  
**State of Iowa**  
**Executive Department**

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

**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 air, filtering water, and stabilizing soils; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants are well-adapted to Iowa'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**, Iowa is home to thousands of native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

**WHEREAS**, some of Iowa's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include: Prairie Bush Clover, Mead's Milkweed, Northern Monkshood, and Fringed Orchid; and

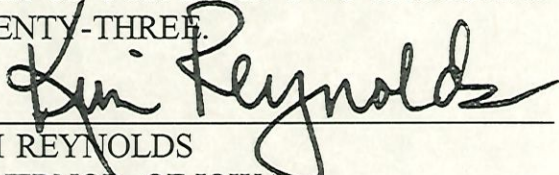
**WHEREAS**, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Iowa's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Iowa's fragile ecosystems.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 2023, as:

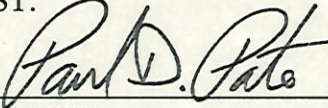
**Iowa Native Plant Month**



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE  
HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND  
CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF  
IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES  
THIS TWENTIETH DAY OF MARCH IN THE  
YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND  
TWENTY-THREE.

  
KIM REYNOLDS  
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

  
PAUL PATE  
SECRETARY OF STATE