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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Native Landscape Registration

The City of Kearney would like to announce the creation of a Native Landscape Registration Program for residents in Kearney. Native plants are a great habitat for butterflies, birds, bees, and other insects that rely on them and are critical to our natural systems. Additionally, native landscapes adapt to local growing conditions and often require fewer inputs (i.e. fertilizer or water). For interested residents, you can register, for free, for the Native Landscape Program by submitting a one-page application. Following the policies outlined for the program (found on the City's website), residents can select to have a native landscape in part, small or large, in their private yards. Residents with registered native landscapes will have a sign to display in their yard and are allowed to have plants and grasses in excess of the 12-inch rule outlined in City Code. This will be an annual program available for residents.

Thank you to Jonathan Nikkila, City Council Member, for helping spearhead this new program in our community. Jonathan is excited that the City created this program to offer options for our residents. He said this program helps to “recognize people who are doing really amazing things with their landscapes, that are beautifying our city, and bringing an emphasis to native plants”. We believe this offers an opportunity for residents to take an active role within their property to support a healthy ecosystem. More information regarding the importance of native landscapes, policies governing the program, and the application can be found on the City of Kearney website under the Neighborhood Groups page found on the Development Services Department. To register your property for Native Landscape please fill out the application form, found online, or contact Development Services at 308-233-3235.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.