

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**NATIVE PLANTS WEEK**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, native plants are an important part of North Carolina's natural heritage, history and identity; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's native plants are indigenous to our region, and have adapted and evolved over many years to flourish in the unique geography, hydrology, and microclimates of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 3,900 native plant species make North Carolina one of the most diverse states for flora in the Southeast; 26 of these species are extremely rare and considered federally threatened or endangered; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants provide high-quality food and shelter for North Carolina's native wildlife, including butterflies, bees, and other pollinators, and both game and nongame species; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants support more than 350 species of resident and migratory birds in North Carolina, many of which are species of concern and increasingly threatened by climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants and their derivatives provide food, medicine, and other essentials; throughout our history, North Carolina has benefitted from the economic impact of native plant products, ranging from the blueberry industry to American ginseng exports; and

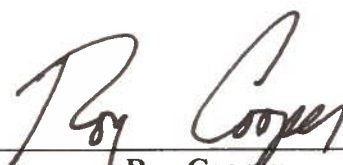
**WHEREAS**, gardens and landscapes composed of North Carolina's native plants require less water and little or no fertilizers, soil amendments, or pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina office of the National Audubon Society as well as other organizations and businesses, including nurseries and retail-garden centers, work to expand the market for our native plants; and

**WHEREAS**, by cultivating North Carolina's native plants, we honor our heritage, sustain the beauty and benefits of our environmental resources, and preserve a natural link to wildland areas both past and present;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 28 – November 3, 2018, as "NATIVE PLANTS WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-third day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.