

Pollinator / Native Plant Garden Project on the Lewis and Clark National Forest

2009 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2008 to enhance the native landscaping around the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and to educate the public about the role pollinators have in maintaining the health of the planet.

The existing award-winning landscaping was expanded through native plantings. Hundreds of new shrubs and flowering plants were transplanted to add to the native landscape. Six new interpretive signs have been designed, and are ready for production to interpret the relationship between pollinators and the native plants encountered by Lewis and Clark on their westward journey.

The Interpretive Center also offered two special events. Our Museum Sunday Sampler event in April focused on native plants and pollinators with special presentations by beekeeper Mark Jensen. In July, we hosted "Butterflies and Pollination," an event that included an evening presentation by naturalist Byron Weber followed by a Fourth of July butterfly count the next day. The butterfly count results were entered into the national database. The Missouri River Breaks Audubon Society paid for the data entry.



Figure 1: Naturalist Byron Weber leads a Fourth of July butterfly tagging walk on the Lewis and Clark National Forest.



Figure 2: Children assemble wind flags and lollipop flowers at Museum Sunday Samplers -- plants use scent, nectar, and wind-blown pollen as agents of pollination. Children made flowers, wind flags, and scented bubbles to learn about pollination.

Year awarded: Initial award in 2008

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 2 of 2

Expenditures (through 10/2009):

FY08 funding \$3,000, expenditure \$0, \$3,000 remaining

▪FY09 funding \$6,500, expenditure \$4,409; \$2,091 remaining

▪**Total funding \$6,500, total expenditure \$4,409;**
▪**\$2,091 total remaining**

Partners: North American Butterfly Association, Montana Native Plant Society,

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