

Samples of successful grant applications -

1. Root Pike Watershed Initiative Network

Organization or School

Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (Root-Pike WIN)

Address of Organization or School

4116 12th St.

Kenosha, WI United States 53144

Project Contact

XXXXXXXXXX

Phone Number

XXXXXXXXXX

Email

XXXXXXXXXX

Description of Project

Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (Root-Pike WIN) is a 501c3 non-profit with the goal of improving water quality in the Root-Pike basin. Our mission of restoring, protecting, and sustaining Lake Michigan's degraded tributaries is accomplished through implementing the EPA/DNR approved nine-key element watershed restoration plans, providing storm water education for 20 municipalities through our Respect Our Waters Program, and by converting grass back to deep-rooted native vegetation through the Pollinator Patch Program.

The Pollinator Patch Program launched in 2019 as a collaboration with UW-Parkside to bring awareness to declining pollinator populations (e.g. Rusty-Patched Bumblebee), the importance of native vegetation for storm water infiltration, and the current state of our watersheds. In 2021, Root-Pike WIN hired a former middle school science teacher and began expanding the program into Kenosha Unified and Racine Unified School districts. By June 2024, Pollinator Patches will be installed at five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school which compliments the 150-acres of restoration that have occurred at UW-Parkside.

Root-Pike WIN is working with Bradford High School's Environmental Club to install a 500 square foot Pollinator Patch in their courtyard and install "soft landings" underneath five trees on their property, totaling 2,500 square feet. The club is working to grow native prairie plants for their Pollinator Patch, using indoor and outdoor sowing methods, using seed collected from previous Patch installations and from the Sand County Foundation's "High School Pollinator Habitats" grant program.

The funding requested from the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society will be used to purchase spring ephemeral and shade loving native plants as we do not currently have a shade garden included in the Pollinator Patch Program. This unique Pollinator Patch will act as a seedbank where students can collect and propagate plants each year to be planted underneath other trees, along the 303d impaired Pike Creek which flows behind the school, or to be shared with other locations throughout the city.

What is the potential impact of the project?

Hands-On Connection to the Watershed: Many students feel helpless when asked about climate change and the quality of their local environment. The Pollinator Patch Program aims to put the power back into the hands of the next generation as they directly participate in changing the landscape where they live. Providing in-person guidance during all phases of the Pollinator Patch installation, complimentary curriculum to teachers, and lessons that inform students about their watershed give students the tools to advocate for a better future for themselves. The long-term goal is to have students bring native plants into their own yards to continue momentum started with this Pollinator Patch installation.

Expanding Habitat for Declining Pollinators: The Pollinator Patch Program provides habitat for endangered pollinators such as the Rusty Patched Bumblebee and Monarch Butterfly. Bradford High School is located in a low priority zone for the Rusty Patched Bumblebee according to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's database, but is less than one mile away from a high priority zone. On a larger scale, Root-Pike WIN will be converting a 40-acre dry-pond, currently planted with non-native grass, to wet prairie vegetation in Spring 2024. Rusty-Patched Bumblebees have been found at three restoration sites managed by Root-Pike WIN within the last three years, and we are confident these sightings will continue to increase as habitat expands.

Connection with Citizen Science Monitoring: Bradford High School students will be trained on how to monitor their site for bumblebees and submit their results to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bumblebee Brigade (B3) program. B3 relies on citizens to submit photographs of the bumblebees they encounter in order to guide conservation plans for Wisconsin's Bumblebees.

What are the other funding sources or in kind donations for the project if any?

Mulch Donation (In-Kind Value of \$350)- Hoppe Tree Service and Drop Rite Tree Service provide mulch to the Pollinator Patch Program to be used for chemical free site preparation.

Root-Pike WIN Staff Time (In-Kind Value of \$1,000)- Root-Pike WIN's Pollinator Patch Program Manager secures plant orders, mulch delivery, guides site preparation, plant installation, maintenance, and monitoring. The Program Manager will visit the site three times a year for a minimum of three years to ensure proper plant establishment.

Sand County Foundation (\$1,000)- The Environmental Club was awarded the High School Pollinator Habitat grant from the Sand County Foundation to propagate native prairie plants (full sun) indoors.

The logos of all funders will be included on permanent signage located at the Pollinator Patch and shared with Root-Pike WIN's contacts through Constant Contact emails and social media platforms. Number of people who will participate and benefit from the project?

The 30 students who participate in Bradford's Environmental Club will directly participate in the planning, prepping, installation, maintenance and monitoring of the Pollinator Patch areas. Of the 1,389 students served by Bradford High School, 67% are classified as economically disadvantaged. 38% of these students identify as Hispanic/Latino, 22% as black/African American, and 34% as white. The broader student population will be able to study these native areas as part of their science courses and enjoy the beauty of these common areas.

How will the project be maintained over time?

Root-Pike WIN requires participants in the Pollinator Patch Program to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) which ensures facilities staff, teachers, and administration will support the maintenance of the Pollinator Patch in perpetuity. During the first three years of plant establishment, Root-Pike WIN staff provides a maintenance guide and in-person guidance to ensure native plants establish properly and non-native/invasive species are managed.

Grant request amount with itemized costs, if appropriate.

Root-Pike WIN is seeking \$1500 to assist with the installation of 2,500 square feet of shade-loving native vegetation under five trees at Bradford High School. The adjacent Gateway Technical College is growing some of the desired species in their greenhouse and will sell them at a reduced rate. Additional plants will be purchased from local native plant vendors. Should the full grant amount not be provided, the scope of the planting will be reduced.

Supporting Documentation 1

[bradford_high_school_maps .pdf](#)

Supporting Documentation 2

[_pollinator_patch_pictures.pdf](#)

Supporting Documentation 3

[pollinator_patch_signage_sample.png](#)

2. Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Organization or School

Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Address of Organization or School

S4352 Fox Hill Circle

Baraboo, WI United States 53913

Project Contact

XXXXXXXXXX

Phone Number

XXXXXXXXXX

Email

XXXXXXXXXX

Description of Project

The Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution owns the Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters in Portage, WI. The property was once included in the Fort Winnebago complex, and a building fort surgeons treated military personnel, Native Americans in the area, and civilians in the area in the mid-1830's. As a non-profit organization of volunteers, we operate this property as a museum. Our intention for this project is to plant a historical medicinal garden using native plants and plants brought with the early Wisconsin settlers.

What is the potential impact of the project?

Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters is a historical site as well as a museum. The goal would be to tie the museum artifacts that our visitors see on tour with the garden. Individuals of all ages visit the property. Our garden would only enhance their visit by showing them how medicine has changed over 200 years. Considering that the original fort surgeons brought medicine to the wilderness, this would be a wonderful way to share the impact of their work with those who visit the property.

What are the other funding sources or in kind donations for the project if any?

Maintenance of the garden - weeding and rototilling - will be donated by volunteer members who serve on the property operations committee.

Number of people who will participate and benefit from the project?

The Daughters of the American Revolution has many plan enthusiasts within its membership who will be working in the garden. In 2022, the site had 750+ visitors ranging from school children to military veterans. Our goal is to double that in 2023, building back our tours to pre-pandemic levels. A narrative on what this garden will produce relative to the history of the property will be incorporated into our tour script.

How will the project be maintained over time?

The Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters property operations committee has a dedicated building and grounds sub-committee that maintains our existing pollinator gardens.

Total cost of the project and itemize the costs, if appropriate.

We estimate the total cost of the project would be \$1,460.00. The backup for plants and necessary purchases is attached in the supporting documentation.

Submitted Files

Supporting Documentation 1

[wisconsin hardy plant society grant - wsdar 2022.pdf](#)

3. Edgerton Hospital Healing Garden

Description of Project

Edgerton Hospital has a three acre Healing Garden (built in 2011) that is a beautiful and engaging space for patients, visitors, staff and community members. This non-profit garden is open to the public. With a combination of woody plants, perennials and some annuals, this all-accessible garden pursues the goal of providing a beautiful and restive space that also is used for physical and occupational therapy as well as community events. We would like to incorporate a massive influx of native, pollinator-friendly, herbaceous perennials throughout this garden. While there are currently many perennials in the garden, some are problematic re-seeders, non-native thugs and the diversity is currently minimal. While the hospital (70-acre campus) does have some marginal prairie restoration areas, the Healing Garden section of the campus has enormous potential (and space) to include a significantly diverse and effective pollinator-themed perennial augmentation.

What is the potential impact of the project?

The impact of adding additional perennials to this space will certainly increase the ornamental impact of the Healing Garden. The utilization of select, native perennials with strong pollinator value, will make this a more engaging space with increased educational potential as well. While beauty is important, the hospital promotes a "wellness theme" in our lives to include healthy eating and living. Promoting the garden as more appropriately pollinator-friendly will make this space more interesting for all visitors and the examples of these perennials will engage, inspire and educate others to consider their potential in home landscapes. Of course, there will be an impact on local pollinators with the establishment of more pollen/nectar sources among other wildlife benefits.

What are the other funding sources or in-kind donations for the project, if any?

With a "shoe-string" budget for the Healing Garden currently, additional financial support is unlikely. However, with a strong volunteer presence involved at the gardens, the labor to install and maintain these plants is assured.

Number of people who will participate or benefit from the project?

In terms of the addition of these pollinator-friendly perennials, we would be utilizing our core of over 30 veteran garden volunteers for planting and care. With daily visitors enjoying the garden, there are countless patients, staff and visitors strolling through this increasingly beautiful garden setting throughout the growing season (closed in winter). There are also significant efforts to engage the surrounding community with more public events, educational opportunities, youth engagement and other community outreach. These new plantings will ultimately increase average daily visitation significantly as this space becomes not only more utilized but better known as a destination and pollinator-friendly oasis.

How will the project be maintained over time?

The garden is maintained on a daily basis by staff and volunteers. Mark Dwyer is the part-time garden manager that oversees daily improvements with many volunteers. Additional facilities staff (Edgerton Hospital) also help as needed. The garden has an irrigation system which is handy as well.

Total cost of the project

\$1500 request. The entire grant amount requested would be used to acquire a wide range of herbaceous perennials that would be installed throughout this 3-acre garden. See below the attached listing of 20 "targets" although the scope of diversity being examined will exceed this listing.

Initial plant listing of interest

Amorpha canescens - leadplant
Aquilegia canadensis - wild columbine
Asclepias tuberosa - butterfly weed
Baptisia alba - white wild indigo
Coreopsis palmata - stiff tickseed
Dalea purpurea - purple prairie clover
Echinacea pallida - pale coneflower
Eryngium yuccifolium - rattlesnake master
Liatris aspera - tall blazing star
Liatris cylindracea - dwarf blazing star
Liatris ligulistylis - meadow blazing star
Liatris pycnostachya - prairie blazing star
Liatris scariosa - savannah blazing star
Liatris spicata - dense blazing star
Monarda punctata - spotted beebalm
Parthenium integrifolium - wild quinine
Solidago nemoralis - prairie goldenrod
Verbena hastata - blue vervain
Verononia fasciculata - ironweed
Zizia aurea - golden Alexander

Note: The application was accompanied by two photos - one of the garden area and another of the site, showing where the garden is.