

STEARNS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT POLLINATOR HABITAT PROGRAM



Native prairie flowers, clover, and other pollinator-friendly species are vital in creating and maintaining the habitats many species like honeybees, butterflies, and native bees depend on. The Stearns County SWCD Pollinator Habitat Program provides free, high-quality seed along with technical assistance to help restore and maintain habitats for many years to come.



Native Bees continue steep declines in both habitat and population.



Monarch Butterfly population has decreased by **80%** in the last 20 years.



Honeybees lose **40%** of the hive annually.



More than 150 crops in the U.S. depend on pollinators, including many fruit crops.

WHAT IS THE POLLINATOR HABITAT PROGRAM?

The Stearns County Pollinator Habitat Program provides assistance in establishing pollinator communities on lands that do not qualify for the USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). By restoring, conserving, and increasing the diversity of pollinator plant communities, it provides a place that many species like honeybees, butterflies, and native bees depend on.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PARTICIPANT?

Pollinators such as the monarch butterfly, the honeybee, and native bees across the state are decreasing. By providing habitat for rare and declining wildlife species, landowners can contribute to providing a source of food and shelter for our most important pollinators.

STEARNS COUNTY SWCD SERVICES

By choosing to plant a pollinator habitat with the Stearns County SWCD, landowners are provided with free seed and technical assistance to ensure proper site preparation and seeding as well as successful establishment.



DEDICATED SPECIALIZED STAFF



ONE-ON-ONE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



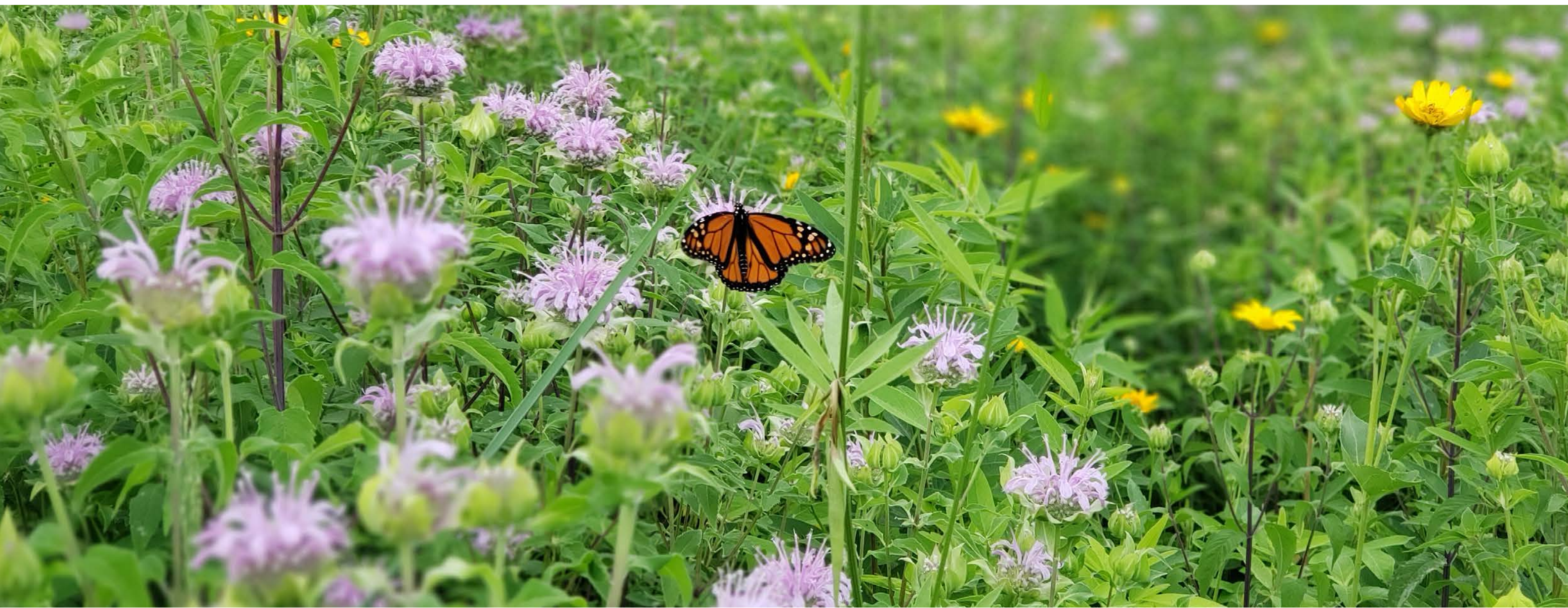
HIGH QUALITY SEED



HELP RESTORE WILDLIFE HABITAT



PROVIDE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE



"The Stearns County SWCD Wildlife team turned my land into a beautiful pollinator habitat. Not only I am contributing to providing a home for many insects, butterflies, bees, birds, and wildlife; I am proud to be making a difference in conservation." - Stearns County Resident

WHO QUALIFIES?

- Landowners in Stearns County
- Private, public, and corporate lands
- Minimum project size is 2 acres
- Lands not eligible for USDA CRP
- Project details must follow SWCD guidelines

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

- Contract length is 10 years
- \$300 (flat rate) will be paid per acre
- The seeding must be completed between May 15- June 30 or after November 1
- The landowner is responsible for site preparation, installation, and management of habitat applied under the program and listed and described in the Pollinator Habitat Development Plan
- The SWCD may perform site inspections at any time of the contract life. Inspections will typically occur prior to seeding, during year of establishment for practice certification, and subsequently in years three, five, and nine
- If the title of the land is sold or transferred to another party before the expiration of the ten-year contract, it shall be the responsibility of the new owner
- Free technical assistance will be provided by the Stearns County SWCD

HOW TO APPLY

Contact Stearns County SWCD Wildlife Habitat team members Ryan Rothstein or Jason Selvog at 320.251.7800 ext.3.

