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Title: To recognize and celebrate April as Native Plant Month in Columbus, Ohio

Sponsors: Christopher Wyche, Nicholas Bankston, Lourdes Barroso De Padilla, Nancy Day-Achauer, Rob Dorans, Shayla Favor, Melissa Green, Emmanuel V. Remy, Shannon G. Hardin

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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/1/2024	1	CITY CLERK	Attest	
4/30/2024	1	MAYOR	Signed	
4/29/2024	1	COUNCIL PRESIDENT	Signed	
4/29/2024	1	Columbus City Council	Adopted	Pass

To recognize and celebrate April as Native Plant Month in Columbus, Ohio

WHEREAS, April is Native Plant Month, a time to increase public awareness of Ohio’s native plants and the many benefits they provide to the environment; and

WHEREAS, native plants are those that occur naturally in a region and have evolved and adopted to the local environment; and

WHEREAS, native plants are essential for health, diverse, and sustainable ecosystems and are critical for clean air, filtering water, and stabilizing soil; and

WHEREAS, native plants are well-adapted to Ohio’s soil, temperatures, precipitation, and environmental conditions, making them the best options for conserving and protecting the environment due to the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, native plants provide food, such as nectar, pollen, seeds, and foliage, for native birds, caterpillars, butterflies, bees, and other wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Ohio is home to almost 2,000 native plant species, which include perennials, vines, grasses, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus, through its Sustainable Columbus office, is committed to imparting equity and environmental justice through strong climate action and is guided by the Columbus Climate Action Plan which has a community-wide goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and 45% reduction in emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus Climate Action Plan has strategies and goals around reducing waste, transitioning to clean energy sources and zero emission vehicles, increasing energy efficiency, increasing access to green space, and

increasing the tree canopy in alignment with the City's Urban Forestry Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, Columbus City Council encourages residents and property owners to remove nonnative invasive plants and to choose native trees, shrubs, flowers, and other plants when making landscaping decisions; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS: That this Council does hereby recognize and celebrate April as Native Plant Month.