

# Option One

*This is an informational page. DO NOT MAIL this page with your application.*



# Illinois Schoolyard Habitat ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

Please read these instructions before completing the application. If you have any questions about the grant after reading the instructions, please contact the IDNR Division of Education at [dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) or 217-524-4126.

## Eligible Applicants

Teachers, nature center personnel and adults who are youth group leaders (grades prekindergarten through 12) in Illinois may apply.

## Purpose and Eligible Projects

Projects must emphasize student/youth involvement with planning, development and maintenance and increase the educational and wildlife habitat values of the site. The applicant must be prepared to maintain and commit resources to the project for at least five years. The project must be implemented on school grounds or another public place (for example, a park or nature center/forest preserve district land). Illinois Conservation Foundation sites and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) sites do not qualify for funding. Admission fees cannot be charged to obtain access to the site. Plans that include vegetation should use native species. To see lists of Illinois native plants, visit <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/PlantLists.aspx>. Option One of this grant may only be used to establish a pollinator garden. It must be developed following the criteria stated in these instructions and application form. Individual student projects will not be funded.

## Applications

**Incomplete applications will not be considered.** Responses should be typed in standard 12-point font, single-spaced with one-inch margins on each side of the page (exceptions are noted in the application questions). **The original application PLUS three copies of it and all attachments must be submitted.** The original and copies must be collated and stapled. *Do not submit any additional pages (lesson plans, student activities, grant instruction sheets, etc.) that are not specifically requested in the application form.* Final applications must be postmarked by November 30, 2020. Applications will be evaluated by a committee, and the committee will make all decisions regarding funding. Evaluation judging criteria will include but not be limited to: **detailed information; student involvement; educational value; and the habitat project management plan.** **ALL** applications must include a completed and signed W-9 form (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>) for the school or organization. Teachers from Chicago Public Schools should read the instructions on page two regarding "Funding and Payment" before applying.

## Application Deadlines

**Preliminary Application:** If you would like for your application to be reviewed for common errors that regularly cause disqualification, you must mail your application package no later than October 31, 2020. You will be notified by email of any of these common errors and given until November 30, 2020, to submit revisions. If you do not submit the revisions by November 30, 2020, your application will be disqualified. No one is required to submit their application for the preliminary review. This procedure is entirely voluntary.

**Final Application:** The final application packet must be postmarked by November 30, 2020.

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## Eligible Costs

Funding requests for Option One grants may only include the following items: plants (not seeds) of the 14 native plant species shown in this application form; mulch, topsoil or related soil product; and lumber/hardware, if applicable. No other items will be considered for purchase through this option. Items purchased prior to the notification of the grant award winners from this *Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant* application deadline (November 30, 2020) do not qualify for funding.

## Use of Chemicals

According to the Illinois Pesticide Act, a pesticide license is required of **anyone** applying pesticides in a public space (minimum age to receive a license is 16 years). If you are considering applying any type of pesticide (herbicide, insecticide, fungicide) to your habitat area, please contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture at 1-800-641-3934 for further information.

## Project Time Line

The project must be completed before November 30, 2021. More information will be provided to grant award winners.

*Preliminary application packet (optional):* postmarked by October 31, 2020

*Application packet:* postmarked by November 30, 2020

*Notification to all applicants:* by February 1, 2021

*Submission of final report:* by November 30, 2021

## Funding and Payment

The maximum annual award is \$1,000 per applicant. Funds are provided on a reimbursement basis. Only purchases approved by the grant committee from the original application will be reimbursed. Purchases occurring before the notification of the grant award winners for this application period do not qualify for funding. Only the school or organization will be reimbursed.\* Reimbursements are not made to individuals. Original paid receipts for purchases must be submitted. Successful applicants are eligible to apply for additional funding in subsequent years. Generous donations from the Jadel Youth Fund, the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation and others help make this program possible.

\*Teachers from Chicago Public Schools should contact the IDNR Division of Education regarding payment options for native plants before applying. [dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) or 217-524-4126

## Reporting Requirements

A Final Report and attachments are required. Instructions will be provided to grant award recipients.

## Publicity

Successful grant recipients are required to acknowledge the funding sources in any project publicity or printed materials produced. Details will be provided in the award letter.

## Not Transferable

If a grant award is made, it will be awarded to the Project Leader as identified on page three of the application. This award is not transferable to another person, school/organization or grade level.

