

Illinois Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Planning Form

Use this form as a draft before completing the *Illinois Planned Pollinator Habitat on Solar Sites Scorecard* online

In Between and Under Solar Panels

1. PLANNED PLANT DIVERSITY IN ROWS & UNDER SOLAR ARRAY (choose up to 2)

- 4-6 species +5 pts
- 7 or More species +8 pts
- All Native Species (minimum 4 species) +10 pts

Perimeter and Buffer Area

2. VEGETATIVE BUFFER PLANNED ADJACENT TO THE SOLAR SITE (choose all that apply)

- Buffer planned outside of array fencing +5 pts
- Buffer is 30-49ft wide measured from array fencing +5 pts
- Buffer is at least 50ft wide measured from array fencing +10 pts
- Buffer has Native shrubs/trees that provide food for wildlife +5 pts

3. SEEDS USED FOR NATIVE PERIMETER & BUFFER AREAS (choose all that apply)

- Mixes are seeded using at least 20 seeds per square foot of Pure Live Seed or 40 Seeds per square foot on slopes > 5% +10 pts
- All seeds are from a source within 150 miles of site +5 pts
- At least 2% milkweed cover is planned to be established from seeds/plants +5 pts

4. PLANNED # OF NATIVE SPECIES IN SITE PERIMETER & BUFFER AREA (species with more than 1% cover)(choose 1)

- 5-10 species +2 pts
- 10-15 species +5 pts
- 16-20 species +10 pts
- >20 species +15 pts

Exclude invasive and non-native plant species from total

5. PLANNED PERCENT OF PERIMETER & BUFFER AREA DOMINATED BY NATIVE PLANT SPECIES (choose 1)

- 26- 50 % +2 pts
- 51-75 % +10 pts
- More than 75% +15 pts

Whole Site

6. PLANNED PERCENT OF SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY DESIRABLE WILDFLOWERS (choose 1)

- 26- 50 % +2 pts
- 51-75 % +10 pts
- More than 75% +15 pts

7. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST THREE BLOOMING NATIVE SPECIES PRESENT (choose all that apply)

- Spring (April-May) +5 pts
- Summer (June-August) +5 pts
- Fall (September-October) +5 pts

8. HABITAT SITE PREPARATION PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION (choose all that apply)

- Soil preparation done to promote germination and reduce erosion as appropriate for the site. +10 pts
- Measures taken to control weeds prior to seeding +10 pts
- None -10 pts

9. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN 0.25 MILES (choose all that apply)

- Native bunch grass for bee nesting +2 pts
- Native trees/shrubs for bee nesting +2 pts
- Clean, perennial water sources +2 pts
- Created habitat nesting features +2 pts

10. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT(choose all that apply)

- Detailed establishment and management plan developed +10 pts
- Signage legible at forty or more feet stating "pollinator friendly solar habitat" +3 pts

11. INSECTICIDE RISK (choose all that apply)

- Planned on-site use of insecticide or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -40 pts
- Communication/registration with local chemical applicators or on www.fieldwatch.com to prevent drift +5 pts

Total Points: _____

Meets Preliminary Pollinator Standards - 85
Provides Exceptional Habitat - 110 and higher

Owner: _____

Vegetation Consultant: _____

Project Location: _____

Project Size: _____ acres

Final Seeding Date: _____

This form is designed (with the help of the Solar Site Pollinator Guidelines found on IDNR's website) to guide owners or managers of solar sites to meet the requirements to be able to claim a site is pollinator friendly according to the "Pollinator Friendly Solar Site Act (525 ILCS 55)". This form is for company records only and does not grant the title of a Pollinator Friendly Solar Site until the "Illinois Planned Pollinator Habitat on Solar Sites Scorecard" is completed with a score of 85 or higher on IDNR's website. This preliminary recognition is good for 3yrs, after which the "Established Pollinator Habitat on Solar Sites Scorecard" will need to be completed every 5 years to maintain recognition as a Pollinator Friendly Solar Site.

