

## Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project

Jane Smith

### Demographic info

1. Email address : [jsmith@gmail.com](mailto:jsmith@gmail.com)
2. Project name: **Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project**
3. Location of project: **106 Elm Street , Anytown, CT 06000 United States**
4. Amount of CMGA funding requested: **-\$425**
5. Applicant information
  - a. name Jane Smith
  - b. address **10 South Road, Anytown, CT 06000 United States**
  - c. phone **(860) 111-1111**
6. MGA office **New London/Norwich**
7. Year of MG graduation **2022**
8. Have you or the project received CMGA grant funding, and if so, please explain when this occurred.
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
9. Applicant MG Status (multiple choice)
  - a. CMGA member - yes / no
  - b. MG active yes / no
  - c. Intern; I have received a verbal approval from my coordinator
  - d. Coordinator
  - e. Other

### BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT (maximum 3 points) **Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith**

10. Please give a brief description of the background to this proposed project, including the following points: \*
  - (a) whether the project is completely new or this is a continuation of an existing project;
  - (b) what led to this specific project proposal;
  - (c) if applicable, the physical size of the project area;

(d) what other groups/organizations/individuals, if any, you're working with on this project.

This is a continuation of an existing project at the Butterfly Pollinator Garden in Anytown. There are 4 main sections of this public garden, each containing perennials and shrubs that serve to provide food, nectar and/or shelter for birds, beneficial insects, pollinators, various lepidoptera and specifically for the decreasing population of monarch butterflies.

Garden #1 is adjacent to the sign, garden #2 is the largest garden nearest a gazebo, garden #3 is parallel with the pond, and garden #4 is around the gazebo. All 4 gardens have different soil textures and sun exposures,

The property which contains the gardens is certified as a wildlife habitat through the National Wildlife Federation. The Butterfly- Pollinator Garden (the 4 gardens) is certified as a Monarch Waystation through MonarchWatch. The garden began as a community outreach project in 2014 to create an educational butterfly-pollinator garden near the park's sign. Some 9 years later, the garden (and specifically gardens #1 and 2) requires major revitalization. Large parts of both gardens have matured to the point that many of the plants have either become too large for their spaces or have significantly reseeded, making the garden crowded with a significant number of the same plant. The plan is to dig out multiples of the same plant to create more space and to incorporate new and different native or nativar plants and shrubs in those areas, adding more diversity to the gardens. Unfortunately, we also lost many perennials in garden #1 to the heat and drought from last summer and seek to replace some of those perennials with natives. We also want to replace some of the non-native shrubs in the gardens with native ones. As a master gardener and the new garden coordinator for all the gardens in the Garden Club, I am seeking partial funding for the plants and materials needed to be purchased to accomplish these endeavors.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES & TASKS (maximum 8 points)

Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

11. What is the overall goal of this project? A goal is the outcome you want to achieve.

The overall goal of this project is to revamp major parts of the garden by digging out multiples and adding more diversity with perennials and shrubs that will be beneficial to insects/pollinators as well as ameliorate damage done to the garden by last summer's blistering weather by replacing the perennials that succumbed to the heat and drought.

12. Please list each specific objective that will lead to the goal. An objective is a measurable, specific action to take to achieve the goal.

There are then three main objectives for this project:

1. To dig up multiples of perennials that have become overgrown and crowded in gardens #1 and 2 and to replace them with new and different native perennials.

2. To plant more native perennials in the part of the garden closest to the sign (garden #1). This is the part that sustained most of the damage from the heat and drought.

3. To dig up the non-native, unbeneficial shrubs and replace them with native shrubs that meet the requirements for the site in terms of sun and soil. We are only expecting to do maintenance on gardens #3 and 4 this year.

