

PROCLAMATION

CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Know Ye All People By These Presents Greetings:

WHEREAS, Native plants are an important part of Little Rock's natural heritage, history, and identity; and

WHEREAS, Little Rock's native plants are indigenous to our region, and have adapted and evolved over many years to flourish in the unique geography, hydrology, and microclimates of our city; and

WHEREAS, More than 2,300 native plant species make for a diverse flora in Arkansas; eleven of these species are endemic to Arkansas and found nowhere else in the world; and five of these species have been federally designated as threatened or endangered; and

WHEREAS, Native plants provide high-quality food and shelter for native wildlife, including birds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators, and both game and nongame species as well as support more than 300 species or resident and migratory birds in Arkansas, many of which are of concern and increasingly threatened by climate change; and

WHEREAS, Native plants and their derivatives provide food, medicine, and other essentials; Arkansas has benefited from the economic impact of native plants, ranging from pecans to muscadines; and

WHEREAS, Gardens and landscapes composed of Arkansas's native plants conserve water, save energy, and reduce pollutants and pesticides in comparison to turf grass; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas office of the National Audubon Society as well as other organizations and businesses, including nurseries and retail-garden centers, work to expand the market for our native plants; and

WHEREAS, cultivating native plants honors heritage, sustains the beauty and benefits of environmental resources, and preserves a natural link to wildland areas both past and present.

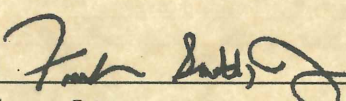
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 20 to 24, 2020, as

Native Plant Week

in the City of Little Rock and encourage Little Rock residents to join in celebrating native plants.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Little Rock to be affixed on this 20th day of April, in the year of our Lord, 2020.





Frank Scott, Jr.
Mayor