Prairie Program Application

Application Periods:
September 1-September 30 and March 1- March 31

Applicant Name(s): _____
Mailing Address: _____
_____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Property Location: _____
_____
Project size: (*in acres*): _____
Anticipated start date: _____
Anticipated completion date: _____
Total estimated cost of project: $_____
Grant amount requested: $_____

(**$400 MAX GRANT per acre or no more than 75% of total project cost)**

Project Goal: ☐ Conservation ☐Aesthetics ☐Erosion Control ☐Reduce Maintenance ☐Habitat

Project Description:
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

☐ **In addition to the complete application, please provide 2 photos of the project site and a delineated aerial map of your project space in an attachment. If taken with mobile phone, photos may be sent via text message to 574-834-3242. Include your name in the message.**

Please check yes or no below:
Would you like to request assistance from a program ambassador? ☐Yes ☐N

Planting Plan

Step 1: Site Preparation

How well you prepare your site will be an important component of your project's success. The goal is to eliminate perennial weeds and grass to allow for proper germination. Annual or biennial weeds can be addressed in the maintenance phase. Information on the different site preparation methods can be found on the Beyond Lawns webpage or through a Beyond Lawns Representative.

Select your site preparation method:

☐ Solarization ☐Soil Inversion

☐ Herbicide Application ☐ Sod Removal

Select a Site Preparation Date _____

Step 2: Planting Method

Discuss and select the appropriate planting method for your site. Information on the different planting methods can be found on the Beyond Lawns webpage or through a Beyond Lawns Representative.

☐Broadcasting ☐Drop-Seeding ☐Native Seed Drilling

☐Other_____

Timing:

Dormant seeding (late fall to early winter) Spring seeding (before June 30)

Select a Planting Date: _____

Rate and Depth:

- Follow vendor recommendations
- Ensure good seed-to-soil contact

Step 3: Maintenance

Consistent maintenance will be the key to the success or failure of your prairie. Information on the different maintenance methods can be found on the Beyond Lawns webpage or through a Beyond Lawns Representative.

Year 1–2:

- Mow to 6–8 inches to suppress weeds
- Spot treat invasive species

Year 3+:

- Prescribed burns or mowing every 2–3 years
- Monitor for invasive species
- Minimal intervention once established

This table outlines recommended maintenance tasks by season and year to ensure successful prairie establishment.

Year	**Season**	**Task**	**Notes**
1	Spring	Initial mowing to 6–8 inches	Suppress annual weeds
1	Summer	Spot treat invasive species	Use selective herbicide if needed
1	Fall	Second mowing	Encourage native seedling growth
2	Spring	Monitor plant emergence	Document species and coverage
2	Summer	Spot treat invasives	Continue suppression
3	Spring	Prescribed burn or mowing	Stimulate native growth
3	Fall	Evaluate establishment success	Adjust management as needed

Initial if you have read and understood the prep/planting/maintenance information: _____

Beyond Lawns Initiative Agreement

In requesting grant assistance from The Watershed Foundation, I hereby certify that

☐ I am the manager of the property
☐ I agree to provide at least 25% of the total project cost. I understand that reimbursement will be paid after completion of the project, which must be done before October 31st, 2027.
☐ I understand that sales tax may not be eligible for reimbursement.
☐ Seed mixes must be at least 75% Indiana native species for full sun and 45% Indiana native species for shade mixes. Seed mixes with invasive species will not be considered.
☐ I agree to submit a final report with photos and receipts and maintain the project for a minimum of 3 years. I will reimburse TWF funds if I fail to do so.
☐ I agree to place a Beyond Lawns sign (provided by TWF) at my property for at least 1 summer season.
☐ I agree that photos of my property may be used for promotional purposes by The Watershed Foundation in print and electronic media.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Submit Final Report & Photos by October 31, 2027, to:
Coordinator@WatershedFoundation.org
Or mail to: The Watershed Foundation PO Box 55 North Webster, IN 46555