

FORTY FORT POLLINATOR PARK:

Community Pollinator Habitat & Educational Garden Proposal

PROJECT VISION

This project is about creating a space that is both beautiful and purposeful—a welcoming landscape that supports pollinators and wildlife while also serving as a teaching tool for the community. I want it to inspire people to see how even small or everyday spaces can make a real difference for our ecosystem. Beauty draws people in—but education and impact are what make the project meaningful.

DESIGN CONCEPT & SITE STRATEGY

After evaluating the property, the vision became much clearer.

A major priority in the design is low maintenance and long-term sustainability. Rather than preserving a traditional grassy area requiring regular mowing and upkeep, the design reimagines the space as an intentional pollinator habitat.

Design Strategy:

- Utilize all four corner sections as dedicated planting zones
- Eliminate unnecessary lawn maintenance
- Create flowing walkable pathways between each garden section
- Design an immersive visitor experience that encourages exploration
- Establish a central focal point for educational signage and community connection

This approach creates a space that is:

- ✓ Beautiful
- ✓ Functional
- ✓ Educational
- ✓ Community-centered
- ✓ Sustainable

PHASE 1: SITE PREPARATION & GROUNDBREAKING

Target Timeline: Late August – September

Phase 1 focuses on creating the foundational infrastructure of the park.

Objectives:

- Remove existing grassy area

- Define and edge planting zones
- Create pathway layout connecting each section
- Install weed barrier in walkway areas
- Lay stone or selected walkway material

This phase establishes the “bones” of the project and prepares the site for planting.

PHASE 2: INITIAL FALL PLANTING

Phase 2 focuses on beginning the habitat installation in a sustainable and cost-conscious way.

A major benefit of this phase is that I will personally provide much of the initial plant material, significantly reducing startup costs.

Initial Planting Plan:

- Sow native and pollinator-friendly seed
- Transplant established native perennials personally provided
- Begin foundational habitat development
- Take advantage of ideal fall conditions for root establishment

Plants already available to contribute:

- Coneflowers
- Coreopsis
- Rudbeckia

This allows meaningful ecological impact to begin immediately while keeping expenses manageable.

PHASE 3: FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Once the project begins taking shape, community involvement and fundraising opportunities can help support continued growth.

Fundraising Opportunities

Engraved Donor Walkway Bricks / Memorial Stones

Families or supporters could purchase engraved pathway stones as:

- Memorial tributes
- Family dedications
- Legacy donations

- Community keepsakes

Community Planting Sponsorship Program

Community members could sponsor plants needed for the project.

Potential structure:

- Plant sponsorships in the \$12–15 range
- Sponsor chooses a plant from a curated list
- Opportunity to help plant their sponsored contribution
- Potential memorial plaque or dedication marker

Local Business Sponsorships

Opportunities for local businesses to support:

- Garden sections
- Educational signage
- Benches
- Walkways
- Habitat features

Potential outreach:

- Basslers
- Local sign businesses
- Edward's Landscaping
- Varsity
- Landscape suppliers
- Local garden centers

Potential donation requests:

- Signage
- Stone
- Mulch
- Benches
- Lighting

- Soil
- Plant material
- Hard scape materials

Pollinator Fundraising Events

Potential events:

- Plant sales
- Educational garden days
- Pollinator awareness events
- Family community gardening events

PHASE 4: COMMUNITY EDUCATION & SPRING GROWING INITIATIVE

A major part of this project is education and community participation.

The goal is to make the park a living classroom while involving the community directly in helping build it.

Fall Seed Harvest Event

Community workshop teaching:

- How to harvest seeds
- Proper seed cleaning
- Drying methods
- Seed saving techniques
- Sustainable gardening practices

Participants can learn practical skills to use at home while helping generate resources for the park.

Winter Milk Jug Collection Drive

Community collection effort for:

- Clean clear milk jugs
- Similar winter sowing containers

Purpose: Prepare materials for community winter sowing workshops.

Winter Sowing Educational Workshop

Hands-on event teaching:

- Cost-effective seed starting
- Cold weather propagation
- Winter sowing methods
- Growing native plants affordably

Seed sources:

- Personally harvested seed
- Existing seed collection
- Community donated seed
- Purchased seed if needed

Community-Grown Spring Planting Initiative

Community members help grow plants over winter for spring installation.

