



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Native Plant Trust Opens Registration for 100 Programs for Fall/Winter 2020, Offers Expanded Virtual Programs

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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 100 programs, including more than 30 never offered before, for the fall/winter 2020 season. Most programs are offered virtually or can be adapted to an online format. Program registration is open effective immediately at www.NativePlantTrust.org.

Native Plant Trust's increased online learning offers greater program access for diverse audiences across New England and beyond, using creative digital approaches and tools as well as innovative collaborations. "This year's global challenges have encouraged us to explore new ways of teaching and new relevant topics, inspiring new plant science programs and virtual learning opportunities," shares Courtney Allen, Native Plant Trust's Director of Public Programs. "Wherever we are geographically, we can share our love and exploration of plants."

Program highlights include a plant diversity virtual symposium on October 29, which will address new conservation analysis and strategies, and a new virtual event on September 25 called THRIVE, exploring plant-based art to inspire hope during challenging times. The season also features a new behind-the-scenes online series at some of New England's top university herbaria, including Harvard University, Brown University, University of Connecticut, University of Maine, and University of Vermont. Additionally, Native Plant Trust has created virtual programs around the new research and the rare flora at the organization's seven sanctuaries.

Fall and winter programs also offer a variety of learning opportunities for gardening enthusiasts, including favorites such as workshops on shade gardens, gardening for pollinators, and plant adaptations. New workshop topics include principles of landscape design, site analysis, color and texture in the garden, plant nutrients, and climate change.

Native Plant Trust will continue to offer courses for the Native Plant Studies Certificate, the first certificate of its kind offering comprehensive courses specifically about New England's native

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plants, including three recently debuted self-paced online courses that fulfill core requirements for the certificate. Programs are eligible for continuing education credits for professionals in conservation, horticulture, landscape, and arboriculture.

For more information and to register for programs, visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.

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.

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