

VIVA FLORIDA LANDSCAPE DEMONSTRATION GARDENS GRANT INITIAL REPORT

As outlined in your Viva Florida Landscape Demonstration Gardens Grant program contract, you are required to complete the following final report. Final payment will be released once the report and all required attachments have been received, reviewed and approved by the Foundation.

INSTRUCTIONS

- **This report covers the period between the planting installation and Jan. 31, 2022.**
- Enter all answers in the gray boxes.
- Save this Word document with your facility name followed by _FinalReport (e.g. CityPark_FinalReport) before submitting.
- The report, along with all required materials as outlined below, must be received no later than **Feb. 28, 2022**.

If you have any questions about the report, please contact Stacey Matrazzo at 407-590-5321 or SMatrazzo@FlaWildflowers.org before beginning.

I. Project location

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Facility and/or project name | Sopchoppy Depot Park |
| 2. Address | 33 Rose Street, Sopchoppy FL 32358 |

II. Project manager contact information

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 1. Name (first and last) | [REDACTED] |
| 2. Email | [REDACTED] |
| 3. Primary phone number | [REDACTED] |

III. Project overview

1. Describe your installation experience (i.e., who and how many participated (volunteers, staff, etc.) in the installation). How long was the installation process and how many people (e.g., staff, volunteers, contractors, etc.) were involved? What about this experience went particularly well? What did not go well or as planned? What changes, if any, to your initial plan were necessary upon installation?

(Who/how many participated?) Grant funds helped more than 30 volunteers create a 2,000-square-foot wildflower meadow in the southwest corner of the park, replant the park entrance with native plants, and add new native species throughout the park.

(How long was the installation process; staff/volunteers/contractors?) The installation process began with planning in May 2021. Final planting was completed by early November. The installation process took six months.

- In May, 2021, the FWF Viva Florida Grant was awarded to the City of Sopchoppy to create a wildflower meadow and expand existing plantings at Depot Park.
- On June 12 and 13, volunteers removed grass from the 2,000 sq ft wildflower meadow area and tilled the soil.

- On June 19, 20 and 24, volunteers dug a trench around the meadow area to later hold the solarization plastic in place.
- On June 23, the City installed irrigation in the SW quadrant of the park.
- On June 26, volunteers put down and taped together the 6-mil plastic sheeting to solarize the meadow soil and filled in the trench encircling the meadow.
- In July and August, a volunteer periodically checked the plastic sheeting and repaired tears with greenhouse tape.
- On July 31, volunteers installed the Hydram watering system and installed new plants in the planter at the park's entrance on Rose St.

Planter plants:

- False Sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides*) – 5
- Red Salvia (*Salvia coccinea*) - 3
- Blue-Eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) - 5
- Sunshine Mimosa (*Mimosa strigillosa*) – 3
- On October 2 & 3, volunteers removed the plastic from the wildflower meadow area. Volunteers also removed grass that had sprouted beneath the plastic, filled the encircling trench, and raked the soil smooth.
- On October 8, garden designer Betsy Smith recommended and marked plant locations within the meadow and elsewhere in the park.
- On October 9, volunteers planted nearly 800 native wildflowers and grasses at Sopchoppy Depot Park. The plantings were in a newly created meadow and around the stormwater pond in the park's southwest corner. Many of the fall-blooming wildflowers were still in bloom and immediately attracted butterflies. Thirty different species were planted including three kinds of *Liatris* (blazing star), three types of iris, three species of aster, and three native grasses. Many species were new to the park including atamasco or zephyr lily, string lily, cardinal flower, golden canna, eastern blue star, marsh rattlesnakemaster, and button bush.

Meadow plants:

- Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) - 2
- Purple Lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*) - 135
- Wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*) -125
- Eastern Blue Star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*) - 25
- Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*) - 20
- Slender Blazing Star (*Liatris gracilis*) - 6
- Dense Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*) - 25
- Shortleaf Blazing Star (*Liatris tenuifolia*) - 8
- Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) - 70
- Dixie White Top Aster (*Sericocarpus tortifolius*) - 14
- Starry Rosinweed (*Silphium astericus*) - 20
- Elliott's Aster (*Symphyotrichum elliottii*) - 25
- Wavyleaf Aster (*Symphyotrichum undulatum*) - 10
- Narrowleaf Ironweed (*Vernonia angustifolia*) - 3

Pond plants:

- Golden canna (*Canna flaccida*) - 12
- Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) - 3
- String Lily (*Crinum americanum*) - 20
- Scarlet Hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*) - 15
- Franklin Spider Lily (*Hymenocallis franklinensis*) - 57
- Dahoon Holly (*Ilex cassine*) - 2

- Dixie Iris (*Iris hexagona*) - 30
- Savanna Iris (*Iris tridentata*) - 30
- Marsh Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium aquaticum*) - 30
- Southern Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*) - 10
- Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) – 20
- Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*) - 20
- Atamasco Lily (*Zephyranthes atamasco*) – 50
- On October 23, volunteers installed new plants at the park entrance, added plants to fill in NW/NE beds, & sowed wildflower seeds in the meadow in open areas and amongst the previously installed plants.

Meadow seeds:

- Lanceleaf Tickseed (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- Leavenworth's Tickseed (*Coreopsis leavenworthii*)
- Purple Lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*)
- Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Pinkscale Blazing Star (*Liatris elegans*)
- Dense Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)
- Canada Toadflax (*Linaria canadensis*)
- Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Softhair Coneflower (*Rudbeckia mollis*)
- Starry Rosinweed (*Silphium asteriscus*)

Entrance plants:

- Needle Palm (*Rhapidophyllum hystrix*) - 2
- Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) - 2
- Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) - 12
- Orange Coneflower (*Rudbeckia fulgida*) - 12
- False Sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides*) - 13
- False Petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*) - 6

NW Bed Plants

- Flyrs nemesis (*Brickellia cordifolia*) - 3
- False Rosemary (*Conradina canescens*) - 5
- Lanceleaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) - 20
- Stoke's Aster (*Stokesia laevis*) - 12
- Wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*) – 10
- Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) - 1

NE Bed Plants

- Needle Palm (*Rhapidophyllum hystrix*) - 1
- Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) - 3
- White Wild Indigo (*Baptisia alba*) - 10
- Lanceleaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) - 10
- Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) - 10
- Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) - 20

- On October 30, volunteers planted shrubs & wildflowers in the wooded swale just north of the wildflower meadow. Volunteers also planted trees & shrubs in SW & SE quadrants of the park.

