



## **Pollinator Meadows Grant Program Guidelines and Criteria**

### Eligibility

- Local Governments (i.e. Park Districts, Libraries, Nature Centers, etc) and Nonprofits (i.e. Museums, Community Colleges)

### Criteria

- Meadow Sites must currently be in turf grass.
- Meadow Sites must be accessible to the public.
- No more than one application per applicant will be considered.
- This is a one-time only grant program, with one award per organization over the life of the program.
- Grant covers a portion of the cost of installing meadow and initial maintenance conducted during the 18-month grant period.
- Grant period ends after payment request is submitted and approved.
- Grantee agrees to:
  - Cover yearly maintenance costs
  - Monitor and document the germination and establishment of native species for 1 year after habitat installation
  - Maintain the Pollinator Meadow Habitat for 5 years after the grant is closed.
- Each grant must result in a minimum of 2 acres of new Pollinator Meadow.
- The 2 acres of Pollinator Meadow does not need to be in one location, so long that each Meadow site is a minimum of one acre of contiguous habitat.
- Meadow Sites must meet a minimum set of habitat requirements (listed below).
- Priority will be given to sites certified through Conservation@Work, [Monarch Watch's Monarch Waystation Program](#), or sites implementing the NRCS, IL Conservation Practice Standard 327 criteria for pollinator habitat.
- Grantee agrees to install signage acknowledging the grant. (Photo of installed signage will be required for payment.)

### Activities Funded

- Seed, plants and supplies
- Contractor to remove turf grass and to install and conduct initial maintenance of habitat

- Contractor to conduct initial burn or mowing of habitat
- Outside professional assistance to develop a 5-year management plan, which grantee must commit to funding on its own after grant ends
- Signage (not to exceed \$1,000)

#### Application Materials

- Applicants must submit action plans and provide timeline and budget for converting turf grass to Pollinator Meadow as well as a plan for maintaining the meadow for 5 years after the grant is closed.
- Foundation and its partners will provide technical assistance to grantees who need it.

#### Funding

- Grantee covers upfront costs and payment is made on a reimbursement basis.
- One payment of \$20,000, or 50% of the costs to convert turf grass to pollinator meadow, whichever is less, is made after installation of meadow habitat and signage is complete. Up to \$1,000 of the payment can be used to assist with first year maintenance during the grant period.
- Grantee commits to funding yearly maintenance and maintaining habitat for 5 years after the grant is closed.

#### Minimum Habitat Requirements – Pollinator Meadow

- Must convert a minimum of 2 acres total of turf grass to Pollinator Meadow
- May plant separate spaces, but must be a minimum of 1 acre each
- Must consist of native plants
- Must provide host plants for a minimum of three butterfly species
- Provide at least three different nectar sources for butterflies and other pollinators in each of the three seasons – Spring, Summer and Fall