K-12 Pollinator Schools Grant Program
2021
Criteria and Guidelines

Eligibility
• Schools, Nonprofit Organizations, Nature Centers, and Local Governments that provide K-12 environmental education programming

Criteria
• Habitat must be incorporated into educational curriculum
• Project must be supported by a team that includes educators committed to teaching about native pollinators in the classroom
• Projects must meet Minimum Habitat Requirements below
• School Board approval required
• Signage acknowledging Foundation grant required
• Grantees are responsible for the upfront project costs
• Grant funds are paid on a reimbursement basis
• Priority will be given to sites certified as a Monarch Waystation or as implementing the NRCS, IL Consulation Practice Standard 327 criteria for pollinator habitat

Activities Funded
• Hiring outside professionals or contractors help with Pollinator Habitat, which could include assistance to design, install and/or maintain the habitat
• Plants, seeds, soil amendments, mulch
• Staff oversight for management of the project (not to exceed $1,000)
• Hand tools and/or irrigation equipment (not to exceed $1,000)
• Interpretive signage (not to exceed $1,000)
• Curriculum and curriculum-related materials and supplies

Minimum Habitat Requirements
• Must be at least 1,000 square feet in size
• Must Provide at least 3 native nectar sources for butterflies and other pollinators in each of the three bloom periods: early, mid, and late
• Must provide host plants for a minimum of three butterfly species
• Must be comprised of native plants with some exceptions for high value plants
• Use only natural fertilizers, soil amendments, and compost if needed
• May be herbaceous or woody plants
• May provide water source for butterflies, a basking site, and some shelter from weather
• May use only natural fertilizers, soil amendments and compost if needed
• May plant groundcover or use mulch on thinly vegetated areas to reduce erosion if needed
**Education**
- Action plans must describe integration of Pollinator Habitat into educational curriculum
- Nonprofits and Nature Centers must demonstrate connection with teachers who commit to using the habitat for instruction

**Funding**
- $10,000 or 90% of installation costs, whichever is less and $1,000 towards summer maintenance are provided by the Foundation
- All grants are funded at the full amount, but not all grant funds need to be requested
- Grantee funds a minimum 10% of the project cost and 100% of ineligible expenses
- Grantee commits to caring for the Pollinator Habitat for five years

**Payment**
- A reimbursement payment is made after all expenses have been incurred and upon receipt and approval of paid invoices and a properly submitted payment request
- There is only one payment for this grant
- $1,000 will be added to the final requested payment to be used towards maintenance expenses at the site.

**Timeline**
- Applications due January 14, 2021
- 18-month grant period starting in spring 2021