Swale Plants

- Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) - 1
- Piedmont Azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*) - 10
- Southern Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*) - 20

- Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) 75
- Blue-Eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) - 45
- Indian Pinks (*Spigelia marilandica*) - 25
- Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*) - Seeds

SW Quadrant Trees & Vines

- Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) - 3
- Chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*) - 1
- Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) - 3
- Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) - 1
- Cross Vine (*Bignonia capreolata*) - 4
- Passion Vine (*Passiflora incarnata*) - 2

SE Corner Trees & Shrubs

- Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) - 1
- Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) - 9
- American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) - 1
- Starting on November 6, volunteers spent several days removing numerous invasive trees of varying sizes and other invasive plants from a neighboring property along the park's eastern border. The stumps of removed trees & shrubs were treated with herbicide.
- Throughout December, 2021, and January, 2022, general maintenance, including weeding, mulching and removal of invasives throughout the park was ongoing. Handwatering of non-irrigated plants on the eastern border near the children's playground continued. When a car crashed into the park and the irrigation system had to be turned off, handwatering the beds and meadow was required, especially as the weather was unusually dry and warm.

(What went well?)

- Successful collaboration included the administration of the City of Sopchoppy and its Mayor, Lara Edwards; volunteer teams; and numerous members as well as several officers of the Sarracenia Chapter of FNPS. Their coordinated efforts supported progress toward completion of the project on time and within budget.
- Members of the Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) played key roles in planning and implementing the project. This included selecting the plants, providing much of the volunteer labor, serving as volunteer-team managers, trouble-shooting plant-related issues, and utilizing their expertise to advise on revision to the original plan as needed.
- Coordinated teamwork ensured prudent allocation of resources. For example, City staff is responsible for mowing the park's lawn. One diligent volunteer from the Sarracenia Chapter manages the irrigation system while other volunteers are relied upon to weed, mulch, and remove garden debris as needed.
- Detailed planning by the team managers provided volunteers with a clear vision of the project's goal, and feasible tactics by which to achieve it.
- Frequent, clear volunteer communications sustained enthusiastic volunteer participation.
- Team managers' high level of expertise and endless patience provided volunteers with answers to their many native plant questions.
- We were able to obtain from regional wholesale & retail native plant nurseries most of the plants we proposed to plant.
- Volunteers donated a variety of desirable native plants to stretch grant dollars. We were especially fortunate to obtain a large, unexpected donation of wetland plants from Victor Lambou, a retired environmental aquatic biologist with a large collection of rare and significant plant species, primarily in the genus *Iris* and *Hymenocallis* (spider lilies). Depot

Park obtained about 130 wetland plants from Lambou's collection, including string lilies, spider lilies, and savannah and dixie irises, to plant around the pond.

(What did not go well or not as planned?)

- Soil preparation for the wildflower meadow in the middle of the hot, humid summer with an unusually small number of volunteers was extremely taxing.
- Myriad turfs of non-native grass were chopped and turned under by the tilling. The deep hand-raking this necessitated was arduous. To first undercut the turfs with a sod cutter or the like, and remove them, might save much work.
- The work area sloped to a retention pond. Very wet or inundated conditions at the pond's edge frustrated trenching by any means until the water receded. Soggy ground at removal time made it difficult to lift the plastic out.
- The soil solarization effort was not entirely successful; it did not kill all the weeds and weed seeds. Although we carefully followed FWF's solarization instructions, we doubt that soil solarization actually occurred. Despite the soil preparation and plastic covering, grass and weeds began to appear and grow beneath the plastic after a few weeks. By the time we removed the plastic, there was considerable vegetation where there should have been none. This may have been due to the many weeks of cloudy, rainy weather we experienced soon after the plastic was in place. Further, the growth was most dense along the shadier edges of the meadow area, supporting our hypothesis that there was not enough sunlight to generate sufficient heat beneath the plastic to kill seeds or plants. Now, as seedlings appear, our most experienced volunteers are charged with ensuring our wildflower seedlings remain while the weeds (these mostly natives, too), are removed or evaluated.
- Because of the heavy summer rainfall, the stormwater pond maintained extremely high water levels well into the fall. This complicated the installation of our wetland plants on their scheduled planting days. Volunteers were standing in water, trying to dig holes and install plants underwater. Some plants later floated free. Some plants were planted higher along the pond edges than planned. Several volunteers lost their footwear or their balance in the mud but there were no serious injuries.
- Due to unusually warm and dry conditions from October, 2021, through January, 2022, the new plantings required additional hand-watering to supplement the irrigation system while the plants became established. As the plants' needs became evident, the timing of the irrigation system was adjusted accordingly. While the irrigation system has served us well, we have discovered that when unusually dry weather conditions occur, certain plants require additional watering.
- In late November, a vehicle crashed into the northwest section of the park. Volunteers quickly did remedial work on the trees and plants that could be saved. As a result of the crash, the irrigation system had to be shut off for more than ten days. This required volunteers to provide additional handwatering.

2. Date installation was complete.

November 3, 2021

IV. Attendance and volunteers

1. Estimate the number of visitors **to the native wildflower demonstration garden** during this reporting period.

During the period covered in this initial report (Nov. 3 - Jan.31), an estimate ten people per day visit Sopchoppy's Depot Park. In addition, the Holly Jolly Christmas Market in December attracts 1,500 visitors. This totals an estimated 2,400 visitor to the native wildflower demonstration garden in the initial report period.

2. If possible, estimate what percentage of your total attendance was comprised of each of the following groups:

	75% or more	50-75%	25-50%	less than 25%
Children/school groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult planting/gardening enthusiasts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult (general)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Florida residents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Estimate the number of hours volunteers worked in/on the native wildflower demonstration garden during this reporting period.

The estimated total of volunteer hours in the initial report period is 602 hours. This includes grant application, installation planning, site preparation, planting and sowing, removal of invasive plants, workdays for site maintenance, and handwatering. This information is part of a comprehensive financial report maintained to monitor all expenses for the project. See Addendum A, Financial Report.

V. Education and outreach

1. Describe how the planting has been received? Include quotes from visitors, volunteers or staff, if possible.

- Sopchoppy Depot Park was awarded the 2021 Award of Excellence for Institutional Landscapes from the Florida Native Plant Society. See Addendum B, FNPS Award for Excellence.
- Keep Wakulla County Beautiful selected the native plant landscaping at Sopchoppy Depot Park for recognition. At the entrance to the park is now proudly displayed their sign which reads, "We noticed your efforts. We love it!" See Addendum C, Keep Wakulla County Beautiful Sign.
- Many favorable comments were made by visitors to the native wildflower garden:
- "It's so beautiful and it is wonderful that you have so many volunteers to help with the planting," said a visitor from suburban Atlanta.
- "It is very irritating that in South Florida our landscapers, for the most part, don't use native plants," a couple from Miami remarked.
- "We like the butterflies and pretty flowers," said two children playing in the park.
- "We're glad there will be seeds to share so that other yards around town can have native wildflowers too," said a local resident.
- "I'm just starting to understand why native wildflowers are important," remarked one of our volunteers.
- "I love what you are doing."
- "I didn't realize there are so many different types of native wildflowers!"
- "It's going to bring so many butterflies and hummingbirds."
- "It is incredible to see so many native plants in one place!"

