

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS



Native Plant Trust

Conserving and promoting
New England's native plants

SPRING & SUMMER 2026
PROGRAMS



SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMS

NEW THIS SEASON

Get one-on-one advice for your garden with our new Garden Consulting Program.



Take a plant walk with multimedia artist and Aquinnah Wampanoag culture bearer Elizabeth James Perry.

See live dance at Garden in the Woods.



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Plant seeds of hope.

Through your participation and membership dues you will:

- ✿ Support the wide-ranging work of Native Plant Trust, from rare plant monitoring to plant propagation;
- ✿ Become an environmental steward who helps us make the world stronger and more resilient;
- ✿ Foster future leaders in conservation and horticulture by supporting our annual internships;
- ✿ Help to inspire change in your community.

Every member makes a difference, and together, we can create change and benefit our environment for generations to come.

Membership at Native Plant Trust

Give back and get more as a Native Plant Trust member.

A Native Plant Trust membership offers exclusive access to resources, events, and opportunities for connection within the native plant community.

Join the movement.

Bring more native plants into your life and local ecosystems for less with nursery discounts at Garden in the Woods, Nasami Farm, and dozens of partner nurseries across the Northeast.

Share new experiences.

Enjoy free access to Garden in the Woods to gather with friends and family, explore trails, or join seasonal events in the Garden. Members at some levels can also enjoy free or discounted access to nearly 400 public gardens, and reciprocal membership benefits at nearly 1,500 museums, galleries, and botanical gardens with the North American Reciprocal Museum benefit.

Find your people.

Connect with thousands of Native Plant Trust members who value preserving healthy ecosystems and protecting the plants that support them. Find support and build your knowledge through our classes and programs, including special lectures and events available only to our members.

Save the Date: 2026 Member Events

Directors' Talks: Dr. Lea Johnson Tuesday, March 10

Hear from our Director of Conservation, Dr. Lea Johnson, about the future of conservation work for Native Plant Trust. *Directors' Talks* are available exclusively for Supporters, Sustainers, and Conservation Circle members.

Member Preview Day (Garden in the Woods) Saturday, April 18

Enjoy exclusive access to Garden in the Woods before our season opening. Take a stroll through early spring ephemerals, and stock up on your favorite native plants for the spring garden. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the first blush of the growing season. *Open to all members.*

Member Preview Day (Nasami Farm) Friday, May 1

Enjoy exclusive access to Nasami Farm to shop for native plants before our season opening. *Open to all members.*

Heart of the Habitat | Soil Workshop Saturday, May 16

Get an inside look at soil biology in a hands-on workshop led by Nasami Farm Nursery Manager and instructor Alexis Doshas. *Heart of the Habitat* events are available exclusively to Sustainers and Conservation Circle Members.

Art & Nature: An Evening with Elizabeth James Perry | Thursday, June 11

Experience a hands-on workshop with culture bearer, educator, and artist Elizabeth James Perry (Aquinnah Wampagnoag). Work with native plant materials. *Art & Nature* events are available exclusively to Conservation Circle members.

Intern Showcase Wednesday, August 12

Hear from Native Plant Trust Horticulture and Conservation interns as they present findings from their special-interest projects. *The Intern Showcase* is available exclusively to Contributors, Supporters, Sustainers, and Conservation Circle members.

Member Plant Exchange
Saturday, September 12

Meet up with fellow Native Plant Trust members for a plant swap at Garden in the Woods. Share your extras and pick up new additions for your garden while connecting with other native plant lovers. *Open to all members.*

Behind the Scenes: Renovation at Garden in the Woods | **Thursday, September 17**

Get an inside look at recent renovations to the Lily Pond and Meadow Garden collections at Garden in the Woods. Uli Lorimer and members of the Horticulture team will offer insights into their recent work. *Behind the Scenes events are available exclusively to Conservation Circle members.*

Night of Illumination
Thursday, October 22

Save the date for our annual members only event. Immerse yourself in an illuminated Garden in the Woods while the site is lit by more than 1,000 luminaria and other unique light displays. *Open to all members.*

Directors' Talks: Uli Lorimer
Thursday, November 12

Hear from our director of Horticulture, Uli Lorimer, about his vision for Native Plant Trust's leadership in ecological horticulture. *Directors' Talks are available exclusively to Supporters, Sustainers, and Conservation Circle members.*

Visit Us

GARDEN IN THE WOODS

Our botanic garden just west of Boston showcases New England native plants on 45 acres sculpted by retreating glaciers into eskers and steep-sided valleys, with a brook, pond, and wetlands.

Garden in the Woods opens for the season on April 19, 2026!



Additional events to be announced.
Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

Memberships begin at \$55/year. By purchasing as few as two classes or one bed of plants, you can recover the cost of your annual membership dues.

All Native Plant Trust Members Receive:

- ❁ Free admission to Garden in the Woods, including Winter Walking access;
- ❁ Discounts on public programs held across New England;
- ❁ Discounts at our Garden Shops and nurseries that participate in our Nursery Connections Program;
- ❁ Free or discounted admission to 380+ public gardens that participate in the American Horticultural Society Garden Network;
- ❁ Subscription to annual Native Plant Trust publications.

Scan to upgrade your membership or become a member today:



Location:

180 Hemenway Road
Framingham, MA 01701

Hours:

Open Daily, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Admission:

Adult (18-64): \$18
Senior (65+): \$15
Youth (5-17): \$8
Children (under 5): FREE

Special Pricing with valid ID:

Native Plant Trust members: FREE
Active service members: FREE
Veterans: 50% off
Students: \$12

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Tour Garden in the Woods this season!

Experience Garden in the Woods in a deeper way: book a private tour led by a Native Plant Trust Garden Guide! Available April through October, every tour features ecologically rich plant communities, an abundance of wildlife, views of rare plants, and information about both our rich history and our current conservation work across the region. More information, including availability and pricing, can be found on our website, or by e-mailing tours@nativeplanttrust.org.

Drop-in tours that are free with Garden admission are also offered on select days throughout the season. Check our website for the 2026 schedule.

Garden Shop & Plant Sales

The Garden Shop and Plant Sales are located at the Visitor Center. Admission is not required to visit these locations.



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AT GARDEN IN THE WOODS

Explore unique habitats.

Follow the main path over hills, through deep woods, and along the edges of bogs, a brook, and a pond, where you can spot turtles, frogs, and other water creatures.

Embark on a scavenger hunt.

Challenge everyone in the family to use all five senses to explore the Garden. Pick up lists for children of different ages at the Visitor Center.

Go wild.

Unleash creativity and imagination in our Family Activity Area. Children can enter through the magic cottage door and create their own critter cottage under the pines, build a fort with branches, climb through our giant hollow log, and fill up a habitat box with a variety of natural materials.



NASAMI FARM

Set on 75 acres in the Connecticut River Valley of western Massachusetts, Nasami Farm grows New England native plants from seed that we harvest sustainably from healthy, well-established wild populations throughout the region. Nasami Farm Nursery offers a wide variety of native plants for sale during the growing season.

Nasami Farm opens May 1, 2026, for the season!

Location:

128 North Street
Whatley, MA 01373

Hours:

Open Thursday – Sunday,
10am– 5pm

*The classroom and the seasonal nursery are the only parts of Nasami Farm open to the public.

OUR SANCTUARIES

Dedicated to preserving and protecting: our native plant sanctuaries.

Discover peaceful places and fascinating plants protected for their rarity, variety, and impressive seasonal displays. Plan a self-guided visit to one of our sanctuaries, and experience an extraordinary range of the region's plants in their natural habitats.

Annie Sturgis Sanctuary (ME)

Lime-loving plants and woodland wildflowers along the Kennebec River.

Harvey Butler Rhododendron Sanctuary (ME)

Woodland wildflowers and a 5-acre stand of rhododendron.

Robert P. Tristram Coffin WildFlower Reservation (ME)

Hilly woods, sandy shores, a tidal marsh, and more than 100 wildflower species on the shore of Merrymeeting Bay.

Hobbs Fern Sanctuary (NH)

More than 40 types of ferns, including several rare species and unusual wood fern hybrids.

