

Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee
City of Oregon
Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday June 8th, 2026, 9:00 am – 10:00 am

City Hall Conference Room
115 N. 3rd Street, Oregon, IL 61061

Public Access to Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 814 0013 2102

Passcode: 374044

One tap mobile

+13092053325

1. Public Comment
2. Approve March 9th, 2026, Minutes
3. Approve April 13th, 2026 Minutes
4. Old Business
 - a. Eco Oregon
 - b. 2nd Street Native Planting
5. New Business
 - a. Rock River Clean Up
6. Other Business
 - a. OCSWC Rain Barrels
7. Adjourn

Committee Members

Melanie Cozzi, Tim Benedict,
Joyce Lewis, Tom Pacey, Steve Rypkema, Vic Zaderej
Ex. Officio Member Darin DeHaan, City Manager

City of Oregon
Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

The Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee met Monday March 9th, 2026, at 9 am.

Present: Tim Benedict, Melanie Cozzi, Darin DeHaan, Cheryl Hilton, Joyce Lewis, Tom Pacey, and Vic Zaderej.

Meeting called to order at 9:00.

No public comment.

Steve Rypkema moved to approve the February 9th, 2026, minutes, Seconded by Tim Benedict.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Finalize Eco Oregon: The committee discussed how to assign value to each item throughout the Eco Oregon program. Each category was assigned a point value based on achievability. Points ranged between one and three. A total of eighty-one points could be earned for successfully implementing sustainable practices within the program. Levels of achievement, incentives, and growth awards were also discussed. Steve Rypkema suggested offering business owners the opportunity to meet with a member of the Sustainability committee to discuss the program. They would also like to review the logo for the program at the next meeting.

2nd Street Green Space vs. Prairie: Darin DeHaan said his perception was a pollinator habitat similar to the one created at the Ogle County Health Department on Pines Road. Tom Pacey said these types of spaces typically start as a prairie and turn into a pollinator habitat. He said species selection will be important when it comes to planting. Melanie Cozzi said the space will be more like a prairie garden. Darin DeHaan said there are other grants available such as the OSLAD grant. The committee discussed not rushing into the project, the need to educate residents, reach out to volunteers, and present a formal plan to the City Council.

Steve Rypkema moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m., Seconded by Tom Pacey.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

City of Oregon
Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

The Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee met Monday April 13th, 2026, at 9 am.

Present: Melanie Cozzi, Darin DeHaan, Cheryl Hilton, Tom Pacey, and Vic Zaderej.

Meeting called to order at 9:00.

No public comment.

Eco Oregon: Held discussion on different logo variations and decided on a percent-based approach to tier level thresholds. Ten percent for bronze, fifty percent for silver, and eighty percent for gold dependent on what is applicable for each individual business and their ability to achieve each tier. Melanie will reach out to Megan at the Dollhouse Salon for an interview and photos. Darin will begin building out the application on the website.

2nd Street Native Plants: The project will be pushed out to 2027. Darin will begin research for grants and creating a budget. Melanie stated she would work on a visual concept and getting quotes for plants. The committee will also need to create a list of plants varieties to be planted and begin reaching out to volunteers. Tom will be reaching out to Ken Kielsmeier and Austin Webb to let them know of the updated timeline.

Rock River Clean-Up: Melanie will begin discussions with Etnyre and White Pelican to secure volunteers. Event is scheduled for September 5th 2026. Tom suggested reaching out to the Lions Club and Rotary for volunteers. The committee will also reach out to the Oregon Park District and Butitta Brothers.

OCSWC Rain Barrels: The city is partnering with Ogle County Soil and Water for pickup of rain barrels. Pickup will be at the Oregon Street department located at 402 S. 1st Street from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Tom Pacey moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m., Seconded by Vic Zaderej.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Wildlife Habitat Planting – General Wildlife, Pollinator, and Monarch

Illinois Implementation Requirement – 420 Wildlife Habitat Planting

Landowner:	Farm #:	Tract #:
Field(s):	Acres:	
Soil Map Unit(s):	County:	
Designed By:	Approved By: Signature:	
Date:	Date:	

DEFINITION

Establishing wildlife habitat by planting herbaceous vegetation and shrubs.

