State of Missouri

Governor’s 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 Missouri’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, Missouri is home to more than 2,000 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 Missouri’s native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Missouri’s fragile ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 2023, to be

NATIVE PLANT MONTH

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 27th day of February, 2023.

Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Jay Ashcroft
SECRETARY OF STATE