### **POLLINATOR SEED PACKET**

KICK-START YOUR OWN POLLINATOR HABITAT!

## WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR POLLINATORS?

Many species of pollinating insects are in decline. Monarch butterfly populations have decreased by 90% in the last two decades. In addition, commercial honeybee keepers are losing 30%-40% of their bees each year. Many biologists believe the reason for pollinator decline is due to the decline in quality habitat for pollinators.

# WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT POLLINATORS?

Pollinators impact everyone! Pollinating insects are an essential component of global food production. Approximately one-third of all food is made possible by insect pollination. In addition, pollinators are key to the reproduction of 75% of the world's flowering plants that provide food for wildlife, clean our air, and clean our water.



### **HOW TO PLANT YOUR SEEDS:**

This seed packet includes native wildflowers that will benefit many species of pollinating insects. Each packet contains enough seeds to plant a 10x10 foot area at a conservation seeding rate of around 24.5 seeds per square foot. However, evenly distributing a small number of small seeds over an area can be difficult so a smaller project is much more feasible.

- 1. The best time to seed this packet is in the spring (April May). It can be broadcast in early spring to new plots or added as an enhancement to existing plots in the fall.
- 2. Pick a site with a minimum of 6 hours of direct sunlight.
- 3. Proper site prep is key to project success. Prepare a seed bed free of any other vegetation or residue to ensure seed-to-soil contact. The seedbed should be lightly worked but firm a shoeprint should be barely visible.
- **4.** Broadcast the seed evenly across your project area.
- **5.** Lightly rake the project to get good seed-to-soil contact. The ideal seeding depth is around 1/8 inch.



#### **SEED PACKET CONTENTS:**

Includes: Sideoats grama, Little Bluestem,
Partridge Pea, Illinois Bundleflower (Prairie
Mimosa), Common Milkweed, Butterfly
Milkweed (Butterflyweed), Lanceleaf
Coreopsis (sand), Plains Coreopsis, Pale Purple
Coneflower, Purple Coneflower, Indian Blanket
flower, Cardinal Flower, Wild Bergamot (Prairie
Beebalm), Common Evening Primrose, Prairie
Coneflower (Long-headed), Gray-headed
Coneflower (Yellow), Black-eyed Susan



