

# 2025 Seeds of Knowledge Pilot Program Application

Thank you for your interest in participating in the **Seeds of Knowledge Library Demonstration Garden Grant pilot program**.

This Florida Wildflower Foundation grant program provides funding plants with which to establish a native plant demonstration garden at public libraries. It also includes Florida native seed packets for dispersal to the public through a seed library.

The goals of this program are to:

- establish or enhance a native demonstration planting at a public library
- provide educational programming relevant to the planting and its purpose.
- increase the awareness and knowledge of native wildflowers, grasses and flowering shrubs and vines among visitors by demonstrating the benefits and beauty of Florida native plants in cultivated landscapes.
- establish and maintain a seed library on site with Florida native ecotype seeds and make them available for distribution to the public. (Seeds will be provided by the Foundation and will be appropriate for the region. Additional yearly support for the seed library may be applied for.)

Grant winners will receive up to \$750, of which a minimum of 80% of the grant funds must be used to purchase native wildflowers, grasses and flowering shrubs and vines (plants or seeds). (Funds may not be used for herbicides, fertilizer, or other chemicals, or for mulch other than pine straw.) Grantees will also receive a spring and fall shipment of seed packets to be distributed to library patrons. Subsequent shipments possible and are dependent upon completion of annual feedback surveys conducted by the Florida Wildflower Foundation.

Applications for the pilot program will be accepted beginning November 20, 2025 and will be awarded based on feasibility, chance of success and merit.

**February 1:** Application closes

**February 15:** Applicants will be notified of proposal acceptance or denial. Invoices will be requested at this time for accepted applications.

**February 28:** Letters of agreement (LOAs) are issued to awardees. Initial payments will be released upon receipt of signed LOA.

**March 15:** Spring seed packets sent out

**September 15:** Fall seed packets sent out

To qualify for a Seeds of Knowledge Library Demonstration Garden Grant your library must have a suitable outdoor site with reasonable public access. At least three photos of your intended garden site must accompany the application.

Grant recipients must agree to:

- Remove weeds and grasses from the site before planting the wildflower garden.
- Not add any plants to the garden that are considered invasive to Florida. Refer to the [Florida Invasive Species Council List of Invasive Plants](#) for more information.
- Not use potting soil or fertilizer.
- Not use cypress mulch. (Pine straw mulch is recommended.)
- Protect the garden from foot traffic and unauthorized mowing.
- Commit to the garden for at least one year.
- Have a plan for continued maintenance to ensure garden's survival.
- Host an on-site native seed library to provide free seed packets to library patrons. Seed packets of suitable Florida native ecotypes will be provided by the Florida Wildflower Foundation twice yearly, conditional on completion of feedback surveys. We also encourage libraries to expand the seed library to include seeds collected on site from the demonstration garden.

We encourage partnering with community groups such as garden clubs, master gardeners and Florida Native Plant Society chapters to ensure garden success.

**ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED IN ONE SITTING IN ORDER TO SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION.** It is strongly recommended that you read through all questions and have your answers ready before beginning the online application. After submitting the application you should see a confirmation page and receive a confirmation email. If you do not, there may be an error with your application.

If you have questions about the application process, please contact Marina Mertz, program coordinator, at [MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org](mailto:MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org) or 850-270-7715.

*This program is funded by donations made through the sale of the State Wildflower license plate. To purchase a tag or become a member of the Florida Wildflower Foundation, visit [FlaWildflowers.org/support](http://FlaWildflowers.org/support).*



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## Library Information:

\* How did you hear about our grant?

\* In which county will this project be located? (Recipients must be located in Florida.)

\* What is the name of the library at which your garden will be located?

\* Who will be planting and tending to the garden?

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## Project Lead Contact Information

(Recipients must be located in Florida.)

\* Name

First

Last

\* Library Address

Street Address

Address Line 2

City

State / Province / Region

Postal / Zip Code

Country

\* Project Lead Email

\* Cell Phone Number

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**Library administrator contact information.**

(Recipients must be located in Florida.)