Benefits:

- Reduced project costs
- Strong community ownership
- Educational opportunity
- Increased volunteer investment
- Expanded planting resources

Long-Term Educational Opportunities

Future teaching opportunities:

- Pollinator education
- Native plant awareness
- Habitat conservation
- Sustainable gardening practices
- Seed saving workshops
- Seasonal gardening programs

PROJECT TO-DO / PLANNING PRIORITIES

Budget Development

Identify potential costs and donation needs:

Materials:

- Garden soil / compost
- Stone
- Edging materials
- Benches
- Lighting
- Educational signage
- Memorial plaques
- Weed barrier
- Mulch
- Additional plant material if needed

Community Outreach

Create a Facebook Page

Purpose:

- Garden updates
- Project progress
- Educational content
- Volunteer recruitment
- Fundraising announcements
- Community engagement

Naming / Branding

Finalize: Official Park name Facebook branding Signage identity

Contact & Volunteer Communication

Create:

- Mailing list
- Contact database
- Volunteer sign-up list
- Community interest list

Uses:

- Updates
- Event announcements
- Volunteer coordination
- Fundraising communication

Potential signup options:

- QR code in garden
- Facebook form
- Email list

Volunteer Committee

A few volunteers have already been identified.

Goal: Expand committee for long-term support.

Potential roles:

- Weeding
- Watering
- Maintenance
- Planting day support
- Event help
- Garden monitoring when unavailable

GARDEN LAYOUT / SECTION CONCEPTS

Donation / Memorial Garden

Dedicated sponsorship or remembrance plantings

Native Plant & Milkweed Habitat Section

Focus:

- Monarch support
- Native pollinators
- Habitat education

Seed Sowing Educational Section

Purpose:

- Seed harvesting education
- Winter sowing demonstrations
- Growing education
- Community propagation

Unique Pollinator Showcase Section

Feature: Eye-catching, unusual, inspiring pollinator-friendly plants to create visual excitement and educational interest.

FINAL GOAL

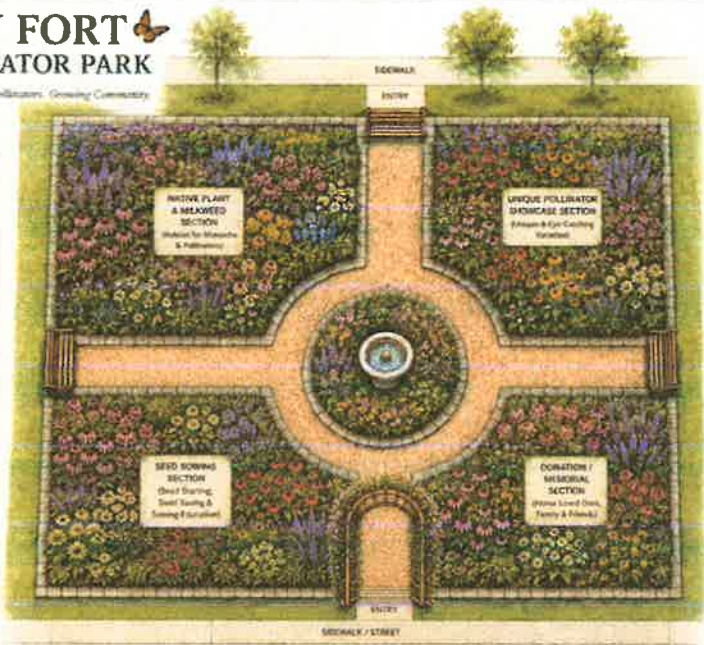
Create a beautiful, inspiring, low-maintenance pollinator park that serves as a community gathering place, wildlife habitat, and educational resource for generations to come.

FORTY FORT POLLINATOR PARK

Planning for Pollinators, Growing Community

- FEATURES**
- EDIBLE PATHWAYS
 - STONE EDGING
 - BENCHES
 - FOCAL POINT FOUNTAIN / SEEDING
 - SOLAR LIGHTING
 - MEMORIAL / DONOR PLAQUES & STORIES
 - EDUCATIONAL SIGNS

- NOTES**
- All plants are pollinator-friendly and selected for seasonal bloom from spring to fall.
 - Native plants and cultivated provide essential habitat for pollinators, including monarch butterflies.
 - Layout is symmetrical for ease of maintenance and community access.
 - Paths are wide enough for wheelchair accessibility.



- BENEFITS**
- Supports bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other beneficial pollinators.
 - Enhances the beauty and value of our community.
 - Provides an educational space for all ages.
 - Attracts local area and surrounding residents.
 - Built, maintained, and enjoyed by our community.



A PLACE TO GROW, LEARN & HONOR

Together, we can create a lasting legacy for pollinators and future generations.

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

0' 2' 4' 8'