



Coaching Guide Webinar

Lawns to Legumes Individual Support
Spring 2020



your yard
CAN **BEE**
the **CHANGE**

#Lawns2Legumes

m1 BOARD OF WATER
AND SOIL RESOURCES

**Blue
Thumb**
PLANTING FOR CLEAN WATER®


Metro Blooms

Meet today's host

James Wolfin

Blue Thumb/Metro Blooms
Pollinator Specialist

Tara Kline

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
Conservation Technician

Dan Shaw

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
Senior Ecologist/Vegetation Specialist



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

BWSR focuses on helping private landowners enhance conservation practices on their land to achieve state goals for clean water, clean air, and abundant fish and wildlife.



Blue Thumb — Planting for Clean Water

A public/private partnership helping property owners reduce runoff and improve water quality. Blue Thumb partners include cities, watershed districts, landscape designers, contractors and native plant nurseries.

Metro Blooms

A non-profit 501(c)(3) organization promoting gardening, beautifying our communities, and healing our environment since 1983. Metro Blooms coordinates the Blue Thumb partnership.



Lawns to Legumes Coaching Webinar

Part 1

Welcome

Re-cap on Lawns to Legumes

Part 2

Coaching
Questions

Re-Cap on Lawns to Legumes



Minnesotans want to help pollinators
(Program Started June 2019)

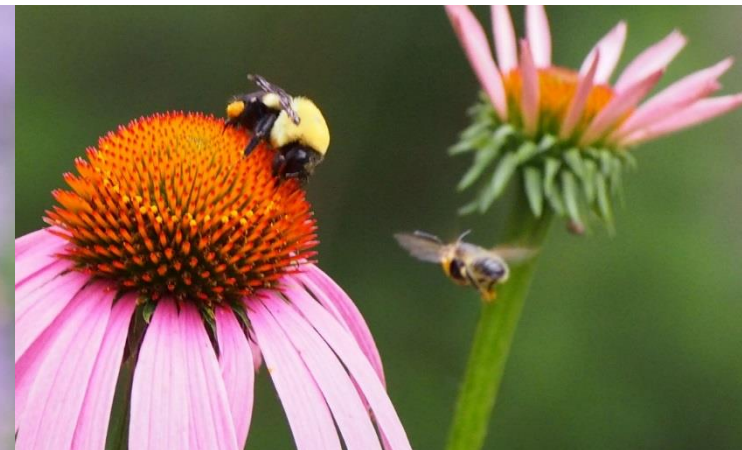


Funding Source:

Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources,
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Program Focus:

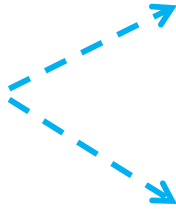
Establish pollinator habitat projects on residential landscapes across Minnesota
to support the Rusty patched bumblebee and other pollinators.