Plainfield Sanctuary (NH)

Unusually diverse communities of wildflowers and ferns on the steep banks of a wooded expanse.

Eshqua Bog (VT)

Rich fen filled with showy lady's-slippers and other wild orchids.

CHILDREN'S TOURS:

Led by our Teacher Naturalists, our children's tours promote awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the natural world through experiential and inquiry-based learning. Children's tours are offered June - August. While tours are geared towards 8–12-year-olds, participants of all ages are welcome to join. \$10 per person, reservations encouraged.

Visit our website to get updates for our 2026 Children's Tour Schedule.

PLANT PLAY

Sing, dance, and create among the plants at Garden in the Woods! Geared towards children ages 3-5, Plant Play is a 60-minute program of nature-inspired stories, songs, and crafts on select Saturday mornings at Garden in the Woods. Free with admission.

Plant Play will be offered on the following Saturdays, from 11 AM-12 PM:

April 25

June 6

July 18

August 15

May 9

June 20

August 1

August 29

Native Plant Trust's sanctuaries are wild areas that are not staffed and often do not provide amenities onsite.

For the best time to plan your visit, explore our sanctuary guidelines:



Spring & Summer Events

Stewarding the Future: Plant Walks with Elizabeth James-Perry

Join culture bearer, marine scientist, and educator Elizabeth James-Perry (Aquinnah Wampanoag) for a series of free plant walks examining the care and conservation of plant communities through the lens of the Native seventh generation principle where long-term sustainability is key when considering human impacts.

Spring Transitions

Explore the verdant pastel buds and blooms that support native wildlife during the spring season.

Date: Saturday, April, 25
Location: Garden in the Woods
Time: 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Native Horticulture, Wild Harvest

Familiarize yourself with Wampanoag gardening practices such as Three Sisters and other plantings, while exploring early season harvests and celebrations such as for wild strawberries.

Date: Saturday, June 20
Location: Garden in the Woods
Time: 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Bountiful Berries, And More

Visit a classic Northeast kettle hole pond, with a rich assemblage of wetland plants and shrubs, home to the distinctive and abundant wild berries of the region such as huckleberry, blueberry, and cranberry.

Date: Saturday, July 18
Location: Harold Parker State Forest, 305 Middleton Road, North Andover, MA
Time: 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Container Gardening

Whether you're gardening on a back porch, patio, or in a larger green space, learn essential container gardening techniques in this make-and-take, hands-on workshop. Explore how to use containers to create an ecological garden, grow food, and add pops of beauty and biodiversity to an outdoor area. Learn how to choose the right plants, and take home a beautifully designed container filled with native plants from Native Plant Trust's own plant shop.

Date: Tuesday April 7 OR May 5, 6-7:30 PM
Fee: \$50
Instructor: Shoma Haque, landscape designer and founder, SHaque Designs

Spring Watercolor: Verdant Greens

In this watercolor workshop, we will observe the flora and fauna of Garden in the Woods and capture the essence of spring through painting. We will practice foundational color washes and explore the warm and cool tones within spring greens. When painting *en plein air* (outdoors), something new begins. As your thoughts are quiet, you'll observe nature's new growth and capture its details with earth colors. All materials are provided, and all experience levels are welcome.

Date: Saturday April 11, 1-4PM
Fee: \$100
Instructor: Heidi Sumei Chuang, watercolor artist

Spring Seasonal Self Care

Discover how to use New England native plants to facilitate a smooth shift into spring for your body and spirit. Learn about the energetics of the spring season as well as the nourishing and healing powers of the native plants around you.

Date: Saturday, April 18, 1-3 PM
Fee: \$65
Instructor: Maggie Ruth Haaland, artist and educator

Flower Talk: A Program For Children Ages 5-12 and Their Caregivers

Join children's book author and environmental educator Sara Levine to expand your learning about pollinators in this interactive and playful program that includes an opportunity to have your book signed by the author! Sara will read from her award-winning *Flower Talk: How Plants Use Color to Communicate*.

Date: Saturday, May 30, 10 AM - 11:30 AM
Fee: \$35
Instructor: Sara Levine, children's author and environmental educator

Native Seedling Care

Join Cole Campbell, Production Horticulturist at Native Plant Trust, to learn about how to care for your native plant seedlings. The workshop will focus on how to successfully pot up seedlings and set them up for success as they grow in their first season. This is a follow up from the winter workshop, Introduction: Native Seed Sowing

Date: Saturday, June 13th, and Sunday, June 14th, 10-11:30 AM
Fee: \$45
Location: Garden in the Woods

Edible Landscapes with Mass Audubon

Join us for an inspiring morning exploring edible native plants at Mass Audubon's beautiful Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary. Enjoy a dynamic expert-led conversation on the diversity of native edibles, their ecological benefits, and practical tips for growing them at home. The program also features hands-on activities, a guided walk through Long Pasture's native Food Forest garden, and the chance to taste plants native to New England.

This program is cosponsored with Mass Audubon.

Date: Saturday, July 25, 9AM-12PM
Fee: \$60
Location: Mass Audubon's Long Pasture Sanctuary, Barnstable, MA

Making Pictures from Plants: Anthotypes

and Eco-Prints

Escape the summer sun, and immerse yourself in a tactile, nature-inspired art practice. Learn to create fleeting images with pigments released directly from plants, and practice *tataki-zome*, a traditional Japanese eco-printing technique, in a shared creative space with fellow plant lovers.

Date: Saturday, July 18, 1-4 PM
Fee: \$65
Instructor: Mary Kocol, fine art and editorial photographer

Nature Journaling

Let Garden in the Woods serve as your muse as you practice noticing and recording the world through words, sketches, and numbers, developing observation techniques you can carry into any natural landscape.

Date: Saturday, August 8, 1-3 PM
Fee: \$50
Instructor: Molly Torrey, educator and artist

Coaxing Color from Plants

Rooted in the plants of our surrounding landscape, this workshop introduces the fundamentals of natural dyeing. Participants will work in rhythm with the season, learning to gather materials with care, prepare dye baths, and explore the possibilities of plant-based color. No prior experience needed.

Date: Saturday, August 29, 10:30 AM-1:30 PM
Fee: \$65
Instructor: Maggie Ruth Haaland, artist and educator

Boston Dance Theater comes to Garden in the Woods!

See live dance at the Garden this year.
"UNFURLING" INTO SPRING WITH BOSTON DANCE THEATER PERFORMANCE AND PANEL

Boston Dance Theater and Native Plant Trust join together for a conversation about the intersection of nature, art, and science, featuring an original work, "Unfurling," by Boston Dance Theater. Unfurling is a site-responsive performance created by the artists of Boston Dance Theater in collaboration with visual artist Kim Radochia. Drawing inspiration from the quiet resilience of plant life and the writings of Indigenous botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer, the work invites audiences into a shared sensory experience of movement, sound, and sculptural installation.

Dancers move through the space like tendrils of growth, attuning to one another, the land, and the invisible networks that sustain life. Rooted in slowness, sensitivity, and ecological imagination, Unfurling asks us to notice what is often overlooked and to sense our place within a living, interdependent world.

Date: Saturday, May 2, 7:00-8:30PM

Save the Date: September 26

Join Boston Dance Theater for pop up performances

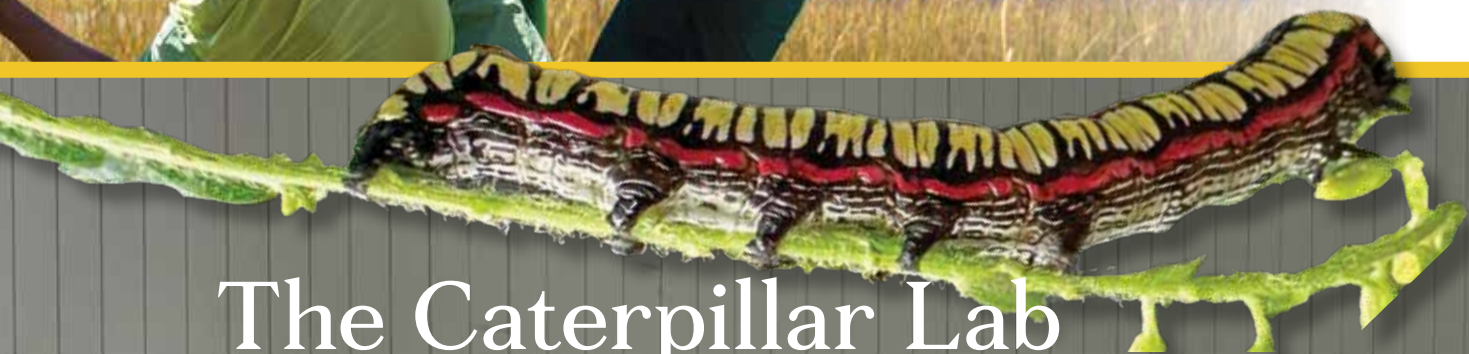


ALL NEW

Native Plant Trust Garden Consulting Program

Get advice on how you can transform your space into a beautiful, sustainable landscape and a habitat for insects, birds, and other wildlife with the new **Native Plant Trust Garden Consulting Program**. Our garden consultant will come to you, walk your property and have a one-on-one conversation about your garden project. No matter the size of your garden, your level of experience, or the extent of your project, our consultant can help you work along with nature, choose the right native plants for your conditions, and show you how to maintain your garden in an ecologically sound way.

Appointments will be available beginning in February 2026 and continue throughout the year, weather permitting. More information about services, fees and scheduling is available on our website or by emailing gardenconsulting@nativeplanttrust.org.



The Caterpillar Lab

The Caterpillar Lab returns to Garden in the Woods!

This drop-in exhibit offers a close look at a variety of local caterpillar species, with opportunities to explore metamorphosis and discover the strange, surprising, and very real adaptations that help these creatures thrive. Visit for a few minutes or linger awhile — there's always something new to notice. Designed to engage everyone from curious kids to experienced naturalists and professional biologists.

Visit The Exhibit

Dates: September 4, 2026 - September 7, 2026
10:30 AM - 4:30 PM Daily

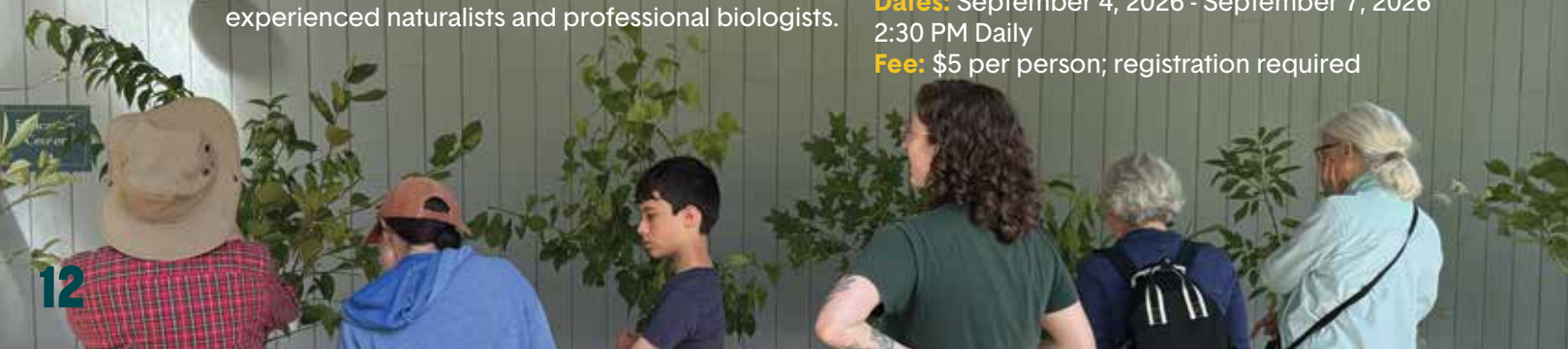
Free with Garden admission

Caterpillar Walks

Join Caterpillar Lab staff to explore caterpillar habitats at Garden in the Woods. Walks are approximately 60 minutes long and open to all ages.

