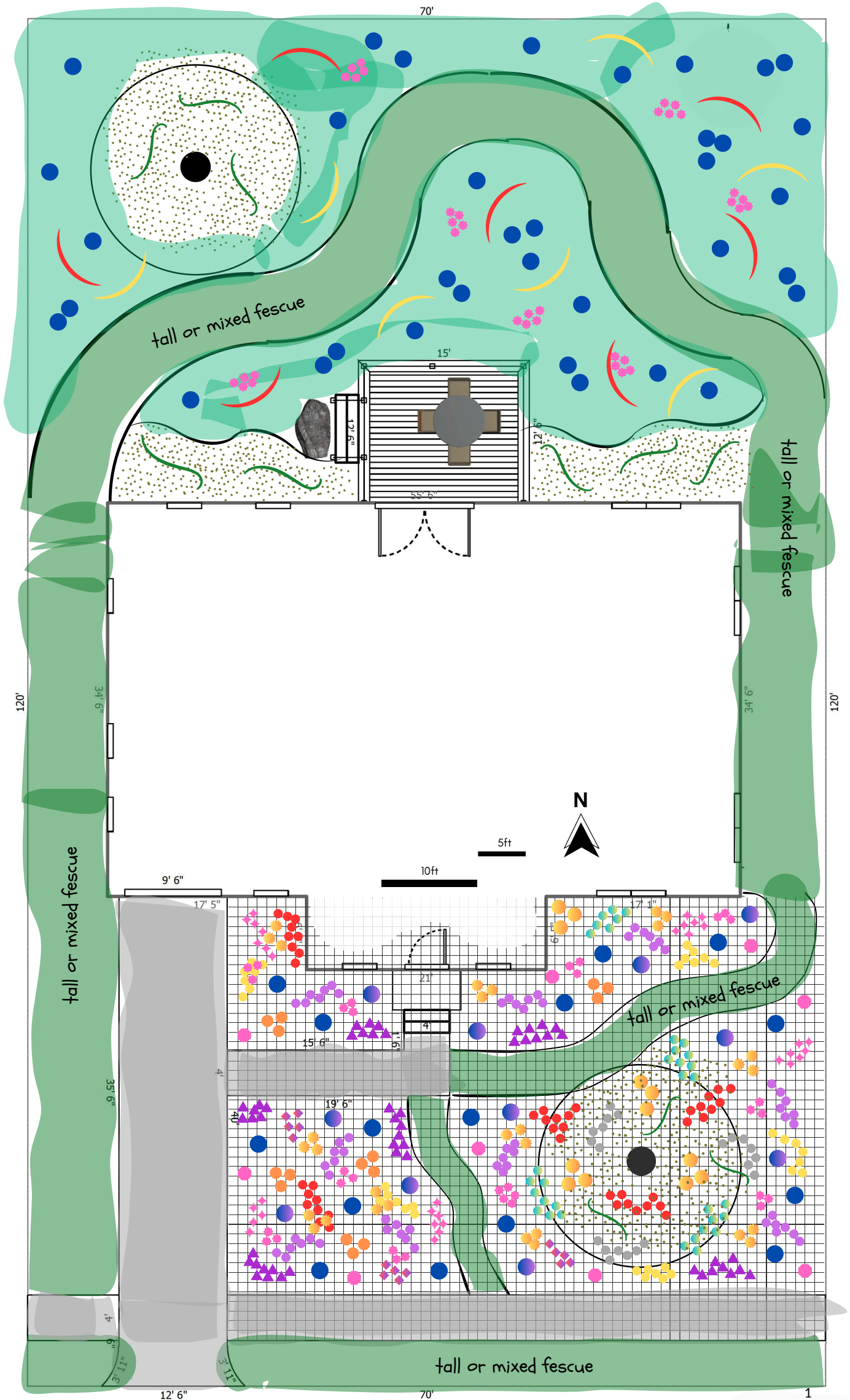











Wild Ones Plan View for Native garden Design





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Front Yard











plant total #	botanical name	common name
1,000	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	blue grama
20 groups of 5 -- 100	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	sideoats grama
 200	<i>Carex albicans</i>	white-tinged sedge
 drifts of 10 (30)	<i>Carex sprengei</i>	sprengel's sedge
 50	<i>Penstemon cobaea</i>	prairie penstemon
 11	<i>Baptisia minor</i>	dwarf blue indigo
 34	<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	prairie alumroot
 45	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	wild columbine
 63	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower
 15	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterflyweed
 32	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	purple prairie clover
 21	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	tall thimbleweed
 35	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan
 9	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	purple poppy mallow
 15	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	dotted blazingstar
 26	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	button blazingstar
 30	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	showy goldenrod
 12	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	zigzag goldenrod
 15	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	aromatic aster

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Back Yard

plant total #	botanical name	common name
	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	blue grama
 350	<i>Carex albicans</i>	white-tinged sedge
 drifts of 10	<i>Carex sprengeii</i>	sprengel's sedge
 drifts of 10	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	wild columbine
 drifts of 10	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan
 36	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	aromatic aster
 35	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	button blazingstar
 ?	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterflyweed
 ?	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	purple prairie clover
 ?	<i>Penstemon cobaea</i>	prairie penstemon



Site Assumptions

Doing a site analysis is critical to proper plant selection and helping reduce management over time by place plants correctly on the site and among one another. For this plan we are assuming a rather level grade or slight slope away from the house, as well as a clay-loam soil that is moderately compacted. The front and back yards are in fairly pristine tall fescue lawn and our goal is to work with what we have to reduce expense and labor.

Preparation Method

