



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Native Plant Trust Announces Volunteer Opportunities for 2020

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(Framingham, MA) Native Plant Trust, the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants, announces volunteer opportunities for 2020. Volunteer initiatives span the region and include openings in field conservation, horticulture, and educational outreach. Training begins in Winter 2020.

Volunteering with Native Plant Trust offers adults a unique chance to learn about native plants from experts, to make a difference locally and regionally by supporting the environment, and to build community and friendships with others who share their interests. All volunteer opportunities come with complimentary training and enrichment. "Our volunteers are invaluable and play an essential role in our organization. They directly contribute to the unique mission and wide impact of Native Plant Trust's work, and they receive exemplary preparation, communication, and many other benefits," notes Courtney Allen, Director of Public Programs. "You can inventory rare flora and contribute to endangered plants' survival in the wild, or fight invasive plants in our northern plant sanctuaries, work with horticulture staff, be a guide at Garden in the Woods to welcome and educate visitors, host a program or share information about Native Plant Trust in your community, and so much more."

The training schedule for select volunteer opportunities is as follows:

**Plant Conservation Volunteers (PCV):** available throughout New England; training in March and April 2020

PCVs help conserve native flora by participating in plant monitoring, seed collection, and habitat management throughout New England. Interested applicants should have some botanical knowledge, a strong commitment to native plant conservation, good observation skills, and a sense of adventure.

**Community Outreach Volunteers:** available throughout New England; ongoing opportunities beginning February 2020

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Community Outreach Volunteers support Native Plant Trust by sharing information about the organization's work and resources at events in their local areas. Requirements: Community Outreach Volunteers should be active in their local communities or willing to be more engaged, attend, or serve on the planning committee for large/community events. They must enjoy interacting with the public.

**Garden Guides:** based in Framingham, MA; training in March and April 2020

Garden Guides offer visitors a personal introduction to Garden in the Woods, the renowned botanic garden of Native Plant Trust and sharing the beauty and importance of native plants. Requirements: Garden Guides should enjoy interacting with both people and plants, and enjoy learning and sharing that knowledge. They must be comfortable spending extensive time outside.

For more information about volunteer programs at Native Plant Trust or to apply, please contact [publicprograms@NativePlantTrust.org](mailto:publicprograms@NativePlantTrust.org) or visit [www.NativePlantTrust.org/about/volunteer](http://www.NativePlantTrust.org/about/volunteer).

## ABOUT NATIVE PLANT TRUST

Native Plant Trust is the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants. We save native plants in the wild, grow them for gardens and restorations, and educate others on their value and use. We are based at Garden in the Woods, a renowned native plant botanic garden that attracts visitors from all over the world. From this flagship property in Framingham, Massachusetts, 25 staff and many of our 1,500 trained volunteers work throughout New England each year to monitor and protect rare and endangered plants, collect and preserve seeds to ensure biological diversity, detect and control invasive species, conduct research, and offer a range of educational programs. Native Plant Trust also operates a nursery at Nasami Farm in western Massachusetts and manages six sanctuaries in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont that are open to the public. Native Plant Trust is among the first organizations worldwide to receive Advanced Conservation Practitioner accreditation by London-based Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), which included an endorsement by an International Advisory Council representing six continents. Please visit [www.NativePlantTrust.org](http://www.NativePlantTrust.org).

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