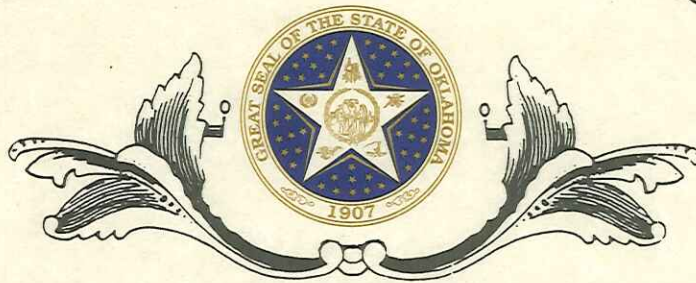


# STATE OF OKLAHOMA



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## 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 Oklahoma'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 grasses, and wildflowers; and

**Whereas**, Oklahoma is home to more than 2600 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

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

**Now Therefore**, I, Governor J. Kevin Stitt, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as

**"Oklahoma Native Plant Month"**

in the State of Oklahoma.

and recognize the importance of native plants to Oklahoma's rich and biological heritage, and as a source of food for pollinators and native wildlife, and encourage all Oklahoma citizens to observe the month of April as both National Native Plant Month and Oklahoma Native Plant Month by planting native trees and flowers in their yards, removing non-native invasive plants from their communities, and educating themselves about the many benefits of native plants.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this eighth day of March, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty three and of the State of Oklahoma in the one-hundred and fifteenth year.*

*Paula Blugina*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Kevin Stitt*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: