

# White River Prairie Restoration

## Elkins, Arkansas at Bunch Park



### Did you know?

Arkansas once had over 2 million acres of naturally open grassland habitat in the early 1800s. Today, less than 0.5% of Arkansas prairies exist, which is less than 430 acres.

Through an Arkansas Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Division grant, the Beaver Watershed Alliance is working with the City of Elkins to “bring back the prairie” on an urban site adjacent to Bunch Park and the Elkins Community Center. This 3-acre site is home to a historic prairie, being restored using Smart Growth practices to protect water quality in the Beaver Lake watershed.

### Prairie Concept Design



### Fast Facts:

- 3-acre restored prairie site
- 23 native plant and grass species installed
- 3 historic prairie mounds restored
- Prairies provide many benefits to **water quality** such as preventing soil erosion and providing wildlife habitat.

### Prairies establish 3-5 years after planting



Pre-intervention  
February 2024



During planting  
October 2024



Seed germination  
May 2025



Blanket Flower



Prairie Blazingstar



Sideoats Grama



Virginia Wild Rye



Little Bluestem



Lanceleaf Coreopsis

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