4. Ensure that all educational materials are updated.

13. What concrete steps will you take to reach each objective?

Steps needed to reach our objectives are the following:

a. Research native plants and shrubs that are appropriate for each part of the garden in terms of sun and soil requirements.

b. The garden coordinator and the garden steward for this garden will meet to discuss plant selections and an overall plan/timeline for planting and placement of new and existing plants and shrubs.

c. Apply for various grants and seek out donations to defray the cost of this major renovation to the club.

d. Determine the cost of the said plants/shrubs and generate a purchase order to give to the treasurer to acquire the necessary funds.

e. Order the plants through a wholesale gardening center that the Garden Club already uses, or retail outlets that give the club a discount.

f. The garden coordinator and steward will generate emails to the Garden Club members (including MG and non-master gardeners) asking for volunteers to both dig up the old shrubs, dig up/divide multiples, and to plant the new perennials and shrubs on designated days. Efforts will also be made to seek out MG interns who may be interested in helping, as well.

g. The Garden Club coordinator will go and pick up the plants and bring them to the garden.

h. All volunteers will meet on those designated days to discuss the overall plan and to begin to revamp the garden. This process will take several days.

i. Plant labels will be added to the garden.

j. The educational brochures will be updated to reflect the addition of new plants.

## POPULATION(S) & ACCESSIBILITY (maximum 6 points)

### Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

14. Who is the intended audience for the project?

The intended audience for this project is the many community members surrounding the property who visit the gardens throughout the year.

15. How will you promote the project and its benefits to the intended audience? The gardens are free to walk through for any visitor and are part of the larger property. The gardens are promoted throughout the school system. Both high school and elementary students commonly take field trips to visit this location as a destination for science activities or other curricula. We intend to be actively involved in promoting visitation to the benefits of the project within the school system. We also intend to promote the project within community groups which have yet to be determined.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT (maximum 6 points)

### Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

16. Describe how this proposed project will benefit the community or population for which it is intended. Please be as specific and concrete as you can be.

This project benefits the community in many ways. On the surface, visitors are met with a beautiful, colorful landscape that enhances the overall entrance to the property. More importantly, as they stroll through the gardens they can observe (and hear) and appreciate the vibrant nature of the insects/pollinators/butterflies busy at work there. Often visitors will ask about particular plants or insects that inhabit the garden. We have educational pamphlets about the gardens that are available to the general public posted in garden #2, as well as in the town's library. Information about the gardens can also be posted on an educational board that is near the gazebo and adjacent to the gardens. Further, the Butterfly Garden and the surrounding property provides school children with a place to pursue science activities. Throughout the growing season (April through November) the gardens are used by the Garden Club for various public activities and as a resource to conduct learning sessions for members and the general public on gardening techniques.

17. Describe how the project contributes to the CMGA mission to promote horticultural knowledge and/or enhance the community it serves through gardening-based activities.

The horticultural knowledge is enhanced by the educational component we add to the gardens. We often have days where we invite the general community and children to come out to the gardens to participate in various activities. We have children who visit

the gardens and we show them gardening techniques and have them participate. We also use this garden to teach gardening techniques to other members of the club, who may not be master gardeners, so that they can take that knowledge and use it in their own gardens and/or pass it on to others. Our club will have “Learn and Do” workshops at the gardens that are advertised through email and social media and are open to the general public. Further, adding more natives and other pollinator and host plants to the existing butterfly pollinator along with the plant labels will allow for visitors to do self-learning tours. We also hope to actually run some public garden tours here in the near future.

#### PROJECT CONTINUATION (maximum 13 points)

##### Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

18. Will this proposed project be continued in the future?
- Yes, as part of a larger project
  - Yes, as a new project that we plan to continue
  - Unsure

Yes, as part of a larger project

19. If unsure, what is the reason?

20. Who will be responsible for managing long-term care of the project, and what activities do you anticipate will be needed for long-term care? These gardens are a continuing project. Each month from April through November/December, Certified Master Gardeners, Master Garden interns, the Garden Club members and other community members volunteer many hours to maintain the gardens, which will include weeding, watering and additional planting as needed. These are the individuals who will be also helping with this project. We have a total of 6 gardens in town and in March a master schedule for maintenance of all the gardens is planned and coordinated for the remainder of the year.

21. What funding and/or material resources for long-term care are needed and how might they be secured?

To maintain the gardens the Garden Club will use a combination of funds that have been raised by the club, as well as grants and donations from individuals and businesses. The Garden Club solicits Certified Master Gardeners, Master Garden interns, club members and other community members to volunteer to maintain the gardens.

22. What people resources for long-term care are needed and how might they be secured?

To maintain the gardens on a long term basis members from the Garden Club, MG's, Interns and student groups will be recruited.

## MASTER GARDENERS & OTHER VOLUNTEERS (maximum 7 points)

### Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

23. How many MGs / MG interns /other volunteers will you aim to include in this project? \*

There are a total 21 Master Gardeners in the CGC. I expect that 5-7 of those MG's will be actively involved in this project over multiple sessions. The Garden Club will also be offering the project to the UCONN Master Gardener class in Haddam as a community service project. The aim is to get at least 5-10 (non MG) volunteers to be involved in each session along with the MG's.

24. How do you plan to recruit MGs, MG interns and volunteers for this project? Please

be as specific as you can be. A number of MG in our club already regularly volunteer to help. We generally send out emails to all members outlining the tasks and asking for volunteers. The Garden Club is also developing a public social media page, in addition to our member FB page, to promote the gardens and ask for volunteers. The garden steward will also put out a message on the Colchester Town website asking for volunteers from the community.

25. How will working on this project benefit MGs, MG interns, and other volunteers?

Being a certified MG doesn't necessarily mean one knows everything about plant identification, natives and gardening techniques. As a 2022 graduate, I can say that working with other MG's last year increased my knowledge base significantly and helped to reinforce some of the concepts we learned in class. It also gave me the opportunity to meet other MG's who were in the club as well as other non- MG volunteers. Besides acquiring more horticultural knowledge, working on this kind of project provides one with an opportunity to socialize with other like-minded people who can share interests, experiences and gardening techniques.

## BUDGET(maximum 4 points)

### Butterfly-Pollinator Garden revitalization project, Jane Smith

26. Please list all expenses anticipated for this project, sources of potential funding, and donations (if applicable), including CMGA and other sources.

<u>Item needed</u>	<u>cost</u>	<u>source of funding</u>
Perennials	\$372.00	CMGA

Additional perennials	\$0.00	Donations from Club Members Gardens
Mulch and Soil amendments		Plant sale

The sources of potential funding come from local and organizational grants that are applied for- such as Anytown Cares, CMGA, and the CT Hort Cares Grant . We will also ask local businesses for donations, including mulch and soil amendments (especially needed for garden #1). Members of the Colchester Garden Club will be surveyed to see if they can divide and donate any perennials from their yards. We can also dig up and pot the multiple plants that we dig up and sell them to the general public. All other funds will have to come from budgeted dollars of the Garden Club.

The majority of the plants and shrubs will come from Prides Corner- at wholesale prices. We anticipate buying multiples of 9 different perennials listed below for a total of approximately \$372

These include: *Penstemon digitalis*, *Asclepias incarnata*, *Asclepias tuberosa*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Lobelia cardinalis*, *Heuchera*, *Liatris spicata* and *Hypericum kalmianum*

We intend to use wholesale accounts at Prides Farm to also purchase 4 shrubs for a total of \$98. They include a *Hamamelis virginiana*, a *Fothergilla major* and two *Cornus sericea*. In addition, we will also need to purchase at least 20 bags of cedar mulch and 5 bags of soil amendments. We plan to purchase those at a retail outlet that gives us a 20% discount and a tax exemption. The estimated cost for those materials at Paul and Sandy's is \$80.

The total estimated cost for this project will be= \$550