PURPOSE

This practice is used to accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- Improve degraded wildlife habitat for the target wildlife species or guild.
- Establish wildlife habitat that resembles the historic, desired, and reference native plant community.

LOCATION AND PLANNING

Plantings can be located nearly anywhere, as long as the plant species selected for the site are suitable for the soil, light-intensity, and geographic area. When a specific species or group of wildlife is the target, use the appropriate habitat evaluation guide. For general wildlife and pollinator plantings use Tech Note 18, IL Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guides (WHEG). For monarch plantings use the IL Biology Tech Note 24, IL Monarch WHEG.

SEED MIXTURES

Criteria for general wildlife, pollinator, and monarch seed mixtures

- All seed mixtures will be developed using the Illinois NRCS Native Seed Calculator and based on a planting rate of PLS basis (seeds/ft²). **Attach Native Seed Calculator Seeding Plan to this document.**
- Pollinator seed mixtures shall contain a minimum of 3 species of native grasses and 9 species of native forbs. The forb species must be comprised of 3 forbs for each blooming period: early, middle, and late season.
- Forb species shall each have at least 0.3 PLS seeds/ft² or at least four ounces PLS per acre for large seeded species (criteria built into the seed calculator) in the seeding mix.

- Seed should be sourced from local ecotypes grown within a 300-mile radius of the planting site when available.
- Additional seeding criteria specific to monarchs is addressed below.
- For restoring native habitat use CPS 643

SEEDING RATES

Native grass and forb seed mix criteria for slopes greater than 5%

Seed rates shall provide a total minimum of 30 PLS seeds/ ft². At least 20 PLS seeds/ ft² shall be comprised of grasses and a minimum of 5 PLS seeds/ ft² shall be forb species.

Native grass and forb seed mix for slopes less than 5%

Seed mixtures consisting of native grasses and forbs/legumes shall provide at least 20 PLS seeds per ft². The grass component shall provide at least 10 PLS seeds/ft². A minimum of 5 PLS seeds/ft² shall be forb species.

Pollinator seed mix criteria for slopes greater than 5%

In addition to the criteria above, the grass component shall not exceed 10 PLS seeds/ft² native grasses or grass-like species (sedges or rushes). The forb component shall have a minimum of 30 PLS seeds/ft². The total amount of seed rate shall be a minimum of 40 PLS seeds/ft².

Pollinator seed mix criteria for slopes less than 5%

In addition to the criteria above, the grass component shall not exceed 5 PLS seeds/ft² of native grasses or grass-like species (sedges and or rushes). The forb component shall have a minimum of 15 PLS seeds/ft². The total seeding rate shall be a minimum of 20 PLS seeds/ft².

Monarch Seed Criteria

Begin by using the above pollinator mix criteria. In addition, monarch focused seed mixes must include the following:

- Be developed using the Illinois NRCS Native Seed Calculator.
- Filter the calculator's picklists to Monarch preferred species, check the 'Monarch Preferred Species' radio button at the top of the calculator tab. The list can also be obtained from the [NRCS Important Plants of the Monarch Butterfly– Midwest Region](#)
- Include at least one site-suited milkweed species (*Asclepias* spp.) from the monarch preferred species in the Illinois NRCS Native Seed Calculator.
- Milkweed PLS must make up at least 1.5% of the pure live seed (PLS) per square foot of the entire mix (including the grass, forb, and subshrub components of the mix).
- At least 60% of the PLS forb seeds per square foot in the mix shall be preferred monarch nectar forbs.

