

Enhanced Natural Areas: Impacts on Chatfield Farms

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Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms is working to create replicable approaches to converting non-native areas into diverse native plant communities. The long-term stability of our plantings is directly related to site preparation, minimizing soil disturbance, seed treatment, and variable introduced disturbance. Our goal is to promote a biologically active environment to maximize seed germination and early establishment. Recruiting a diverse set of perennial roots will jumpstart the soil building process and increase the potential of our soils overtime. Management of above ground biomass plays a key role in how we maintain species diversity. Our methods for reconnecting the sun to the soil can be adapted and applied to a variety of plant material and ecosystems.

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