\* Name

First

Last

\* Email

\* Library Phone Number

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\* I have received permission from the library administrator named above to apply for a Seeds of Knowledge grant and, if awarded, to plant a wildflower garden on library grounds.

\* Is the library located on city or county property?

We encourage libraries to partner with a community volunteer or organization who will commit to regularly work in the garden and ensure survival. Tell us if there is anyone you plan to recruit (master gardener, Florida Native Plant Society member, garden club member, etc.).

\* Provide any other information as to why the Foundation should provide grant funding for your project.

\* Have you received a previous grant from the Florida Wildflower Foundation?

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## About Your Garden

In this section, you will provide information about the wildflower garden site, which should be determined prior to applying for this grant.

\* What is the general location and total approximate area where wildflowers will be planted (square feet)?

Maximum of 100 words.

0

\* Describe the garden space? Do you already have a dedicated outdoor learning site? Is your garden site prepared? Is the site free of sod? If non-native species are present, what are your plans for removal?

Maximum of 100 words.

0

How will you water your garden?



\* What light exposure best describes where most or all of the wildflowers will be planted?

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\* What is the soil type at the project site?

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\* How would you describe the soil moisture where most or all of the wildflowers will be planted?

--▼

Please upload a project budget. How will you be spending the \$750 grant?



Choose a file  
File limit 10MB

Please upload a garden site design.

\* this does not need to be a professional drawing, hand drawn is great. If you need additional support with this step, please reach out to [MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org](mailto:MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org).



Choose a file

File limit 10MB

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## Final Agreement

In this section you will upload your 3 garden application photos and agree to the terms of the Seeds of Knowledge Grant

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**To consider your application, we must receive three photos of the space where wildflowers will be planted. Please upload the images below. Be sure to include your library name in the file name of the image. Maximum file size is 10mb. If you would like to send additional photos, you may email them to [MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org](mailto:MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org).**


\* Upload a photo



Choose a file


File limit 10MB

\* Upload a photo



Choose a file  
File limit 10MB

\* Upload a photo



Choose a file  
File limit 10MB

\* Important grant considerations:

	I Agree	I Disagree
Garden will be tended by staff or volunteers to ensure survival.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Informational handouts or brochures will be made available. (FWF will provide unless library chooses to create its own)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Native plant and/or related programming will take place. (The Florida Wildflower Foundation can typically provide programming support. Other organizations that may offer relevant programming in local Florida Native Plant Society chapters, UF IFAS Extensio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interpretive signage will be displayed explaining the purpose/benefits of planting (provided by	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	I Agree	I Disagree
FWF; signage will include a QR code to a survey).		
Garden will be watered until established, and thereafter as needed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The garden will be protected from mowing and foot traffic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildflowers will not be fertilized.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Only light mulch is needed for weed control. Cypress mulch or large pine nugget mulch will not be used.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weeds will be eliminated to maintain integrity of wildflower planting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No invasive plants will be added to the garden. See <a href="#">the FISC List of Invasive Plant Species</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grantees must pursue at least one media outlet (within 60 days of garden installation) in which an article or video that describes the native wildflower planting will appear.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Garden will be maintained for at least 1 year from installation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Applicant Agreement for Reporting

- \* A final report will be due in January 2025 and will be in the form of an online questionnaire assessing how well the project has met the goals of the Seeds of Knowledge grant program.

Please respond to the following regarding the final report:

	I Agree	I Disagree
A survey will be completed in January 2025	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
FWF staff may conduct site visits for confirmation of grant fulfillment and photography.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A minimum of three high resolution, color images in jpg format, 300 DPI or more, will be attached to survey or emailed to MMertz@FlaWildflowers.org in December.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one image will show the native wildflowers in bloom.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one image will show patrons visting the wildflower garden.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand that if the library seed program is successful, I may qualify for additional Florida wildflower seed packets in spring 2026 and continuing twice yearly going forward. Continued seed library support is contingent on completing feedback survey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Thank you for completing this application and for your interest in Florida's wildflowers. You will receive an acknowledgement email to confirm receipt of your application. The Foundation will email by July 1st, 2025 concerning the acceptance of your application.