

PROCLAMATION

To all to whom these presents come – Greetings to City of Ogden:

WHEREAS: Native plants are an important part of Arkansas’s natural heritage and history, including Little River County and the City of Ogden;

WHEREAS: Arkansas’s native plants are indigenous to our southwest region, and have adapted and evolved over many years to flourish in the unique geography, hydrology, and microclimates of our state; and

WHEREAS: More than 2,300 native plant species make for a diverse state flora; 11 of these species are endemic to Arkansas and found nowhere else in the world; and 5 of these species are federally threatened or endangered; and

WHEREAS: Native plants provide high-quality food and shelter for Arkansas’s native wildlife, including birds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators, and both game and nongame species; and

WHEREAS: Native plants support more than 300 species of 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 muscadine; 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: By cultivating Arkansas’s native plants, we honor our heritage, sustain the beauty and benefits of our environmental resources, and preserve a natural link to wildland areas both past and present;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sandra Furlow, Mayor of the City of Ogden, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim the week of **April 20, 2020**, as **NATIVE PLANT WEEK IN OGDEN**,

and I encourage all of our citizens to celebrate native plants.

-----*Mrs..Sandra Furlow*_____, mayor-----

March 10, 2020

Sandra Furlow, Mayor

Date