1. Describe any educational programming related to the planting that has occurred during this reporting period. Include the number of attendees for each program. If you have not offered any programming but are planning to do so in the immediate future, list the programs below.

The Hairstreak Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) added Depot Park to their field trip to a nearby destination. They observed, identified, and photographed butterflies at the park and admired the native plant landscaping. See Addendum D, NABA Depot Park Field Trip.

2. Describe any educational materials (e.g., brochures, pamphlets, signs, web pages, etc.) you have developed for the demonstration garden since the installation.
 - A “Creating a Wildflower Meadow“ Sign The installation process generated a lot- of visitor curiosity. Recognizing an opportunity to educate the public, we installed a sign to explain our activities and generate excitement about what was to come. See Addendum E,”Creating a Wildflower Meadow” Sign.
 - QR-Coded Plant Identification Signs for each species of plant have been produced and will be placed in the park as species bloom. Highly visible and UV-protected, each sign features the common and scientific names, a photo of the plant, and its unique QR code. When visitors use their QR-code scanner, (available free from any app store), they can use their smartphone to scan each QR code and link directly to that plant’s full description – habits, needs and ecological impact - on the Florida Native Plant Society or University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences website. See Addendum F, QR-Coded Plant Identification Signs.
 - Additional Signage to Come Placed strategically throughout the park will be several signs which invite visitors to learn more about each plant by downloading a free QR-code scanner and using the QR-coded plant identification signs.
 - A Free Seed Library is under construction. Designed to resemble Sopchoppy’s Depot Museum, (located directly across the street from Depot Park), the seed library is constructed of pressure-treated wood. Hinged on the left, its façade swings open to reveal two compartments. One contains seed packets; the second contains FNPS membership literature. The inside of the door displays a map of the garden and features the location of those plants selected for seed-sharing. It also explains the benefits of gardening with native plants. See Addendum G, Free Seed Library & Seed Packet Rendering.
 - The Free Seed Packets housed in the seed library will feature labels which describe the plant’s habit, needs, and tips for successful planting. See See Addendum G, Free Seed Library & Seed Packet Rendering.
3. Has the planting been promoted to the community? Include URLs to any articles, posts, videos or other outreach or media coverage or send scans/PDFs of outreach as *separate attachments*.
 - The Wakulla News featured Sopchoppy’s Depot Park on May 26, 2021. The story focuses on the 2021 Excellence Award for Institutional Landscapes, awarded by the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) to Depot Park. The story announces that the City of Sopchoppy was awarded a Viva Florida! Landscape Demonstration grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF). See Addendum H, Online Wakulla News, 26may21, Article.
 - Another article, this one on planting our native wildflower demonstration meadow in the October 20, 2021 edition of The Wakulla News, was the day’s lead story. It includes two color photos featuring our volunteer team planting wildflower meadow and wetland plants. It highlights the roles played by the Florida Wildlife Foundation (FWF), and its Viva Florida Landscape Demonstration Garden grant, the Florida Association of Native Nurseries and the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS). See Addendum I, Online Wakulla News, 20oct21 Article.
 - The Panhandle Wildflower Alliance (PWA) wrote about Sopchoppy’s Depot Park in their eNewsletter on August 17, 2021. This piece described Sopchoppy’s winning the 2021 Award of Excellence for Institutional Landscapes, awarded by the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), as well as the city’s award of a Viva Florida! Landscape Demonstration grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF). See Addendum J, FPWA eNewsletter, 17aug21.

VI. Other information

1. Provide any other details that you would like to share regarding the planting and/or the installation experience.

Building Community Volunteers who helped with the installation were diverse and came from all walks of life. Among these were Sopchoppy residents and non-residents, students, retirees, church groups, families, horticultural professionals, environmental advocates and others. The installation activities served as an excellent community-building experience which helped to promote the importance of native wildflower gardening. See Addendum K, Building Community, Installation Volunteers.

VII. Photos

1. Send at least one current photo of the site. Multiple photos are encouraged, as are photo(s) of visitors and/or volunteers interacting with the site. *Send as separate attachments. Do not embed photos in this document.*

Email the completed report along with all attachments (or a link to the location of the attachments if using a file transfer service) to Stacey Matrazzo at SMatrazzo@FlaWildflowers.org.

---	14 1-gal <i>Sericocarpus tortifolius</i> (Whitetop Aster) (SH)	<i>Sericocarpus tortifolius</i>
---	10 1-gal <i>Symphotrichum undulatum</i> (Wavyleaf Aster)	<i>Symphotrichum undulatum</i>
---	3 1-gal <i>Vernonia angustifolia</i> (Narrowleaf Ironweed) (SH)	<i>Vernonia angustifolia</i>
---	<i>Hymenocallis franklinensis</i> (Cow Creek Spiderlily) [donated]	<i>Hymenocallis franklinensis</i>
---	<i>Hymenocallis occidentalis</i> (Northern Spiderlily) [donated]	<i>Hymenocallis occidentalis</i>
---	<i>Iris hexagona</i> (Carolina Iris) [donated]	<i>Iris hexagona</i>
---	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> (Giant Ironweed) [donated]	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>
B. Deep Plugs for Meadow		
<i>Aristida stricta</i> (Wiregrass)	125 <i>Aristida stricta</i> (SH)	<i>Aristida stricta</i>
<i>Carphephorus paniculatus</i> (Hairy Chaffhead)	NA	---
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> (Purple Lovegrass)	135 <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> (SH)	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>
<i>Liatris gracilis</i> (Slender Blazing Star)	[purchased as 1-gal plants]	
<i>Penstemon multiflorus</i> (Manyflower Beardtongue)	NA	---
C. Seeds for Meadow		
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i> (Blue Mist Flower)	8 seed pkts	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> (Lanceleaf Coreopsis)	6 seed pkts	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> (Purple Love Grass)	1 oz. seeds	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>
<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i> (Joe Pye Weed)	4 seed pkts	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>
<i>Leavenworth coreopsis</i> (Leavenworth's Tickseed)	6 oz. seeds	<i>Leavenworth coreopsis</i>
<i>Liatris elegans</i> (Pinkscale Blazing Star)	8 seed pkts	<i>Liatris elegans</i>
<i>Liatris spicata</i> (Dense Blazing Star)	6 seed pkts	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
<i>Linaria canadensis</i> (Toad Flax)	6 seed pkts	<i>Linaria canadensis?</i>
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> (Black-Eyed Susan)	6 seed pkts	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
<i>Silphium asteriscus</i> (Starry Rosin Weed)	4 seed pkts	<i>Silphium asteriscus</i>
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> (Spiderwort)	NA	---
---	<i>Rudbeckia mollis</i> (Softhair Coneflower) 6 seed pkts	<i>Rudbeckia mollis</i>
D. Other Meadow Species		
<i>Salvia azurea</i> (Azure Blue Sage)	NA	---
<i>Trichostema dichotomum</i> (Forked Bluecurls)	NA	---
Site 3: Swale		
<i>Rhododendron canescens</i> (Piedmont Azalea)	10 3-gal <i>Rhododendron canescens</i>	10 <i>Rhododendron canescens</i>
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> (Oak-leaf Hydrangea)	1 3-gal <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	1 <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i> (Blue Mist Flower)	[donated]	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>
<i>Iris virginica</i> (Southern Blue Flag Iris)	20 1-gal <i>Iris virginica</i> (NN)	<i>Iris virginica</i>
<i>Phlox divaricata</i> (Woodland Phlox)	50 1-gal <i>Phlox divaricata</i>	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>

Sisyrinchium angustifolium (Blue-Eyed Grass)
Spigelia marilandica (Indian Pinks)

25 1-gal *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* 'Suwannee'
 10 1-gal *Spigelia marilandica*

S. angustifolium 'Suwannee'
Spigelia marilandica?

Site 4: Other

A. Pond

Canna flaccida (Golden Canna)
Cephalanthus occidentalis (Buttonbush)
Hibiscus coccineus (Scarlet Hibiscus)
Ilex cassine (Dahoon Holly, Female)

12 plants + 2 seed pkts *Canna flaccida*
 3 3-gal *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
 15 3-gal *Hibiscus coccineus* (Scarlet hibiscus)
 2 3-gal *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon holly)
Asclepias lanceolata (Fewflower Milkweed) [donated]
Coreopsis floridana (Florida Tickseed) [donated]
Crinum americanum (String Lily) [donated]
H. heterophyllus (Variableleaf Sunflower) [donated]
Hydrolea corymbosa (Skyflower) [donated]
Hypericum brachyphyllum (Coastalplain St. Johnswort)
Iris hexagona (Carolina Iris) [donated]
Iris tridentata (Savannah Iris) [donated]
Pontederia cordata (Pickerelweed) [donated]
Rudbeckia mohrii (Mohr's Coneflower) [donated]
Sabatia decandra (Bartram's Rosegentian) [donated]
Symphotrichum carolinianum (Climbing Aster) [donated]
Symphotrichum chapmanii (Savannah Aster) [donated]
Tiedemannia filiformis (Water Cowbane) [donated]

Canna flaccida?
 3 *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
Hibiscus coccineus
 2 *Ilex cassine*
Asclepias lanceolata
Coreopsis floridana
Crinum americanum
Helianthus heterophyllus
Hydrolea corymbosa
Hypericum brachyphyllum
Iris hexagona
Iris tridentata
Pontederia cordata
Rudbeckia mohrii
Sabatia decandra
Symphotrichum carolinianum
Symphotrichum chapmanii
Tiedemannia filiformis

B. Wooded Area

Bignonia capreolata (Cross Vine)
Castanea pumila (Chinquapin)
Cercis canadensis (Redbud)
Osmanthus americanus (Wild Olive)
Sassafras albidum (Sassafras)

4 1-gal *Bignonia capreolata*
 1 3-gal *Castanea pumila* (Chinquapin)
 3 3-gal *Cercis canadensis* (Redbud)
 NA
 1 7-gal *Sassafras albidum*
 3 3-gal *Aesculus pavia* (Red Buckeye)
 1 *Ilex opaca* (American Holly) [donated]
Verbesina virginica (Frostweed) [donated]
Ruellia caroliniensis (Carolina Petunia) [donated]
Viola sororia (Common Blue Violets) [donated]

2 *Bignonia capreolata*
 1 *Castanea pumila*
 3 Died. Will replace in winter.

 1 *Sassafras albidum*
 3 *Aesculus pavia*
 1 *Ilex opaca*
Verbesina virginica
Ruellia caroliniensis
Viola sororia

C. NE & NW Gardens

Aristida stricta (Wiregrass)
Baptisia alba (White Wild Indigo)

10 *Aristida stricta* [plugs] (SH)
 10 1-gal *Baptisia alba*

Aristida stricta (NW garden)
Baptisia alba (NE garden)

<i>Berlandiera subacaulis</i> (Florida Greeneyes)	NA	---
<i>Calamintha coccinea</i> (Scarlet Calamint)	NA	---
<i>Conradina canescens</i> (False Rosemary)	[donated]	<i>Conradina canescens</i> (NW garden)
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> (Lanceleaf Coreopsis)	30 1-gal <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> (NE & NW)
<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i> (Leavenworth's Tickseed)	[purchased as seeds]	<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i>
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> (Purple Cone Flower)	10 1-gal <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> (NE garden)
<i>Liatris elegans</i> (Pinkscale Blazing Star)	[purchased as seeds]	<i>Liatris elegans</i>
<i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i> (Needle Palm)	1 7-gal <i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i>	1 <i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i>
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> (Black-Eyed Susan)	15 1-gal <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> (NE garden)
<i>Stokesia laevis</i> (Stokes' Aster)	[donated]	<i>Stokesia laevis</i> (NE & NW gardens)
---	3 1-gal <i>Brickellia cordifolia</i> (Flyr's Nemesis)	1 <i>Brickellia cordifolia</i> (NW garden)
---	3 3-gal <i>Callicarpa americana</i> (Beautyberry)	3 <i>Callicarpa americana</i> (NE garden)
---	6 1-gal <i>Phlox divaricata</i> (Woodland Phlox)	<i>Phlox divaricata</i> (NE garden)
---	3 <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> (Fringe Tree) [donated]	3 <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>
D. Eastern Border		
<i>Callicarpa americana</i> (Beautyberry)	9 3-gal <i>Callicarpa americana</i> (Beautyberry)	9 <i>Callicarpa americana</i>
<i>Rudbeckia mollis</i> (Softhair Coneflower)	NA	---
<i>Spigelia marilandica</i> (Indian Pinks)	4 1-gal <i>Spigelia marilandica</i>	<i>Spigelia marilandica</i>
---	6 1-gal <i>Phlox divaricata</i> (Woodland Phlox)	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>
---	1 3-gal <i>Cercis canadensis</i> (Redbud)	Died. Will replace in winter.
E. Pavilion Vines		
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i> (Passion Vine)	2 1-gal <i>Passiflora incarnata</i> (NN)	2 <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>
F. Under Pines with Azaleas		
---	12 1-gal <i>Phlox divaricata</i> (Woodland Phlox)	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>
---	10 1-gal <i>Spigelia marilandica</i> (Indian Pinks)	<i>Spigelia marilandica</i>
G. Playground		
---	1 7-gal <i>Ulmus americana</i> (American Elm)	1 <i>Ulmus americana</i>

Seeds were purchased from the Florida Wildflower Growers Cooperative

NN = Plants were purchased from Native Nurseries

SH = Plants & plugs were purchased from Southern Habitats

All other plants were purchased from Superior Trees

Showy Display of Native Wildflowers



Addendum C, Final Report, Volunteer Hours

31dec22

**Sopchoppy Depot Park
Native Wildflower Demonstration Garden
Viva Florida Final Report: Volunteer Hours
01aug22 – 31oct22**

