



Green Power

## ***Habitat Friendly Solar Site Standard Assessments, Aurora Distributed Solar Energy Project***



**Aurora Distributed Solar, LLC**

550 Lincoln Drive

Edina, MN 55436

**February 25, 2021**

## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Standards for Aurora Distributed Solar Energy Project

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources promotes the planning and management of vegetation on solar energy production sites to provide benefits to gamebirds, songbirds, and pollinators by implementing a pollinator plan to meet Habitat Friendly Solar Site Standards. Habitat assessments are used to address project design and vegetation management in order to quantify pollinator scores.

Aurora Distributed Solar, LLC (Aurora) built and operates a distributed photovoltaic solar energy generating system producing a total of up to 100 megawatts at 16 separate facilities, encircling the greater Minneapolis – St. Paul region. A project planning habitat assessment was performed for the 16 Aurora Solar sites in 2017. All of the 16 sites met the gold standard for pollinator habitat planning, with scores greater than 85. In 2020 an establishment planting assessment was conducted, based on quantitative monitoring data of the project sites. All of the established sites met the pollinator habitat standard, with a score of greater than 70. Ten of the established sites met the gold standard, providing exceptional habitat for gamebirds, songbirds, and pollinators, with scores greater than 85.

### Aurora Solar MNDNR Habitat Assessment Results

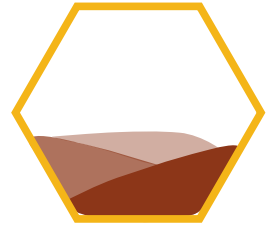
Aurora Solar Site	2017 Project Planning Habitat Assessment	2020 Establishment Planting Assessment
Albany	89	97
Annandale	91	110
Atwater	91	75
Chisago	91	77
Dodge Center	91	97
Eastwood	91	120
Hastings	89	80
Lake Emily	91	93
Lake Pulaski	91	100
Lawrence Creek	91	97
Montrose	91	73
Paynesville	91	77
Pine Island	91	83
Waseca	91	96
West Faribault	87	87
West Waconia	91	98

**2017**  
**Project Planning**  
**Habitat Assessment Forms**



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☐ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **4**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement

- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **89**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Albany  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Stearns  
Project Size: 100 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: July 2017

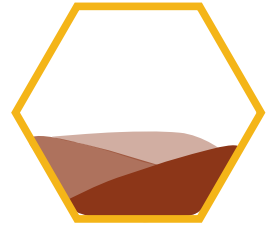
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



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## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

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☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Annandale  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Wright  
Project Size: 66 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: June-Nov 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

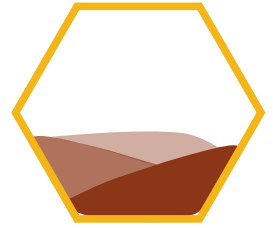
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☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

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## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Atwater  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Kandiyohi  
Project Size: 35 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: June 2017

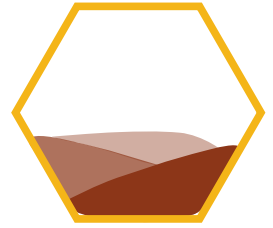
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## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Chisago  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Chisago  
Project Size: 53 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: April 2017

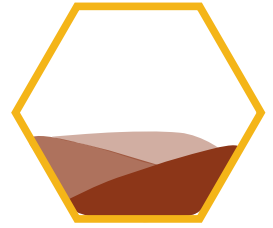
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- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

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## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas.

