



# 2024 PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

# High School Pollinator Habitat Grant Program

“ We loved doing this project together, building stronger relationships with each other, a sense of belonging, trust, and community. They loved helping with planting and prepping the site. Other students saw what we were doing and they wanted to help. It increased a sense of community as a school with students of all grade levels. ”

**Jennifer Collins**  
Special Education Teacher  
North Division High School,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Students at Athens Junior/Senior High School confer around trays as they sow native pollinator seeds. Athens, Illinois.



Teacher Bradley Harrison and his AP Environmental Science students, ready to plant their pollinator habitat site at LaFollette High School, in Madison, Wis.

## Overview

Since 2017, Sand County Foundation has awarded competitive Pollinator Habitat Grants to 102 high schools across Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Illinois. This program strives to increase the diversity of native wildflowers in agricultural settings by engaging students in experiential learning projects propagating, planting, and maintaining prairie plants.

## 2023-2024 School Year Highlights

During the 2023-2024 school year, Sand County Foundation awarded grants to fifteen schools. Students raised and planted over 16,000 native seedlings, engaging 900 students in hands-on education. This year, schools had incredible successes with plant germination. Several schools raised hundreds of seedlings and even organized giveaways to share pollinator plants with the community. Athens Junior/Senior High School went above and beyond by collecting wild milkweed seeds and propagating 700 milkweed plants, in addition to growing 2,400 transplants with the seeds provided, which resulted in planting over 3,000 seedlings into pollinator habitat.

## LOCATIONS OF PAST AND PRESENT GRANT RECIPIENTS



Students at East High School in Waterloo, Iowa planting their pollinator habitat site.



A healthy crop of native pollinator transplants, grown by students at North Scott High School in Eldridge, Iowa.



A student from Face to Face Academy in St. Paul, Minn. plants her school garden plot with pollinator-friendly species and vegetables.

## Projects Completed in the 2023-2024 School Year:

- Alma High School, Alma, Michigan
- Amery High School, Amery, Wisconsin
- Athens High School, Athens, Illinois
- Clayton High School, Clayton, Wisconsin
- East High School, Waterloo, Iowa
- Face to Face Academy, St. Paul, Minnesota
- Fulton High School, Fulton, Illinois
- Jackson Area Career Center, Jackson, Michigan
- La Follette High School, Madison, Wisconsin
- Mary D. Bradford High School, Kenosha, Wisconsin
- Milan High School, Milan, Michigan
- North Division High School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- North Scott High School, Eldridge, Iowa
- Pleasant Plains High School, Pleasant Plains, Illinois
- Sumner-Fredericksburg High School, Sumner, Iowa

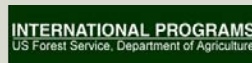
## 2024-2025 School Year Progress

For the 2024-2025 school year the grant program the timeline will be adjusted to allow for more thorough site preparation over the summer and increase the likelihood of sustained successful habitat creation. The new timeline will encourage greater integration of curriculum with ongoing experiential activities, and may lead to greater and/or longer term student learning outcomes. Additionally, program options for schools without greenhouses and elementary aged-students will be available, in efforts to continually increase accessibility and participation.

“ I enjoyed the whole process that we had to do. It went from planting them as seeds, to transplanting them, to then planting them in the ground. It was really cool to see how the whole process worked. ”

9th Grade Student  
Mary D. Bradford High School

## Thank you to our 2023-2024 school year project sponsors



Haglund Ecology Fund



Sand County Foundation invites additional support to expand the program impact in future years.

TO LEARN MORE PLEASE CONTACT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

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[www.sandcountyfoundation.org/schoolgrants](http://www.sandcountyfoundation.org/schoolgrants)



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