



Volunteer to grow Native Plants for School and Community Projects

Have you always wanted to try growing native plants from seed but don't know where to start?

Volunteer with the Dane County Land & Water Resources Department to grow native plants for use in schools and community groups that are interested in incorporating native plants but may not have the budget to purchase them. Dane County will provide seeds, seed trays, a how to guide, and training.



Why Native Plants?

Native plants have tremendous water quality and pollinator benefits! First priority for the plants grown during this pilot year will be given to schools to increase awareness among Dane County youth of the benefits of native plants.

Volunteer Commitment

The volunteer will grow the seedlings, provide the potting mix for the trays, transplant the seedlings into the trays, and coordinate with Dane County to return the plants. Any extra seedlings, beyond what fits in the trays, are yours to keep or give away. Volunteers will also need to participate in a one day training to learn about the growing process.

Volunteer Profile



Theresa started growing plants because she wanted to create a large native garden in the yard of her newly constructed home. Buying plants was too expensive! She had been wanting to experiment with growing her own plants from seed and this was just the motivation she needed. Theresa's experiment was wildly successful! She grew enough plants to fill her 1000 square foot native garden, rain garden, and then some! Theresa greatly enjoyed getting to know the plants from seed to flower and seeing all the wildlife her garden brought to her yard. In just the first couple year's she witnessed monarch caterpillars chewing on her butterfly milkweed, numerous bumble bees happily buzzing around the flowers, birds swooping down to eat the coreopsis seeds, and hummingbirds flitting about the cardinal flowers. Theresa started growing plants for herself but she soon had more than she could use and started sharing them with friends, neighbors, and community projects. Her son's elementary school has already planted several species and next year they will use more of Theresa's plants to enhance a new outdoor classroom space. What started out as a way to save some money has turned into a passion for Theresa and she plans to continue growing native plants for others into the future.



If you are interested in participating or want to learn more, please contact:



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