



# INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM PLAN

<b>SUBJECT:</b> Establishing pollinator habitat show and tell	<b>AGE:</b> Adults	<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>
<b>TITLE OF PROGRAM:</b> Master Pollinator Stewards IPP 5C	<b>TYPE OF PROGRAM:</b> Hands on & Outdoors	<b>RECOMMENDED SEASON:</b> Year round
<b>TIME PERIOD (TOTAL):</b> 30 minutes	<b>ORIGIN OF PROGRAM:</b> MSMP steering committee	<b>DATE INITIATED/ REVISED:</b> February 2018
<b>GOALS:</b> Increased confidence on establishing a pollinator garden or planting.		
<b>LOCATION:</b> Ideally, outside in a mixed landscape area of lawn, some trees, some flower beds, etc.		
<b>OBJECTIVES:</b> Understand the influence the season will have on plant establishment, by both seed and transplants. Recognition of the current habitat, the challenge in changing or removing it. Recognizing the approaches typically used for plant establishment when by seed vs with transplants.		
<b>EQUIPMENT/MATERIALS (what is available and convenient to display):</b>		
Bag of prairie meadow seed (with seeding instructions)	Some transplants or differing sizes	
Annual flower seed of differing sizes	Some irrigation equipment	
Tillage hand tools- shovel, rake, etc.	Rototiller	
Ground fabric	Hand pump sprayer	
Herbicide sample bottles (2 or 3)- e.g. glyphosate, grass killer, Preen, Crossbow	Mulch samples	
	Controlled burn equipment	
<b>INSTRUCTOR REFERENCES:</b>		
Master Pollinator Steward Program publications- M405		
Establishing and maintaining a prairie garden, University of Minnesota Extension <a href="http://cues.cfans.umn.edu/old/extpubs/6748prairie/DG6748.html">http://cues.cfans.umn.edu/old/extpubs/6748prairie/DG6748.html</a>		
Backyard Prairies & Pollinator Meadows- Garden Tips (Univ. of Illinois, Knox County Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists) <a href="https://web.extension.illinois.edu/cook/downloads/68076.pdf">https://web.extension.illinois.edu/cook/downloads/68076.pdf</a>		
<b>AUDIENCE REFERENCES:</b>	Same as for instructor	
<b>SAFETY MANAGEMENT:</b> Be in the shade if hot. Provide water and bug spray.		
<b>RAIN PLAN:</b> Do inside classroom or under cover outside (e.g. tent or pavilion)		

TIME	PROGRAM OUTLINE	POTENTIAL AIDS USED
2-3 min	<p><u>INTRODUCTION</u></p> <p>Briefly discuss the goal and objectives of this activity. Review that having it outside may provide an experiential setting that is beneficial to learning.</p> <p>This would be ideal towards the end of the class. It could the end and participants could leave directly from the location, if it needs to be driven to.</p>	<p>Bag of prairie meadow seed (with seeding instructions)</p>
7-8 min	<p>Start with a site selection discussion. That a variety of sites can be used, of differing sunlight levels. Establishing plants in a shadier location will have less sun stress, but may need more water due to completion with the roots. For the rest of this program, define that this discussion will focus on prairie meadow, which would be similar to most pollinator gardens preferring mostly full sun. Discuss how important it is to eliminate all grass and weeds before you plant. This will make the first few years of prairie establishment much easier. There's no single best method to prepare the seedbed but, whichever you choose, it's important to take your time and be thorough. If possible, take a full year to make sure as many weeds as possible are eliminated. Use show and tell items to make more interesting. Refer to Illinois publication for tips on herbicides, etc. Discuss that a cover crop can aide with the process (kill everything in the fall, keep clean and have a summer cover crop, then plant in the fall- now one year later) Cover crops like buckwheat and sunflower are good for pollinators and as cover crops.</p>	<p>Some transplants or differing sizes</p> <p>Annual flower seed of differing sizes</p> <p>Some irrigation equipment</p> <p>Tillage hand tools- shovel, rake, etc.</p> <p>Rototiller</p> <p>Ground fabric</p> <p>Hand pump sprayer</p>
7-8 min	<p>When to plant- review the difference between 'seed bed preparation' and just planting a transplant, the former being more demanding. Also on the timing, that by seed the window of establishment is narrower. Focus first on seeds. Many prairies are sowed in the fall, so the seed can vernalize. Discuss the challenge of keeping the soil moist and the prospect of using a product like Preen, but only after the desired plants have established. Review the potential to use grass killers, if the desired plants are all broadleaves. Briefly mention controlled burning has maintenance applications, but is quite limited for many living in urban areas.</p>	<p>Mulch samples</p> <p>Herbicide sample bottles (2 or 3)- e.g. glyphosate, grass killer, Preen, Crossbow</p>
7-8 min	<p>Shift gears to discussing establishing a garden using plants. Review the many benefits and how weed fabric and mulch can have great application, as well as products like Preen. Discuss the drawback- price. Review the different plants for show and tell and how much they cost.</p>	<p>Controlled burn equipment</p>
3-5 min	<p><u>WRAP UP:</u> Ask participants to share what they have learned and ask if any have experiences with starting a new garden they'd like to discuss.</p>	

Self-Evaluation:

1. Were you able to meet your goals & objectives?

2. What worked for you?

3. What didn't work for you?