Great Basin Wildrye
(*Leymus cinereus*)

Zone: 4-9
Color: Brown
Bloom Time: June to August
Plant Type: Perennial grass
Mature Height: 3.5-7’ tall
Mature Spread: 1-3’ wide
Water Use: Low

**Soil Type:** Clay and silty soils; coarse textured, gravelly, and stony soils.

**Range and Native Habitat:** The Great Basin Wildrye is wide ranging throughout the western United States. Due to its winter hardiness, it can be found from 2,000 up to 9,000 feet in elevation. It grows in a diverse array of habitats including grassland and prairie, forests, scrub, chaparral, and sagebrush.

**Suggested Maintenance:** This species requires little maintenance. It is not overly aggressive and does not easily spread. Some weed control will benefit establishment of seedlings. Delay removing old growth until early spring to allow for winter interest and to provide shelter for various types of wildlife during the colder months.

**Other:** This grass forms large, tall clumps and has a fibrous root system. Because of its height and density, it provides excellent cover for nesting upland birds, as well as winter forage.

**Wildlife Supported**

![Birds](image)

**Landscaping Information**

- **Sun:** Full sun to part shade
- **Water Needs:** Low
- **Summer Irrigation:** Max 2x / month once established
- **Soil Drainage:** Fast
- **Propagation:** By seed in fall or spring and division in early spring.

*Www.ag.utah.gov/farmers/conservation-division/pollinator-program*