

**Illinois Prairie Wild Ones
Forever Wild Grant
Final Report Outline**

Please use the following outline when creating the final report required of all grant recipients. Final reports should be sent to: ilprairiewo@gmail.com no later than March 15th following the year in which the grant money was received. Representatives of Illinois Prairie Wild Ones reserve the right to visit the site for which the grant funds were provided.

Name of Group or Organization: UUCUC

Project Coordinator's Name: Andy Robinson

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Site Address: 309 W Green, Urbana IL County: Champaign

Provide a summary of the project results and educational outreach for the time period covered by the grant.

RE Classes:

In early August, UU children's education classes took place in a garden scavenger hunt to draw pictures of flowers and insects. The children became fascinated by the monarch caterpillars they found. Three caterpillars were found, each on their own small common milkweed and since there were only one or two leaves left, they were collected and put in a container in the church office and fed supplemental milkweed from someone's home garden. The children loved keeping an eye on them and watching them grow and change over the next few Sundays.

Two of the hatched monarchs were tagged by a volunteer on campus before they were released by the kids.



RE class finding a monarch caterpillar on a single milkweed leaf





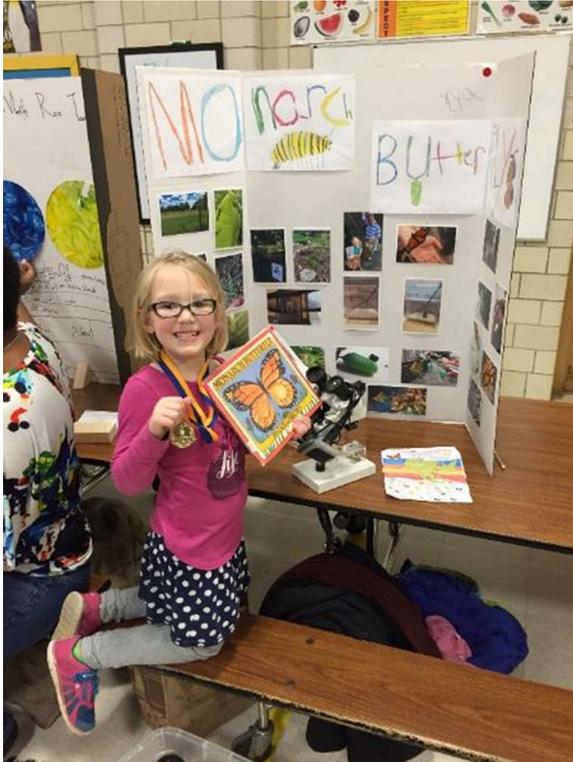
RE Class observing caterpillars and chrysalis in the box



Release of a Monarch after it emerged at Kindergarten

Science Projects:

The monarchs from this garden were also the subject of Andy's daughter, Maya's, kindergarten science night demonstration. She enjoyed releasing one at school, printing out pictures, illustrating the life cycle, and showing a found butterfly (Viceroy) under a microscope.



Faith in Place

In November, Andy presented to the annual Faith in Place breakfast about the UU butterfly garden and the new native garden. Specifically, the presentation focused on the native plants made possible by the grant, the pollinators of the garden, and the children's interest in raising Monarchs. I was able to show a series of photos of church kids planting, weeding, and exploring in the garden. Then we showed some videos of the monarchs emerging in time lapse and flying off. The event was attended by over 100 people and congregations were encouraged to look into this grant and also obtaining a Monarch waystation status.

Below are some of the photos shown at that presentation.

This garden and the grant were also discussed at two following workshops for Story Gardens put on by Faith in Place and the Urbana and Champaign Park Districts.

Garden Work Party 20 June, 2015









Yellow Coneflower



Baptisia (Blue Wild Indigo)



Common Milkweed



Serviceberry (Juneberry, edible)



Chokeberry



Ironweed



Amsonia (Bluestar)



Grey Headed Coneflower



Sweet Kate (Prairie Spiderwart)



Senna (Sicklepod)



Red Bee Balm



Amsonia (Bluestar)



Rose of Sharon Hibiscus



Cutleaf Coneflower (wrong place, died)



Helianthus (Sunflower)



Cup Plant



Anis Hysop



Cup Plant



Viburnum



False Sunflower



Common Mountain Mint



Purple Poppy Mallow



Additional Common Milkweed in July





Monarch eggs



Remnant of Milkweed, (purple Ironweed)



Joe Pye Weed





Wild Carrot



Black Eyed Susan



Purple Poppy Mallow











Discuss any lessons learned / things you would do differently.

