



Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Planning and Assessment Form

To be used in the process of site and seed mix planning/designing. Pollinator planting area shall always be managed to prevent and eliminate both invasive and noxious plant species.

1. Planned percent of site with flowering plant species (select one)
- 1-15 percent 5 points
 - 16-30 percent 10 points
 - 31-45 percent 15 points
 - 46-60 percent 20 points

2. Flowering plant seed mix to be used (add all that apply)
- Includes appropriate plant species for the region or local habitat 5 points
 - Amount of seed to be planted (lbs/acre) is determined according to seed provider's recommended application rate and/or planting density for planted species in the target area 5 points
 - Includes only plant species native to the region. 15 points

Total:

3. Planned cover diversity within the ground cover area (# of flowering plant species that will constitute >2 percent cover each; select one)
- 1-9 species 5 points
 - 10-19 species 10 points
 - 20 or more species 15 points

4. Seasons that will have at least 3 blooming species with >2 percent cover each (add all that apply)
- Spring 10 points
 - Early summer 5 points
 - Late summer 5 points
 - Fall 5 points

Total:

5. Observed pollinator nesting habitat within 0.25 miles (add all that apply)
- Bare ground with undisturbed, and/or well-drained soil 2 points
 - Forest edge habitat that includes flowering shrubs and young trees 2 points
 - Cavity nesting sites (e.g., dead trees, snags, fallen logs, shrubs, plants with pithy-stemmed twigs [e.g., sumac, rose, raspberry]) 2 points

Total:

6. Planned management practices (add all that apply)
- Mowing occurs only after August 15, and before spring each year 5 points
 - Detailed establishment & management plan 10 points
 - Detailed monitoring plan 10 points
 - Creation of nesting habitat features (e.g. boxes, tunnels) 0.2 points per feature

Total:

7. Pesticide risk (select if applicable)
- Planned on-site insecticide use on plants (includes prior application to seeds/plants) -40 points

8. Planned vegetation buffer adjacent to the solar site (add all that apply)
- At least 50% of buffer area will be planted with flowering plant species 5 points
 - At least 50% of buffer area will be planted with native plant species 5 points
 - Buffer will be a minimum of 30 feet wide 10 points

Total:

Grand Total

Meets "Pollinator-friendly Solar" Standard 70-84

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85

Developer: _____

Project Location: _____

Project Size: _____

Target Seeding Date: _____

Send completed forms to:

Native meaning "native species local to the site are preferred otherwise species native to Vermont are encouraged.

The practices called for in this form are subordinate to any requirements of applicable State permits, agency rule or guidance. All solar projects must comply with applicable Public Service Board and Agency of Natural Resources permit conditions, even if those conditions conflict with practices favored by this assessment form.