



# North Muskegon High School

## Community Partners

- Weesies Bros. Garden Center
- Stibitz Tree Farm
- H&H Landscaping
- Reliable Towing
- The City of North Muskegon
- Youth Advisory Council of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County

*Planting native species improves habitat for wildlife!*



## Native Restoration Project

### Native Restoration Process at NM High School:

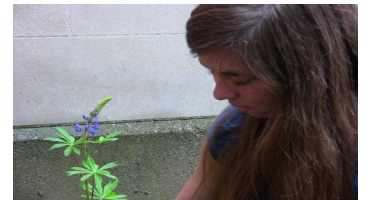
#### Students:

- ◇ Removed, bundled and disposed of existing bushes.
- ◇ Calculated square area of restoration sites.
- ◇ Researched and selected native trees to be planted.
- ◇ Prepped site and planted native trees (*Flowering Dogwood, Serviceberry, E. Redbud, Witchhazel*)
- ◇ Researched native prairies and pollinator gardens.
- ◇ Selected plant species and created design layout for each restoration type.
- ◇ Designed bookmarks highlighting our project and the benefits of native prairies & pollinator gardens.
- ◇ Removed sod.
- ◇ Mulched planting areas.
- ◇ Planted nearly 500 native flowers, shrubs and grasses (including: *Wild Lupine, Sand Coreopsis, Rough Blazing Star, False Sunflower, Yellow and Purple Coneflower, Butterfly Weed, Wild Bergamot, Little Bluestem, Switch grass, Prairie Dropseed*)

### North Muskegon High School

#### 2012-13 School Year:

- 48 Students
- 2 Teachers
- 2 Classrooms
- 9-12 grade Environmental Studies & Stewardship







## NM Native Restoration Project

*"Helping the Environment,  
Helping YOU!"*

### NATIVE POLLINATOR GARDENS



Native plants and pollinators go hand-in-hand. Michigan butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, bees, and beneficial insects rely upon the nectar and leaves of native host plants for food and larvae.

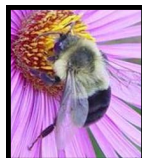
- Some pollinators cannot survive without the presence of a specific host plant. Some plants also require specific pollinators.

Examples include:

Monarch Butterflies==>Milkweed Plants  
Karner Blue Butterflies==>Wild Lupine

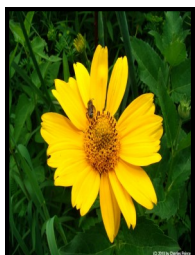


- Pollinators are needed for the reproduction of 90% of all flowering plants.
- Pollinators are needed for production of 1/3 of human food crops.



- Native plants, in general, support many more native insects and birds than non-native plants.
- Pollinators are in decline due to increased pesticide use, decreases in natural habitats, and increases in non-native invasive plants.

- Growing a diversity of native flower species attracts and supports a wide variety of beneficial pollinators.



### MICHIGAN NATIVE PRAIRIES

Native prairies are beneficial in many ways. They provide habitat for a variety of MI wildlife and are important for breeding, feeding and nesting. Prairies can be an excellent alternative to a traditional lawn, reducing maintenance, adding habitat, and providing beauty in our communities.



Native MI plant species:

- Are naturally adapted over thousands of years to Michigan soils and weather conditions.
- Generally require no fertilizers, pesticide use or even additional watering once established (2-3 years).
- Add beauty to the landscape and provide enjoyment and opportunities to study natural Michigan ecosystems.
- Provide valuable habitat for pollinating birds and bees, beneficial insects, mammals, and amphibians.
- Increase biodiversity and are essential to re-establishing Michigan's ecosystems.
- Increase water infiltration and prevent erosion with their deep, fibrous root systems. (See picture-turf grass ion left)

