



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT MONTH

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, native plants are indigenous species that have evolved alongside native wildlife and occur naturally in a particular geographic region, ecosystem, and habitat; and

WHEREAS, native plants are essential for healthy, diverse, and sustainable ecosystems and are critical for cleaning the air, filtering water, and stabilizing soils; and

WHEREAS, native plants are well-adapted to North Carolina's soils, temperatures, precipitation, and environmental conditions, making them the best option for conserving and protecting our environment and adapting to its changes; and

WHEREAS, native plants provide food, including nectar, pollen, seeds, and foliage, for native birds, caterpillars, butterflies, bees, and other wildlife in ways that non-native plants cannot; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to more than 3,900 native plant species, which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, some of North Carolina's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and include: Venus flytrap, smooth coneflower, Roan Mountain bluet, golden sedge, Carolina Hemlock, and Virginia Spirea; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages public awareness about the benefits of North Carolina's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and the health and sustainability of North Carolina's fragile ecosystems;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2023, as "**NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT MONTH**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



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-ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.