



Go Native U

“The instructors were excellent and the classes were meaty—lots of information.”

—Jeanne Waful, Go Native U graduate

Find out more.

Register for classes!

Call (914) 606-6830 and press 1 or visit
www.sunywcc.edu/ce



Go Native U

Make your garden healthier and more beautiful

Improve your landscape practices while earning professional credits



What is Go Native U?

Whether you are a home gardener or a landscape professional, Go Native U will teach you how to plan and grow a beautiful and sustainable landscape in which plants native to the Northeast work for you. All classes are taught by leading experts and are held at Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York. This unique education program is a joint project of the College's Continuing Education Division and The Native Plant Center.



Sustainable gardening with native plants

Why go native?

Native plants are those that occur naturally in a region. They are essential to a healthy, sustainable landscape. Native plants add beauty to a garden, but they also do much more.



Provide wildlife habitat

Native birds, butterflies, and other animals depend on native plants for valuable sources of food and shelter. This web of life sustains the balance of nature and allows for diversity of wildlife.

Protect the environment

Native plants keep water clean by filtering polluted runoff and preventing soil erosion. The use of natives reduces the introduction of invasive species that cause billions of dollars of economic and ecological damage every year.



Require less maintenance Native plants are suited to the weather conditions of the region. Once established, they can thrive without watering, fertilizers, or pesticides, saving time and money. The use of fewer chemicals means a safer environment for you, your family, and your pets.

Define sense of place When you select native plants, you help preserve the natural character of the region.

Who should sign up?

This program is for you if you ...

- are a landscape professional
- are a home gardener
- care about protecting the environment
- wish to help wildlife by increasing habitat
- want a healthy, beautiful landscape with reduced maintenance needs

Native plants pictured: Clockwise from upper left, white pine (*Pinus strobus*); great spangled fritillary on butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); hepatica (*Hepatica nobilis*). Front panel, painted trillium (*Trillium undulatum*).

What classes are offered?

Go Native U courses give you a solid understanding of the ecology of the Northeast and sustainable practices that will guide gardening, landscape design, grounds management, and plant selection.



You will learn from experienced instructors how to holistically design your landscape with native plants. You can register for individual classes or enroll in the certificate program, which comprises 18 hours of core courses, 17 hours of electives, and 15 hours of community service. Topics include:

- Native plants of the Northeast
- How to use native plants in garden design
- Best native trees and shrubs for various site conditions
- Beautiful native perennials for spring, summer, and fall
- Native plants for wildlife
- Alternatives to high-maintenance turf
- Deer-resistant choices
- Landscaping with edible native plants

Are there advanced classes for professionals?

Classes are designed to benefit industry professionals as well as home gardeners. Go Native U is an approved provider of LA-CES credits for landscape architects. In-depth classes teach timely subjects and practices such as:

- Ecological landscape design
- Stormwater management
- Meadow creation
- Native alternatives to invasive plants