INDIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
NATIVE PLANT KITS

Frequently Asked Questions

How much space does a plant kit cover? How many plants will I need?
Many native species are at least 3 feet tall and one or more feet wide at maturity. While a planting density of one foot on center will look great during the first year, the plants may be very crowded once they mature. Spacing plants 18 or 24 inches on center is less costly and just as showy in the end. Determine the size of the space you would like to plant and then use this information to calculate how many kits you will need based on your plant spacing.
12 in. center spacing – 50 plants will cover 50 sq. ft.
18 in. center spacing – 50 plants will cover ~100 sq. ft.
24 in. center spacing – 50 plants will cover 200 sq. ft.

How big are the plants?
The plants are round-tapered plugs – approximately 2 ¼ in. x 5 in. with open bottoms.

Will they bloom the first year?
Plugs are smaller and less expensive than quart or gallon size stock plants, but they will be less showy after planting. After a full year in the ground, it is difficult to distinguish a planting installed with plugs versus gallons.

When will my plants arrive?
Native plant kits and seeds will be shipped mid-May thru June. Bare-root trees and shrubs will ship between November and early March. If ordered between April and October, you can expect your trees or shrubs to arrive in late November or early December. They will be dormant and should be planted immediately to reduce transplant shock. If ordered between November and February, you can expect them to arrive in late February, March, or early April.

Do I need to sign for delivery or will my plants be dropped off?
Plant kits currently ship via UPS, which does not typically require a signature. However, we do recommend that you are available to unpack the plants as soon as possible to avoid damage to them.

What should I do with my NATIVE PLANT KIT after arrival?
After delivery, remove the plug trays immediately from packaging and set them in a cool, semi-shaded area until you are ready to plant. If the soil around the plant roots is dry, irrigate to keep the roots moist, but not saturated. If watered properly and protected from extreme conditions, such as excessive heat, sun, strong winds or frost or freezing conditions, plants should be fine in their plug trays for up to several weeks.

Are there any special instructions for planting?
Install native plants as you would any landscape materials while taking care during installation not to damage the roots (many native plants have an extensive tap root).

What should I do with my BARE ROOT TREES/SHRUBS after arrival?
After delivery, remove the trees/shrubs immediately from the box and store upright to prevent mold growth. Keep roots moist until plants are installed. They may be held in buckets or containers of water on site; however, if plant material will not be installed for a week or longer, do not keep in standing water. Keep plants in a cold, dark area to prevent them breaking dormancy until you are ready to plant. Bare root trees and shrubs can be stored this way for several days but check frequently for signs of mold and to make sure they are adequately watered.

Have additional Questions? Send us an email at info@indianawildlife.org or call us: 317 875-9453