



# GreenBridges™

*The Sustainable Garden Initiative  
of The Herb Society of America*

## APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION

**DIRECTIONS:** *Every garden, no matter the size, is eligible for certification as a GreenBridges™ garden. Creating an environment for safe passage of plants and pollinators is key to a successful GreenBridges™ garden. This means eliminating pesticide use, encouraging wildlife by providing water and shelter, and choosing plants attractive to native pollinators. Thank you for taking the first step towards a sustainable, pollinator-friendly garden!*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### **YOUR GARDEN DESCRIPTION:** (check all that apply)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> level ground     | <input type="checkbox"/> gentle slopes    | <input type="checkbox"/> steep slopes      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> open and sunny   | <input type="checkbox"/> wooded and shady | <input type="checkbox"/> native grass lawn | <input type="checkbox"/> cover for wildlife    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> container garden | <input type="checkbox"/> patio garden     | <input type="checkbox"/> rain garden       | <input type="checkbox"/> rock garden           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mostly dry       | <input type="checkbox"/> average moisture | <input type="checkbox"/> mostly wet        | <input type="checkbox"/> other (explain below) |

**OTHER COMMENTS:** *Please use this section to describe any special aspects of your garden, or how it is beneficial or friendly to plants and animals. Proximity to undisturbed, natural areas, such as state, local, or federal lands, or other undeveloped areas, is crucial to the ability of plants and animals to freely travel and re-populate.*

Distance and type of natural areas that are close to your garden, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Total Garden Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate % of native plantings \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate % of lawn/grass \_\_\_\_\_

### **Native Herb Conservation Practices:**

*(Check all that apply – GreenBridges™ gardens should be compliant in at least 4 of these areas)*

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> invasive plant removal                       | <input type="checkbox"/> composting   | <input type="checkbox"/> peat free (no products containing peat)               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> use of rain barrels                          | <input type="checkbox"/> use of soaker hoses/hand watering                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> provide water and shelter for wildlife                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> minimal lawn grass                           | <input type="checkbox"/> use of local native herbs  | <input type="checkbox"/> use of reputable nurseries (no wild collected plants) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> provide nectar & host plants for pollinators | <input type="checkbox"/> avoidance/limited use chemical pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers |  |

## **Current Native Plants in Your Garden:**

*Please list plants that you know are pollinator-friendly, as well as local to your area. Please use Latin names, if you know them, rather than common names, when listing plants. Many “weeds” are considered beneficial to insects, and can be included. A mix of all natives, both large and small, is useful in developing a garden considered beneficial to plants and animals. Use a separate sheet, if needed, to list the plants in your garden. If you are uncertain about whether or not a plant is considered a native, please check the regional list of native plants on the website. It is not a totally inclusive list, but will give you a starting point.*

Canopy Trees (these are the large trees such as elm, oak, maple, pine)

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Understory trees (these are usually under 20' – dogwoods, redbuds, etc)

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Shrubs

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Woodland Herbs

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Meadow or open area herbs

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Vines

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Ground covers

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Ferns, Moss, Lichen, Bog plants

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Other

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Are you willing to allow visitors to your garden?

Herb Society members only       General public       Public garden       Not at this time

You may attach additional sheets with your application, including site maps, extra plant information, etc. All applicants are encouraged to send at least one photograph that we can retain in our files. Application processing will take 3-4 weeks and you will receive your certificate and GreenBridges™ sign by mail.

GreenBridges certification includes an outdoor 10” x 7” aluminum sign with an optional 18” yard stake.

All signs have two pre-drilled holes for mounting with screws or on the stake.

**Please include the 18” stake.**

**Application Fee:    \$35.00 HSA member                      \$40.00 non-member**

For more information about the application, or if you have program questions, contact Debbie Boutelier, Chair of GreenBridges™ at [boutelierd@gmail.com](mailto:boutelierd@gmail.com) or 334-365-7806.

For more information about membership or The Herb Society of America, visit <http://www.herbsociety.org>

*The Herb Society of America is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community.*