## Submit application packet to the following address.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Education  
Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Program  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702-1271



Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

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# Illinois Schoolyard Habitat

ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

## APPLICATION FORM — OPTION ONE

*Submit the original, completed application PLUS three copies of it and its attachments. Collate and staple the pages. Do not submit any additional pages (lesson plans, student activities, grant instruction sheets, etc.) that are not specifically requested in the application form. The application package must be postmarked by November 30, 2020. One completed W-9 form is also required.*

### PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.

Type of Project: Standard Pollinator Garden

Applicant's School or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: IL Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader (one person only): \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level(s) of Participating Students: \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions of Site (include units of measurement): \_\_\_\_\_

# of Students Participating in Planning, Development and Maintenance of the Site: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Students using the Site after Development of the Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Request \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (maximum \$1,000: The amount entered should match the "Grant Funds" column total from page NINE.)

Proposed Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete this page and submit it with your application and all copies.**

**Execution of this application by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) constitutes a grant agreement and creates specific obligations on the part of the grantee, including but not limited to an understanding that: the awarding of all grants and the amount of any grant, shall be subject to the sole discretion of the Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Committee (Committee); that project descriptions become the property of the Committee and if I am awarded a grant the Committee shall have the right to supply others with a description of the project and to disseminate its underlying concepts and/or ideas. If awarded a grant, I agree to submit original copies of receipts for expenses. The Committee and sponsors and/or any of its agents, officials and employees shall assume no responsibility or liability for claims of damage of any kind to property or for claims of injury to any person in connection with such a grant. Grantee agrees to comply with all requirements of this grant application and of the instruction form provided by the IDNR which are incorporated as part of this agreement.**

**Project Leader: Complete this section.**

Printed Name of Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Administrator: Complete this section.**

*I have reviewed the completed application and support this project to develop/enhance a wildlife habitat area for learning.*

Official Approval: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature of Superintendent, Principal or Organization Official — The Official signing in this blank cannot be the same person as the Project Leader named above.)*

Printed Name of Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**This grant program is funded by contributions from the Jadel Youth Fund and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation.**

**Application Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Original copy of application form, collated and stapled, with all information included
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three copies of application form, collated and stapled, including all attachments
- \_\_\_\_\_ Completed and signed W-9 Form
- \_\_\_\_\_ One copy of the grant application for your records

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## Option One: Standard Pollinator Garden

The Standard Pollinator Garden Option provides the applicant with a pre-selected list of native plant species to include in a pollinator garden. All these plant species must be purchased with funding through this option. Other items eligible for purchase through this option are mulch, topsoil or related soil product and lumber/hardware.

The native plant species selected for this garden are suitable for growing conditions throughout Illinois and are good providers of nectar and pollen for native pollinators. They should be planted in a location that receives full sunshine for more than half of each day's period of daylight. These are not plants to be grown in shady conditions. By planting all of the species in the list, you should have some plants in bloom from May through at least October. The more species variety in your garden, the more stable it will be and the more types of pollinators it will attract.

Plants should be purchased as plugs or seedlings grown in containers. Do not request seeds to grow the plants for Option One gardens. If you want to use seeds in your project, select Option Two. The larger the plant that you purchase, the sooner it will be likely to bloom. Some of these plants may not bloom until their second or third year of growth.

Shown below is the list of plant species to be used in the Standard Pollinator Garden. It is up to the applicant to determine how many plants of each species will fit in his/her available space. An example is provided for a square space that is 12 feet long on each side. You can use the example to help you determine the number of plants needed for your plot size.

Be aware that when purchasing plants, you should search for them by scientific name. There are often multiple common names for the same plant. Also, leadplant is considered to be a shrub in some gardening classifications and a wildflower in others. Prairie dropseed is a grass. The other species listed are forbs (wildflowers).