SEEDBED PREPARATION

Prepare fields for seeding by eradicating all existing vegetation that may compete with the species to be planted. Controlling weeds before seeding will greatly improve establishment and reduce maintenance needs. For old fields and pastures, several treatments for one or two growing seasons may be required, using a combination of herbicides, mowing, tillage, and/or prescribed burning, to eradicate aggressive, undesirable vegetation. To suppress weed competition, or when delayed

planting is necessary, a cover crop of oats (1 bu/acre) can be seeded on fields prone to erosion or weed invasion. Perform all seedbed preparation operations on the contour or across the general slope where possible.

SEEDING/PLANTING

Dormant seeding during late fall or early winter when soil and air temperatures will remain cold enough to prevent germination is the recommended establishment method. A broadcast seeding may be done after the recommended dormant seeding date. The seed will be worked into the ground by the actions of freezing and thawing overwinter. A drill may be used for planting but be careful not to plant too deep, no more than twice the seed diameter. Native seed will usually benefit by cold wet stratification as it overwinters.

Spring seeding may be done by using grain drills and cultipacker-type seeders if the seed delivery mechanism is designed to handle the type of seed being planted. No-till seeding may be done using a seed drill designed for no-till seedings. No-till grain drills are acceptable if the seed delivery mechanism is designed to handle the type of seed being used. Place seed at a depth not to exceed two times the seed diameter.

Table 1. Seeding dates for native grasses and forbs.

Time of Seeding	Plant Suitability Zone ¹	Warm Season Species ²
Spring	I	March 15 th - June 15 th
	II	March 1 st - June 5 th
	III	March 1 st - June 1 st
Late Summer	I	Not Recommended
	II	Not Recommended
	III	Not Recommended
Dormant ³	I	November 1 st - March 15 th
	II	November 15 th - March 1 st
	III	November 15 th - March 1 st

WEED CONTROL DURING ESTABLISHMENT

Maintenance may be needed to control excessive density of annual weeds, exotics, or woody species, especially during the establishment years. Control competing vegetation by mowing when competing weeds are taller than the planted vegetation. Mow at a height above the planted vegetation, typically greater than 8 inches (no more than 3 years after planting). The use of selective herbicides and/or spot spraying of perennial weeds, exotics, and woody species can also help to promote establishment of the planted species.

MAINTENANCE

After establishment (1-3 years), managing the entire habitat stand at once can severely impact wildlife as this will remove all available habitat. No matter the target species or guild, the following management activities should not occur on more than 1/3 of the established habitat in any given year.

Established habitat may be managed by one or a combination of the following methods, where allowable by individual program policy.

Prescribed Burning:

After the stand becomes established, wildlife plantings may be managed through periodic burning. Prescribed fire is the preferred management activity of herbaceous communities and burns can allow germination of seed-bearing annuals, increase plant species diversity, and help control aggressive grasses and woody vegetation.

Recommended Timing:

Prescribed burns should be conducted every three to five years. For wildlife considerations, divide the area into smaller management units and burn no more than 1/3 of the habitat each year. Refer to IL Conservation Practice 647 - Prescribed Fire Fact Sheet for specific guidance on timing burns to meet specific objectives. Only burn with an approved burn plan and refer to the Conservation Practice Standard 338 IR - Prescribed Burning.

Mechanical Disturbance (Mowing)

Mowing is not effective as a stand-alone practice and should be done only in combination with another management practice such as burning or spraying.

Use only rotary or flail mowers that evenly distribute grass clippings. Do not swath, as the windrows will smother the desirable plants. Clippings should be baled and removed to accommodate forb germination, if allowed by program rules. Mow no lower than 8 inches to minimize mortality and leave adequate residual cover. Avoid milkweeds when possible.

Additional recommendations for all mechanical methods:

- Reduce speed to 8 mph or less to allow wildlife time to escape.
- Use a flush bar when possible to move wildlife out of the path of machinery.
- Avoid disturbance at night when wildlife are less likely to flush.

