Northwest Shortgrass Roadside

Abbreviation: NSR

Purpose:	**Inslopes and medians; full sun to part-shade; any site with dry soils that will get mowed twice per year or less. This mix meets pollinator habitat requirements.**				
Planting Area:	**NW MN; MnDOT District 2 west***				
Replaces:	**35-221 Dry Prairie General & 36-411 Woodland Edge NW**				
Cost Estimate:	**$950/acre (35-221 averages $860/acre, 36-411 rarely used)**				
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Rate (lb/ac)**	**% of Mix (by weight)**	**% by Seed**	**Seeds/ sq ft**
Side-oats Grama	*Bouteloua curtipendula*	3.50	13.46%	5.12%	7.71
Blue Grama	*Bouteloua gracilis*	0.75	2.88%	7.31%	11.02
Nodding Wild Rye	*Elymus canadensis*	2.50	9.62%	3.17%	4.78
Slender Wheatgrass	*Elymus trachycaulus*	5.60	21.54%	9.41%	14.19
Junegrass	*Koeleria macrantha*	0.15	0.58%	7.31%	11.02
Perennial Ryegrass	*Lolium perenne*	6.00	23.08%	19.82%	29.89
Green Needle Grass	*Nassella viridula*	1.00	3.85%	2.56%	3.86
Little Blustem	*Schizachyrium scoparium*	3.00	11.54%	10.96%	16.53
Rough Dropseed	*Sporobolus compositus*	0.50	1.92%	3.65%	5.51
	Grasses Subtotal	**23.00**	**88.47%**	**69.31%**	**104.51**
Blue Giant Hyssop	*Agastache foeniculum*	0.05	0.19%	1.10%	1.65
Prairie Wild Onion	*Allium stellatum*	0.05	0.19%	0.13%	0.20
Leadplant	*Amorpha canescens*	0.15	0.58%	0.45%	0.67
Prairie Sage	*Artemisia ludoviciana*	0.05	0.19%	3.04%	4.59
Common Milkweed	*Asclepias syriaca*	0.10	0.38%	0.10%	0.15
Whorled Milkweed	*Asclepias verticillata*	0.05	0.19%	0.13%	0.20
White Prairie Clover	*Dalea candida*	0.60	2.31%	2.78%	4.19
Purple Prairie Clover	*Dalea purpurea*	0.60	2.31%	2.19%	3.31
Tall Cinquefoil	*Drymocallis arguta*	0.06	0.23%	3.36%	5.07
Narrow-leaved Purple Coneflower	*Echinacea angustifolia*	0.06	0.23%	0.10%	0.15
Blanketflower	*Gaillardia aristata*	0.06	0.23%	0.17%	0.26
Wild Licorice	*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*	0.10	0.38%	0.10%	0.14
Stiff Sunflower	*Helianthus pauciflorus*	0.06	0.23%	0.06%	0.09
Dotted Blazing Star	*Liatris punctata*	0.05	0.19%	0.09%	0.13
Wild Bergamot	*Monarda fistulosa*	0.05	0.19%	0.85%	1.29
Prairie Coneflower	*Ratibida columnifera*	0.15	0.58%	1.53%	2.31
Prairie Rose	*Rosa arkansana*	0.08	0.31%	0.02%	0.03
Black-eyed Susan	*Rudbeckia hirta*	0.25	0.96%	5.60%	8.45
Gray Goldenrod	*Solidago nemoralis*	0.05	0.19%	3.65%	5.51

Stiff Goldenrod	*Solidago rigida*	0.06	0.23%	0.60%	0.90
Showy Goldenrod	*Solidago speciosa*	0.05	0.19%	0.97%	1.47
Heath Aster	*Symphyotrichum ericoides*	0.05	0.19%	2.44%	3.67
Smooth Blue Aster	*Symphyotrichum laeve*	0.06	0.23%	0.80%	1.21
Western Spiderwort	*Tradescantia occidentalis*	0.06	0.23%	0.13%	0.20
Heart-leaved Alexanders	*Zizia aptera*	0.10	0.38%	0.29%	0.44
	Forbs Subtotal	**3.00**	**11.51%**	**30.69%**	**46.28**
	Total	**26.00**	**100%**	**100%**	**150.79**

Note: District 2 west includes Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, and Norman counties.

Changes since 2023 reviews:

- Removed birdfoot violet - difficult to grow at scale and therefore expensive and unavailable
- Replaced American Vetch with licorice root due to availability
- ~~Replaced Heath Aster with Silky Aster due to availability~~
    - Reverted to Heath Aster due to new information on availability
- Replaced Sand Dropseed with Rough Dropseed due to availability
- Removed hairy goldenaster and moved it to inslope mix

Species considered but not included:

- Aromatic Aster - not available
- Sky Blue Aster - not native in NW MN
- Sand Dropseed - only available from South Dakota

Back to Seed Mix Index