



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2026-28

### Native Plant Month

**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 specific 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**, Habitat loss and degradation, extreme weather events, and invasive species have contributed to the decline of native plants; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of local fragile ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, Native plants are essential components of our rich natural heritage and resilient ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles County is home to hundreds of native plant species, which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as **Native Plant Month** in Charles County, and encourage all residents to observe the month by removing non-native invasive plants in our yard and communities; planting native trees, shrubs, and flowers; and educating our residents about the many benefits of native plants.



#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President  
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III  
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.  
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, Ed.D.  
District 3

Attest:

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners