ArcelorMittal Riverdale Prairie Reconstruction

Iza Redlinski and Laura Milkert, Keller Science Action Center, The Field Museum, Chicago IL

Photos by Iza Redlinski and Laura Milkert. Produced by Iza Redlinski and Tyana Wachter. [fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org] Rapid Color Guide #832 version 1 02/2017

Planted in 2014 with the Wildlife Habitat Council, this prairie reconstruction transformed what once was a parking lot into a habitat with native plants that reduce pollution and stormwater surge, create wildlife habitat, and increase our quality of life. The Calumet Region, spanning from northeast Illinois to southwest Michigan along Lake Michigan, is one of the most interesting, where rare natural communities find themselves adjacent to large industrial enterprises. Due to the fragmentation and degradation of natural habitats, restoration and reconstruction has become more important than ever. Please refer to this guide to see what native plants grow in this habitat reconstruction.

HERBACEOUS PLANTS



New England Aster Aster novae-angliae



Late Boneset Eupatorium serotinum



Black-eyed Susan Rudebeckia hirta



Compass Plant Silphium laciniatum



Showy Goldenrod Solidago speciosa Photo: A. Wojnarski



Frost Aster Symphyotrichum pilosum



Smooth Ironweed Vernonia fasciculata



Burgamot Monarda fistulosa



Verbena Verbena stricta



Canada Wild Rye Elymus Canadensis



Big Bluestem Schizachyrium scoparium



Indian Grass Sorghastrum-nutans



Blue Beech Carpinus caroliniana Photo: S. Seberling



Red Osier Dogwood Cornus sericea



Burr Oak Quercus macrocarpa

WOODY PLANTS