Activity	Hours
Grant administration and reporting	53.8
Planning, communication & coordination	25
Routine garden maintenance	99
Hand-watering	10
Develop/produce/install plant ID signs	15
Photography	16
"Flower of the Week" articles development	27
Signage	2.8
Seed Collection	6
Development & production of seed packets	5
Seed Depot design, construction and installation	92
City of Sopchoppy web content development	30
FNPS/Sarracenia Chapter website content development	38
Park map & self-guided tour	39.5
Total hours	419.6

Park History



Native Plants in the Park



Self-Guided Tour



City of Sopchoppy Website Content Montage

<https://www.sopchoppy.org/sopchoppy-depot-park.html>

Free Wildflower Seeds



Why Natives are Important



Volunteer Today



Project Overview



Sampler Guide to Plants

Meadow

With a grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation, a naturalistic meadow has been created in the southwest corner of the Park. View the meadow either from its east end or from across the retention pond. Some of the plants here were mentioned above for the northeast or northwest gardens, like blackeyed Susan, but there are many others that are not seen in those north gardens. Here's a sampler for the meadow, to augment the plant signs and QR codes you'll find here:

Showy season(s) for the plant: ● spring ● summer ● fall ● non-seasonal or all seasons

● **Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*)** This tall member of the asters, with its wide, pink flower cluster at the top in summer, forms a back wall of the meadow. The plant's common name goes far back in history, and remains somewhat mysterious. The species is allied with the dog fennels so common in this area.

● **Purple lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*)** Grasses, too, have flowers. When this grass species flowers in dense patches in fall, it lifts a lovely, delicate-looking pink-purple top 18 inches above the ground. Patches are sometimes seen in moist places on road shoulders. See it toward the east end of the meadow and interspersed in other places.

● **Rattlesnakemaster (*Eryngium aquaticum*)** Blue flowers are in the minority in our suite of native wildflowers. However, this wetland plant in the carrot family produces globular flowers of striking shades of blue. Masses of the plant occur in wet road swales, presenting an impressive blue scene in late summer. This and the other members of the carrot family are the host plants for the larvae of the black swallowtail butterfly.

● **Dense blazing star (*Liatris spicata*)** Another blazing star and another aster, this plant with a tall flower spike in early fall adds color to our roadsides and attracts many butterflies with its nectar. In nature it's a "wetfoot" plant (unlike our other blazing stars), but in cultivation it can thrive in medium moisture. Dense blazing star is one of 8 blazing stars indigenous in Wakulla County.

● **Pinkscale blazing star (*Liatris elegans*)** Still another aster and blazing star, this one merits the compliment seen in the last word of its scientific name. It is our one local blazing star with flower parts expanded to petal-like form that does set it apart. Elegant it is, and the pollinating insects find its flowers swiftly.

FNPS/Sarracenia Chapter Website Content Montage

<https://sarracenia.fnpschapters.org/resources>

Flower of the Week Gallery



The Plant Species List

PLANT SPECIES CULTIVATED IN DEPUTY PARK GARDEN (Numbering 1-24)

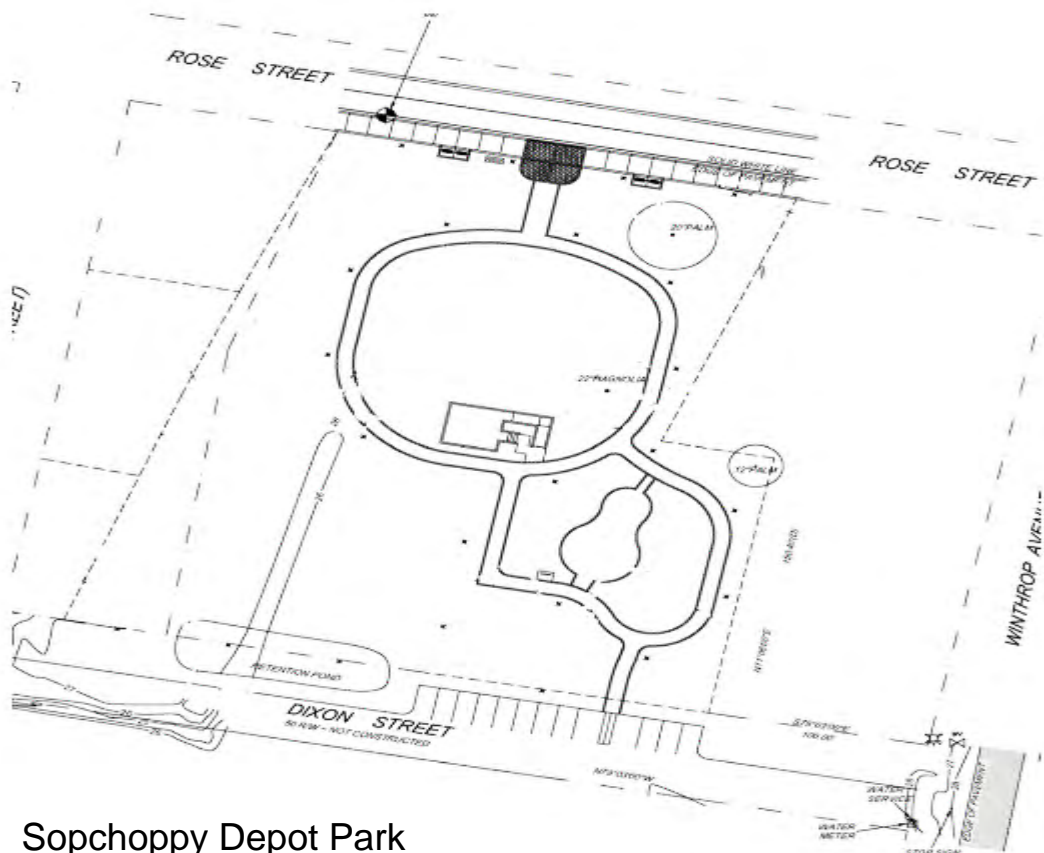
Common Name	Scientific Name	Garden or Sector
Bay, loblolly	<i>Gordonia lasianthus</i>	pond
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	pond
Buckeye, red	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	woods flank
Cedar, eastern red	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	
Chinquapin	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	west line
Cypress, bald	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	pond
Dahoon (holly)	<i>Ilex cuneata</i>	pond
Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	playground
Fringetree, greybeard	<i>Chamaenophyllum virginicum</i>	nr. nw beds
Holly, American	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	sw woods
Hopbush	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	woods flank
Magnolia, Adie's	<i>Magnolia heterophylla</i> var. <i>adiei</i>	sw woods
Magnolia, southern	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	entrance, nr.
Myrtle, wax	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	
Oak, live	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	center green
Palm, longleaf	<i>Pinus palustris</i>	nr. sw, south
Prun: flowering	<i>Prunus umbellata</i>	south, meadow
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	se corner
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	sw woods
Sumac, winged	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	
Yapoon (holly)	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	nr. nr.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Garden Sector

SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK MAP

Creation of a park map was neither part of our original plan nor funded by the FWF grant; yet, inspired by the gardens' success, our volunteers recognized the need for a map to help orient visitors in the park and highlight its many native wildflower features.

