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## Lawn Alternatives

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Today, my Facebook feed had an article from the [Extension Master Gardener](#) feed about lawn alternatives. Specifically, lawn for pollinators. Cool! Read the article, [Bee Lawns](#).

I have written several articles in this blog about lawn and why it's important to embrace some flowers (things many call weeds) in our lawns not only to help out pollinators, but also the increasing drought situation wreaking havoc in much of the US. (To find my articles, just type LAWN into the search site box on the right hand side of the upper green navigation bar on this website.)



The Bee Lawns article gives info about some grasses and flowers you can use to create a pollinator friendly lawn, but there is an easier way.

### Alternative Lawn Seed

[Pro Time Lawn Seed](#) is a local company producing ready-made alternative lawn seed blends. My personal favorite is [Fleur de Lawn®](#). It was developed with the help of Oregon State University, and that means it's even more appropriate for our part of the country than some other type of eco seed blend.

I googled Fleur de Lawn, and got a return that Amazon.com has this, but it doesn't appear to be the same thing made and sold by Pro Time Lawn Seed. If it were me, I'd just buy from the Pro Time site, and not me with imitations.

### Alternative Turf Grass Seed

Though this is not 'pollinator-friendly' per se, it is extremely drought-tolerant. If you can't stomach the idea of flowers in your lawn, then this may be the thing for you. You can feel that you are doing something good for nature, but not jump totally onto the eco bandwagon.

The product is called RTF®, Rhizomatous Tall Fescue, and it's the creation of another local outfit, [Kuenzi Turf Farm](#). When you click the link, read on down to find out why this grass is a wonderful thing. Fescue is much better lawn grass for our geographic and climate location than what is ordinarily used for lawn all over the US — Kentucky Bluegrass. Kentucky Bluegrass is for... ermmmm... KENTUCKY, and the climate/soil/rainfall patterns in that area.

This new RTF grass is extremely drought-tolerant and quite shade-tolerant. Those are 2 things we have a lot of in our local residential areas.

## Marriage?

And maybe if you're not completely sold on the idea of Fleur de Lawn, you could get started using RTF for most of your lawn, then add some small drifts of Fleur de Lawn here and there for *interest*. And even if you like the idea of the going fully pollinator-friendly with Fleur de Lawn, I could see mixing both of these products half and half. It would give more of the fescue grass that does so well and is so drought-tolerant here, and still give you plenty of flowers — for *interest* — and for the good of both pollinators and the planet.

📌 [Culture & Maintenance, Design & Plant Selection, Lawn, Sustainability](#) 🔗 [permalink \[http://goodnightdesign.com/lawn-alternatives/\]](http://goodnightdesign.com/lawn-alternatives/)

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