

Tips How to Transplant and Propagate Native Plants for Ixia's Plant Sale at Native Park

All members and followers of the Ixia Chapter are asked to PLEASE donate native plants potted up in 4", 1-gallon or 3-gallon pots for Ixia's plant sale at Native Park.

Potting Mix

- Use any general-purpose potting mix
- It is not necessary to use certified organic mix
- You can use native plant soil; add perlite to loosen soil
- Best to not use mixes that contain fertilizer, such as *Miracle Grow* potting mix
- Don't use composted manure for potting mix as it may burn the roots of some plants
- Dump potting mix in container, break up any chunks, lightly moisten with spray of water & keep slightly moist while transplanting

Transplanting rooted plant into a pot

- Using a hand trowel or shovel, slice down into the soil several inches from plant stem in a circle around stem. Gently lift plant with as many roots attached as possible.
- Select clean, debris-free pot slightly larger than root ball
- Do not put rocks or other objects in the bottom of the pot as it will impede drainage
- Fill pot $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ full of potting mix
- Position root ball in pot; shake to settle roots; add soil to cover all roots; tap to settle
- Spray gently with water to help settle roots. Add more soil if needed.
- You can plant 2-3 small plants into pot (customer gets more plants this way!)
- 4" pots can be placed in zip lock bag for a few days to make a mini-greenhouse while the plant is settling in the pot
- Set plant aside in a shady spot; check for moisture often; don't let dry out
- Two weeks later you can give plant a 'boost' with a liquid fertilizer; fish emulsion or sea weed fertilizer are good choices as they do not overpower the plant with nutrients
- You can transplant to a larger size pot if roots begin to outgrow current pot
- One month before plant sale, 'harden off' plant by moving into sun (if it requires full sun) or part shade

Cuttings

- You can attempt taking cuttings but root ball **MUST** be well developed by plant sale date
- Clip cuttings from soft outer stems of plant
- Dip cut into rooting hormone such as Rootone
- Pot up as above; using potting mix
- Place the pot in a zip-lock bag and put in part shady spot
- Two weeks later give gentle 'boost' with above mentioned fertilizers

- 'Harden off' plant as above
- Here is a link to an illustrated guide for taking cuttings:
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/visual-guides/propagating-plants-by-cuttings>

Dividing perennials

- Many native plant perennials can be divided every 3-4 years
- Follow same procedure for transplanting
- Except when remove plant from soil with root ball intact - carefully split plant with roots into 2-3 separate plants using hand trowel or shovel. Replant into pots.

General Tips

DO NOT dig up plants from the wild (It's illegal)

Pot size determines price; Ixia asks members to PLEASE use 4", 1 gal or 3 gal for this reason

Wearing gloves is a good idea as "Pathogens are in the soil in your yard"

THANK YOU FOR DONATING PLANTS (FUND RAISER FOR NATIVE PARK)!!!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT