



Adrian Dominican Sisters

LAND COMMITMENTS

from the Office of Sustainability



The Adrian Dominican Sisters believe that they are part of a larger community that comprises Earth community. As one of many beings, we give honor to all beings who share this land with us and acknowledge/affirm that each of us has the right to exist and live fully into the life given to each.

Living in balance, reciprocity and simplicity with Earth, the land, provides a means for the Congregation to fulfill its desire to engage in practices that not only heal or do no further harm, but contribute to Earth's capacity to regenerate from previous practices that have resulted in ecological degradation.

The practices on the following pages represent a means by which we live out these beliefs. Our growing capacity to be in dialogue with Earth will continue to form and shape these practices for the good of all.

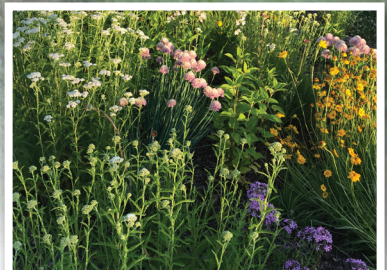
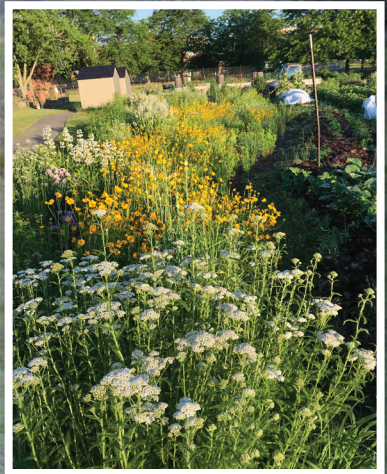
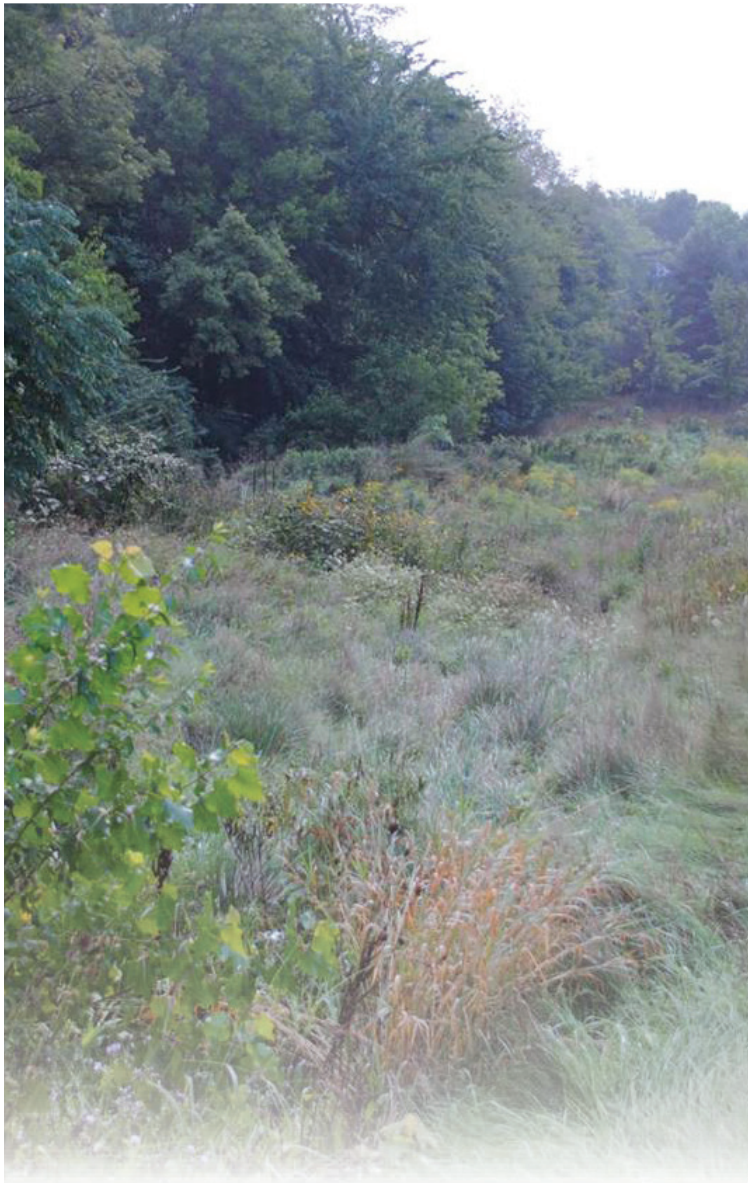
– Approved by the Adrian Dominican Sisters



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Building Soil Health

Soil Carbon Sequestration practices are used throughout the site. These practices include vermicomposting, windrows, and bin composting to convert food scraps and leaves into rich compost. Ceasing to use chemical fertilizers and herbicides as well as reduction in mowing also contribute to increasing soil health and the capacity of the soil to sequester carbon. Each year perennial planting of native growth increases.



Supporting Native Ecosystems and Biodiversity

Replacing mowed lawn areas with pollinator gardens and perennial landscapes serve to provide vibrant homes to a variety of Earth's creatures. Plans are being considered to restore the wetland and prairie areas.



Attending to Our Water Story

Observing the patterns of storm water events on campus and working with the land to increase the capacity to slow down, spread out and allow the water to sink in the ground results in a healthier watershed. Installing rain gardens and systems of berms and swales are conscious choices in this work. Utilizing rain barrels and catch basins reduces our dependence on city water.



Protecting Air Quality

Attention is directed to strategic upgrade of mechanical equipment that requires less energy inputs and reduces CO₂e emissions. This is partnered with waste management processes that seek to reduce the amount of materials sent to landfills.



Lowering Carbon Footprint of New and Existing Buildings

Reducing energy consumption on campus is a primary goal. This is monitored as practices are continually being addressed to further reduction. Working in partnership with our local energy company, the campus is supplied with 100% renewable energy. Feasibility of a Solar Array installation is being researched.

*“Recognizing the violence against
Earth community that places our
common home in dire jeopardy and
intensifies the suffering of people on
the margins, future generations and all
creation, we will sacrifice to mitigate
significantly our impact on climate
change and ecological degradation.”*



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