There were a couple of plants that may have been mixed up when planting. An example of this was what we labeled as a full-sun Helianthus, but looks to have been a shady Cutleaf Yellow Coneflower. It withered up pretty quickly. This was a mixup and would have been better placed on the shady side.

Most of our time and effort went to the sunny South slope. The North slope is more shady and we are planning to put in woodland flowers and ferns this spring. We plan to obtain plants from the Grand Prairie Friends native plant sale in May. We are also considering pre-ordering a flat of native plants from the Prairie Moon website. We did laydown our leftover cardboard, a tarp, and mulch to try to kill off the weeds in this area. Hopefully, this will cut down on the weeding we have to do before planting.

Since the monarchs ate so much of the common milkweed when it was too young to keep up, I wish we had larger plants established, or possibly transplanted. I would like to find more sources for this mid-summer. Common milkweed seeds were also planted in mid-December to allow for a full freeze and overwinter.

Since the grant only covers the plants, and not the additional materials such as mulch, rocks, labels and signs, we should have budgeted more money in our own budget for these items. For instance, the printing of the official weatherproof sign on aluminum (\$21/sf at FedEx), is awaiting the new church budget in June.

Also useful would have been to have had permanent metal signs when we planted the plants. The white plastic flags with Sharpie only lasted a couple of months, and now we need to re-label. I would recommend that since labeling is such an important part of education, maybe Wild Ones could provide sturdy metal signs, or provide a good resource for them. This small cost could help ensure good long-term plant recognition. <http://www.prairiemoon.com/tool-shed/permanent-garden-tags.html>

Provide a summary of how the grant funds were used.

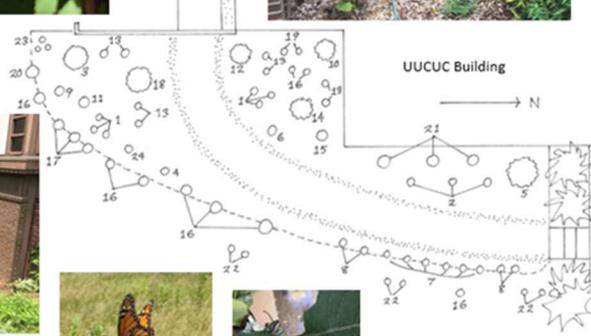
The photos above show the garden planting party in June, 2015 and the August milkweeds that were added. These photos have appeared on the church Facebook page and are linked to the website. Plants were obtained by our master gardener, Japhia, and were subject to availability.

The plant list and map below serve at the basis of our sign that will be mounted this spring once we determine what has survived. (Note, the strawberries that had been planted the previous year are not native, but were not moved since they were donated by a class and the kids like to eat them.)

UUCUC GreenUU Native Garden



Made possible by UU
volunteers, and a grant from:



Native Sun Garden, June 2015

- 1 Amsonia, (Bluestar)
- 2 Anise Hyssop
- 3 Chokeberry
- 4 Baptisia, (Blue Wild Indigo)
- 5 Arrowwood Viburnum
- 6 Columbine
- 7 Common Mountain Mint
- 8 False Sunflower

- 9 Grey Headed Coneflower
- 10 Cutleaf Yellow Coneflower (died)
- 11 Ironweed
- 12 Joe Pye Weed
- 13 Common Milkweed
- 14 Serviceberry (Juneberry-edible)
- 15 Helianthus (Sawtooth Sunflower)
- 16 Purple Coneflower

- 17 Red Bee Balm
- 18 Smooth Serviceberry (Juneberry, edible)
- 19 Rose of Sharon Hibiscus
- 20 Senna (Sicklepod)
- 21 Silphium (Cup Plant)
- 22 Strawberry (non-native, edible)
- 23 Sweet Kate (Prairie Spiderwart)
- 24 Yellow Coneflower