WORKING WITH BWSR PROGRAMS

The information below summarizes key steps for incorporating pollinator habitat into BWSR Programs.

CLEAN WATER FUND

1. Assess project type, goals, plans, and landowner objectives to determine if pollinator habitat is a practical addition to the project.
2. Assess site for protection from potential impacts (pesticides, contamination, etc).
3. If the site is suitable for pollinators, discuss the pollinator component of the project in the grant application and, for funded projects, provide detail in the work plan, and planting plan.
4. Incorporate plant species that will provide pollinator floral resources through spring, summer, and fall.
5. Plan for appropriate maintenance to sustain diversity.

REINVEST IN MINNESOTA (RIM)

Existing RIM Projects

1. Check availability of RIM Enhancement Funding with local SWCD staff.
2. If the plan includes interseeding, or a new seeding is planned, ensure that sufficient site preparation is done to allow for seedling germination.
3. Following inter-seeding, conduct mowing to aid seedling growth.

New RIM Projects

1. Follow BWSR Diversity Guidelines for projects.
2. Discuss availability of funding to restore pollinator "Zones" (areas of higher diversity protected from pesticides) with SWCD and BWSR staff.
3. Assess site for protection (e.g. buffer) from pesticides.
4. When restoring pollinator habitat, incorporate plant species that will provide pollinator habitat through the seasons.
5. Plan for appropriate maintenance to sustain diversity.

STATE COST-SHARE

1. Assess project type, goals, plans, and landowner objectives to determine if pollinator habitat is a practical addition to the project.
2. Assess site for protection from potential impacts (pesticides, contamination, etc).
3. If the site is suitable for pollinators, discuss the pollinator component of the project in the grant application, work plan, and cost-share agreement as appropriate. Provide detail in the planting plan.
4. Incorporate plant species that will provide pollinator habitat through spring, summer, and fall.
5. Plan for appropriate maintenance to sustain diversity.

WETLAND MITIGATION

1. Determine what plant communities that benefit pollinators will be restored. Determine if specific seed mixes can be used that are beneficial to pollinators or if species can be added that will provide pollinator benefits.
2. Assess site for protection from potential impacts (pesticides, contamination, etc). Assess whether there are portions of the project that are more protected and would provide opportunities for adding more diversity (pollinator zones).
3. Incorporate plant species that will provide pollinator habitat through Spring, Summer, and Fall.
4. Plan for appropriate maintenance to sustain diversity.

Resources are available to promote pollinator projects on the BWSR Pollinator Webpage. Refer to BWSR's Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guide for plant diversity recommendations for projects.