Plot Sampling Data Form – <u>EARLY Succession</u>

Abiotic Data

1. Record the temperature measured with the thermometer: _____ °F

2. Record the sunlight measured with the light meter: _____ lux

3. Observe the soil sample closely. Describe the color.
   Does it look saturated, dry? Is the texture crumbly, soft, etc? _____

Biotic Data

Herbaceous Plant species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of herbaceous plant species: _____

Small Tree species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of small tree species: _____

Large Tree species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of large tree species: _____

Forest Floor	% Density
% covered by herbaceous plants	
% covered by small trees	
% covered by large trees	
% covered by leaf litter	
TOTAL (should add to 100%)	

Plot Sampling Data Form – LATE Succession

Abiotic Data

1. Record the temperature measured with the thermometer: _____ °F

2. Record the sunlight measured with the light meter: _____ lux

3. Observe the soil sample closely. Describe the color.
   Does it look saturated, dry? Is the texture crumbly, soft, etc? _____

Biotic Data

Herbaceous Plant species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of herbaceous plant species: _____

Small Tree species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of small tree species: _____

Large Tree species or description	#	Native or Exotic

Total # of large tree species: _____

Forest Floor	% Density
% covered by herbaceous plants	
% covered by small trees	
% covered by large trees	
% covered by leaf litter	
TOTAL (should add to 100%)	

Ecosystem Succession Lab
Warner Park Nature Center
Student Question Sheet

After watching the video and completing the plot sampling data form, answer these questions. Base your answers on data we've collected, observations you have made, and past knowledge/experiences.

1. What are some conclusions you can make about how abiotic and biotic factors influence succession? What are some correlations that you observe?

2. What would happen if a large tree fell in a late successional area of the forest?

3. What other natural or human disturbances might occur in this forest?

4. How does succession influence species diversity in this forest ecosystem?

5. How resilient is this forest? Remember, resiliency measures the ability of an ecosystem to restore itself after a disturbance through the process of succession. Be prepared to give evidence to support your answer in class.