



EL PASO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Colorado Springs, CO 80916

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districtmanager@epccd.org

<https://epccd.org>

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DISTRICT CONSERVATION TECH

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The El Paso County Conservation District serves landowners, land users, and partners to champion the responsible management and conservation of our finite natural resources.

To Whom It May Concern,

The El Paso County Conservation District (EPCCD) Board of Supervisors recommendations are as follows:

Ground Disturbance: If the ground is disturbed, it should be mulched or revegetated within **45 days of disturbance**. It is generally important that some type of native grass should be planted for the protection of natural resources, erosion control, native vegetation preservation, sedimentation prevention, habitat protection, stormwater management, and soil health. Please make sure the "native" grasses and plants already in place are in fact native to the area. The EPCCD store inventory generally includes both our Shotgun Native Grass Seed Mix as well as the El Paso Low Grow Grass Seed Mix; these are our recommendations should grass seed need to be implemented.

- Our **Shotgun Native Grass Seed Mix** is formulated specifically for the Pikes Peak Front Range by our NRCS District Conservationist and Rangeland Management partners. It is drought-tolerant and includes: about 20% each of Big Bluestem Native and Wheatgrass, Western Native, and about 10% each of Grama, Sideoats Native, Green Needlegrass Native, Little Bluestem Native, Prairie Sandreed Native, Switchgrass Native, and Yellow Indiangrass Native.
- The **El Paso Low Grow Grass Seed Mix** is a great drought-tolerant and low-grow grass seed mix designed for the Pikes Peak Front Range; it includes: about 24% Western Wheatgrass, about 20% Blue Grama, Native, about 18% Buffalograss, about 13% Sideoats Grama, about 6% Green Needlegrass, and about 1.5% Sand Dropseed. More information about these grass seed mixes, as well as clover, cover crop, and wildflower seeds, and many waterwise/Coloradoscape plants, is available on our website at <https://epccd.org/>

Integrated Noxious Weed Management: Early intervention and integrated control measures are generally important, especially in areas where the ground is disturbed or undergoing development for: preservation of native vegetation, protection of land and soil, fire risk reduction, maintenance of water quality, cost savings, and long-term health and sustainability. An integrated noxious weed control plan typically includes a combination of prevention, mechanical, biological, and/or chemical control, and ongoing assessment and monitoring. It is a proactive approach to address the threat posed by invasive weeds and protect the ecological and economic health of the region. If there is no integrated noxious weed control plan in place, we recommend a weed program be reviewed and approved by the NRCS, Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado State University Extension - El Paso County, El Paso County Environmental Services Department, or a qualified weed management professional *prior* to the land use authority approval.

If you have any questions regarding these remarks please call us at 719-600-4706 or email districtmanager@epccd.org

Thank you,

Billy Richard

Billy Richard, Board President
El Paso County Conservation District