

Proclamation



NATIVE PLANT MONTH

APRIL 2023

WHEREAS, in 2021, the United States Senate designated April as National Native Plant Month and, a year later, the Garden Club of America launched a multidisciplinary collaboration to promote native plants nationwide; and

WHEREAS, indigenous native plants have evolved alongside native wildlife, occur naturally in specific geographic regions, ecosystems, and habitats, and are critical for cleaning air, filtering water, and stabilizing soils; 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, the District of Columbia's rich biological heritage makes it home to more than 2,100 native plant species, which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, it is important to raise public awareness about the benefits of the District's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of our city's ecosystems:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim April 2023, as "NATIVE PLANT MONTH" in Washington, DC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Muriel Bowser". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