The Lawns to Legumes Program: Three Components



\$ Two Types
of Grants



Public Education and Outreach Campaign

Technical Resources: BWSR, Blue Thumb and Local Partners

Individual Landowner Support

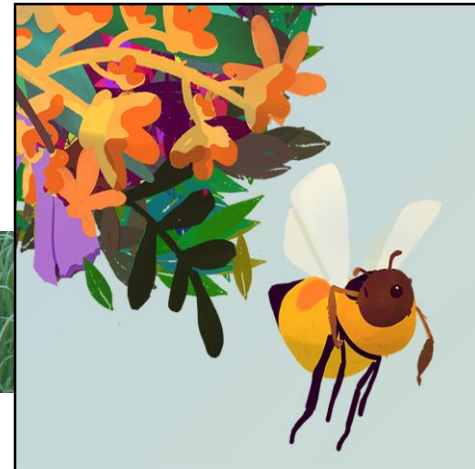
Awarded Grantee \$350, Coaches

Demonstration Neighborhoods

13 Grantees Awarded, \$20k-\$40K



Artist: Aaron Bennett, Student,
Mpls College of Art and Design,
#Lawns2Legumes



Lawns to Legumes

Individual Support



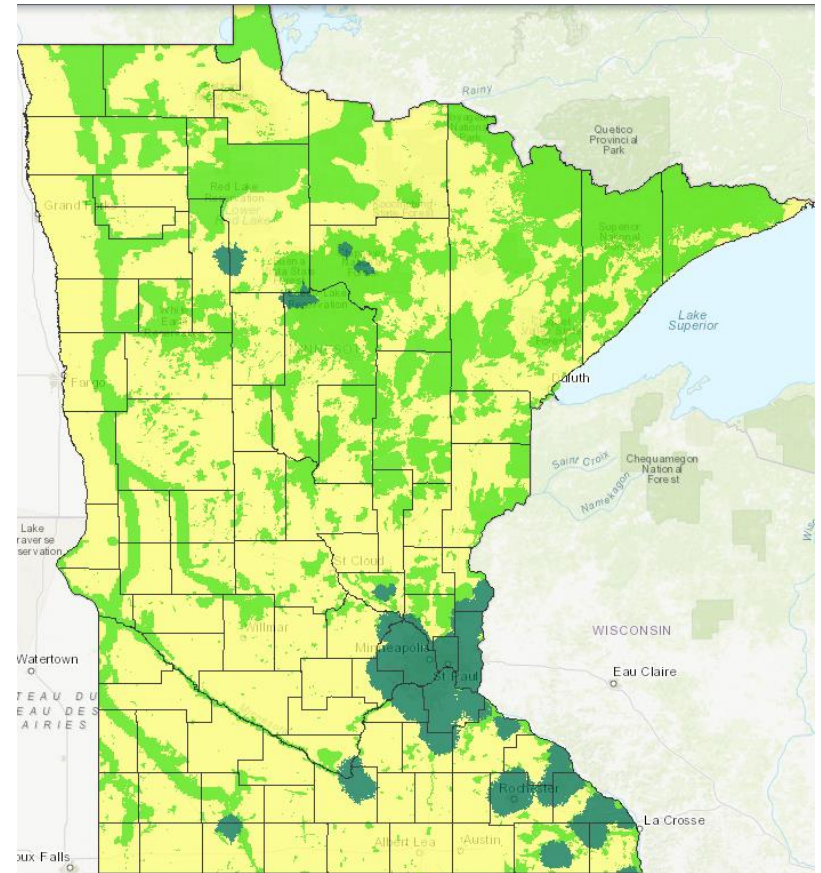
- Cost-share, Resident Workshops, *Coaching*, Technical Resources
- First round of applications closed February 2020
- Second round open March 9th, 2020 – June 2nd, 2020



Artist: Zach Brandinelli, Student,
Mpls College of Art and Design,
#Lawns2Legumes

Requirements for funding:

