

# Partners and Pollinator Gardens on the Shawnee National Forest

## 2009 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2009 to obtain and plant native plant material from local genetic stock from southern Illinois. Seven partners are participating in a Challenge Cost-share Agreement to turn the newly constructed Hidden Springs Ranger District Administrative Site into native plant gardens including a woodland area (Figures 1 and 2). The administrative site will become an educational source for visitors and school groups.

The purpose of the agreement is to establish environmental education areas on approximately 5 acres at the new Hidden Springs Ranger Station Administrative Site and would establish native trees in the landscape design at four picnic/camping sites on the District. Native species will be identified by common name and species along with interpretive signs.



Figure 2. Peripheral woodland infested with climbing euonymus, English Ivy, amur honeysuckle, multiflora rose, Nepalese browntop, garlic mustard, and sawtooth oak.



Figure 1. Front side view of new Hidden Springs Ranger District office.

Year Awarded: initial award in 2009

Total Project Value of \$143,351.20 has been planned with partners. Forest Service funding with NFN3 dollars comes to \$14,000.00.

Project completion: 2014

Report number: 1

Expenditures: none to date

Partners: Partners include Shawnee Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc., Shawnee Audubon Society, Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club, Southern Illinois Audubon Society, Southern Illinois University Restoration Club, Vienna High School, and Anna-Jo Garden Club.

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