A vibrant prairie landscape featuring a field of tall green grass and numerous yellow wildflowers. In the background, a dense line of green trees stretches across the horizon under a bright blue sky filled with scattered white clouds. The text is centered over the middle of the image.

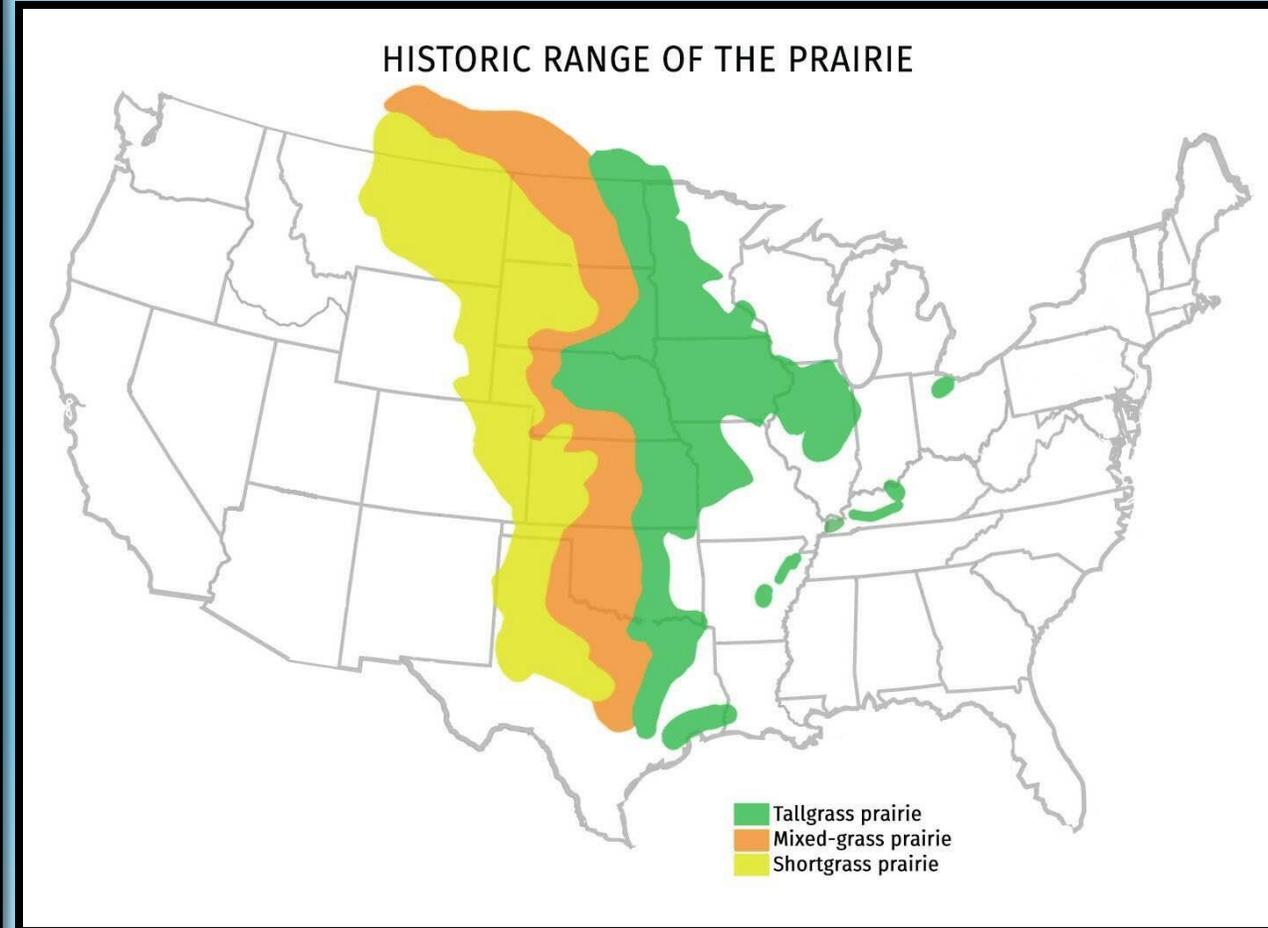
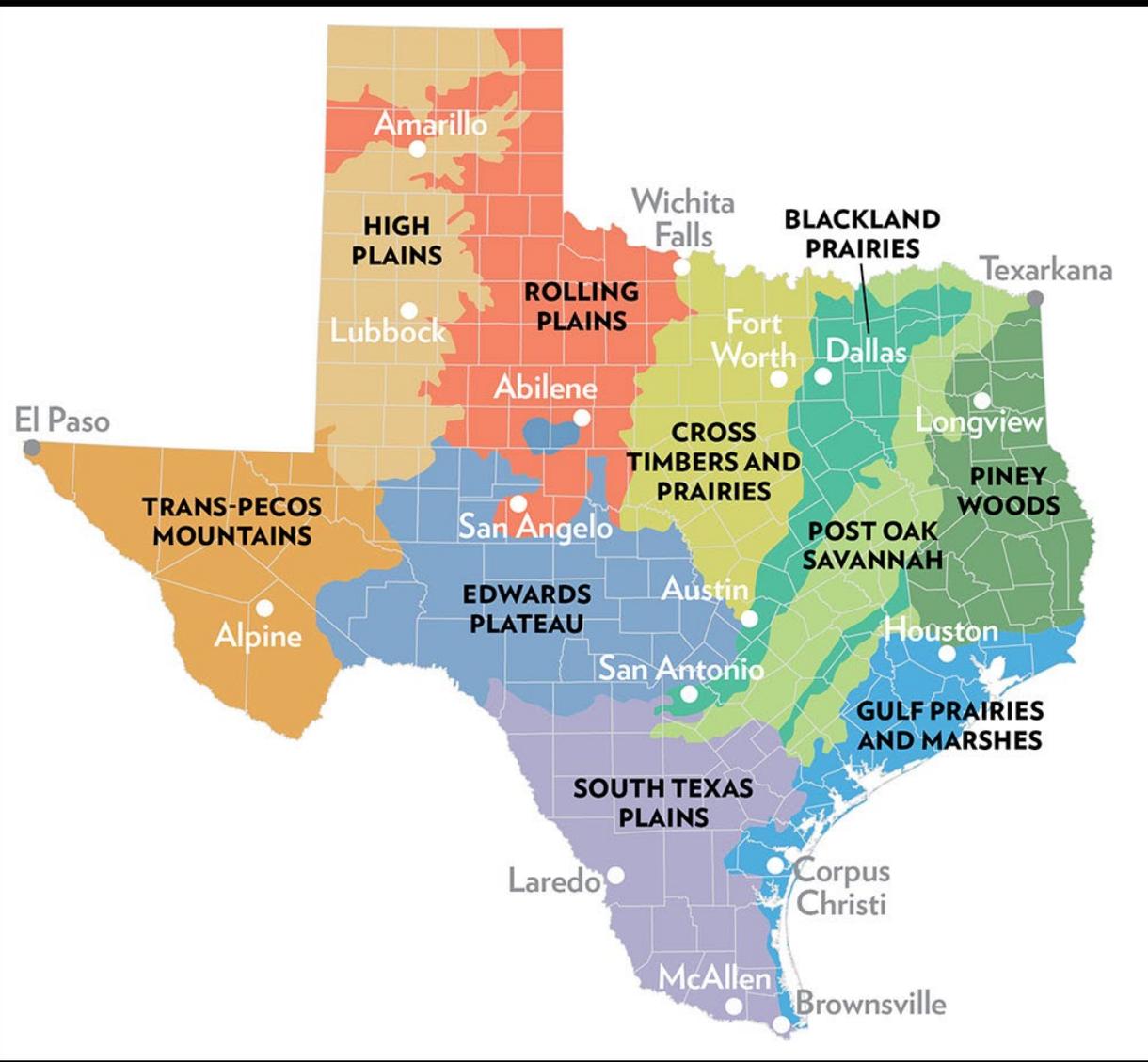
Making your own
Pocket Prairie

