Planting Native: Inspiring Pollinator Friendly Landscapes

> Teresa DeMars Rice Soil and Water Conservation District









# Landscaping Needs Help!



# First Landscaping

2011

\*split plants \*gifted plants \*bought plants



#### First Landscaping 2011 \*split plants \*gifted plants \*bought plants





First Landscaping 2011 \*split plants \*gifted plants \*bought plants



Second Landscaping 2020

Interplanting Natives



# Site Preparation

\*Removed landscape fabric \*Removed mulch \*Removed unwanted plants \*Added soil/compost



Other ways to prepare your site: \*Sod removal \*Sheet Mulching \*Solarization \*Cultivation \*Frost seeding \*Roundup, then no-till drill seed (large scale plantings)



### **Plant Selection**

\*Two plant kits \*Goal: Plants for Monarchs \*Considerations: soil moisture, sunlight, different bloom times







Interplanting Natives

Spaced plants about one foot apart



Interplanting Natives

Spaced plants about one foot apart



To mulch or not to mulch? That is the question!





Benefits: \*Looks finished \*Reduces weed pressure \*Keeps moisture in soil \*Leave room around the stems

Cons: \*Harder for natives to naturally spread \*Develops a crust \*Cost every year \*Some mulches made out of recycled wood and leaches chemicals into the soil \*Still have weeds



#### Maintenance

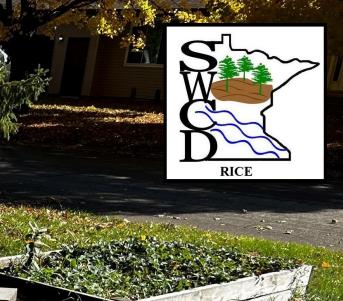
\*Leave alone in the fall \*Pollinators over winter in leaf litter, mulch, and stems \*Spring cleanup: three consecutive nights above 50 degrees (May) \*Leave some stems over 8" for ground nesting bees \*WEEDS! WEEDS! WEEDS! All summer long







#### 2024 Planning for More "Pockets of Prairie"



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### 2024 Improve Diversity

Over the summer, my pocket of prairie grows until the flowers bloom...



# ...and then the pollinators come!

#### Watch for these Pollinators





**Painted Lady** 



**Rusty Patched Bumble Bee** 





Monarch



**Soldier Beetle** 

**Cloudless Sulfur** 

Hummingbird Clearwing

**Red Admiral** 

## Enjoy Your Pocket of Prairie

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