

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### MARYLAND 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 Maryland'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, Maryland is home to more than 1,250 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and
- WHEREAS, The Maryland Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1975 governs the legal listing of threatened and endangered species, and includes 31 threatened and endangered plants of Maryland; and
- WHEREAS, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Maryland's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Maryland's fragile ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 2023 as MARYLAND NATIVE PLANT MONTH in Maryland and call upon the people of our state to join in supporting this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of April  
Two Thousand And twenty-three

*Wes Moore*  
Governor

*Anna Miller*

Lt. Governor

*Susan C. Lee*

Secretary of State