



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. Natural Land Institute can help with fun ideas for your school to celebrate!

Contact 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

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.