

# Proclamation

**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 Arizona'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**, Arizona is home to more than 4,000 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and  
**WHEREAS**, some of Arizona's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include: Cactus-Arizona Hedgehog, Acuna, Brady Pincushion, Peebles Navajo, Fickeisen plains, Nichol's Turk's head, Pima pineapple, Herbs, Shrubs and Trees-Kearney's Blue-star, Arizona Cliffrose, Gierisch mallow, Holmgren and Sentry Milk-vetch, Huachuca Water-umbel, and Canelo Hills Ladies'-tresses; and  
**WHEREAS**, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Arizona's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Arizona's fragile ecosystems.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as**

## **ARIZONA NATIVE PLANT MONTH**

and recognizes the importance of native plants to Arizona's rich biological heritage, and as a source of food for pollinators and native wildlife, and encourages Arizona's citizens to observe the month of April as both National Native Plant Month and Arizona Native Plant Month by removing non-native invasive plants in our yards and communities, planting native trees, shrubs and flowers and educating our citizens about the many benefits of native plants.

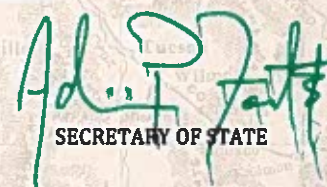
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this thirtieth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Seventh.

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