There are many strategies to employ when converting a lawn to a designed meadow garden, and each have their pros and cons; choosing the one that syncs up best with your ability, pocket book, and time frame is critical. For this site we applied one treatment of glyphosate, broadcast 1.5" of shredded wood mulch (front), then planted directly into the ground. This method results in less site disturbance and fewer weeds while letting the dead lawn add organic matter as it breaks down. For the back yard we scalped the lawn after spraying, raked it out, then broadcast *Bouteloua gracilis* seed directly into the dead lawn.

Design Considerations

The planting under the trees, or within the dripline -- as well as the north foundation bed -- is composed of shade tolerant and woodland edge species using two sedge as the matrix /living green mulch / groundcover. The rest of the landscape employs full-sun species using *Bouteloua* species as the matrix. It's a good idea to try and blend the sun / shade matrix plants in the area around the tree's dripline. Place matrix plants at every grid line intersection. Further, you may want a taller matrix in the sunny areas, so one strategy would be to swap out the *Bouteloua gracilis* with *Bouteloua curtipendula*, and (for out front) the *Bouteloua curtipendula* with *Schizachyrium scoparium* (little bluestem).

You may also find that the over number of forb specimens are not enough and you'd like more, or that over time you'd like to increase the diversity and structure and bloom succession. There's plenty of room to do that in the groundcover layer in both sun and shade areas.

Management

During the first year weed control is critical. We expect mostly annuals like foxtail and crabgrass which can quickly outpace the native plant plugs and look gangly, so deadheading them is important for aesthetics; however, since these are annual species, there's no need to pull which disturbs soil and brings up more weed seeds to germinate. Since we are planting so densely, on 6-12 inch centers or seeding, the garden will start to out compete most weed species in years 2-3 and weed control will be much less of an issue. Each spring the landscape in the sunny areas should be mowed down to 6 inches around April 1, while the shade areas with sedge are left alone.

Watering schedules in clay-loam in southeast Nebraska vary based on weather and planting time of year, but generally a 60-90 minute aerial or overhead soaking (not drip hoses) right after planting, followed by a 45 minute watering 2-3 times per week for 2-3 weeks gets us off to a good start. If fall planted, watering after the initial period isn't usually needed, but in spring we suggest a weekly watering of 60 minutes for a few more weeks as well as a few times during a prolonged drought of several weeks (which is common in July, August, or even September). Watering in year two is often not required. Sown areas will need consistent surface soil moisture for the first 3-5 weeks to germinate the *Bouteloua* seed.