



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO

# Water Conservancy District

*"Your investment in water"*

## Water Wise Demonstration Garden

### Native Reclamation Turf Grass

#### Blue Grama

*Bouteloua gracilis*

Blue Grama is a flat-bladed, warm-season bunch grass. It has a blue-green color and a soft, fine texture during the growing season. Prefers full sun. Grows 8 to 15 inches tall and can be mowed to 2 1/2 to 3 inches. Tolerates moderate traffic during the growing season but is vulnerable during dormancy (October to May). Needs only 1/2 to 3/4 inches of water during the hot season every two weeks, and is very heat and drought tolerant.

#### Buffalo Grass

*Buchloe dactyloides*

Buffalo grass is a sod-forming, warm-season grass. It is fine bladed blue-green and soft textured. Prefers full sun. Grows to 8 inches and can be mowed 2 1/2 to 3 inches. Tolerates moderate traffic during active growth but not during dormant months (October to May). Needs only 1/2 to 3/4 inches of water during the hot season every two weeks, and is heat and drought tolerant.

#### Galleta

*Hilaria jamesii*

Galleta is a sod-forming, warm-season grass. It is a course-bladed grass that tolerates high traffic. Prefers full sun. Grows from 6 to 20 inches tall and can be mowed to 3 inches. A drought and heat tolerant species from the western US. Moderate to low water user. Spreads by rhizomes and seed.

#### Indian Rice Grass

*Achnatherum hymenoides*

Indian Rice grass is a cool-season, bunch grass native. Grows up to 30 inches tall but can be kept mowed to 3 inches. Goes dormant during the hottest part of the year but is one of the first grasses to green up. Germinates easily during the cool spring months if watered. Tolerates moderate traffic. Drought tolerant once established.

#### Little Bluestem

*Schizachyrium scoparium*

Little Bluestem is a warm-season bunch grass that grows throughout most of N. America. Grow from 18 to 36 inches a year depending on available moisture. Can be mowed to 3 inches. It is not fussy about soil and tolerates high salinity. It has course stems and green-blue foliage. There are several named varieties available.

#### Sand Dropseed

*Sporobolus cryptandrus*

Sand Dropseed is a warm-season bunch grass native. It does not have rhizomes. Grows from 16 to 40 inches tall and can be mowed to 3 inches. It does not tolerate wet soils. Prefers full sun. It is valuable for wind erosion control in sandy soils. Will grow up to 8000' elevation.

#### Sideoats Grama

*Bouteloua curtipendula*

Sideoats grama is a warm-season, bunch or sod-forming native. It grows from 15 to 30 inches and can be mowed to 3 inches. It adapts to most soils and is very drought tolerant. It is a course grass that can be grown up to 7000' elevation. It has a distinct flowering habit with its flowers and seed on only one side of the stem.

#### Western Wheatgrass

*Pascopyrum smithii*

Western Wheatgrass is a cool-season, sod-forming native. It grows from 12 to 36 inches but can be mowed to 3 inches. It tolerates traffic well. The foliage is rigid, upright and a blue-green color. Can go dormant in high heat. Tolerates alkaline soils.



### Reclamation Turf Grass Mix

- Blue Grama 2.5 lbs. / acre
- Buffalo Grass 13.5 lbs. / acre
- Galleta 2.25 lbs. / acre
- Indian Rice grass 2 lbs. / acre
- Little Bluestem 3 lbs. / acre
- Sand Dropseed 1 lb. / acre
- Side Oats Grama 7.5 lbs. / acre
- Western Wheat 12.5 lbs. / acre

This is a mixture of cool and warm season native grasses blended to perform well over a long season. This turf area is mowed regularly during the growing season to maintain a groomed lawn appearance. It is irrigated with MP rotator spray heads with about 1/4 inch water per week.

More information  
can be found on our  
website:

[www.secwd.org/  
content/turf-  
replacement](http://www.secwd.org/content/turf-replacement)

