

Pollinator Meadows Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

- 1. How long is the grant period?** *ANSWER:* The grant period is set at 18 months. The Foundation will reimburse the grantee for 50% of habitat installation, not to exceed a total grant payment of \$20,000. Only one payment will be issued. Grantees may apply for payment and end the grant period sooner than 18 months.
- 2. Will the Foundation help with maintenance costs?** *ANSWER:* The Foundation will reimburse up to 50% of first year maintenance costs incurred during the 18-month grant period while the grant is open, not to exceed \$1,000. Only one payment will be issued to cover both installation and initial maintenance. Some grantees may choose to wait and request reimbursement at the end of 18 months to incorporate initial maintenance costs. Others may choose to apply for payment immediately after the habitat and signage installation is complete, ending the grant period sooner than 18 months.
- 3. Who is eligible for this grant?** *ANSWER:* Park Districts, Libraries, Nature Centers, Museums, Community Colleges and others that operate as a local government or 501(c)(3) nonprofit in Illinois.
- 4. Can my organization apply for a grant to install a pollinator meadow on land owned by another organization?** *ANSWER:* Yes, with proper documentation an organization may install a pollinator meadow on land owned by different entity. The landowner must be either a local government or nonprofit organization and must provide an approval letter allowing for the initial installation and habitat care for 5 years after the grant is closed.
- 5. Can we receive the grant payment in installments?** *ANSWER:* No. This is a reimbursement grant. One payment may be requested after all spending has ceased and both the meadow habitat and signage has been installed.
- 6. What is an eligible expense under this grant program?** *ANSWER:* Eligible expenses must occur within the grant period. Eligible expenses are listed below. Any expense that falls outside of this list will be ineligible for reimbursement unless expressly approved in advance and in writing by the Foundation.

- a. Plants, seeds, soil amendments, mulch
 - b. Professional assistance to remove turf grass and install and conduct initial maintenance of habitat during the 18-month grant period
 - c. Initial burn or mowing of habitat
 - d. Professional assistance to develop a 5-year management plan that the grantee will fund on its own
 - e. Signage (not to exceed \$1,000)
 - f. Initial maintenance during the grant period, not to exceed \$1,000
7. **What are the requirements for the pollinator habitat install?** *ANSWER:* In order to be eligible for reimbursement under this grant program, the installed habitat must meet the following minimum requirements.
- a. Must convert a minimum of 2 acres total of turf grass to Pollinator Meadow
 - b. Can plant in separate spaces, but must be a minimum of 1 acre each
 - c. Must consist of native plants
 - d. Must provide host plants for a minimum of three butterfly species
 - e. Must provide at least three different nectar sources for butterflies and other pollinators in each of the three growing seasons – Spring, Summer, Fall