**Minimum Habitat Requirements**

- Must provide at least 1,000 square feet of pollinator habitat
- Must provide at least three different **native** nectar sources for butterflies and other pollinators in each of the three seasons – Spring, Summer, and Fall
- Must provide host plants for a minimum of three butterfly species
- Must be comprised of native plants
- 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

*High Value Pollinator Plants are plants identified by the NRCS to be of high importance to several pollinator species. A list of plants that meet this criteria for dry, moist, and wet sites can be found on our website here: [https://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/natural-areas-program/k-12-pollinator-schools-program](https://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/natural-areas-program/k-12-pollinator-schools-program)*