

## If managed appropriately, an alternative lawn is more environmentally friendly than a standard turf grass lawn.

Benefits include:

- Managed with low-input methods (no fertilizers, less watering, less mowing) that protect water quality and natural resources.
- Once established, maintenance is less intensive than traditional lawn. Mowing should be infrequent.
- If flowers are included in a turf alternative lawn, you'll provide a food source for pollinators such as bumblebees.
- May be utilized similar to a traditional lawn.



### The simplest way to grow an alternative lawn?

Stop applying fertilizer and herbicide, and let clover and other plants become established on their own.

## Required Grant Application Materials

In addition to filling out the online application form, you'll need to submit:

1. **Current photos** of your proposed site
2. **Site map** that shows project area (include size) in relation to applicant's property.
3. **Design plan** to show what is being planted and where. *This may be combined with the site map.*
4. **Detailed, itemized cost estimate** with separate line items for materials, labor, etc.
5. **Detailed plant/seed list** including scientific names of species and quantity.
6. **Establishment plan** that lists the steps that will be taken to prepare the site and establish the Turf Alternative Project.
7. **Maintenance plan** that describes the:
  - Mowing approach including timing and vegetation height.
  - What chemical and/or mechanical methods will be used to control invasive plants and undesired species.

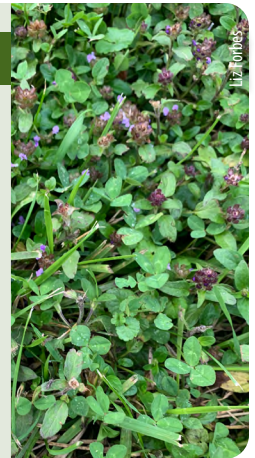
## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS



Project area must be at least 100 square feet in size.



The project must replace a traditional turf grass lawn or impervious surface.



*The goal of a Turf Alternative Project is to decrease inputs (watering, fertilizer, mowing) and to increase infiltration of stormwater runoff, while providing some habitat benefits.*

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Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*) is a native plant that works well in a bee lawn and feeds native bees.

## ONLINE RESOURCES

- Turf Alternatives, [bluethumb.org/turf-alternatives](https://www.bluethumb.org/turf-alternatives)
- Planting & maintaining a bee lawn, University of Minnesota Extension, [extension.umn.edu](https://www.extension.umn.edu)