



WILDFLOWERS, *naturally!*

Celebrating Florida's First Flowers

Native Wildflower Landscape Recognition Program

Throughout history, flower gardens have inspired people of all ages to contemplate the beauty of nature. And in nature, flowers have their own displays based on ecology and regional climate.

Adapting wildflowers to a garden setting requires a unique understanding of each plant's growth habits and a willingness to create an environment similar to natural wildflower habitats. It takes a special gardener to see beauty and connectivity in seasonal changes required for regrowth and regeneration of wildflowers from year to year.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation recognizes gardens throughout the state that have areas dedicated to native wildflowers, flowering shrubs and trees. With your help, we can celebrate these gardens and illustrate a unique way to create beautiful corridors that sustain wildlife and pollinators.

Why have your landscape recognized?

Recognized landscapes increase awareness of Florida native wildflowers, promote wildflower conservation across the state, and educate others about landscaping with Florida natives.

Rewards of recognition

- Once your application has been reviewed and approved, and upon receipt of your \$15 application fee, you'll receive a certificate suitable for framing.
- You'll be eligible to order a colorful flag or beautiful aluminum sign to display in your garden for an additional \$20 plus shipping and handling.
- Your landscape will be recognized in our quarterly newsletter.

Up to three outstanding applicants per year will be recognized at FWF's annual Florida Wildflower Symposium.

How to qualify your landscape for recognition

Landscapes should

- be on residential or commercial property
- cover at least 50 square feet
- be planted with a minimum of 75 percent Florida native wildflowers ([read our definition of a Florida native wildflower](#))
- display spring-, summer- and fall-blooming native species
- contain no invasive exotic species ([learn about invasive exotic species](#))
- contain a diversity of species appropriate for your region from trusted sources, such as members of the [Florida Association of Native Nurseries](#) and the [Florida Wildflower Growers Cooperative](#).
- provide food, water and shelter for wildlife
- be identifiable and distinct as a wildflower landscape

Points are given for diversity, longevity and regional species selection. We also credit gardening practices that minimize human impact on the land and increase habitat value for resident and migrating insects, birds and animals. Points are given for diversity, longevity and regional species selection. We also credit gardening practices that minimize human impact on the land and increase habitat value for resident and migrating insects, birds and animals. Below are just a few of the many resources available to help you establish or enhance your native landscape:

- Our [Guide for Choosing Native Wildflowers and Plants](#) will help you determine which native wildflowers, shrubs, vines and grasses are suitable for your region and landscape conditions, as well as help you select plants for their bloom color, bloom season, size, and wildlife use.
- Follow these links to learn which native Florida wildflowers are nectar and host plants for pollinators:
[North and Central Florida](#)
[South Florida](#)
- For landscaping ideas, download our sample landscape plans on the [Wildflowers – Naturally! home page](#).

To apply, simply fill out the application and mail along with a check or money order in the amount of \$15 to:

Florida Wildflower Foundation
225 S. Swoope Ave., Suite 110
Maitland, FL 32751

Or you may apply online at http://flawildflowers.org/wildflowers_naturally.php.

The sun exposure is:

(If wildflowers occur in more than one location of your property, check all that apply)

4 hours or more direct sun

1 to 3 hours direct sun

Filtered sun under pines

Shady most of the day

How much of your wildflower garden contains Florida native wildflowers? (Please enter a whole number to represent the percentage of native wildflowers in your landscape.)

_____ percent

Are native grasses included in your wildflower garden?

Yes (Optional: Please provide the names of the grasses in your garden in the space provided below.)

No

Are your wildflowers interplanted with flowering shrubs and/or trees?

Yes

No

How did you establish your garden? Check all that apply.

Plants

Other

Seeds

If "Other," please describe.

Where did you obtain your plants and/or seeds? Check all that apply.

