VERSATILE plants that provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies, and bees, and add splendor to the landscape will take center stage at The Native Plant Center’s 18th annual Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

More people are getting to know about native plants. The sale continues to grow as gardeners recognize the wildlife value and beauty of these special plants. Pollinator magnets, monarch butterfly host plants, and hummingbird- and songbird-friendly species will be for sale such as mountain mint (Pycnanthemum spp.), milkweed (Asclepias spp.), trumpet honeysuckle (Lonicera sempervirens), and blueberry (Vaccinium spp.) In total, more than 100 species and varieties and more than 3,000 plants will be available for purchase.

Also offered at the sale will be enduring garden favorites such as phlox (Phlox spp.), coralbells (Heuchera spp.), and asters (Symphyotrichum spp.) as well as beautiful grasses, ferns, and shrubs. As always, look for a few surprises not easily found elsewhere.

Native plant specialists will be on hand to answer questions and assist gardeners in choosing great options for their sites. Admission is free. Members of The Native Plant Center can enter at 9:30 a.m.

For further information about the sale or to volunteer, please call or send an e-mail to The Native Plant Center.

SPECIAL DAY TRIP

Tour Flying Trillium in the Catskills

Spend a special day in the scenic Catskills on Friday, June 9, touring Carolyn Summers’ beautiful Flying Trillium Gardens and Preserve, with stops at a local restaurant and nursery.

Carolyn lovingly restored the 300-acre site over the past 20 years. The property is graced by sweeping vistas that surround cultivated native plant gardens, a dwarf conifer collection, meadows, forest, aquatic plant communities, and a kettle hole bog.

Students of Carolyn’s Go Native U classes and people who have read her book, Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East, will be especially interested in seeing the property.

Cost, $95 for members/$120 for non-members, includes: transportation, a guided tour, lunch at Family and Friends II Restaurant, and a visit to Catskill Native Nursery. Space is limited; reservations required by May 26. To register, contact The Native Plant Center.
Why We Love Native Plants

Our Annual Plant Sale is coming soon—a time of excitement, high energy, learning, and the culmination of nine months of planning. The catalog-order period for this year’s pre-sale was our busiest: We received double the number of orders compared to just four years ago!

If the overall growth trend of our past three plant sales continues, we should expect another surge in the number of native plants finding their way into the community.

What makes native plants special and sought after by more people each year? It’s because native plants:

- Provide valuable sources of food and shelter for wildlife
- Sustain biodiversity in an intricate web of life, co-existing with many organisms that rely on one another
- Protect water quality, filtering pollutants from stormwater runoff and stabilizing streambanks to reduce soil erosion
- Require less maintenance because they are adapted to the local weather conditions, soils, and predators
- Define local identity, giving the region its sense of place

And, they are beautiful. So come to the Native Plant Sale on April 29 to stock up on these beneficial plants. See you there.

GOLDEN YEAR McCue Gardens, one of the vendors that has serviced our plant sale for many years, is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Bruce McCue started the business at age 13 growing and selling pansies to a local garden center. Three years later he began selling native plants—trillium and lady’s slipper. Today 40 to 50 percent of the business is natives, including the delicate woodland plants that Bruce’s wife, Cindy, sells at our sale each year. We congratulate Bruce and Cindy and thank them for offering a wide selection of native species. —Carol Capobianco

Native Plant Center Awarded Two Grants

The Native Plant Center received two grants that will assist in its growth. The Zoos, Botanical Gardens, and Aquariums Program (ZBGA) awarded $175,000 to be used over five years toward operational expenses. The ZBGA provides funding to develop educational and other programs interpreting New York’s natural heritage.

The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust awarded $20,200 for plants for the Stone Cottage Garden restoration project. The Trust supports education and research in ornamental horticulture.

Free Workshop on Mapping Invasives

Take action in the battle against invasive species by learning how to report occurrences in your gardens, local landscapes, or any location in New York.

The Native Plant Center will host a free training session of iMapInvasives, New York’s invasive species database and mapping tool, on Wednesday, May 24, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Classroom Building Room C100 at Westchester Community College in Valhalla, NY (park in Lot #4).

Find out about the powerful GIS-based tool, how to identify and monitor species, and how to enter your observations on your computer or smartphone. For more advanced users, explore how to record assessments and other management efforts, and how to search and use the data for analyses.

Information collected by iMapInvasives is used by natural resource professionals to evaluate the distribution of invasive species, determine strategies, and coordinate early detection and rapid responses.

The New York Natural Heritage Program manages iMapInvasives. To register for the free training session, visit nyimapinvasives.org. For more information, e-mail imapinvasives@nynhp.org.

The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College

STEERING COMMITTEE
Co-Chairs Guy Pardee • Jacquelyn Bergonzi
Brooke Beebe, Jan Blaire, Bob DeTorto, Nancy Dexter, Kim Eierman, Melissa Fabel, Barbara Fischer, Patricia H. Keese, Ursula LaMorte, Catherine Ludden, Angel Morris, Heather Sandifer, Denise C.R. Santomero, Jessica A. Schuler, Carolyn Summers, Ken Uhle, Phyllis Warden, Elizabeth S. Wattles, Lucille Werlinich, Anthony Zaino

FOUNDERS
Marybeth Weston Lobdell • Marie Smith Schwartz • Betsy May Stern

STAFF
Carol Capobianco, Director
Jennifer Beaugrand, Horticulturist/Educator
Susan E. Palmer, Administrative and Events Coordinator

ABOUT
The Native Plant Center is a program of the Westchester Community College Foundation and the first affiliate of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

OUR MISSION
Educating people about the environmental necessity, economic value, and natural beauty of native plants in the Northeast

CONTACT
The Native Plant Center
Westchester Community College
75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10595
nativeplantcenter.org • 914-606-7870
wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu
2017 WINNERS

Two Deer-Resistant Woodland Species

The Native Plant Center annually selects a woody and perennial plant of the year to promote the use of native plants by home gardeners, nurseries, garden centers, landscapers, and municipalities. This year’s choices were selected by our members from among other native species. Both winners are disregarded by deer and grow in the shade, and will be available for purchase at the Plant Sale on April 29.