If you cannot find a species from the list as available for purchase, then select a species to replace it from the List of Optional Species. Please try to purchase plants that have been raised from seeds collected within 50 miles of your location. If you are unable to do so, purchase plants that have been raised from seeds collected or raised in Illinois or its neighboring states.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FLOWER COLOR	MATURE HEIGHT	BLOOMING PERIOD	SPACE REQUIREMENTS
leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	purple	2-3 feet	May – Aug.	2 feet
prairie milkweed	<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	pink-white	3-5 feet	June – July	1 foot
butterfly-weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	orange	2-3 feet	May – Sept.	1.5 feet
sand coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	yellow	1-2 feet	May – Aug.	1 foot
purple prairie clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	purple	1-2 feet	June – Sept.	1 foot
common boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	white	3-4 feet	Aug. – Oct.	1 foot
western sunflower	<i>Helianthus occidentalis</i>	yellow	3 feet	July – Oct.	1 foot
rough blazing-star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	red-purple	2-5 feet	July – Nov.	1 foot
stiff goldenrod	<i>Oligoneuron canescens</i> or <i>Solidago rigida</i>	yellow	3-5 feet	July – Oct.	1 foot
common mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	white	1-3 feet	July – Sept.	1 foot
yellow coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	yellow	3-6 feet	July – Oct.	1.5 feet
prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	red-gold	2-4 feet	Aug. – Sept.	2 feet
New England aster	<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i> or <i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	purple	3-6 feet	July – Oct.	1.5 feet
Culver's-root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	white	3-6 feet	July – Oct.	1.5 feet

### EXAMPLE FOR A SQUARE SPACE OF 12 FEET PER SIDE

leadplant – 8 plants	prairie dropseed – 8 plants	butterfly-weed – 4 plants
yellow coneflower – 2 plants	New England aster – 2 plants	Culver's-root – 2 plants
prairie milkweed – 2 plants	sand coreopsis – 3 plants	purple prairie clover – 3 plants
common boneset – 2 plants	western sunflower – 2 plants	rough blazing-star – 2 plants
stiff goldenrod – 2 plants	common mountain mint – 2 plants	

Total number of plants = 44 You can find a planting diagram for this example at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/SHAGOptionOne.aspx>.

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# List of Optional Species

If you are unable to order any of the plant species from the Standard Pollinator Garden list, substitute a species from the list shown here.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FLOWER COLOR	MATURE HEIGHT	BLOOMING PERIOD	SPACE REQUIREMENTS
azure aster	<i>Symphyotrichum oolentangiense</i>	blue	2-3 feet	August - November	1 foot
black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	yellow	1-3 feet	June - October	1 foot
blue vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue	3-6 feet	June - October	1 foot
brown-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	yellow	2-5 feet	June - October	2 feet
Canada milk vetch	<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	yellow	2-3 feet	June - August	1 foot
common ironweed	<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	purple	4-6 feet	July - September	2 feet
compass-plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	yellow	3-10 feet	June - September	2 feet
cup-plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	yellow	3-10 feet	July - October	2 feet
downy sunflower	<i>Helianthus mollis</i>	yellow	2-4 feet	July - September	2 feet
foxglove beardstongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	white	2-3 feet	May - July	1 foot
golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	yellow	2-3 feet	April - June	1 foot
great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	blue	1-4 feet	July - October	1 foot
hairy white aster	<i>Symphyotrichum pilosum</i>	white	2-4 feet	September - October	1 foot
hoary vervain	<i>Verbena stricta</i>	purple	2-4 feet	May - September	1 foot
horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	green-yellow	1-2 feet	June - October	1 foot
Indian plantain	<i>Arnoglossum atriplicifolium</i>	white	3-6 feet	July - September	2 feet
marsh blazing-star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	purple	3-6 feet	July - September	1 foot
New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	white	3-4 feet	June - August	3 feet
nodding wild onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	white	1-2 feet	July - September	1 foot
Ohio goldenrod	<i>Oligoneuron ohioense</i>	yellow	3-4 feet	August - October	2 feet
Ohio spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	purple	2-4 feet	April - August	1 foot
ox-eye sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	yellow	3-6 feet	June - October	1 foot
pale coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	purple	3-5 feet	May - August	1 foot
prairie blazing-star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	purple	3-5 feet	September - October	1 foot
prairie dock	<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	yellow	3-10 feet	July - September	2 feet
purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple	3-4 feet	July - September	1 foot
rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	white	3-5 feet	July - August	1 foot
rosinweed	<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	yellow	2-6 feet	July - August	2 feet
round-headed bush clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	white	3-5 feet	August - October	1 foot
shooting-star	<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	white	1-2 feet	April - May	1 foot
showy goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	yellow	1-3 feet	August - October	1 foot
showy tick trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	purple	3-5 feet	July - September	1 foot
slender mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	white	1-3 feet	June - August	2 feet
smooth aster	<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i>	blue	2-4 feet	July - October	1 foot
Solomon's-seal	<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	green-yellow	1-3 feet	April - June	1 foot
stiff aster	<i>Oligoneuron album</i>	purple	1-2 feet	July - September	1 foot
swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	pink	3-5 feet	June - August	2 feet
sweet black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	yellow	4-6 feet	July - September	1 foot
white wild indigo	<i>Baptisia alba</i>	white	3-5 feet	May - August	3 feet
wild bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	purple	2-5 feet	May - August	2 feet
wild petunia	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	purple	1-2 feet	May - October	1 foot
wild quinine	<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	white	3-5 feet	June - September	2 feet
wild senna	<i>Senna hebecarpa</i>	yellow	4-6 feet	July - August	2 feet
yellow sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	yellow	4-5 feet	July - November	1 foot