For informational purposes only, we include in this final report the latest iteration of the map's design. When completed, it can be posted on the City of Sopchoppy & FNP/Sarracenia Chapter websites, on the inside door of the Seed Depot, printed in a brochure or mounted on an information kiosk.

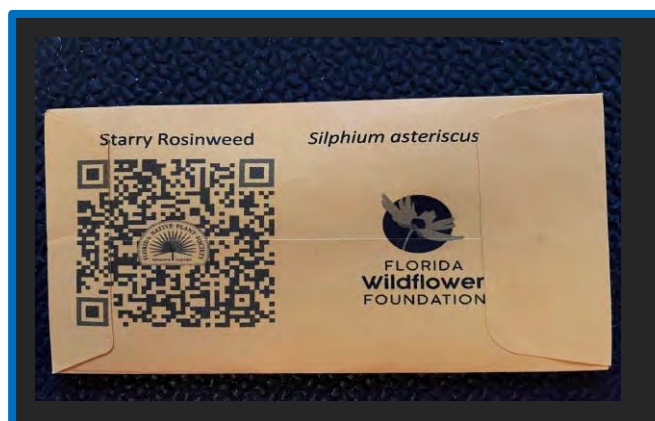


Sopchoppy Depot Park

The Seed Depot



QR code links to details about habitat, ecological impact, etc.



Self-Guided Tour of Sopchoppy Depot Park Gardens



SELF-GUIDED GARDEN TOUR



LIFE SPAN NATIVE HABITAT LIGHT FRUIT SIZE
MORE PICTURES FORM FLOWER INSECTS
WILDLIFE PROPOGATION MOISTURE TOLERANCE
SOIL pH SALT TOLERANCE USDA ZONES COLOR



Spot an interesting plant in the garden?
Simply use your smartphone to scan the
QR code to learn all about its habitat,
growing conditions, ecological impact, etc.

Free scanners are downloadable from your
app store.

As each "Flower of the Week" feature article appears in *The Wakulla Sun* ...




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(No. 31) Published in The Wakulla Sun on Thursday, December 1, 2022

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Scarlet Sage

By Lynn Artz and Sandy Tedder



Scarlet sage (*Salvia coccinea*) is still displaying its bright red flowers near the entrance to Sopchoppy Depot Park. Its charming, 1-inch, tubular flowers are loosely arranged in whorls on upright stems. Also called red salvia and tropical sage, this southern native grows 1 to 3 feet tall. It blooms continuously from spring through fall. In warm areas, it can bloom year-round. Scarlet sage attracts butterflies, bumblebees, and hummingbirds. This member of the mint family is easy to grow, adapts to a variety of conditions, and readily reseeds. It is drought tolerant and deer resistant. Although scarlet sage has not been found in the wild in Wakulla County, it has been documented in the wild in Gadsden, Leon, and Jefferson counties and other counties in Florida.

The different flowering periods among the fabulous suite of Florida native plants used in the Native Gardens of Sopchoppy Depot Park present flowers in nearly all seasons. From the flowering of the Walter viburnum shrubs beginning in February, through the mid-summer flowering of the Florida-endemic scareweed, through the late fall flowering of Florida tickseed in the pond, visitors can expect to find color. Enjoy a "scroll through the garden" with these Depot Gardens Flowers-of-the-Week as they appeared in a local publication.

... it is posted to FNPS/Sarracenia Chapter website's gallery.



Florida Panhandle Wildflower Alliance

Wildflower conservation efforts are blooming throughout Florida's Panhandle! The [Florida Department of Transportation \(FDOT\) wildflower meadow along Interstate 10](#) near the SR69 Grand Ridge exit is flourishing. The [City of Sopchoppy Depot Park Garden](#) is expanded with a new wildflower meadow, funded in part by a Florida Wildflower Foundation Viva Florida grant. Plans are underway to conserve a [native plant meadow at Citizen's Lodge in Marianna](#) as a "compatible use" in the rough of the disc golf course. And the [wildflower plot along the St. Marks Historic Rail Trail](#) is seeking volunteer help. Of course, it takes a lot of volunteer support to make all this happen and we need your help! Read on to learn how you can become involved.

— Liz Sparks, FWF Panhandle Wildflower Alliance Liaison

Wakulla County

By Lynn Artz

Sopchoppy Depot Park now boasts a 2,000 square foot wildflower meadow thanks to funding from the Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF) and the help of many community volunteers. The hundreds of native wildflowers planted last October are blooming and attracting numerous butterflies and native bees. A new sign at the park entrance announces the park's Award of Excellence for Institutional Landscapes from the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS).

Two high school students, Joey and Jack Coetzee, (pictured, right) earned Bright Futures hours by volunteering at Depot Park this summer. The gardens look great thanks to the hours Jack and Joey spent weeding, mulching and watering. They also helped to collect wildflower seeds and eradicate nearby invasives. The teens have been writing a weekly article for a local newspaper. Their "Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park" articles feature one native wildflower and displays one of Jack's beautiful close-up photos.



Educating the public about the importance of native plants is a requirement of FWF's grant to Depot Park. Park plants are now identified with signs that display QR codes as well as plant names. Using a scanning app on their phone, park visitors can link to detailed information about each plant on the FNPS website and similar resources. Seeds are being collected from park wildflowers and free packets of seeds soon will be available to park visitors. Information about the park, its gardens and its more than 100 species of native plants is now online at two websites: [The City of Sopchoppy](#) and the [Florida Native Plant Society, Sarracenia Chapter](#).

To volunteer and help maintain the Sopchoppy wildflower garden, please contact Mayor Lara Edwards (lara.edwards@sopchoppy.org; 850-212-3184) or Lynn Artz (lynn_artz@hotmail.com; 850-320-2158).



