**Lawn Conversion Planting Plan Template
Lawn Conversion Sub-Grant for**

**Conservation Districts**

**District Name:**

**Project Contact Name:**

**Lawn Conversion Type:**

**Landowner Name:**

**Site Location:**

**Acres:**

**Site Details:** What is the current land use? Resource concerns? (Utilities, invasives, etc.) What is proposed and what benefits will occur from the conversion?

**Establishment Plan and Timeline (including site prep):**

**Species List and Seedling Plan:**

**Project Map:**

**Lawn Conversion Planting Guidelines & Expectations**

**Meadow Establishment**

Planting Guidelines:

* Planting and sustaining a native, perennial meadow
* Dominated by perennial native forbs and grasses
* Seed mixes approved by DCNR prior to ordering
* Planting is established with a diversity of desired native forbs and grasses by year five (5)

Expectations:

* Choose forb and grass species appropriate for the soils, hydrologic conditions, and physiographic region. Conduct a soil test during the planning and design process, if needed.
* Plantings should be seeded with a native, diverse seed mix that includes annual and perennial plants. Plugs or containerized stock should not be used; contact DCNR for approval.
* For the duration of the landowner agreement, the meadow must be maintained as a diverse community of desired native forbs and grasses, with flowering plants expected for spring, summer and fall seasons for the most benefit for pollinators.
* The meadow will remain in a native meadow state and be maintained to arrest succession (e.g., mowing, woody plant removal, invasive plant removal, controlled burns, etc.).
* Fertilization or mulching of the planting area is not permitted.
* Site preparation for meadow establishment typically takes at least one full growing season before a meadow is ready to be seeded; plan your project accordingly.

**Upland Forest Planting**

Planting Guidelines:

* Tree and shrub plantings 300-ft or further away from a waterway
* 150-200+ stems per acre planted, with the goal of the planting reaching canopy closure
* Minimum of three different native woody species approved by DCNR
* 70% planting survival by year five (5)

Expectations:

* Plant trees and shrubs appropriate for the soil conditions, physiographic region, and surrounding forest compositions.
* The end goal for upland forest planting is to establish forested conditions with vertical structure and potential for natural regeneration. Mowing is permitted several times per year to aid tree and shrub establishment. After establishment (typically after 4-5 years), mowing should cease to allow for natural regeneration processes to create natural forest understory conditions.
* Fertilization and mulching of the planting area is not permitted.
* Tree protection (shelters, tubes, cages) and/or an alternative plan for minimizing deer damage should be clearly included in the planting plan and demonstrated within the final planting