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ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

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## APPLICATION FORM — OPTION ONE

**PLEASE NOTE:** The following questions are the criteria used to judge applications. Type your responses and attach pages to your application.

The original application plus three copies of it (all pages, including attachments) must be submitted and postmarked by November 30, 2020. A completed and signed W-9 form is also required. The application should be no more than three pages in length (excluding the photo, budget and diagram pages), single spaced. Use standard layout (12-point font and 1" margins).

Please visit <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/GrantsSHAG.aspx> for the answers to frequently asked questions about the application form, video podcasts with tips on completing the application, information about native plants and other resources. If you still have questions, contact the IDNR Division of Education at [dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) or 217-524-4126.

**Describe the proposed project by addressing each point. You must type the question and its associated number along with your answers for questions one through eight. If you fail to do so, your application will be disqualified.**

1.
  - a. In 50 words or less describe the proposed project (who, what, where, when, how).
  - b. What are your goals for this project (why do you want to implement the project)?
  - c. How will you measure the success of the project?
  - d. What are the grade levels or ages of the students who will participate in the project?
2.
  - a. What planning activities did the students perform for the project? Be specific.
  - b. What implementation activities will students perform for the project? Be specific.
  - c. What maintenance activities will students perform for the project? Be specific.
  - d. How is the community involved in the project?

**Note:** For question 3, school sites/groups please answer only part a; youth groups or non-school sites please answer only part b.

3.
  - a. Describe how the project will enhance the educational use of the area. Please do not list learning standards.
  - b. If this is a non-school site or youth group, provide the mission of the organization and its goals and how they relate to the project. Describe how the project will enhance the educational use of the area by students/youth.
4. Describe how the proposed project will positively affect wildlife, improve wildlife habitat and demonstrate relevant ecological concepts (for example, pollination, water purification, food chains, etc.).
5. How will you educate the community about the project (for example, open house, Web site, local media, etc.)?
6. What is your time line for this project? List the major activities associated with development of the project and when you expect to perform them.

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7. A long-term care/maintenance plan for the project is imperative.
  - a. How will the area be maintained during the school year? Who will do the work?
  - b. How will the area be maintained during the summer? Who will do the work?
  - c. How will the area be maintained in subsequent years? Who will do the work?
  - d. Will long-term funding be required to maintain the area? Who will provide necessary funds?
8. Tell us about the resources that you utilized in preparing for this project and discuss how you will involve other people (teachers, community members, etc.) in the project.
9. Using the budget form, provide a project budget indicating what will be purchased for this project and the associated costs. Please complete the form online. Do not type it in another format.
  - List the **cost per unit** and total amount of funds requested for each item.
  - If this is a multiple-year or long-term project, please focus on the specific funding for this grant period.
  - If you would like to see examples of completed budget forms and answers to frequently asked questions about budget issues, visit our Web site at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/GrantsSHAG.aspx>.
10. Attach a photographic image or photographic images of the area **AS IT CURRENTLY EXISTS**. Color photographs are preferred and should be used in all copies of the application. Printed digital images are fine. **Please include scale and compass directions**. It is helpful for the judges to see a wide view of the area at ground level as well as close-up images. Do not submit aerial photos.
11. On a single sheet of paper, briefly sketch or diagram the work plan for the project area. This diagram will **SHOW THE HABITAT AS IT WILL APPEAR WHEN THE ACTION GRANT PROJECT IS COMPLETED**. Identify the physical structures that will be constructed and vegetation that will be planted and/or eliminated. Include scale and compass directions.

**Submit application packet to the following address.**

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