- ## Priority Areas

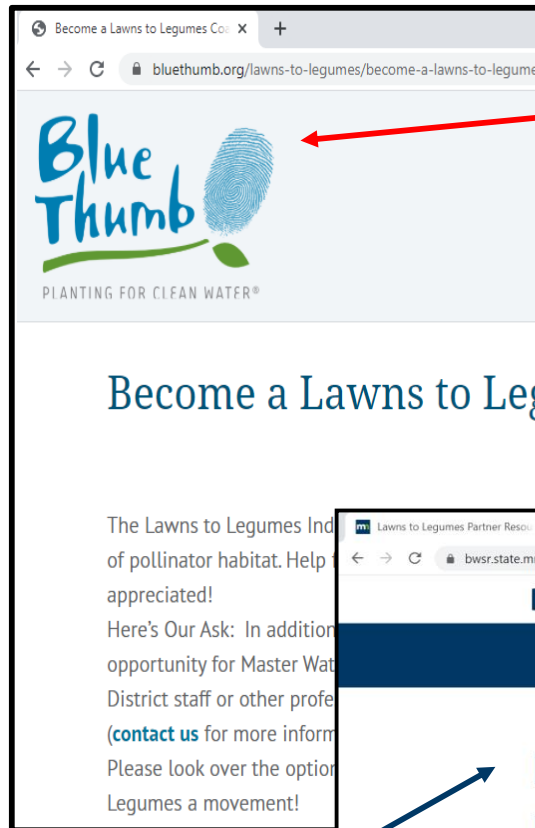


Applications accepted at bluethumb.org

Lawns to Legumes Partner Resources



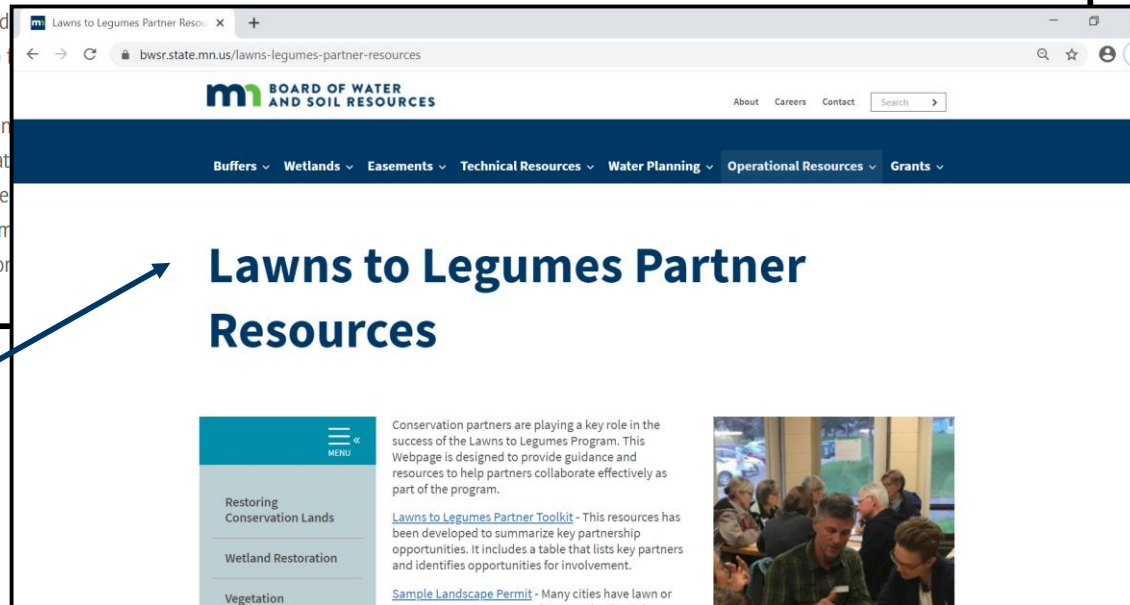
**Sign Up to be Coach!!
(For Individual Support Program)**



Coaches are
needed across
the state



*Planting Design Templates
Habitat Guide
Pollinator Toolbox
And More....*



Timeline

Lawns to Legumes Grant Program 2019 -2023



June 2019, Pilot project begins!

January 2020, Award Demonstration Neighborhoods

February 2020, Individual Support 1st Round closes

March 2020 – Award 1st round of Individual Support Funding

March 9th, 2020, Round 2 open for Individual Support
closes June 2nd, 2020

April, 2020 - Coaching Webinar

May 2020 - Connect Coaches with Individual Support grantees

Lawns to Legumes Coaching Webinar

Part 1

Re-cap on Lawns to Legumes

Part 2

Coaching Questions

Lawns to Legumes

Coaching Guide



Coaching Contents

- Key Principles for Guiding Residents
- Different Types of Coaching
- Questions/Answer

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



• Role of Coaches:

