

Native Plant Pollinator Garden for the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center

2009 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2008 to create a native plant pollinator garden at the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center. The nature center hosts close to 30,000 visitors annually. The garden was planted in a central area of the nature center grounds, which can be viewed from the inside and outside of the building, including an accessible picnic area. Visitors have enjoyed the many butterflies, bees and birds which visit the garden and nearby bird feeders since planting in 2008. With the garden established, the focus in 2009 was on maintenance of the garden and interpretation.



Viewing the garden through the picture window inside the center has been enhanced by static window clings, depicting the plants contained in the native plant garden (Figure 1). Visitors can identify the plants from inside the center when weather or physical condition limit their ability to view the garden from outside. The picture window is also a popular place to view the hummingbirds, bees (Figure 2) and butterflies which visit the plants. Interpretive signs explaining the purpose of the native plants have also been added to the garden in 2009 (see Figure 3). Future opportunities in 2010 include maintenance of the existing garden and installation of a fence which will help support the growing plants. To further the interpretive effort of the garden, a brochure will be printed which will explain the garden's purpose and help in plant identification.



Figure 1. Native plants depicted on static cling panels on center windows.
Figure 2. New England Aster serving its purpose in native plant garden.



Figure 3. Outdoor interpretive sign in native garden.

Year Awarded: initial award in 2008

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 10/2009):
 FY08 funding \$5,759.73, expend. \$5,759.73; \$0 remaining
 FY09 funding \$2,834.20, expend. \$2,834.20; \$0 remaining
Total funding \$8,593.93, total expend \$8,593.93;
▪\$0 total remaining

Partner: Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Contact Person & phone number:
 Diana L. Stull 304-653-4826



Monongahela National Forest
 Gauley Ranger District
Cranberry Mountain Nature Center
 932 North Fork Cherry Rd.
 Richwood, WV 26261