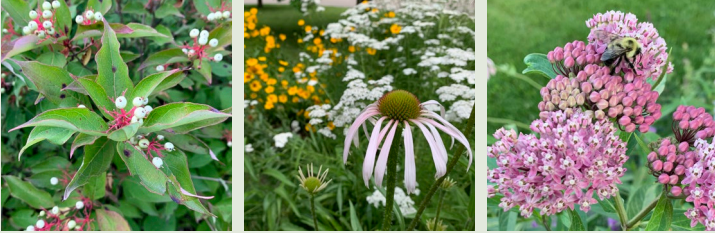




Mini-Cost Share

for residential native plant projects



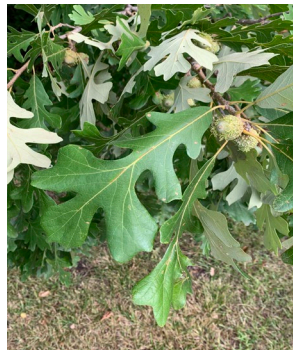
Who's eligible?	Residents of the watershed district, including renters, for projects in their yard
What's eligible?	Native plant project with roots in the ground such as a pocket prairie, pollinator garden, native shrub or tree planting
How much?*	95% cost share up to \$500 for a native plant project in a resident's yard 95% cost share up to \$1,500 for a native plant project within shoreland zone of a major lake (within 50 feet of shoreline)
Deadline to install	Must installed by November 30th of award year
Maintenance requirement	Project must be maintained for at least 2 years

* At least 75% of the reimbursement must go toward the purchase of native live plants and/or native seeds.

Mini-Cost Share Process

Before you apply, understand what qualifies as a native plant.

1. Submit a simple online application (optional site visit)
2. Accept offer and agree to terms
3. Install project and submit report with photos and receipts by November 30th
4. Receive reimbursement



Standard Cost Share

for multiple project types by most property owners



Who's eligible?	Residential property owners and non-residential property owners (non-profit, business, school, local government)
What's eligible?	Habitat, shoreline, or waterbody buffer restoration; stormwater management structure (e. g. rain garden)
How much?***	75% cost share up to \$5,000 for a residential project; 50% cost share up to \$50,000 for a non-residential project
Deadline to install	Must be installed by within 12 months of signed agreement
Maintenance requirement	At least 5 years for a residential project; 10 years or more for a non-residential project

*** Review cost share policy for maximum allowable amounts and eligible materials.

Standard Cost Share Process

Before you apply, review the project requirements.

1. Request and complete a site visit
2. Submit an online application with required documentation
3. Accept offer and sign the agreement
4. Install project by agreement deadline
5. File a property declaration (for awards above \$5,000)
6. Submit a report with photos and receipts
7. Pass close-out inspection
8. Receive reimbursement

To learn more or apply for a cost share, visit rpbcwd.org/stewardship-cost-share

Questions? Contact Eleanor Mahon at emahon@rpbcwd.org or 952-607-6512 ext. 6

Native Plant Requirements

Native plant projects funded by the **Stewardship Cost Share Program** must meet requirements related to form and sourcing. The projects should also be maintained in an ecologically friendly manner. See below for more information.

Native Plant Rules

- 1 Native range:** The native range of the plant (wildflower, grass, sedge, shrub, tree, etc.) must include southern Minnesota, northern Iowa, or western Wisconsin.
- 2 Form:** The native plant must be the straight or wild form that has not been bred for certain characteristics. Cultivated varieties (cultivars) including natives are not allowed.
- 3 Selection:** Plant selection must be appropriate for site conditions. In other words, evaluate your site's sun exposure and soil moisture and select plants accordingly.
- 4 Source:** Live native plants and native seeds must be grown within southern Minnesota, northern Iowa, or western Wisconsin. We strongly encourage that native plants be purchased from a local grower or nursery that specializes in native plants. The name of the grower or retailer you plan to use must be provided. If the grant review committee is unsure about their qualifications, they may ask for more info or ask you to use another source.
- 5 Diversity:** Some cost share project types must have a variety of native species. The bloom time must vary through the seasons. Blooming plants include wildflowers, grasses, sedges, rushes, shrubs, and trees.
- 6 Live plant quantity:** Some projects must have a minimum number of individuals of each live, non-woody plant species. There is no minimum quantity required for trees and shrubs.

Learn more

rpbcwd.org/native-plants

Questions?

Contact Eleanor Mahon,
emahon@rpbcwd.org
or 952-607-6512 ext. 6



Ecologically Friendly Maintenance



Do not use fungicides or insecticides. These kill "good" and "bad" fungi and insects.



Limit herbicide use to weed control and carefully follow label directions.



Plan to pull or otherwise control weeds at least three times during the growing season.



Native plants usually don't need fertilizer. If used, limit to natural fertilizers such as compost.



Limit watering to the plant establishment phase (usually the first couple of years).



Select appropriate weather conditions for proper planting and seeding.



Provide soft landings (native plants, leaf litter, & plant debris) under trees to support overwintering & pupating insects.



Practice "messy" gardening by leaving some dead plant material in place to protect soil & provide homes for native insects and birds.

