

Potosi Ranger District Native Pollinator Garden on the Mark Twain National Forest

2010 Accomplishments

Two pollinator gardens were established at the Potosi Ranger Station in Potosi, Missouri. These pollinator gardens are located at sites where they can be easily observed by visitors. The two gardens are approximately 250 and 350 square feet. One of the gardens is located in full sun and contains plants found in prairie or glade habitats in Missouri. The other garden is located in a shady location and contains plants that may occur in upland woodland habitats of Missouri. The gardens contain 30 different species of sedges, grasses, and flowering plants native to Missouri.

Local high school students from the Potosi High School's FFA and Ag Classes assisted with planting the garden. In the spring of 2011, a rain barrel will be installed to be used to irrigate the gardens and the plants will be better labeled.

The purpose of the pollinator gardens is to educate the public about the diversity and beauty of Missouri's native plants and to encourage people to participate in the state's GrowNative program. In addition, the garden will educate others about the important ecological role of our pollinating insects, some of which are in decline. Species of milkweeds, in particular, will provide valuable habitat for breeding monarch butterflies. It is hoped additional funding will be provided for interpretive signs in 2011.



Figure 1: Local students assist with planting the pollinator gardens.



Figure 2: The shade garden is located near the entrance.



Figure 3: The sun garden is located in the parking area.

Year Awarded: 2010

Project completion: 2011

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 9/2010): \$7,571

Retaining Walls: \$5,830

Plants: \$1,300

Markers: \$66

Rain Barrel: \$155

Soil & Mulch: \$220

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Mark Twain National Forest
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