

The State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

A Proclamation

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three

NATIVE PLANT MONTH
APRIL 2023

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 air, filtering water, and stabilizing soils; and

WHEREAS, native plants are well-adapted to New Hampshire'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, New Hampshire is home to more than 1,500 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, some of New Hampshire's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include: mountain avens *Geum peckii*, the pale painted cup *Castilleja septentrionalis*, jesup's milk-vetch *Astragalus robbinsii* Gray var. *jesupii*, small whorled pogonia *Isotria medeoloides*, northeast bulrush *Scirpus ancistrochaetus*, and the sundial lupine - *Lupinus perrinis*; and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of New Hampshire's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of New Hampshire's fragile ecosystems;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **APRIL 2023** as **NATIVE PLANT MONTH** in the State of New Hampshire and call this to the attention of all citizens.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 30th day of March, 2023.

Christopher T. Sununu

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor