



Maryland's **INITIAL** Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Planning and Assessment Scorecard

Circle each applicable point and then sum/minus.

1. Percent of facility to be planted, seeded or maintained with native plant species:

- 16-30 percent 5 points
- 31-50 percent 10 points
- 51-75 percent 20 points
- 76 percent or greater 30 points

2. Percent of facility to be planted, seeded or maintained with a mix of flowering plants including trees and shrubs:

- 16-30 percent 5 points
- 31-50 percent 10 points
- 51-75 percent 20 points
- 75 percent or greater 30 points

3. Flowering plant seed mix to be used includes ten or more plant species appropriate for the region or local habitat identified in the USDA-NRCS Maryland Native Grass and Wildflower Mixes for dry, mesic or wet sites (Mixes 15, 16 or 17): 5 points

4. Seed mix and/or plants used are pesticide-free, local ecotypes to the extent that it is possible to do so:

- Yes 10 points
- No 0 points

5. 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

6. Pollinator seed mix includes species that bloom across spring, summer and fall:

- Yes 15 points
- No 0 points

7. The facility follows established best management practices for site preparation prior to seeding and planting (add all that apply):

- Initial herbicide treatment (chemical burn) or scraping of weeds and annual grasses 5 points
- Disking or tilling soil to promote weed seed germination with follow-up herbicide treatment 5 points
- Follow up maintenance as needed to control weeds 5 points

8. Planned existing best management practices follow established USDA-NRCS Job Sheet Recommendation (Conservation Cover – 327, Herbaceous Plantings for Pollinator Habitat) and Implementation Requirements including (add all that apply):

- Pre-establishment mowing of weeds and annual grasses as needed during initial planting period 5 points
- Spot herbicide or mechanical invasive species control 5 points
- Spot herbicide or mechanical woody species control 5 points
- Overseeding or interseeding native wildflowers 5 points
- Post-establishment mowing in dormant season only 10 points
- Establishment of a detailed habitat maintenance plan 10 points

9. Additional facility practices to support pollinators include (add all that apply):

- Water source 5 points
- Ground nesting sites (small areas of bare ground) 5 points
- Cavity nesting sites (fallen logs, shrubs, snags) 5 points
- Woody stems for nesting left >2 years 5 points
- Bee Boxes or Bat Boxes 5 points

10. Minimum panel height supports native flowering plants and grasses:

- 12-18 inches 0 points
- 24-30 inches 10 points
- 36 inches or higher 20 points

11. Vegetation buffer outside solar array (add all that apply):

- At least 50% planted with native flowering plants 10 points
- At least 50% planted with native plants 10 points

12. Education and Signage (add all that apply):

- One or more "Pollinator Habitat" signs 5 points
- Facility is used for pollinator research 5 points
- Education Event regarding pollinator-friendly status 5 points

13. Pesticide Risk:

- Routine on-site facility insecticide use -40 points

Point Summary:

Meets Pollinator-Friendly Standards: 160
 Exceeds Pollinator-Friendly Standards: 200
 Maximum Points Available: 245

Developer:

Facility Location:

Facility Size:

Target Seeding Date:

Send Email or Completed Forms to:

MD Dept. of Agriculture, MD Dept. of Natural Resources, Power Plant Research Program, 580 Taylor Avenue, B-3, Annapolis, MD 21401

PPRP@maryland.gov

Comments: