

Native Grass Species Appropriate for Restoration Projects

The following native prairie grasses are known to occur in the Upper Thames River watershed and are appropriate for grassland restoration projects. The list does not include native grasses that are known to be weedy in restoration sites.

Recommended Grasses

Scientific Name	Common Name	Prefers Dry Sites	Prefers Wet Sites	Notes
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem	✓		
<i>Bromus ciliatus</i>	Fringed Brome		✓	
<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	Kalm's Brome	✓		May not be available at nurseries
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	Bluejoint Reedgrass		✓	Formerly Canada Bluejoint
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wildrye	✓		
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Bottlebrush Grass	✓		Prefers light shade
<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i>	Thick-spike Wildrye			
<i>Elymus riparius</i>	Eastern Riverbank Wildrye		✓	
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wildrye	✓		
<i>Glyceria grandis</i>	Tall Mannagrass		✓	
<i>Glyceria striata</i>	Fowl Mannagrass		✓	
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice Cutgrass		✓	
<i>Muglenbergia mexicana</i>	Mexican Muhly		✓	Formerly Satin Grass
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Old Switch Panicgrass	✓	✓	Formerly Switchgrass
<i>Poa palustris</i>	Fowl Bluegrass		✓	Formerly Meadow Grass
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	✓		
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Yellow Indiangrass	✓		
<i>Sporobolus compositus</i>	Rough Dropseed	✓		
<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	Sand Dropseed	✓		



Yellow Indiangrass



Little Bluestem



Old Switch Panicgrass



Big Bluestem

Additional information is available at www.thamesriver.on.ca, including:

- Butterfly Larvae Host Food Plants
- Gardening with Native Plants
- Invasive Non-native Plants in the Upper Thames River Watershed
- Recommended Native Wildflowers and Grasses
- Recommended Native Trees and Shrubs
- Southwestern Ontario Nurseries that Sell Native Plants
- Tallgrass Prairie Plant Species Native to Middlesex, Oxford, and Perth Counties

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