

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Florida's native plants provide critical habitat to all wildlife, including bees, butterflies, and other pollinators; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Port is home to parks that showcase and conserve native plants, such as the Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 3,000 native plant species inhabit Florida and at least 256 species are endemic to Florida and do not occur anywhere else in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer services has designated more than 550 native plants species, or almost 20%, as "Endangered", "Threatened", or "Commercially Exploited", thus underscoring the need for greater public recognition and protection; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants impart beauty to developed landscapes and require less resources because they are naturally adapted to Florida's climate and rainfall patterns, unlike most non-native plants; and

**WHEREAS**, October is an especially vibrant month to see native plants in bloom and provide opportunities for the public to appreciate the beauty and natural value of native plants including muhly grass, slender blazing star, and Chapman's goldenrod; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of Florida's native plants is an essential prerequisite to the conservation of our native wildlife for future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 2024, as

## "Florida Native Plant Month"

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of October 2024.

### CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

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Alice White, Mayor

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Phil Stokes, Vice-Mayor

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Debbie McDowell, Commissioner



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Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

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Pete Emrich, Commissioner

**ATTEST**

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Heather Faust, City Clerk