



# Native Plant & Pollinator Gardens Manistee National Forest

## 2012 Accomplishments

The Cadillac-Manistee Ranger District's Native Plant & Pollinator Program began in 2007. Since then 33 acres of seedbeds have been planted with native grasses and wildflowers to provide habitat for pollinators and produce seed for restoration efforts across the Forest. So far 25 species of wildflowers and 6 species of grasses have been planted.

Two native plant and pollinator gardens have been established at the Cadillac-Manistee Ranger District office, four gardens at the Chittenden Conference Center, two gardens at the Supervisor's office, and one garden at the Lake Michigan Recreation Area. Between 2008 and 2011, nearly 3,000 plugs of 47 species of native grasses, sedges, and wildflowers have been planted in the various native plant and pollinator gardens. Each garden includes at least one species of milkweed to provide host plants for monarchs.

In addition to the gardens and seedbeds, the Cadillac-Manistee District used native grass and wildflower seed to revegetate 6 acres of timber landings in 2012. The seed mixes are designed to provide nectar plants from spring through fall. Each seed mix includes common milkweed and/or butterfly milkweed to provide host plants for monarchs.



Figure 1. Butterfly milkweed in native grass and wildflower seedbed at Chittenden



Figure 2. Native plant and pollinator garden at Cadillac-Manistee Ranger District office

Year Project Initiated: 2007

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 3 of 3

Expenditures (through 10/2012): \$67,740

FY12 funding: \$9,732 from CWKV for rehabilitating timber landings

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