

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, native plant species are an important part of Washington's heritage, providing important aesthetic, economic and ecological contributions that make Washington a special place to live; and

WHEREAS, Washington enjoys amazing biodiversity with over 3,000 native plant species, from rainforest plants on the Olympic Peninsula to the desert species in Eastern Washington; and

WHEREAS, preserving native plant eco-systems is critical for protecting wildlife, birds, fish, and water quality in our state; and

WHEREAS, native plant ecosystems protect our watersheds by recharging natural aquifers, modulating stream flows, filtering water and reducing erosion and flooding; and

WHEREAS, over 350 of our native plant species are listed as rare by the Washington Natural Heritage Program; and

WHEREAS, invasive species present a great threat to sustaining our native plant ecosystems and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, climate significantly impacts Washington's native plants and their habitats, requiring action to protect them from climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as

Native Plant Appreciation Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in appreciating, enjoying and celebrating our floral diversity by learning more about our native plants and their habitats.



Signed this 1st day of February, 2023

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee