

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

APRIL 2023
as
NATIVE PLANT MONTH

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 Michigan'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,

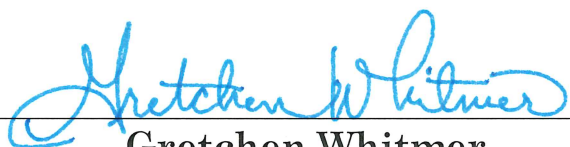
WHEREAS, Michigan is home to more than 1,800 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and,

WHEREAS, some of Michigan's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include: Michigan Monkey-Flower, Dwarf Lake Iris, Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid and Pitcher's Thistle; and,

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as Native Plant Month in Michigan.





Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

