Appendix D: Cost Analysis (Plant Costs)

The estimated cost of plants and seeds is approximately $5517.92. The costs for *E. maculatum*, *H. helianthoides*, *J. effusus*, *L. cardinalis*, *M. fistulosa*, and *P. virgatum* are based on the cost of 2” plugs from the Pinelands Nursery & Supply 2008 Wholesale Catalog. However, Pinelands Nursery & Supply does not offer *P. reptans*, *P. canaliculatum*, and *V. virginicum*. According to the Prairie Moon Nursery website, there are approximately 18000 *P. reptans* seeds per ounce, 800 *P. canaliculatum* seeds per ounce, and 800000 *V. virginicum* seeds per ounce. Thus, with a need for approximately 2000 *P. reptans* and *V. virginicum* plants each, we should purchase 1/2 oz *P. reptans* and 1/8 oz *V. virginicum*, and with a need for approximately 500 *P. canaliculatum* plants, we should purchase 2 oz. The excess of seeds can be considered a factor of safety, since information on the germination rates of these seeds is not available on the website and seedlings may die.

One of the innovative solutions we have chosen to implement to reduce maintenance is to naturalize the detention basin. This involves planting plants that are native to the area and can withstand the rainfall. Pinelands Nursery & Supply 2008 Wholesale Catalog offers custom seed mixes for stormwater management basins, and one of those mixes is a basin slope (upland) mix. The catalog recommends a coverage of 15 lbs/acre, and because the area is approximately 3.67 acres, this requires a total of approximately 55 lbs, or 11 bags of seed mix. Thus, the total cost at $127.75 per bag is $1497.73.