DEPOT PARK GARDENS THUMBNAILS



Asclepias incarnata



Resident Barking Treefrog



Community Support



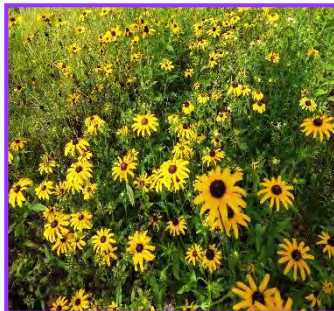
Pollinators Abound



QR-Coded Plant IDs



Seed Depot



Rudbeckia hirta



Phlox divaricata



Pollinator Habitat Sign



Monthly Workdays



FNPS Award for Excellence



Early Training

City of Sopchoppy

Invoice

November 28, 2022

To:
Stacey Matrazzo
Florida Wildflower Foundation
P.O. Box 941691
Maitland, FL 32794-1691

Re: 2021-2022 Viva Florida Landscape Demonstration Garden
Grant

For: Final payment of grant funds = \$1,500.00

Make check Payable to:
City of Sopchoppy
P.O. Box 1219
Sopchoppy, FL 32358

Sopchoppy Depot Park
Itemized Expense Report for the Entire Project
(March 2021 - November 2022)

	Expense Funding Source			
	Applicant Share	In-Kind Share	Grant Share	Total
Staff Hours				
Processing orders & payments - 10 hours @ \$27.20		\$272.00		\$272.00
Volunteer Hours				
Grant Application & Quarterly Reports - 95 hrs @ \$27.20		\$2,584.00		\$2,584.00
Planning, Coordination, Communication - 75 hrs @ \$27.20		\$2,040.00		\$2,040.00
Meadow Prep & Solarization (June) - 161.5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$4,392.80		\$4,392.80
Installing Plants & Sowing Seeds (October) - 267 hrs @ \$27.20		\$7,262.40		\$7,262.40
Invasive Plant Removal (November) - 58 hrs @ \$27.20		\$1,577.60		\$1,577.60
Maintenance (Weeding, Mulching) - 391.25 hrs @ \$27.20		\$10,642.00		\$10,642.00
Hand Watering - 22 hrs @ \$27.20		\$598.40		\$598.40
Plant Identification Signs - 57 hrs @ \$27.20		\$1,550.40		\$1,550.40
Photography - 15 hrs @ \$27.20		\$408.00		\$408.00
Flower of the Week Articles - 99 hrs @ \$27.20		\$2,692.80		\$2,692.80
Sopchoppy Commission Mtg - 6.5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$176.80		\$176.80
Install Educational Signage - 2.75 hrs @ \$27.20		\$74.80		\$74.80
City of Sopchoppy Website - 50.5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$1,373.60		\$1,373.60
Sarracenia Chapter Website - 45.5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$1,237.60		\$1,237.60
Seed Collection - 21 hrs @ \$27.20		\$571.20		\$571.20
Seed Packets - 5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$136.00		\$136.00
Seed Depot Construction - 95 hrs @ \$27.20		\$2,584.00		\$2,584.00
Park Map & Self-Guided Tour - 44.5 hrs @ \$27.20		\$1,210.40		\$1,210.40
FWF Site Vists (July & Dec) - 31.8 hrs @ \$27.20		\$864.96		\$864.96
Consultant Fees				
Garden Designer - 10 hours @ \$75.00		\$750.00		\$750.00
City Website Administrator - 12 hours @ \$30.00		\$360.00		\$360.00
Landscape Architect (Map) - 20 hours @ \$125.00		\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00
Plants & Seeds				
Superior Trees (Grant + LA)		\$209.08	\$1,821.49	\$2,030.57
Southern Habitats			\$167.50	\$167.50
Native Nurseries (Grant + PP)		\$79.45	\$231.91	\$311.36
FL Wildflower Grower's Cooperative			\$179.10	\$179.10
Plant Donations (Lambou, DR, JB, BR, ST, PP, PS, WCGC)		\$750.00		\$750.00
Replacement Plants for Entrance (ST + LA)		\$106.39		\$106.39
Other Supplies				
Plastic Sheeting for Solarization (6 mil)			\$105.00	\$105.00
Greenhouse Tape (LA)		\$70.00		\$70.00
Hydrum Self-Watering Systems for Planter			\$26.70	\$26.70
Soil for Planter (City)	\$79.76			\$79.76
Extra Soil for Planter (ST)		\$6.00		\$6.00
Pine Straw Mulch (City)	\$378.91			\$378.91

Pine Straw Mulch (DR, BR, LA)		\$10.00	\$22.48	\$32.48
Materials to Make ID Signs [paper, ink, lamination] (JB)		\$124.00	\$28.88	152.88
Materials to Make Seed Depot [wood, paint, tin] (RS +BR)		\$320.71	\$311.46	\$632.17
Envelopes for Seed Packets (JB)		\$89.00		\$89.00
Other Expenses				
Remove 2 Trees (City)		\$300.00		\$300.00
Install Irrigation in SW Quadrant (Labor + Materials)	\$2,807.60			\$2,807.60
"Creating a Meadow" Signs			\$44.94	\$44.94
Truck Rental (City)	\$180.00			\$180.00
Truck Rental (BR)		\$144.50		\$144.50
Vehicle Mileage for Plant Transport - 697 miles @ \$0.56/mile		\$672.36		\$672.36
Pollinator Habitat Sign + Post for Meadow			\$60.54	\$60.54
TOTAL	\$3,446.27	\$48,741.25	\$3,000.00	\$55,187.52

