

The New York State Assembly Resolution designating April 2024 ***New York Native Plant Month*** was signed on March 5<sup>th</sup>. This provides all New York clubs and organizations an exciting opportunity to celebrate and promote native plants utilizing your own unique personalized style and approach. The intent of this Tool Kit is to support your planning efforts and spur the development of your own creative ideas.

**TOGETHER, LET'S SPREAD THE WORD AND MAKE AN IMPACT!**

**THE GOAL:** To continue to raise awareness and highlight the importance of native plants within our organizations, within our communities, and within our local ecosystems.

## IDEAS FOR YOUR CLUB

- ✓ HOST A NATIVE PLANT SEMINAR
- ✓ HOLD A FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP USING NATIVE PLANTS AND SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS
- ✓ SHOWCASE NATIVE PLANT PHOTOGRAPHS
- ✓ ORGANIZE A NATURE WALK, HIKE, OR SCAVENGER HUNT
- ✓ PLAN A CLUB NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR
- ✓ VISIT A NATIVE PLANT NURSERY
- ✓ LAUNCH A NATIVE PLANT CHALLENGE AMONG YOUR CLUB MEMBERS AND PLANT A NEW NATIVE
- ✓ CREATE A BOOKLET OF REGIONAL NATIVE PLANTS AS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS
- ✓ HOLD A NATIVE PLANT BOOK EXCHANGE

## IDEAS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

- ✓ HOLD A NATIVE PLANT SALE AND SEED EXCHANGE
- ✓ DESIGN AND INSTALL PERENNIAL NATIVE PLANT PLANTERS IN YOUR TOWN
- ✓ CREATE A POLLINATOR AND WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY GARDEN
- ✓ CREATE AN EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY AT A LOCAL SCHOOL, LIBRARY, OR TOWN HALL
- ✓ REMOVE INVASIVES AND ADD NATIVE PLANTS TO A CIVIC GARDEN
- ✓ PLANT NATIVE TREES IN YOUR COMMUNITY
- ✓ SPEAK TO LOCAL NURSERIES TO PROMOTE STOCKING MORE VARIETIES OF NATIVE PLANTS
- ✓ ENGAGE WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS TO PROMOTE NATIVES IN MUNICIPAL PROJECTS

## RESOURCES: To help you execute your plans.

### 1. INSPIRATIONAL ECOLOGICAL GARDENING & NATIVE PLANT BOOKS:

- ✓ *The Northeast Native Plant Primer: 235 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*, by Uli Lorimer of the Native Plant Trust
- ✓ *Native Plants of the Northeast: A guide for Gardening and Conservation*, by Donald Leopold
- ✓ *Native Alternatives to Invasives: Brooklyn Botanic Gardens Guide for a Greener Planet*
- ✓ *Saving Nature One Yard at a Time*, by David Deardorff and Kathryn Wadsworth
- ✓ *A Way to Garden*, by Margaret Roach
- ✓ *100 Plants to Feed the Bees*, The Xerces Society, Story Publishing
- ✓ *The Pollinator Victory Garden*, by Kim Eierman
- ✓ *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife With Native Plants*, by Douglas Tallamy
- ✓ *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*, by Douglas Tallamy
- ✓ *Nature's Best Hope – Young Readers Edition*, by Douglas Tallamy
- ✓ *Designing Gardens With Flora of the American East*, by Carolyn Summers & Kate Brittenham

## 2. LINKS TO SITES ON NATIVE PLANT SELECTION & SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING:

- ✓ The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) listing of native flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees:  
[https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands\\_forests\\_pdf/factnatives.pdf](https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/factnatives.pdf)
- ✓ National Wildlife Federation Native Plant Finder (*search by zip code*):  
<https://www.nwf.org>
- ✓ National Audubon Society Native Plant Database (*search by zip code*):  
<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>
- ✓ USDA Pollinator-Friendly Plants of the Northeast:  
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/plantmaterials/nypmctn11164.pdf>
- ✓ Mt. Cuba Center Gardening Resources: <https://mtcubacenter.org/gardening-resources/>
- ✓ Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Plant Finder:  
<https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
- ✓ PRFCT Earth PRJCT, nature-based gardening resources:  
<https://perfectearthproject.org>
- ✓ Wild Ones, promoting native landscapes: <https://wildones.org/>

### 3. DOCUMENTS & MATERIALS FOR EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS:

- ✓ USDA Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden (Northeast):  
[https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingPollinatorsEasternUS\\_V1.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingPollinatorsEasternUS_V1.pdf)
- ✓ New York State Park's Native Plant Garden Fact Sheet:  
<https://parks.ny.gov/documents/parks/TaughannockFallsNativeLandscapingBrochure.pdf>
- ✓ Pollinator Pathway Succession of Bloom Chart: [https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/\\_files/ugd/228057\\_ae46853e37264dc89312d98325500758.pdf](https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/_files/ugd/228057_ae46853e37264dc89312d98325500758.pdf)
- ✓ Healthy Yards, Sustainable Gardening Practices:  
<https://www.healthyyards.org/activities/links-and-sources/>

#### 4. A SELECTION OF SPECIALTY NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES:

***Support our New York native plant nurseries:*** Help them publicize Native Plant Month with their clientele and help them reap economic benefits while they benefit our local environment and ecosystems!

- ✓ Amanda's Native Garden, Dansville NY <https://www.amandasnativeplants.com/>
- ✓ Catskill Native Nursery, Kerhonkson, NY <https://www.catskillnativnursery.com>
- ✓ Dropseed Native Landscapes, Malverne NY  
<https://www.dropseednativelandscapesli.com/>
- ✓ Grow Wild Nursery, Brooktondale NY <https://www.growwildnatives.com/>
- ✓ Long Island Natives, Eastport NY <https://www.longislandnatives.com/>
- ✓ Native Landscapes, Pawling NY <https://nativelandscaping.net>
- ✓ Native Plant Center at WCC (Westchester Community College), Valhalla NY  
[Wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu](mailto:Wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu)
- ✓ The Plantsmen Nursery, Groton NY <https://www.plantsmen.com/>
- ✓ Wildthings Rescue Nursery, Valley Falls NY <http://www.dawnswildthings.com>

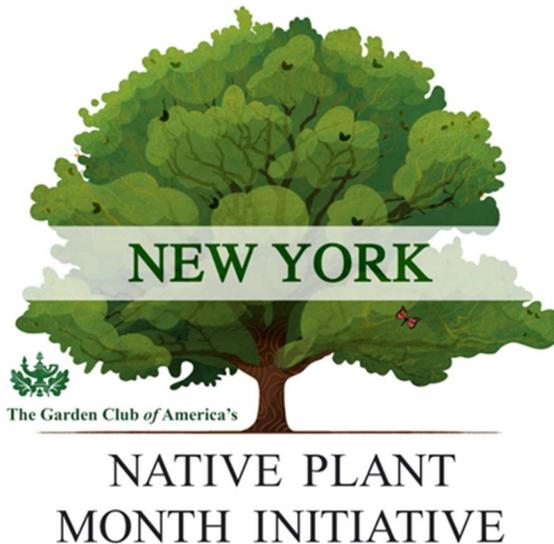
## 5. MAIL ORDER PURCHASING OF NATIVE PLANTS & FLATS:

*Excellent sources for mail order purchasing of plants, flats, and landscape plugs for garden or mass installations.*

- ✓ Prairie Nursery @ <https://www.prairienursery.com>
- ✓ Izel Native Plants @ <https://www.izelplants.com/>
- ✓ Northeast Pollinator Plants @ <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/>
- ✓ Toadshade Wildflower Farm @ <https://www.toadshade.com/>
- ✓ Pinelands Direct Native Plants @ <https://www.pinelandsdirect.com/>

### **NOTE ON URL LINKS:**

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT IF THE LINK DOES NOT WORK READILY FROM OUR DOCUMENT, DISREGARD ERROR MESSAGE SUCH AS 'FILE NOT UPDATED' AND SIMPLY COPY AND PASTE THE LINK ADDRESS DIRECTLY INTO YOUR BROWSER AND IT WILL OPEN THE LIVE DOCUMENT.



*“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.” Aldo Leopold*

*“Knowledge generates interest and interest generates compassion.” Douglas Tallamy*

*"Knowing that you love the earth changes you, activates you to defend and protect and celebrate". Robin Wall Kimmerer*

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*Founded in 1913, the Garden Club of America is a nonpartisan, issue-oriented advocate for a beautiful, healthy planet. It is a nonprofit national organization recognized for its leadership in horticulture, conservation, creative arts, historic preservation, and environmental protection. Its mission is to bring its 200 member clubs together to cultivate a bond among people, plants, and the environment. The GCA member clubs consist of almost 18,000 club members who devote energy and expertise to projects in their communities and across the United States.*