- Need to be able to make a commitment to providing assistance
- Use best judgment to guide residents
- Ask questions of Blue Thumb and Metro Blooms staff as needed, first reference the Coaching Guide found online.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



•Setting Coaching Expectations:

- It is helpful to set expectations when working with residents about how much assistance can be provided
- We are communicating that generally coaches will have the capacity for three coaching calls during the establishment of the project.
- For site consultations, there will be capacity for one on-site consultation and one follow-up call or email to check-in on their progress.
- It will be up to coaches to play a role in letting residents know how much time they have available.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



•COVID-19 Considerations:

- Workshops will be conducted through ZOOM
- Coaches can assist with on-line webinars but they will be working with residents on-line instead of at tables.
- Tabling at events will be cancelled until public events can again be held.
- On-site consultations are also on hold until shelter in place orders have been lifted, with the exception of virtual on-site consultations.
- BWSR and Metro Blooms will keep coaches updated about future plans for on-site consultations.

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



Keep In Mind:

- Residential Property
- Eligible for either Demonstration Grant or Individual grant, not both.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



• Benefitting the Rusty Patched Bumblebee

-Plantings should focus on benefitting the Rusty patched bumblebee.

-See the USFWS list of preferred plant species for the Rusty patched bumblebee in the assessment form



Blazingstar



Goldenrod



Wild Bergamot



Giant Hyssop



Columbine



Virginia Bluebells



Asters

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Bloom Seasons:**

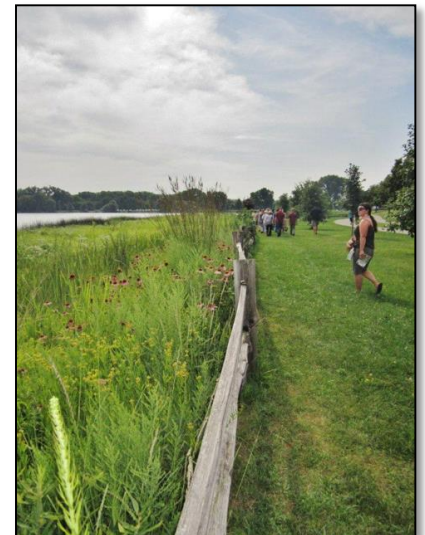
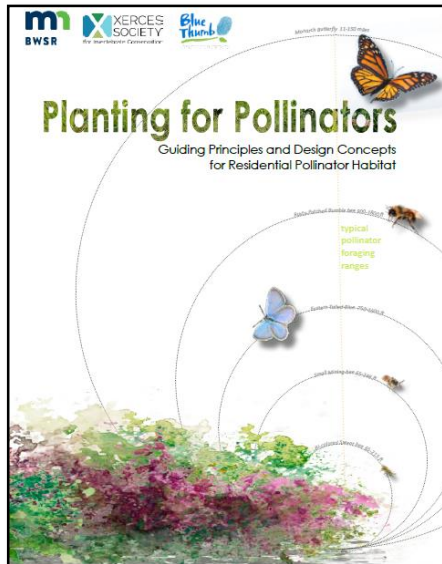
- It's important to plant a mix of at least three blooming species in early, mid, and late season to ensure the continuous availability of food
- Some pollinators including the Rusty patched bumblebee are active April through October.

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Aesthetic Considerations:**

- Plantings should have a focus on aesthetics using plant groupings and edge plants, and other methods to create a sense of order.
- The program's *Planting for Pollinators Habitat Guide* has many images and templates for projects that incorporate design considerations.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Setting Project Expectations:**

- A key role for partners is to set realistic expectations for residential residents about how large and complex of a project they can take on.

- Starting small is often a good idea for all involved. Not all of the grant money needs to be spent.