Spraying

Avoid using broad spectrum herbicides and preference should be given to spot treatments when appropriate. Judiciously use approved herbicides as necessary to control noxious weeds and undesirable plants during the establishment period. A grass selective herbicide may be needed to deter encroachment of non-native cool-season grasses. Only spray using the IL Conservation Practice - Early Successional Habitat Development IR 647B.

Strip Disking

Strip disking is light disking, 2-4 inches, within established stands to control succession, primarily of grasses and woody species, and to encourage forb growth and increase stand diversity. Only strip disk using the IL Conservation Practice 647 - Early Successional Habitat Development IR 647A.

*Use this practice judiciously in established pollinator and monarch plantings. For example, if grass species have become too dominant in a stand, this practice can be used to create open space for forbs to thrive. If a stand already has a strong forb component, then perhaps other maintenance practices should be considered.

*Once the stand is established, supporting practices such as 647 Early Successional Habitat Management/Development and 338 Prescribed Burning, can be used to maintain the desired vegetative condition.

*All of the above maintenance activities must take place outside of the primary nesting season in IL, April 15 - August 1

*If the planting is specific to monarchs, use Interstate 72 to divide the state in half, the dates for no management are:

- May 1st – October 1st in the northern half of Illinois
- April 1st – October 15th in the southern half of Illinois

CERTIFICATION
I certify that this practice, as implemented, meets NRCS standards and specifications.
Planner Signature: _____
Date: _____

NRCS: Helping People Help the Land

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Phone: (888) 998-2546



5081 Howerton Way
Suite A
Bowie, MD 20715

STATEMENT OF USAGE

March 2026

To: **City of Oregon (IL)**
115 North 3rd Street
Oregon Illinois United States
61061
Attn: **Darin DeHaan**
ddehaan@cityoforegon.org
OPP-29605
Blink Owned
City of Oregon - Remittance
Memo: City of Oregon (IL)

No of Chargers:	Host Revenue	\$ 94.64
2	(-)Tax	\$ 0.00
Total Time:	(-) Cost of Electricity	\$ 17.23
20:26:35	(-) Transaction Fees	\$ 7.57
Total kWh:	(-) Network Fees	\$ 36.00
200.849	(-) Unpaid Network Fees	\$ 0.00
	(=) Net Revenue	\$ 33.84
	Revenue Share %	40%
	Revenue Share	\$ 13.54
	(+) Electric Reimbursement	\$ 17.23
	Total Payment	\$ 30.77

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at hostsupport@blinkcharging.com and make sure to reference your account number (OPP-29605) listed above, or forward the full message for traceability.

Or contact Blink Host Support at (888) 998-2546.

Serial Number	Location	# Sessions	Total Time	Total kWh	Charging Fee	Occupancy Fee	Host Start Fee	Session Host Revenue
L1-0207-ISO-2244-014017 Total	Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot	8	20:26:35	200.849	\$91.21	\$0.00	\$3.43	\$94.64
L1-0205-2240-00471 6 Total	Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot		00:00:00	0.000	-	-	-	
	MONTHLY TOTAL	TOTAL	20:26:35	200.849	\$91.21	\$0.00	\$3.43	\$94.64

The Blink Statement of Usage provides a summary of Host Revenue from charging sessions posted throughout a calendar month and the final payment amount being issued. Note that you may have multiple Accounts and/or multiple locations per Account depending on the configuration of your Account(s). The statement is reflective of all deductions such as Sales Tax, Network Fees (only where applicable), electrical costs (only where applicable), and additions such as Electrical Reimbursement (only where applicable, on 'Blink Owned' accounts). The totals reflected in the statement do not include other driver fees billed between Blink and our driver customers outside of Host Revenue. Any refunds issued to drivers will be reflected accordingly. Please notify Blink immediately of any discrepancies, questions, or concerns.

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