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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2017

PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTORS ARE NEEDED ON MONDAY, OCT. 16

Nature Conservancy, Bridgestone Bandag teaming up to sponsor collection effort

MUSCATINE Iowa – The Nature Conservancy in conjunction with the Muscatine Pollinator Project and the Bridgestone Bandag Learning Center is looking for seed collectors. Those wishing to participate are asked to meet at the Bridgestone Bandag Learning Center, 2000 Bandag Drive, Muscatine, for the collection that will take place from 4-5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16.

The hour of seed collecting in the prairie will benefit the Muscatine Pollinator Park (MPP) currently being developed on Houser Avenue near the Transfer Station and Recycling Center. The MPP is being developed through the combined efforts of the Muscatine Pollinator Project, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the City of Muscatine.

Paul Crosser, environmental services manager for Bridgestone Bandag, and Hannah Howard, community coordinator for The Nature Conservancy, will be hosting the seed collection event at the Bridgestone Bandag Learning Center. The two will give an introduction to the Muscatine Pollinator Project, an update on current and upcoming projects, and an explanation of the species being collected and how to collect the seeds.

The 30-acre MPP consists of a mix of upland, wetland, and woodland areas with predominately flat topography except for the steep slopes associated with the Muscatine Slough along the southern border. The development of the pollinator garden began with seeding of eight acres of prairie land last spring and with another eight acres to be seeded this fall. Trees and shrubs

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including serviceberry, dogwoods, plums, and viburnums will be added to a two-acre area on the southwest corner.

For more information on the MPP, read "[Pollinators are welcome here](#)" published on May 16, 2017.

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