

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By Her Excellency*  
*Kelly A. Ayotte, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Six

**NEW HAMPSHIRE NATIVE PLANT MONTH**  
**MAY 2026**

*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 New Hampshire'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*, New Hampshire is home to more than 1,500 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 New Hampshire's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of New Hampshire's fragile ecosystems;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KELLY AYOTTE, GOVERNOR* of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **MAY 2026** as **NEW HAMPSHIRE NATIVE PLANT MONTH** in the State of New Hampshire, and encourage all citizens to observe the month by removing non-native invasive plants in our yards, planting native trees, shrubs and flowers and educating our citizens about the many benefits of native plants.



*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2026.



Kelly A. Ayotte  
Governor