Local native nursery

Garden festival

Local retail nursery

Ordered online

Farmer's market

Florida Wildflower Seed and Plant
Growers Co-op

Gardening friends

Plant sale

Optional: Please provide the name of the local native nursery(s) and/or the URL(s) of online source(s) for your plants or seeds.

Did a landscape professional help design the garden or choose plants?

Yes

No

Optional: Please provide the name(s) of the designer(s) you worked with.

How long has your garden been established?

Less than 1 year

2 to 3 years

More than 5 years

1 to 2 years

4 to 5 years

Estimate the number of individual native wildflower plants in your garden.

Less than 20

51 to 100

21 to 50

More than 100

Estimate the number of native wildflower species represented in your garden.

Less than 5

10 to 15

6 to 9

More than 16

In the spaces provided below, please identify your garden's native wildflower species. **If possible, include both common and scientific names (Genus and species). If species is unknown, list genus only. For help with scientific names, visit the [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#).**

Please indicate the predominant season(s) in which the wildflowers in your landscape are blooming. Check all that apply.

Spring

Fall

Year-round

Summer

Winter

Wildlife

What features in your garden help attract wildlife? Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird baths | <input type="checkbox"/> Nearby shrubs or trees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock pile | <input type="checkbox"/> Brush pile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird feeder | <input type="checkbox"/> Pond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nest box | <input type="checkbox"/> Bee nest or hive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

If "Other," please describe.

List any insects and/or animals you have observed in your garden, specifically those that are seen utilizing the native plants for pollen, food, shelter, etc. Examples include butterflies, birds, bees, wasps, caterpillars, moths, etc. If you know the species, please indicate its common name (i.e. Zebra longwing, rather than butterfly). If no wildlife has been observed, enter "None."

Garden practices

Indicate which of the following garden practices you have employed or are currently employing. Check all that apply. (Applicant must practice at least 3 for recognition.)

- Avoid chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and insecticides when possible.
- Control pests by encouraging beneficial insects.
- Remove invasive exotic plant species. (Visit www.flepcc.org for more information and a list of invasive exotic plants.)
- Avoid the use of cultivars. ([Click here](#) to read our definition of a cultivar.)
- Avoid use of cypress mulch by using pine straw, pine bark or recycled yard mulch, such as oak leaves.
- Practice water conservation by irrigating only as necessary and using micro-irrigation or soaker hoses.
- Garden for wildlife by including insect host and nectar plants.
- Use a rain barrel to collect water for irrigation.

Garden narrative

Why did you create a Florida wildflower garden? What were your expectations? Have they been met? What obstacles have you overcome? (Attach a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

Photos

Pictures help us inspire and educate other gardeners to continue gardening with Florida native wildflowers. We love before and after shots. Your photos should show overall garden views and not individual flower close-ups. Before and after photos are acceptable — and encouraged!

- You must submit 2–3 photos. If you would like to submit more than 3 photos, please contact us.
- Photos should be submitted via email to smatrazzo@FlaWildflowers.org with the subject line “Wildflowers—Naturally! Photos” and your full name (as indicated in this application) in the body of the email.
- Photos should be between 1 and 4 mb in size.

By checking the box below, you are granting permission to the Florida Wildflower Foundation to use your photographs in any and all media, and agree that there will be no financial or other remuneration required for their use. You also signify that you are the sole owner of the photos and have the right to distribute them.

I agree

Please let us know how you would like to be identified as the owner of the photos.

First and last name, town: Jane Smith, Orlando

First name only, town: Jane, Orlando

Business where garden is located, town: Green Grocer, Orlando

Town only (Anonymous): Orlando

Submit your application

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Maitland, FL 32751

Recognition

A representative from the Florida Wildflower Foundation will notify you via email within 7 to 10 business days to let you know whether your garden qualifies for recognition as a Florida Wildflower Garden.

If your garden does not qualify for recognition, may we contact you via email with suggestions to help you qualify in the future?

Yes

No

**Thank you for gardening with Florida native wildflowers
and supporting their continued planting and conservation
through the Florida Wildflower Foundation!**