



## STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

### Semesterly Report

*Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

*Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at [sustainability-committee@illinois.edu](mailto:sustainability-committee@illinois.edu).*

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**Project Name:** Meadow at Orchard Downs Low Mow Zone

**Date of Report Submission:** 06/14/2021

**Project Purpose:**

The restoration of the Low Mow area at Orchard Downs Housing Facility will take place over the course of four years. The project will consist of surveying the current species, adding at least 25 native plant species, and increase habitat for wildlife and pollinators. The end goal of the project will be a prairie garden that had more function and biodiversity. Students and community members will learn the importance of restoration and the skills needed to restore ecosystems.

**Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

As of this date, we have not spent any of the funding given to us but plan to purchase herbicide over the summer.

**Project Progress to Date:**

As of this date, I have met with multiple staff and a professor on campus who has provided guidance and helped make a more detailed plan to move forward with this project. In terms of progress related to that plan, we have met twice as a club to remove invasive species from the plot to prepare it for herbicide application and native species planting.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

Students have been involved by attending the invasive species plant removals. They also participated in multiple virtual meetings we had throughout the semester that ranged from education about the plot to socials that encourage friendship. In terms of outreach, we have utilized various methods of communication to attract more students and inform them of our in-person and virtual events.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

We've attempted to market and promote our club through the use of social media posts. Such as Instagram, and updating our personal website. Furthermore, we plan to place Advertisements in the Union at the start of the upcoming fall semester to attract more students.

**Additional Comments:**

Due to Covid-19, we have been unable to make as much progress as we would have liked. But since we are nearing the end of the pandemic, we will be able to meet more frequently and move forward with the plan we created at the end of the spring semester. I have also been in contact with various individuals who have the connections and equipment to help us achieve our goals.