What is a prairie?

- A prairie is a type of grassland ecosystem characterized by grasses, wildflowers, and other herbaceous plants, with limited tree cover.
- Historically, prairies covered an estimated 677,394 square miles - nearly a quarter of the lower 48 states - from 550 million to 1 billion acres.



Historical Prairies



Pocket Prairie: prairie but smaller

A pocket prairie is a miniature prairie of an acre or less that features native plants, grasses and forbs. Once established, these parcels of habitat are easy to maintain and provide food and shelter for pollinators and birds, as well as adding beauty to your garden.



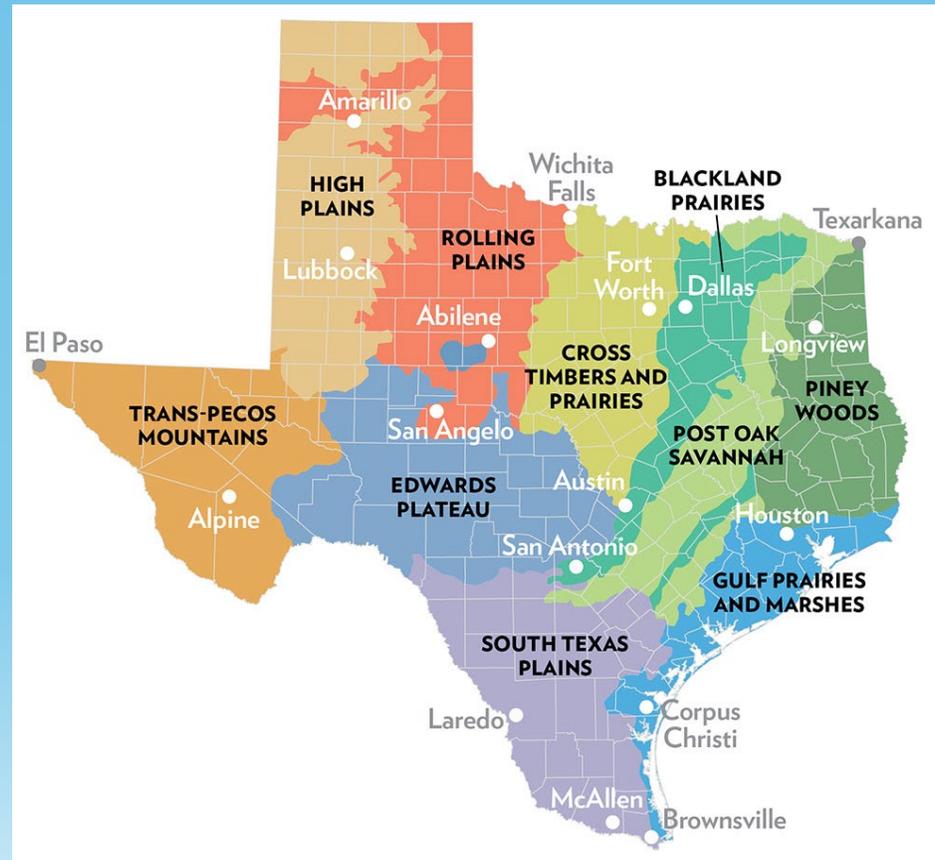
Site selection and size

- Sunlight
- Soils
- Access
- Maintenance
- Marginal areas
- Areas with limited irrigation



Species selection

- Natives only if possible
- Number of species
- Grass/ Forb mix
- Site specific species



Native Grasses

Southern Rolling Plains

- Western wheatgrass
- Big bluestem
- Sand big bluestem
- Sideoats grama
- Blue grama
- Hairy grama
- Buffalograss
- Canada wildrye
- Curly mesquite
- Texas bluegrass
- Switchgrass
- Indiangrass

Edwards Plateau

- Silver bluestem
- Canada wildrye
- Big muhly
- Little bluestem
- Indiangrass
- Hairy grama
- Buffalograss
- Lindheimer muhly
- Seep muhly
- Big Bluestem
- Eastern Gammagrass
- Blue Gramma
- Switchgrass
- Texas cupgrass



Native Grasses



Native Forbs

Southern Rolling Plains

- Winecup
- Square-bud evening-primrose
- Englemann daisy
- Blackfoot daisy
- Missouri evening-primrose
- Pink plains penstemon
- Mexican hat
- Mealy sage
- Copper-mallow
- Huisache-daisy
- Indian blanket
- Yellow plainsman
- Blue flax
- Tahoka daisy
- Prairie verbena

Edwards Plateau

- Columbine
- Butterfly weed
- Englemann's daisy
- Dotted gayfeather
- Turk's cap
- Cedar sage
- Standing cypress
- Brown-eyed susan
- Greenthread
- Orange zexmenia
- Bush sunflower
- Maximillian sunflower
- Texas skeleton plant
- Upright, Purple prairie coneflower
- Bush morning glory
- Standing cypress
- Wild petunia
- White, Purple winecup

Native Forbs



Seedbed preparation

- Remove all existing vegetation and root systems in the area to reduce the competition for nutrients, light, and water.
- Disturb the soil surface to ensure good seed to soil contact
- Amend soil if necessary



Seeding and Planting

- Broadcast
- Drilling
- Hand seeding
- Potted plants



Management and upkeep

- Mowing & Trimming
- Hand clearing
- Prescribed fire
- Grazing



A wide-angle photograph of a field of yellow wildflowers, likely black-eyed Susans, in full bloom. The flowers are scattered throughout a field of tall, green grass. In the background, a dense line of green trees stretches across the horizon under a bright blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds. The overall scene is bright and natural.

Questions?