



Spencer J. Cox

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, native plants are indigenous species that have evolved alongside native wildlife and occur naturally in a particular geographic region, ecosystem, and habitat;

Whereas, native plants are essential for healthy, diverse, and sustainable ecosystems and are critical for cleaning the air, filtering water, and stabilizing soils;

Whereas, native plants are well-adapted to Utah's soils, temperatures, precipitation, and environmental conditions, making them the best option for conserving and protecting our environment, and adapting to its changes;

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;

Whereas, Utah is home to more than 2,700 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers;

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

Whereas, we recognize the importance of native plants to Utah's rich biological heritage, and as a source of food for pollinators and native wildlife; and,

Whereas, we encourage all Utah citizens to observe the month of April as both National Native Plant Month and Utah 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;

Now, Therefore, I, Spencer J. Cox, governor of the state of Utah, do hereby declare April 2023 as

Utah Native Plant Month

Spencer J. Cox
Governor