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



• Local Ordinances:

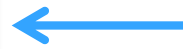
- It is important to check into local ordinances for vegetation restrictions.
- Many cities restrict the types of projects that can be undertaken in the boulevard right of way.
- The four project types give flexibility for residents



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



Four Project Types:

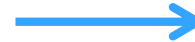


1) Native Pocket Plantings

Variations:

- A. Raingardens
- B. Boulevard Plantings
- C. Lakeshore Buffer

2) Pollinator Beneficial Trees and Shrubs



3) Pollinator Lawns



4) Pollinator Meadows



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Lawn Function**

- Think about how the resident uses their lawn

- Which planting types would be conducive to their needs

- Consider what areas of lawn are currently used

Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Siting a Planting**

- Consider factors like sunlight and the movement of water when working with a resident to determine the location of a planting.

- Bees prefer to forage in sunny areas of a yard

- Placing a planting where water flows through a yard can help reduce runoff, filter runoff and improve water quality.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



- **Stress the Need for Maintenance**
 - Residents signed an agreement for maintaining their projects for a minimum of 3 years.
 - We generally recommend that residents conduct maintenance on or around Memorial Day, the 4th of July and Labor day at a minimum
 - Manual methods of pulling, digging, and cutting back to interrupt weed spread are recommended.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



Grant Requirements

- **Match Requirements**

- Residents must **provide at least a 25% match** for any funding received. This match can be in the form of purchasing materials, hiring contractors or as in-kind time spent planting or maintaining plants (at \$25/hr).
- Landowners can not be paid for their time through the grant, their time can only be counted as match.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



Grant Requirements Eligible Expenses:

- MN Native vegetation, but residents are free to add other horticultural species into plantings at their own expense. Limited cultivars listed.
- Onsite consultation from a landscape designer or contractor, site preparation (sod removal, tilling, weed control), plants, seeds, weed suppression papers, wood mulch, seed and plant installation, and maintenance of projects (through the one year time period), in accordance with the approved grant agreement.
- Non-herbicide methods of site preparation and management are preferred; see Xerces Society guide to ["Organic Site Preparation Methods."](#)

Refer to coaching guide and habitat guide for additional information.



Key Principles for Guiding Residents



Grant Requirements

- **Reimbursement Requirements**

- Map Project
- Attend a workshop or complete a webinar
- Residents are asked to submit:
 - Paid receipts (showing eligible expenses)
 - Before/After photos of their completed projects
 - Match (25%)
- Awardees can request reimbursement for up to \$350 for project costs.



Different Coaching Types



- Coaching Calls and Email
- Workshop Participation
- Tabling at Events
- On-Site Consultations
 - Virtual Onsites



Different Coaching Types



Coaching Calls and Email:

- We will be setting an expectation with residents that generally coaches will have the capacity for three coaching calls during the establishment of the project so that coaches are not overwhelmed with calls.
- It will be up to coaches to let residents know how much time they have available to provide assistance through a combination of email and phone calls.



Privacy:

- *67, keep in mind that it will be your responsibility to reach out to the residents you are paired with.

Different Coaching Types



Workshop Participation:

- 40 Workshops planned over 3 years
The workshops are often co-sponsored by local governments/organizations.
- Workshops on ZOOM platform (until restrictions are lifted)
- ***Coaches needed for online workshops***
- Coaches with landscape design and plant selection experience are needed for these workshops. Master Water Stewards and Master Gardeners are common coaches for these workshops.



Different Coaching Types



Tabling at Events:

- **No tabling events are currently being planned due to COVID- 19 concerns.**
(We need coaches once restrictions are lifted)
- Need basic understanding of the program but can also answer landowner questions about landscape planning and design.
- BWSR can provide handouts for tabling at future events.



Different Coaching Types



On-Site Consultations:

- Currently on hold due to COVID-19
- Virtual Consultations conducted through ZOOM encouraged. *(Learn more by participating in an online ZOOM workshop)*
- Coaches that are eligible to do on-site consultations must work for a local, state, federal government organization, educational institution or be a BlueThumb partner.
- After restrictions are lifted (direction of BWSR/BT)
 - One on-site + One call or email to check progress
 - Coaching Guide





Plants for the Rusty Patched Bumblebee

Herbaceous Species

	Common Name	Scientific Name
Spring	Red Columbine	Aquilegia
	Wild Geranium	Geranium
	Virginia Waterleaf	Hydrophyllum
	Wild Lupine	Lupinus
	Virginia Bluebells	Mercurialis
Summer	Wood Betony	Pedicularis
	Shooting Star species	Prinsepia
	Giant Hyssop species	Agastache
	Milkweed species	Asclepias
	Wild White Indigo	Baptisia
	Cream Indigo	Baptisia
	White Prairie Clover	Dalea
	Purple Prairie Clover	Dalea
	Coneflower species	Echinacea
	Joe Pye	Euthyia
Fall	Jewelweed	Impatiens
	Blazingstar species	Liatris
	Bee Balm	Monarda
	Beardtongue species	Penstemon
	Mountain Mint	Pycnanthemum
	Culver's Root	Veronica
	Native Field Thistle	Cirsium
	Native Swamp Thistle	Cirsium
	Gentian species	Gentiana
	Goldenrod species	Solidago
	New England Aster	Symphyotrichum

Woody Species

	Common Name	Scientific Name
Spring	Serviceberry	Amelanchier
	Plums and Cherries	Prunus
	Gooseberry and Currants	Ribes
	Willows	Salix
	American Basswood	Tilia
Summer	Leadplant	Amorpha
	New Jersey Tea	Ceanothus
	Buttonbush	Cephaelis
	Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle	Lonicera
	Wild Roses	Rosa
	Spiraea	Spiraea
	Large Cranberry	Vaccinium

LAWNS TO LEGUMES - ONSITE CONSULTATION/COACH FORM -- DRAFT --

Property Owner: _____ Coach: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ County / Watershed: _____

PROJECT TYPE:

- Native Plant Pocket Planting
 - Raingardens
 - Boulevard Gardens
 - Lakeshore Planting
- Pollinator Beneficial Trees and Shrubs
- Pollinator Lawns
- Pollinator Meadows

SITE INFORMATION:

SOILS: Clay Silt/Loam Sand
 LIGHT: Front Yard - Sun(6 hrs) Part Sun/Shade (3-6 hrs) Shade(<3 hrs)
 Back Yard - Sun(6 hrs) Part Sun/Shade (3-6 hrs) Shade(<3 hrs)

DRAINAGE ISSUES:

BEST LOCATIONS FOR INSTALLATION:

Other Factors Affecting Yard:

- Kids, Pets, Vegetable Garden, Entertaining, Sports

Future Plans Affecting Yard:

- New Construction, Garage, Vegetable Garden

Plant Preferences:

- Species Preferences _____
- Color _____
- Height _____
- Bloom time _____

MAINTENANCE:

- Goals and Expectations _____
- Review Maintenance for Native Plantings _____

COST SHARE NOTES:

NEXT STEPS: DIY Design Assistance Contractor Install (Blue Thumb Partners)

Maintenance Info

Plant Info

Other

Email/Phone Follow-up by: _____



Resources located on Board of Water and Soil Resource & Blue Thumb websites.

- Coaching Guide
- Templates
- Habitat Guide
- And more

Next Steps



1. *Sign up to be a coach!*

bluethumb.org

2. *BWSR & Blue Thumb connecting coaches and grantees.*

- Survey was sent to grantees asking level of gardening experience and type of coaching interested in. Pairing up will take place in May.
- Coaching Questions: First Reference Coaching Guide (with links to FAQ)
- Point of Contact: James Wolfin , james@metroblooms.org



3. *Help spread the word!*

Follow us on: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter

#Lawns2Legumes

Connect with Us



Lawns to Legumes Coaching Webinar

Part 1

Re-cap on Lawns to Legumes

Part 2

Coaching
Questions

Thank you!