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Order No. 16550
March 5, 2019

PROPOSED POLLINATOR GARDEN AND ENHANCMENT PLAN
for
WHIPPOORWILL PARK, METTAWA, ILLINOIS

(A) Area A. Pollinator garden

Area A is located in the southwestern portion of Whippoorwill Park. A trail and a cluster of deciduous trees lie to the west of this area, a row of Norway Spruce lie to the east and a trail and open area lie to the north. We plan a 1,100 square foot garden. The garden will consist of four planting pods separated by turf-grass areas, to maintain existing drainage.

The garden is located approximately equidistant from the spruces to the east and the deciduous trees to the west to optimize sunlight. Plant selection was based on the following criteria:

- 1) The plants selected for this garden support pollinating insects. All of the plants are nectar producing forbs and many serve as hosts to the larvae of a variety of butterfly species, especially the three Milkweed species, the Prairie willow and Sweet black-eyed susan.
- 2) The plants have specifically been chosen to flower at different times throughout the growing season. We have intentionally included early-blooming species - Bloodroot, Trout lily, Jacob's ladder, Ramps, and Prairie willow, as well as late blooming species – such as Witch-hazel, that can bloom well into November and even December.
- 3) We have chosen native species that are adapted for partial sun / shade and are typically associated with dry to moderate soils.
- 4) We expect approximately 90 percent plant survival.

In order to ensure the success of the plants proposed for this area we propose the following modifications to the site:

- 5) The soil will be stripped of existing vegetation. At the present time this area is dominated by turf grasses. The sod is to be cut to a depth of two to three inches during the late winter / early spring and treated with herbicide ten or more days later.
- 6) The soil is to be plowed to a depth of at least six inches and approximately 32 square yards of sand / soil / compost mixture is to be mixed into the soil and used to create the four pods shown on the plans.
- 7) The planting pods are to be covered with erosion blanketing. Plants are to be installed through the erosion blanketing.
- 8) Pods are to be typically separated from the turf-grass with landscape timbers. Flagstone is provided for butterflies to sun.
- 9) These features will require supplemental watering. We plan to implement several water conserving strategies – including erosion blanketing and adequate spacing between the plants.

The plants are to be watered immediately following installation. The decision on when and how much subsequent watering will be based on regular assessment of soil moisture, recorded rainfall, and overall plant health. The garden is to be weeded as needed. Little or no herbicide is to be used.

(B) Area B. Enhancement planting

Area B is located in the northeast corner of the property and is roughly 2,600 square feet. Although this area was seeded for prairie vegetation several years ago, it currently contains a substantial percentage of weedy vegetation – in particular foxtail grasses (*Setaria spp*) and Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*). It is our understanding that this site is burned on a regular basis. As such, we anticipate that the overall percentage of weedy species will decline progressively.

We propose to install approximately 890 native plant plugs. These plants vary in terms of bloom-period, moisture tolerance and color. We recommend installing these plants at distances of between one and two feet on center following a controlled burn. No particular effort is planned to prepare the soil. We recognize that many of the plants will be out-competed by the existing vegetation, or will simply fail to thrive, however, those that survive will compliment to the pollinator friendly plants installed in Area A at the southwestern portion of this park. The Area B plants are intended to become an increasingly important component of the landscape in future growing seasons.

We do not anticipate that these plants will require much maintenance. Some supplemental watering may be required to help the plants become established. We recommend that herbicides be avoided while the plants are becoming established.

(C) General

Anticipated plant survival will differ between areas A and B. The anticipated survival rate for the plants within Area A – which will be constructed to be a controlled environment – is around 90 percent, while the anticipated survival rate for Area B – which is a substantially less controlled environment – is around 60-70 percent.

The following documents dated May 5, 2019, are included:

- 1) Table A, being a list of plants for the pollinator garden in the southwest area of the park
- 2) Table B, being a list of plants for the enhancement planting in the northeast corner of the park
- 3) Exhibit 1, being a diagram showing the location of the pollinator garden (Area A) and enhancement plantings (Area B)
- 4) Exhibit 2, being a diagram showing the proposed plant locations within the pollinator garden

(D) Estimated Cost

We estimate the project cost to be \$18,000.00, including normal maintenance and watering for one year.

AREA A – Pollinator garden - approximately 1,100 square feet		
<u><i>Common Name</i></u>	<u><i>Scientific Name</i></u>	<u><i>Approximate plug quantity</i></u>
Giant yellow hyssop	<i>Agastache nepetoides</i>	8
Ramps	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	12
Poke milkweed	<i>Asclepias exaltata</i>	32
Common milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	8
Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	6
White wild indigo	<i>Baptisia leucantha / alba</i>	4
Pale purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	36
Yellow trout lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	12
Annual bedstraw	<i>Galium aparine</i>	6
Spotted geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	30
Witch hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	1
Woodland sunflower	<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	40
Alum root	<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	30
Dense blazing star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	6
Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	22
Bracken fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum lat.</i>	5
Sweet coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	6
Prairie willow	<i>Salix humilis</i>	4
Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	<u>12</u>
	TOTAL	280

AREA B – Enhancement planting area - approximately 2,600 square feet		
<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Approximate plug quantity</u>
Yellow giant hyssop	<i>Agastache nepetoides</i>	50
Nodding wild onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	60
Lead plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	35
Common milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	50
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	60
Partridge pea	<i>Cassia fasciculata</i>	20
Sand coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	40
Tall coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	50
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	40
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	60
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	30
Closed bottle gentian	<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	35
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	50
Prairie alum root	<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	40
Tall rough blazing star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	40
Downy phlox	<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	30
Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	40
Sweet black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	30
Common spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	30
Smooth tall ironweed	<i>Vernonia altissima</i>	30
Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	30
Golden alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	40
	TOTAL	890