_Naturescaping_Mar1-Sm_1pagespread.pdf
 - <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=g780>