

THE "HABITAT MAKEOVER" SIMPLE ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

-prepared by ecology + vision, llc (version 1)

Project Name:	HABITAT MAKEOVER GARDEN EXAMPLE		
Project Location:	100 ANY DRIVE, ANY CITY, ANY COUNTY, IL		
Date of Assessment:	10/17/17	Name of Consultant:	ANDY STAHR

1 – VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

1.1 – Record the number of native plant species identified in the yard across all vegetation layers:

14

1.2 – Percentage of native species:

Minimum 20% = 1 point

21-50% = 2 points

51-75% = 5 points

76-99% = 9 points

100% = 10 points

ASSUMES AT LEAST 10
OTHER NON-NATIVE
TRADITIONAL LANDSCAPE
SPECIES ARE PRESENT

5/10

1.3 – Invasive species present:

0 species = 5 points, 1 species = 4 points, 2 species = 3 points, 3 species = 2 points, 4 species = 1 point, 5+ species = 0 points

*if any invasive species is estimated to be dominant = 0 points

3/5

1.4 – Vegetation layers (see instructions):

1 point for each vegetation layer present (0 points for lawn only)

Add 1 bonus point if the ground layer includes native grass, sedge AND wildflower species

5/6

1.5 – Provide seasonal food choices:

1 point for each of the following provided: spring flowering species, summer flowering species, fall flowering species, berry/fruit producing species, seed producing species

5/5

1.6 – Host and pollinator bonus:

Add 2 points for the presence of each of these important native plant genus: Quercus, Asclepius*, Rudbeckia*, Solidago*, and Symphytotrichum (Aster)*

*a minimum of 2 different species OR 10 individuals in order to qualify for the credit

10/10

2 – LAND ASSESSMENT

2.1 – Habitat area:

0 points = Less than 100 square feet

1 point = 100 square feet to 2,500 square feet

3 points = 2,500 square feet to ¼ acre

6 points = ¼ acre to 1 acre

10 points = over 1 acre

1/10

2.2 – Habitat fragmentation:

2.5/5

- 0 points = property does display continuous habitat with neighboring properties AND habitat itself is fragmented significantly
- 2.5 points = property displays continuous habitat with neighboring properties OR habitat itself is not fragmented significantly
- 5 points = property displays continuous habitat with neighboring properties AND habitat itself is not fragmented significantly

2.3 – Sunlight diversity/availability:

4/4

- 2 points = habitat area contains areas with sun and shade
- 2 points = 50% of the habitat area receives at least 6 hours of sunlight

3 – HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FEATURES

3.1 – Water source

1/10

- 1 point = small water source, such as a bird bath
- 5 points = in-ground water feature, such as a rain garden or garden pond (min. 100 s.f.)
- 10 points = Large natural water feature, such as a wetland, pond or stream

3.2 – Cover, shelter and brooding structure

4/10

- 1 point each, up to 10 total points, for providing any of the following (or similar): large downed log, log/brush pile, dense shrub massing, coniferous plant, nesting structure*, boulder/stone outcropping, standing dead tree, etc.

**nesting structures must be cleaned annually and maintained free of house sparrows to qualify for the credit*

3.3 – Alternative food sources

3/5

- 1 point each, up to 5 total points for providing any of the following: Quercus species, bird seed feeder*, suet feeder*, hummingbird feeder*, and squirrel feeder*

**manmade feeders must be maintained consistently with food supply to qualify for the credit*

4 – MANAGEMENT ADAPTATIONS

4.1 – Eliminate the use of pesticides throughout the property:

10/10

4.2 – Eliminate the use of non-organic fertilizers and soil amendments:

5/5

4.3 – Retain at least 30% of the habitat planting through the following season:

5/5

5 – TOTAL SCORE

5.1 Number of native species recorded from section 1.1:

14

5.2 Score tally from remaining section 1.2 – 4.3:

63.5/100

5.3 TOTAL HABITAT VALUE (5.1 + 5.2)

77.5

5.4 Desired Habitat Value:

85

Recommendations to Improve Habitat Value:

1) ELIMINATE INVASIVE STP (+2), 2) ADD HUMMING BIRD FEEDER AND SQUIRREL FEEDER (+2), PLANT AT LEAST 4 ADDITIONAL NATIVE PLANT SPECIES @ HOUSE LANDSCAPE (+4)

Consultant Signature: