

## WYOMING NATIVE PLANT MONTH

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 Wyoming's soils, climate, and environmental conditions, making them a critical component of 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, insects, and other wildlife in ways that non-native plants cannot; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming is home to more than 2,500 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK GORDON,** Governor of the State of Wyoming do hereby proclaim April 2023, as

## **Wyoming Native Plant Month**

and I encourage all Wyoming residents to participate in the recognition and celebration of the importance of native plants to Wyoming's rich biological heritage and as a source of food and habitat for native wildlife 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 Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.



The Honorable Mark Gordon 33<sup>rd</sup> Governor of the Great State of Wyoming