Forest Service Eastern Region and Milwaukee County has been signed and a Native Plant & Pollinator Garden is taking shape at Juneau Park in the heart of downtown Milwaukee, WI. The Eastern Regional Office and Milwaukee County Parks have removed turf grass and planted thousands of native plants and seeds to raise the awareness of the important ecological service provided by native pollinators such as bees and butterflies; the benefits of landscaping with native plants that reduce our carbon footprint and maintenance costs; and the need to control non-native invasive plants.

Non-natives such as tree of heaven, garlic mustard, common buckthorn, non-native honeysuckles and others species were removed from Juneau Park and more than 40 species of native tall grass prairie and dappled woodland species were added. The park garden will be signed and interpreted and members of the public have volunteered their time and energy in weeding and planting.

Plans are to expand this garden north along the heavily used Oak Leaf Trail which skirts the Lake Michigan shoreline for several miles. Juneau Park, a beautiful and important green space in a busy urban environment, thus offers several important ecological messages in an illustrative form while providing very enjoyable recreational and stewardship volunteer opportunities for the public. Come join us!

Year Project Initiated: 2008
Project completion: Ongoing.
Expenditures (through 10/2010): $10,000.
FY10 funding
Partners/Contractors/Coop: Milwaukee County Parks. Milwaukee, WI.
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