No Mow May 2024

What is it:

No Mow May is an initiative that encourages homeowners to let their lawns grow naturally without mowing them during the month of May. This practice aims to support biodiversity by providing habitat and food for pollinators like bees and butterflies. The residual impacts of participating in No Mow May can include a healthier lawn ecosystem, increased pollinator populations, decreased stormwater runoff, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions from lawn mowers. By allowing grass and wildflowers to flourish, individuals can contribute to a more sustainable environment and promote the well-being of local wildlife. During the month of May, La Crosse Municipal Code Sec. 30-4 will be suspended, allowing those who elect to participate to pause mowing during this time frame. Participants would be expected to return lawns to compliance by June 1, with a grace period extending to through June 7th.

Registration:

Registration will open Monday, March 25th, online, in person, or via phone call.

Participating Parks:

- Myrick Park
- All Abilities Trane Park
- Pettibone Park
- Leuth Park
- Additional Parks may be added.

Changes from 2023 to 2024:

- **Guidance Document:** We plan to provide a guidance document for participants to gain additional knowledge on sustainable lawn practices, lawn alternatives, how to return lawns to compliance, and other information to support our local ecosystems and pollinators.
- Kick-Off Event: Wednesday, April 24th, Myrick Park Main Shelter
 - Informational session regarding sustainable lawn practices.
 - Opportunity to register on site.
 - Native Seed Bomb Activity.
- Stickers/Decals: Instead of yard signage, we will provide a window sticker/decal that any registered participants can display in various locations (homes, cars, waterbottles, etc.) to spread knowledge of "No Mow May".



• **Signage:** This year we will forego the printing of additional yard signs. Anyone who has participated in the past is encouraged to use signage from prior years. Signage will still be displayed in parks. We will offer a "print your own" option, participants can download the design and print on paper to display in windows, or print their own yard sign if they'd like.

