

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



## 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 Nebraska'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,

*Nebraska is home to nearly 1,000 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and*

WHEREAS,

*Some of Nebraska's rarest plants are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and include: Blowout Penstemon, Western Prairie Fringed Orchid and Ute Ladies' Tresses; and*

WHEREAS,

*It is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Nebraska's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of Nebraska's fragile ecosystems.*

NOW, THEREFORE,

*I, Jim Pillen, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of April 2024 as*


### NEBRASKA'S NATIVE PLANT MONTH

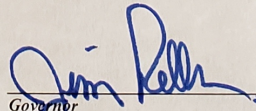
*in Nebraska, and recognizes the importance of native plants to Nebraska's rich biological heritage, and as a source of food for pollinators and native wildlife, and encourages Nebraska's citizens to observe the month of April as Nebraska Native Plant Month by removing non-native invasive plants in our 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 cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this eighteenth day of Marche, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-four.*



Attest:

  
Secretary of State

  
Governor