

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

Executive Order

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

- 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 Indiana'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,** Indiana is home to more than 2,000 native plant species which include trees, shrubs, vines, sedges, grasses and flowers; and
- WHEREAS,** some of Indiana's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include Short's Bladderpod, Short's Goldenrod, Mead's Milkweed, Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid, Virginia Sneezeweed and Pitcher's Thistle; and
- WHEREAS,** it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Indiana's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Indiana's ecosystems;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as

INDIANA NATIVE PLANT MONTH

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

*In Testimony Whereof, I hereto
set my hand and cause to be affixed the
Great Seal of State. Done at the
City of Indianapolis, this 6th
day of March the year of our
Lord 2023 and of the Independence
of the United States 247.*



BY THE GOVERNOR:

Eric J. Holcomb