Dates: September 4, 2026 - September 7, 2026
2:30 PM Daily

Fee: \$5 per person; registration required



Trillium Week 2026 | May 3-9

Our annual trillium event returns with tours, an inside look, and our signature evening celebration.

Trillium Tours

Dates: Sunday, May 3, 2-3:30 PM, Wednesday, May 6, 11 AM-12:30 PM, Friday, May 8, 11 AM-12:30 PM, Saturday, May 9, 2-3:30 PM

Join our Garden Guides to explore the beauty and variety of our trilliums during these free, first come first served tours.

The Native Plant Trust Trillium Collection: An Inside Look

Native Plant Trust's Trillium Collection is just over a decade old and attracts hundreds of people to Garden in the Woods every spring. But what exactly goes into this renowned collection? Spend the evening with one of the Trillium Collection managers and woodland gardeners, Cole Campbell, to

find out! Cole will take you behind the scenes of our collection with an introductory presentation, then lead an exclusive Trillium Tour in the garden.

Dates: Tuesday, May 5, 5:30-7:30 PM
Fee: \$45

Twilight Trilliums

Twilight Trilliums offers the opportunity to see some of spring's most fleeting blooms during the beauty of dusk. Enjoy after-hours access to Garden in the Woods on a beautiful spring evening, featuring a live sound installation by 2025 Visiting Artist Skooby Laposky, and treat yourself to curated food and beverages for this one-night-only event.

Date: Friday, May 8, 6-8 PM
Fee: \$50

SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Adult Education

Whether you are native plant-curious or exploring our certificate program, journey into the green world through our education offerings from wherever you are located.

Below are our learning opportunities for Spring and Summer 2026. These classes may also be eligible to receive elective credit. For certificate students, credit hours are listed with each course.

Full class descriptions may be found at nativeplanttrust.org/education/classes.



Courses at Garden in the Woods

The following courses are offered for in-person instruction at Garden in the Woods, located in Framingham, MA.

The Graminoids: An Introduction to Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes

Learn to recognize grasses, sedges, and rushes, families that dominate open grasslands and wetland habitats throughout New England. Explore common genera and some common species, and practice techniques for identifying unknown plants.

Date: Saturday, April 4, 10:30 AM-4:30 PM

Fee: \$150

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Standley, Botanist and Curator of Vascular Plants, New England Botanical Society

Early Season Grasses

The grass family (Poaceae) is one of the largest families of flowering plants and generally the most diverse family in any local or regional flora. In this workshop we'll learn to identify the genera and common species of early-season grasses in New England that are dominant features of meadows and wetlands. This course is ideal for field botanists as well as gardeners interested in native meadow restoration and planting.

Date: Saturday, June 6, 10:30 AM-4:30 PM

Fee: \$150

Instructor: Lisa Standley, Botanist and Curator of Vascular Plants, New England Botanical Society

Mushrooms for Beginners

Sharpen your mushroom identification abilities while spending a day learning with fellow enthusiasts at the scenic Garden in the Woods. The experience includes guided time on the trails to find and observe a wide variety of mushroom species.

Date: Friday, June 19, 10:30-2:30PM OR

Friday, August 14, 10:30-2:30PM

Fee: \$100

Instructor: Thomas Roehl, mycologist; Ph.D. student at Clark University

Designing in Three Dimensions

Gain a new perspective on the design process by learning how to reshape areas of your garden in three dimensions. Working with everyday objects, discover a fresh way to understand the relationships between different visual components of a design. Experience a hands-on alternative to two-dimensional drawing, experiment with making changes, and practice new skills that will enable you to approach the design process with ease and confidence.

Date: Saturday, August 15, 10:30 AM-2:30 PM

Fee: \$100

Instructor: Cheryl Salatino, landscape designer, Dancing Shadows Garden Design; MCH (Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist)

The Knotty Smartweeds

Smartweeds (*Persicaria spp.*), members of the knotweed (Polygonaceae) family, collectively are a common and ubiquitous group of plants, but individually can be challenging to identify. Through an interactive presentation, a look at herbarium specimens, and a field session devoted to observing smartweeds in the wild, this class will focus on the identification features that distinguish each of the 22 species in New England.