Total points **0**

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Dodge Center  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Dodge  
Project Size: 59 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: July-Nov 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and any communication with pesticide applicators to [dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

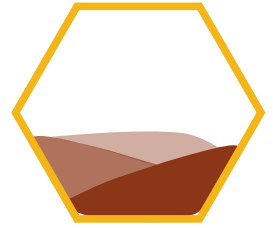
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☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

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Total points **6**

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Total points **5**

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☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85

Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Eastwood

Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski

Project County: Blue Earth

Project Size: 46 Acres

Projected Seeding Date: Nov 2017

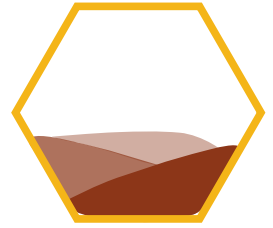
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Total points **15**

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*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

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☐ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **4**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
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feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

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☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **89**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85

Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Hastings

Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski

Project County: Washington

Project Size: 41 Acres

Projected Seeding Date: June 2017

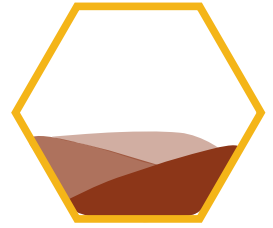
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Lake Emily  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Nicollet  
Project Size: 47 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: June-July 2017

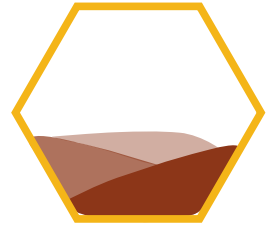
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Lake Pulaski  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Wright  
Project Size: 68 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: May-Oct 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

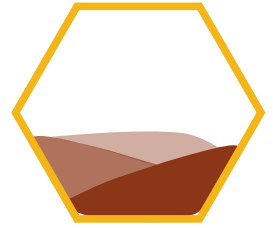
*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*





# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Lawrence Creek  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Chisago  
Project Size: 39 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: July 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

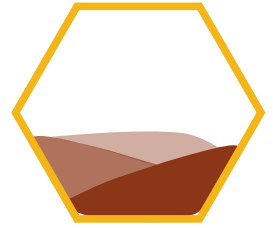
*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*





# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85

Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Montrose

Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski

Project County: Wright

Project Size: 30 Acres

Projected Seeding Date: June 2017

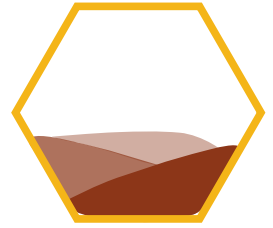
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and any communication with pesticide applicators to [dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85

Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Paynesville

Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski

Project County: Stearns

Project Size: 90 Acres

Projected Seeding Date: Aug-Sept 2017

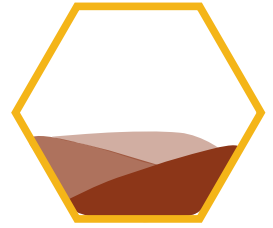
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Pine Island  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Goodhue  
Project Size: 42 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: Nov 2017

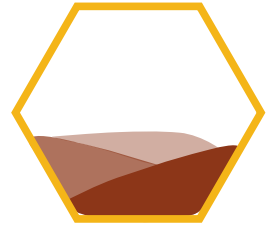
*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*



# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora Waseca  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Waseca  
Project Size: 81 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: Nov 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

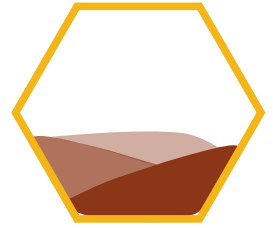
*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*





# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☐ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.)

Total points **2**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas.

Total points

Grand Total **87**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora West Faribault  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Rice  
Project Size: 43 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: June 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

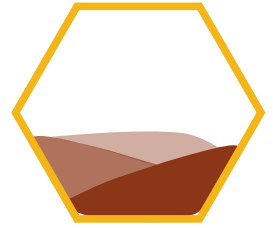
*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*





# Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form for Project Planning

For solar companies and local governments to meet pollinator/wildlife  
habitat certification



## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- ☐ 31-45 % +5 points  
☐ 46-60 % +10 points  
☒ 61+ % +15 points

Total points **15**

*Note: Projects may have "array" mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.*

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- ☐ 26-50% +5 points  
☐ 51-75% +10 points  
☒ 76-100% +15 points

Total points **15**

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- ☐ 10-19 species +5 points  
☐ 20-25 species +10 points  
☒ 26 or more species +15 points

Total points **15**

*Exclude invasives from species totals.*

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Spring (April-May) +5 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **15**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) about bloom seasons*

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points  
☒ Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +2 points  
☐ Created nesting feature/s +2 points  
(bee blocks, etc.) Total points **6**

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Detailed establishment and management plan developed +15 points  
(see [example plan](#)) with funding/  
contract to implement  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more +5 points  
feet stating pollinator friendly  
solar habitat (at least 1 every 20ac.)

Total points **20**

## 7. SEED MIXES

- ☒ Mixes are composed of at least +5 points  
40 seeds per square foot  
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 +5 points  
miles of site ([pg.7-8 of Guidance](#))  
☐ At least 2% milkweed cover to +10 points  
be established from seed/plants

Total points **5**

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide -40 points  
use or pre-planting seed/plant  
treatment (excluding buildings/  
electrical boxes, etc.)  
☐ Communication/registration +10 points  
with local chemical applicators  
about need to prevent drift from  
adjacent areas. Total points **0**

Grand Total **91**

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name: Aurora West Waconia  
Vegetation Consultant: Jake Janski  
Project County: Carver  
Project Size: 67 Acres  
Projected Seeding Date: July 2017

*Send completed forms, project plans, seed mixes and  
any communication with pesticide applicators to  
[dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us)*

*Note: Measurements of percent "cover" should be based on "absolute cover" defined as the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches for accurate measurements. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to "forbs" which are flowering plants that are not woody, and are not graminoids (grasses, sedges, etc) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native species beneficial to pollinators.*

**2020**

**Establishment Planting  
Habitat Assessment Forms**



# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☐ 26-50% +15 points
- ☒ 51-75% +20 points
- ☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☐ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☒ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☒ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Albany Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
Project County: Stearns County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 119.8 acres  
Evaluation Date: August 1, 2020

See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.





## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☐ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☒ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☒ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☐ 10-19 species +15 points  
☒ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information about bloom season.*

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

**Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70**

**Project Name** Aurora Solar - Annadale Site  
**Vegetation Consultant:** Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
**Project County:** Wright County, Minnesota  
**Project Size:** 68 acres  
**Evaluation Date:** August 2, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.*



# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☒ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☐ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Atwater Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Kandiyohi County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 40.1 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 28, 2020

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.





## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☐ 26-50% +15 points
- ☐ 51-75% +20 points
- ☒ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☒ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☐ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☐ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☒ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☐ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☐ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Chisago Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
Project County: Chisago County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 62.5 acres  
Evaluation Date: August 3, 2020

See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.



## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☒ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Dodge Center Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Dodge County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 67.8 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 21, 2020

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.





## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☐ 26-50% +15 points  
☒ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☒ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☐ 10-19 species +15 points  
☒ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Eastwood Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Blue Earth County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 46.3 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 23, 2020

See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.



## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☒ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☐ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Hastings Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Washington County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 41.6 acres  
 Evaluation Date: August 4, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.*





# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☐ 26-50% +15 points
- ☒ 51-75% +20 points
- ☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☐ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☒ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☒ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Lake Emily Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC  
Project County: Sueur County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 46.8 acres  
Evaluation Date: July 23, 2020

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.



## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☐ 26-50% +15 points
- ☒ 51-75% +20 points
- ☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points 20

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☐ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☒ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points 25

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☒ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points 15

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points 10

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information about bloom season.*

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points 10

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points 20

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points 0

Grand Total 100

**Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+**  
**Meets Pollinator Standards 70**

**Project Name** Aurora Solar - Lake Pulaski Site  
**Vegetation Consultant:** Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
**Project County:** Wright County, Minnesota  
**Project Size:** 75.9 acres  
**Evaluation Date:** July 27, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.*





# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☐ 26-50% +15 points  
☒ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☒ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Lawrence Creek Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Chisago County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 74.4 acres  
 Evaluation Date: August 4, 2020

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.



## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☐ 26-50% +15 points  
☒ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☒ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information  
about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Montrose Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC Maureen O'Shea-Stone  
 Project County: Wright County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 29.9 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 27, 2022

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.





## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points **15**

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5-8% +10 points  
☐ 9-16% +15 points  
☒ 17-25% +20 points  
☐ 26-34% +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points **20**

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☒ 1-9 species +5 points  
☐ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points **5**

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points **10**

*See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information about bloom season.*

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points **7**

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points **20**

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points **0+**

Grand Total

**77**

**Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70**

Project Name Aurora Solar - Paynesville Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
Project County: Stearns County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 242.3 acres  
Evaluation Date: July 28, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.*



## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☒ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

*See BWSR Pollinator Toolbox for Information  
about bloom season.*

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

**Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70**

Project Name Aurora Solar - Pine Island Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Goodhue County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 60.9 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 20, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.*





# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points  
☒ 26-50% +15 points  
☐ 51-75% +20 points  
☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points  
☐ 9-16 % +15 points  
☐ 17-25 % +20 points  
☐ 26-34 % +25 points  
☒ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points  
☒ 10-19 species +15 points  
☐ 20-25 species +25 points  
☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points  
☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points  
☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for information about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points  
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points  
☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points  
☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points  
☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points  
☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points  
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - Waseca Site  
 Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
 Project County: Waseca County, Minnesota  
 Project Size: 87.9 acres  
 Evaluation Date: July 22, 2020

See notes related to the questions on the back side of this form.



# Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

## 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☒ 26-50% +15 points
- ☐ 51-75% +20 points
- ☐ 76+ +25 points

Total points

## 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☒ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☐ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

## 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☒ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.

## 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

## 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☒ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☒ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☐ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

## 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

## 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solara - West Faribault Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC (Maureen O'Shea-Stone)  
Project County: Rice County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 85.4 acres  
Evaluation Date: July 23, 2020

See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.





## Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment Form for Established Plantings (after year 3)

For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly Standards  
5-26-2020

### 1) % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)

- ☐ 5-25% +5 points
- ☐ 26-50% +15 points
- ☐ 51-75% +20 points
- ☒ 76+ +25 points

Total points

### 2) PERCENT OF SITE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)

- ☐ 5- 8 % +10 points
- ☐ 9-16 % +15 points
- ☐ 17-25 % +20 points
- ☒ 26-34 % +25 points
- ☐ 35+ +30 points

Total points

### 3) COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species with >1% cover)

- ☐ 1-9 species +5 points
- ☒ 10-19 species +15 points
- ☐ 20-25 species +25 points
- ☐ 26 or more species +30 points

Total points

*Exclude invasive/noxious weeds from species totals.*

### 4) SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Spring (April-May) +10 points
- ☒ Summer (June-August) +5 points
- ☒ Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

See BWSR [Pollinator Toolbox](#) for Information  
about bloom season.

### 5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
- ☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
- ☒ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points

Total points

### 6) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS ON-SITE (check/add all that apply)

- ☐ At least 1% milkweed cover +5 points
- ☒ Detailed management plan developed (see notes) with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- ☒ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for sign numbers) +5 points
- ☐ Constructed and maintained nesting habitat feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +5 points

Total points

### 7) INSECTICIDE RISK

- ☐ Planned on-site insecticide use. (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.) -25 points
- ☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

Grand Total

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name Aurora Solar - West Waconia Site  
Vegetation Consultant: Atwell, LLC  
Project County: Carver County, Minnesota  
Project Size: 74.8 acres  
Evaluation Date: July 30, 2020

*See notes related to the questions on  
the back side of this form.*