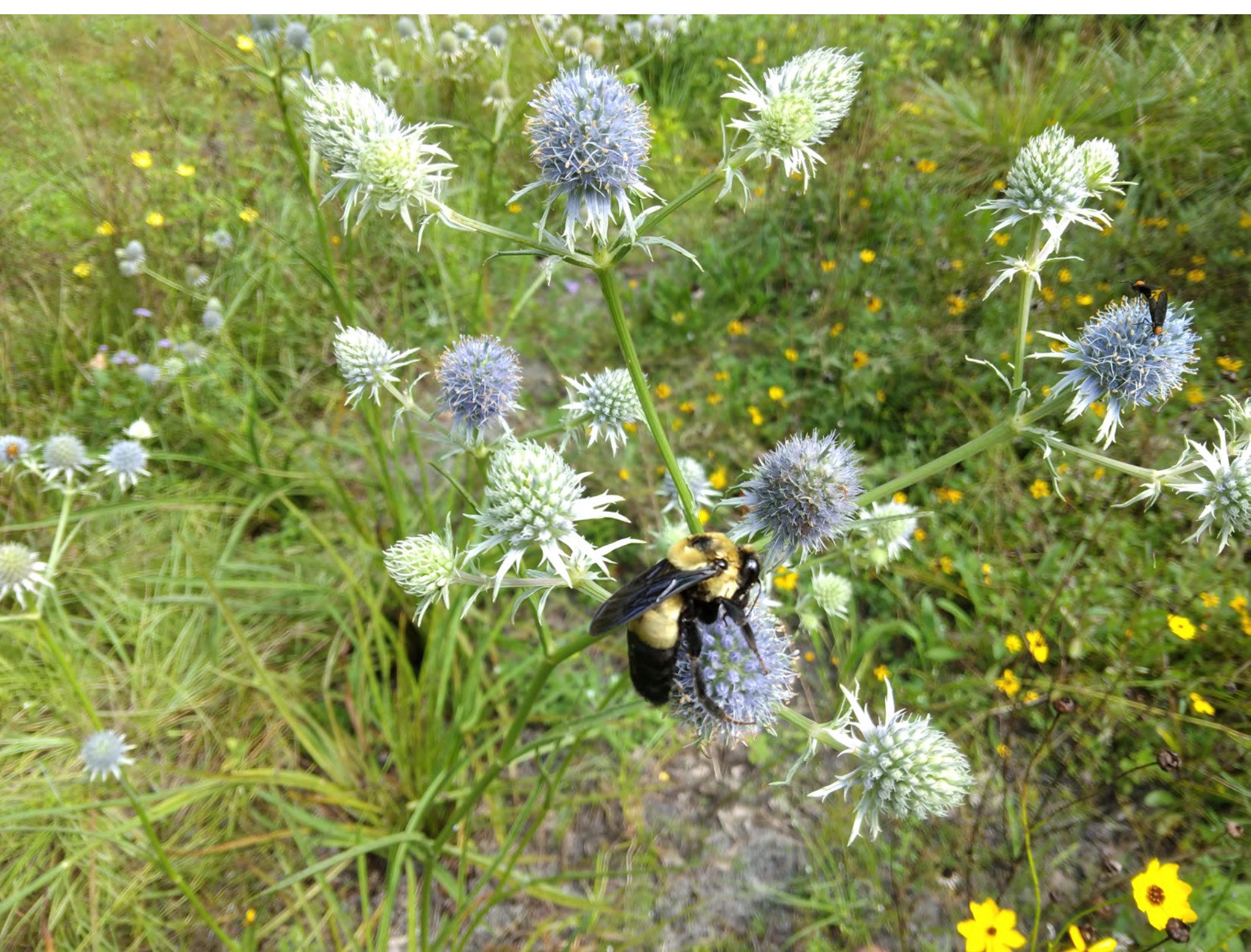
Our itemized expense report for the entire project (above) is very similar to our grant application budget. We proposed and spent \$2400 of the \$3000 in grant funds on native plants. The vast majority of purchased species were those proposed. Further, through purchases and donations, we increased the total number of plants and species that were planted. The remaining \$600 was largely spent on solarization materials, plant identification signs, a seed library, and seed packets as proposed. Savings on these items helped to purchase educational signs not originally included in the budget. The applicant's share was greater than anticipated. Volunteer hours exceeded those expected.

















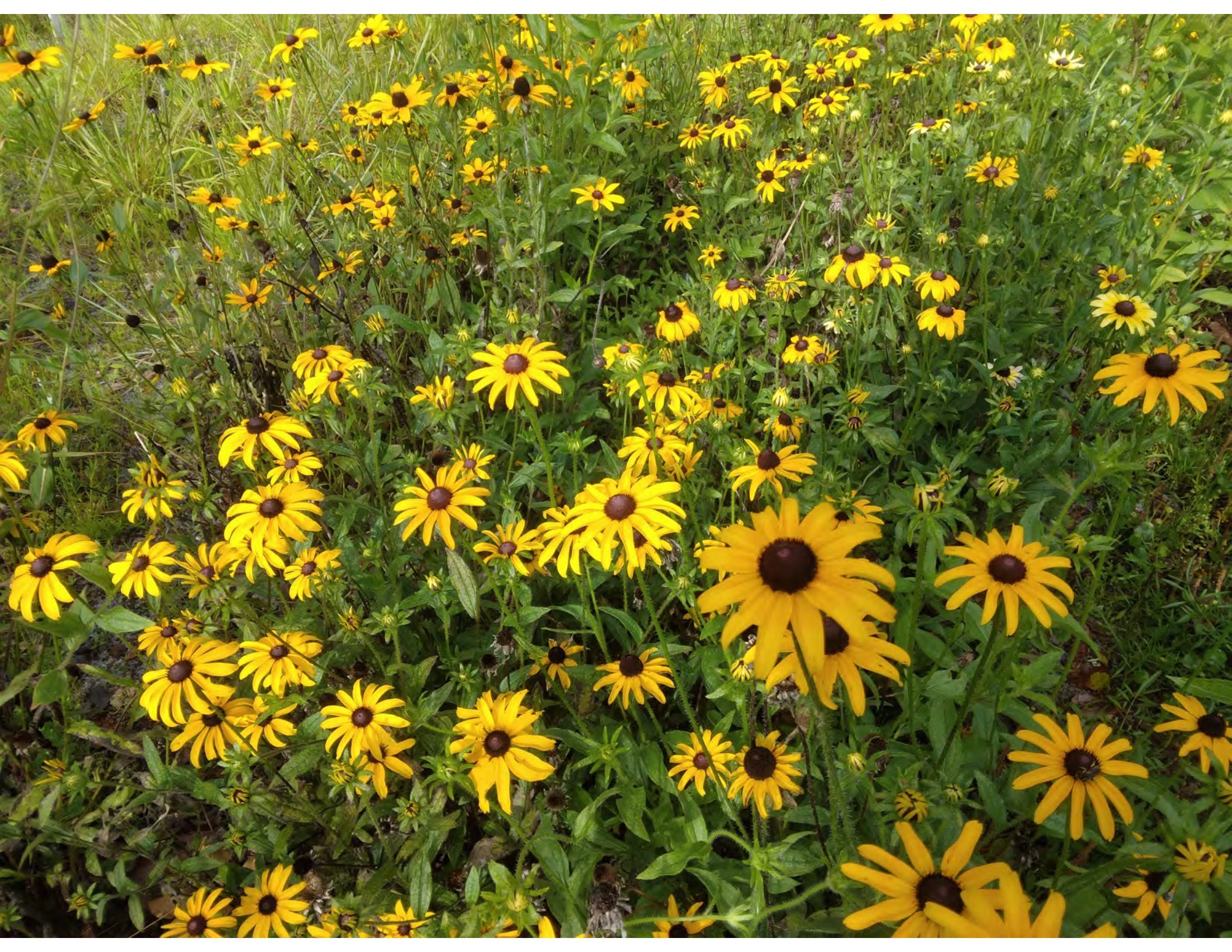
SDPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK
Landscape Award of Excellence
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY






**Pollinator
Habitat**

This space is planted with
native wildflowers and grasses
to provide habitat for
pollinators, birds, and wildlife.



SOPCHOPPY

Attracting Bees and Other Beneficial Insects
with Florida's Native Wildflowers

TAKE ACTION
Help build native wildflower pathways for bees.

WLD FLA

Tall Ironweed <i>Vernonia angustifolia</i>		Smooth Oxeye <i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i> var. <i>scabra</i>	
Purple Coneflower	Tall Ironweed	Black-eyed Susan	Smooth Oxeye
Lanceleaf Tickseed <i>Coreopsis lanceola</i>	Orange Coneflower	Smooth Oxeye	Bartram's Thistle



