

Illinois Prairie Chapter of Wild Ones Forever Wild 2017 Grant Program

In support of the [Mission](#) and [Vision](#) of Wild Ones, the Illinois Prairie Chapter is awarding grants to fund the purchase of native Central Illinois plants. Please read the following instructions carefully before submitting a grant application. You can also download a printer-friendly copy of these instructions. You can also download a printer-friendly version of the application, if desired, using this link <http://illinoisprairie.wildones.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2016/10/WO-Grant-Application-2016.docx>, however, your application must be submitted by email as specified in the instructions.

If you have questions about your intended native planting project, we encourage you to visit the Learn section of our website (<http://illinoisprairie.wildones.org/resources/>). There you will find information about native plantings, including how to prepare the site for your project and where to purchase native plants. If you have questions about the instructions or the application, please contact us at ilprairiewo@gmail.com.

Eligible Applicants

Schools, colleges, nature centers, libraries, houses of worship, and other public or private not-for-profit organizations located within the following Illinois counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Grundy, LaSalle, Livingston, Logan, Macon, Marshall, Mason, McLean, Menard, Moultrie, Peoria, Piatt, Putnam, Sangamon, Stark, Tazewell, or Woodford.

If the project is to be located on property that you do not own, you must obtain permission from the landowner to use the property.

Contact Information

Here we ask you to provide the street address, city, state and zip code for your organization. If your application is successful, a check will be made out to your organization rather than to an individual within it. We also ask you to identify a contact person for your organization and to provide an email address and phone number(s) for them. This person is responsible for ensuring that grant funds are used appropriately and for submitting the final report. Youth groups such as the Girl Scouts or 4-H must have an adult as their contact person.

Eligible Projects

Projects must aim to preserve, restore or establish native plantings. Projects may include, but are not limited to, the following: Butterfly Gardens, Monarch Way Stations, Prairie, Woodland, or Wetland Plantings, etc.

Applicants must demonstrate that their project has a reasonable chance of success. They must show that the project area will be prepared before planting in a way that is appropriate to their specific project. The native plants must also be appropriate to the local ecosystem in which the project is located and adapted to its micro-climate (sun, shade, etc.). If you are not sure if the plants you have selected are native to your local ecosystem, please visit: <http://illinoiswildflowers.info>. In addition, there must be a sound plan for maintaining the project area in the future.

Finally, projects must serve to educate their intended audience about the benefits and beauty of native plants. Applicants must describe their planned outreach efforts and show how they will be effective in educating their audience about native plants.

Eligible Costs

Funding will be provided for native plants only, not cultivars of native plants. At this time we are not funding the purchase of seeds.

Most projects will also incur other costs such as those involved in site preparation and its maintenance, instructional tools, hardscaping etc., but these costs are not eligible for funding.

Funding

The maximum annual award is currently \$500 per applicant. Checks will be made out to the non-profit organization applying, not to individuals within the organization. Funds are to be used in the year in which they are received. Applicants may apply for additional funding in subsequent years.

The Illinois Prairie Chapter of Wild Ones administers the funds, which are raised through chapter dues and fundraising efforts, especially its annual native plant sale.

Representatives of Illinois Prairie Wild Ones reserve the right to visit the site for which the grant funds were provided.

Applications

Applications must be submitted on the *application form provided*. Responses must be typed in a standard 12 point font, single-spaced with one inch margins. Please limit the length of the application to 7 pages excluding attachments.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

The application must be submitted no later than midnight February 15 to:
ilprairiewo@gmail.com.

The Forever Wild Grant Committee of the Illinois Prairie Chapter of the Wild Ones will evaluate all applications and will make recommendations to its Board, which will make the final decision.

Publicity

Successful grant recipients are required to acknowledge the Illinois Prairie Chapter of Wild Ones as a funding source in any project publicity or printed material.

Final Report

Grantees are required to submit a final report by February 15 of the year following the award. Go to <http://illinoisprairie.wildones.org/grants/> for an outline of the final report.

Project Timeline

Submit Application by email	between January 15 and February 15
Notification to all applicants	no later than March 30
Submission of final report	February 15 of the following year

Thank you for your interest in and support of native plantings!