

Chittenden Native Plant & Pollinator Gardens on the Manistee National Forest

2009 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2007 to control non-native invasive plants in former tree nursery beds, provide habitat for pollinators, and produce native grass and wildflower seed to be used in restoration efforts throughout the Manistee National Forest.

So far 7 seedbeds have been planted with native grass and wildflower seed and 4 flowerbeds were planted with native grasses, sedges, and wildflowers. The gardens are being visited by numerous bees, butterflies, bumblebees, hummingbirds, beetles, moths, and flies. By the end of 2009, we will have planted 6 species of grasses, 2 species of sedges, and 29 species of wildflowers in the flower gardens and nursery beds.

A 24" x 36" sign was developed and printed that describes "The Ugly Truth about Non-native Invasive Plants: they may look pretty, but they have an ugly impact on the environment". It is a good complement to the "Benefits of Native Plants" and "Pollinator Friendly Practices" signs that were developed in 2008.



Figure 1. Monarch caterpillar on butterfly milkweed (Photo by Carolyn Henne)

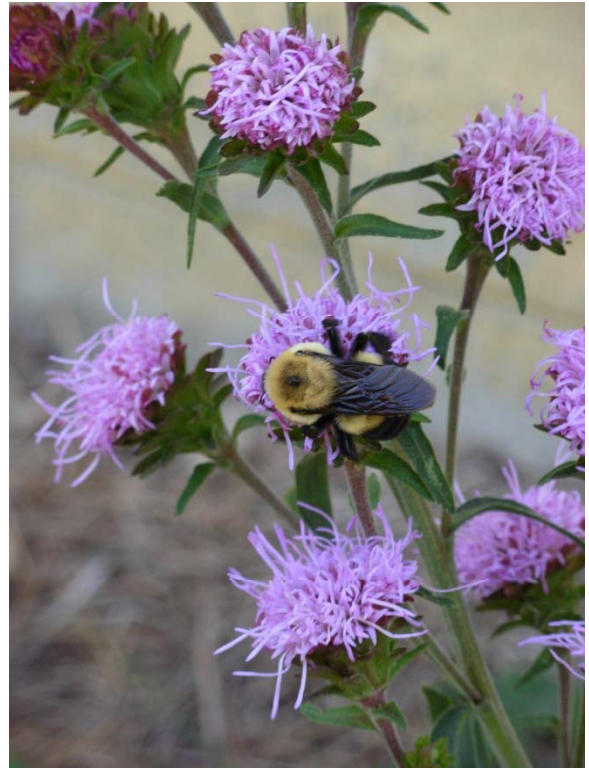


Figure 2. Bumble bee on blazing star (photo by Carolyn Henne)

Year Awarded: Initial award in 2008

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 2 of 2

Expenditures (through 10/2009):
FY08 funding \$20,000, expend. \$17,620, \$2,380
redirected for fire borrowing; FY09 funding \$11,708,
expend. \$11,704.26, \$3.74 remaining

▪ Total funding \$31,704; total expend \$29,320.26

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