



SCHOOL CHECKLIST

Note: Each item below is not applicable to every school. This is a list of suggestions to guide you in choosing ways to bring conservation into your property. For certification purposes, at least one criteria must be met from each category, with a total of ten criteria fulfilled. Certification is valid for five years and renewable through a return visit to verify that conservation practices were maintained. Upon certification, schools are encouraged to inform all staff, students, and parents about this recognition. NLI can help with fun ideas for your school to celebrate!

Name: _____ **School Name:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____ **Address:** _____

1. Native Vegetation

- ___ Native plants incorporated into existing landscape beds
- ___ Native trees and shrubs incorporated into existing landscape
- ___ Managing property for invasive species
- ___ Protects or restores a woodland, wetland, or prairie.
- ___ Creates a new native plant habitat.

2. Water Stewardship

- ___ Downspouts directed to vegetated area or bed of rocks instead of pavement
- ___ Rain barrel in use
- ___ Rain garden used to capture stormwater
- ___ Runoff reduced with permeable walkway or parking lot
- ___ Property along aquatic habitats managed to reduce erosion and pollutants.
- ___ Low-flow toilets and faucets installed in building

Over for more categories....

3. Landscape Management

- Compost bin or pile used for landscape waste and/or food scraps
- Use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides minimized
- Leave grass clippings in place (unless composted)
- Leaves used to mulch around trees, shrubs, and landscape beds
- If service used, check into their practices

4. Wildlife Habitat

- Bird feeders provided
- Bird, bat, or native bee houses provided
- Water provided (bird bath, fountain, pond)
- Brush piles/other habitat
- Leave standing vegetation and leaves in landscape beds over winter to provide habitat

5. Educational Conservation Ethic

- Incorporates the school's native plant habitats into curriculum for all grade levels
- Utilizes a recycling program and educates staff/students about its importance
- Incorporates composting of food scraps and landscape waste
- Uses non-disposable trays and utensils in cafeteria
- Has an organic school vegetable garden
- Educates staff and students about resource conservation: turn off lights, don't leave water running, etc.
- Provides staff and students with outdoor natural area for use during breaks/recess
- Provides staff and students with local environmental programming and volunteer opportunities.

For office use only:

Site Visit Date: _____

Certification Date: _____

Payment Amount: _____ Method: _____