



Conservation@Home Cook County School Evaluation Criteria

Client Name: _____

Date: _____

Town: _____

Volunteer Name(s): _____

Criterion (* criteria required for certification)	Achieved?	Notes
On Site Vegetation (3/5 Checkmarks Needed) Total Achieved:		
*Min 10 species of native herbaceous perennials/grasses/ephemerals		
*Min 3 species of native trees/shrubs/vines		
*Effective removal/control of invasives and/or plans to remove invasive landscape plants (note: specifically near student garden area)		
Diversity of plants (min. 20 species)		
Variety of blooms for each of the three growing seasons		
Wildlife Management (need 3/5 checkmarks) Total Achieved:		
*Provides habitat (decaying wood, thickets, shelter)		
Vegetation left to stand throughout the year with minimal and variable removal		
Leaves kept on site (note: specifically near student garden area)		
Exposed soil for ground nesting species		
Properly maintained water source (puddling dishes, ponds, bubbler fountain, etc.)		
Water Management (need 2/5 checkmarks; some criteria may be N/A) Total Achieved:		
*Minimal artificial irrigation		
Downspout directed into vegetation instead of lawn or bare soil		
Use of rain barrel, cistern, or other water storage		
Rain garden		
Permeable driveway/pathway/patio		
General Management (Need 3/6 checkmarks) Total Achieved:		
*Natural lawn care (Note: Organic management, lawn alternatives, leave lawn clippings)		
*Manages garden spaces during summer		
*Minimal use of chemical fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides (note: makes an effort to work with landscape company to ensure this happens, specifically near student garden area)		
Maintains organic vegetable garden (note: development management plan for food grown)		
Use of a compost heap/bin/worm bin (note: or at least educate about benefits of composting)		
Educational Component (need 3/5 checkmarks) Total Achieved:		
*Incorporates native plants/wildlife and ecology lessons into curriculum (Note: Teachers will submit example lesson(s) with application)		
*Actively engages students to provide environmental stewardship education or outreach (i.e. garden tours, oral presentations, community events, service learning hours for neighborhood greening projects, etc.)		
Utilizes informal/formal educational tools (i.e. plant labels, rain gauge, weather station, compost bin, etc.)		
Practices conservation within building(s) (i.e. recycling program, use of non-disposable cafeteria materials, turning off lights, conscious water use, etc.)		
Provides outdoor natural area for breaks/recess/SEL		
Certification Granted? Yes_____ No (explain):		