CONSERVATION@HOME SURVEY

If you can answer **Yes!** to any of these questions you may be eligible for our new program.

Do you have natural areas on your property?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Do you manage your yard for the benefit of wildlife?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Have you planted native plants in your yard?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ A Few
- ☐ No

Do you live near a creek, river or natural area?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

This exciting NEW program is designed to encourage landowners to become actively involved in the conservation effort. We can all contribute to environmental improvement - one yard at a time. Habitat loss and fragmentation are the two most critical issues facing wildlife today. Water quality and water conservation can be improved by exercising simple measures around the home.

Call for details!
Jim Kleinwachter (630) 553-0687 x302

The water garden at
The Conservation Foundation's McDonald Farm

CONSERVATION@HOME

The Conservation Foundation has launched a new initiative called **Conservation @ Home.** This program is an extension of our existing homeowner education and watershed protection efforts,

and encourages and recognizes property owners that protect and/or create yards that are nature-friendly and conserve water. This includes planting native vegetation, such as prairie and woodland wildflowers, trees and shrubs, creating butterfly and rain gardens, and removing exotic plant species.

All property owners who are Conservation @ Home certified will receive this sign to post in their yard.

THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

CONSERVATION@HOME

Helping property owners protect and create yards that are environmentally friendly!

This brochure funded by the
DuPage County
Stormwater Management Division

The Conservation Foundation
10S404 Knoch Knolls Road
Naperville, IL 60565
630-428-4500
www.theconservationfoundation.org

Program Goals

- Encourage the use of native plants in residential yards and gardens.
- Protect and restore existing high quality natural areas.
- Promote good water resource practices (rain barrels, rain gardens that reduce runoff, filter water and conserve water.)
- Reward landowners that practice good conservation measures.
- Educate landowners about how they can improve habitats.
- Provide a visible sign of good residential conservation design and implementation.

In-depth information on the following subjects is available on our website:

*Invasive Species *
*Backyard Wetlands and Rain Gardens *
*Composting * Advantages of Mulch *
*Ponds * Wildlife Habitat Improvements *
*Native Plants for Your Yard *
Native Plantings in Your Community

Visit
www.theconservationfoundation.org

Conservation@Home

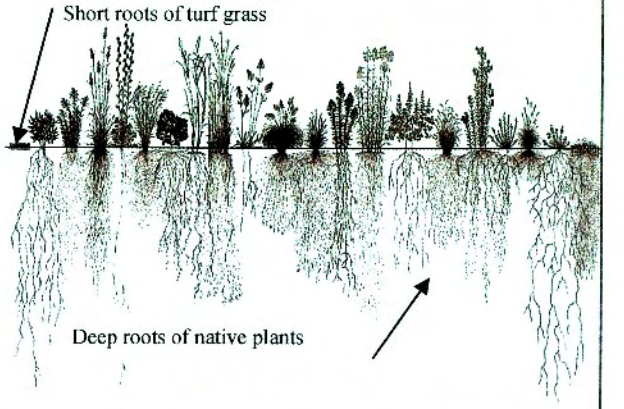
Recognition Criteria

- Property must have some native plant components, for the benefit of water conservation and/or for wildlife.
- There should be clear evidence of stewardship of the land (invasive species control, and other management issues.)
- Property along creeks, rivers or a pond should be managed to reduce erosion and pollutants.
- Protection of existing natural areas as well as creation of new areas is highly encouraged!

If your land management style meets the basic criteria above, call The Conservation Foundation to join the Conservation@Home program. For a one time $25 fee ($50 for non-members, includes a complimentary one-year membership) certified landowners will receive a Conservation@Home sign to post proudly in their yard, a certificate of achievement as well as a yard assessment, including ideas to further improve the environmental friendliness of their property.

Benefits of a Nature-Friendly Yard

- Native plantings support a large variety of beneficial wildlife. The habitat you create will attract wildlife such as songbirds and butterflies!
- The deep roots of native plants reduce erosion and require less water than a traditional turf grass lawn.
- Perennial flowering plants will increase the beauty and value of your property!
- Gardening practices that reduce the use of chemicals will improve water, air and soil quality.



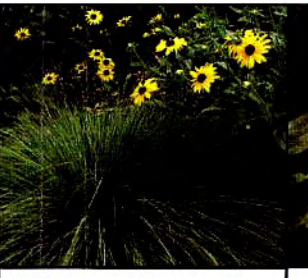
Queen of the Prairie

Blood Root

Purple Coneflower/Monarch

Butterfly Weed

Purple Prairie Clover


Prairie Dropseed/Black-Eyed Susan

Red Trillium

Spiderwort