NATIVE WOODY PLANT OF THE YEAR

Lindera benzoin

COMMON NAME Spicebush
HARDINESS Zones 4–9
LIGHT Sun to part shade
SOIL Moist to average
SIZE 6–12’ tall
FOLIAGE Fragrant; yellow in fall
FLOWERS Aromatic; greenish-yellow
FRUIT Red drupes (on females)
BLOOM TIME Early spring
WILDLIFE VALUE Early nectar source; larval host to spicebush and eastern tiger swallowtail butterflies and promethea moth; the fruit eaten by birds; deer resistant

ABOUT This deciduous shrub is covered with fragrant yellow flowers before leaves emerge in early spring, providing color to awakening woodlands, an early nectar source, and a welcomed substitute for the non-native forsythia. Its aromatic leaves turn yellow in fall. Only female plants, which need a nearby male for pollination, bear the brilliant-red fruit eaten by birds.

NATIVE PERENNIAL OF THE YEAR

Geranium maculatum

COMMON NAME Wild geranium
HARDINESS Zones 3–8
LIGHT Part shade
SOIL Average to moist
SIZE 12–15” tall
FOLIAGE Distinctive palmate leaves
FLOWERS Five petals, lavender-pink
BLOOM TIME Spring
WILDLIFE VALUE Nectar source for bees and butterflies; larval host for several moth species; seed source for birds and mammals; deer resistant

ABOUT This woodland charmer has distinctive palmate leaves and masses of lavender-pink flowers in spring. It reblooms sporadically through summer and spreads slowly. A pollinator favorite in the shade garden, it is a larval host to several moth species. The seeds are eaten by birds and mammals.

Free Field Walk

The Native Plant Center will lead a field walk on Saturday, June 3, at 9 a.m. at the John Jay Homestead.

The walk is part of the Homestead’s Jay Walking series. Meet in the main parking lot at the Homestead, 400 Jay Street (Route 22), in Katonah, NY. Admission is free, but registration is recommended. For details, visit johnjayhomestead.org.

Go Native U Remaining Spring Classes: Register Today!

Plant Identification in the Field
Move outside the classroom to learn how to identify plants using a taxonomic key. Try your skills in the field by exploring the demonstration gardens of The Native Plant Center and the grounds of the college campus. Newcomb’s Wildflower Guide is required.
CE-GRDN 2023, Thurs., May 11, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., $55. Jessica Schuler.

Advanced Plant Identification in the Field
Spend the class outdoors practicing the use of field guides and plant ID keys. Pre-requisite: Plant Identification in the Field or equivalent coursework in botany. Meet in the Stone Cottage Garden on the college campus. Newcomb’s Wildflower Guide is required.

Photographing Nature
Learn camera basics, awareness of light, and composition along with a few creative tools to make better photographs of our natural world. Class will move outdoors. Bring a camera (no smartphones), an extra battery, and memory card or film. A circular polarizing filter and tripod are recommended.
CE-PHOTO 2018, Sat., May 13, 9 a.m.–12 p.m., $80. Joseph Squillante.

Most classes offer Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA-CES) credits. Classes meet in Classroom Building Room 100 unless otherwise noted.
To register, call 914-606-6830 and press 1.
A percentage of the tuition to Go Native U supports the work of The Native Plant Center.
Save These Dates

**JULY 30, 2017**
**Guided Tours at The Native Plant Center**
Visit our gardens in their summer glory during this Garden Conservancy Open Days event.

**SEPTEMBER 9–10, 2017**
**Native Plant Weekend at Rosedale Nurseries**
Find native trees, shrubs, perennials, and more with help from our native-knowledgeable personal shoppers at this sale that benefits The Native Plant Center.

---

**Support The Native Plant Center—Please Join Today!**

I’d like to become a Member of The Native Plant Center
(For details about membership benefits, please visit our website.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Membership Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$50 Friend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100 Household and Garden Clubs/Organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150 Supporting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250 Advocate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500 Sustaining</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000 Conservator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,000 Heritage Circle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional LBJ Wildflower Center Membership $30

*Membership to the LBJ Wildflower Center is included in Supporting level and above.*

I am enclosing an additional donation of $________

I’d like to purchase a gift membership in the amount of $________

**Total due** $________

Matching contributions are appreciated; contact your employer for details.

Member’s Name______________________________ E-mail______________________________

Address______________________________ Phone______________________________

Gift-giver Name (if applicable)______________________________ E-mail______________________________

Address______________________________ Phone______________________________

Make checks payable to: The Native Plant Center, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10595

MC, Visa, or Discover #______________________________ Exp. Date________________ CVV code________________

Total amount to charge account $________________ Name of Cardholder________________

Mail • Fax: 914-606-6143 • E-mail: wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu • OR Pay online: www.mysunywcc.org/donations