Date: Tuesday, August 18, 6:30-8:30 PM (Garden in the Woods) and Thursday, August 20, 9-11:30 AM (Concord Meadows)

Fee: \$115

Instructor: Ted Elliman, botanist and author of *Wildflowers of New England*

Asters and Goldenrods

Through an interactive presentation, a visit to Garden in the Woods' living collections, an examination of herbarium specimens, and a field exploration of a nearby conservation property, this class will explore the abundance and variety of asters and goldenrods in our late summer and early fall landscapes. We will look at subtleties of identification and habitat preferences of about forty-five species of asters and goldenrods.

Date: Saturday, September 26, 10 AM -2:30 PM (Garden in the Woods) and Sunday, September

27, 10 AM-2 PM (Barber Reservation)

Fee: \$180

Instructor: Ted Elliman, botanist and author of *Wildflowers of New England*

Course at Nasami Farm, Whately, MA

Native Fern Identification and Ecology

Practice techniques for differentiating among ferns native to New England. The indoor session will include a presentation that will cover basic fern biology, identification techniques, and ecology. The field session will use these techniques for the positive field identification of approximately twenty native fern species in multiple habitats.

Date: Saturday, August 15, 10 AM-3 PM

Fee: \$125

Instructor: Randy Stone, Pioneer Valley Fern Society

Off Site

How to Choose Competitive Native Groundcovers

Join this class to learn how to leverage native plants' natural competitive strategies to your advantage. We'll explore seven ways that all plants compete for space and survival, and go on to focus on those that "cover ground" effectively. With sample plants on hand, you'll experience firsthand how to observe and identify some competitive traits, and how to research others.

Date: Saturday, June 5, 1:30-3:30 PM

Fee: \$50

Location: CRCCD deKoven House, Middletown, Connecticut

Instructor: Kathy Connolly, landscape designer, Speaking of Landscapes, LLC

Co-Sponsorship with Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District (CRCCD)

Online Courses

Revitalizing the Home Landscape

Learn and practice approachable methods for increasing the beauty and biodiversity of your home environment, one area at a time. In this interactive workshop, we'll assess existing garden areas with an eye toward making plant and layout adjustments that address our needs, desires, and the environmental pressures we're experiencing today. Using design methods covered in class, students will experiment on a garden area they wish to revitalize and receive constructive feedback.

Date: Wednesdays, April 15th, 22nd, and 29th, 5:30-8:30 PM

Fee: \$250

Instructor: Cheryl Salatino, landscape designer, Dancing Shadows Garden Design; MCH (Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist)



Online Courses Continued

Ecological Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

This workshop invites participants to see pest management as an ecological process rather than a reaction. Through the lens of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), we'll explore how to read plant signals, understand the conditions that invite disease, and apply both biological and chemical tools in ways that restore balance rather than destroy it.

Date: Thursday, April 23, 5:30-7PM

Fee: \$35

Instructor: Erik Vegeto, horticulturist, educator, and owner of Earth Gardeners

Matrix Planting

Learn how to design dynamic, resilient plant communities using matrix planting - a method that combines structural plants, seasonal layers, and ground-covering species into a unified system. We'll cover plant selection, spacing, competition, succession, and management so your plantings thrive and evolve beautifully over time.

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 5:30-6:30 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Marie Chieppo, native plant designer and horticulturist

Plants' Scents and Sensibilities

Why do flowers have distinct scents, and why do plants produce smells in the first place? This program explores these questions by examining how plants communicate and protect themselves. We'll also investigate the remarkable ways plants perceive their surroundings—sensing, responding, and moving in ways that are largely invisible to humans. Participants will explore and observe these plant senses through explanation and demonstration.

Date: Tuesday, June 23, 7-8 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Daphne Minner, garden coach and botanical educator

Balancing Native and Non-Native Plantings

Hear practical, approachable tips for incorporating native plants into your landscape alongside non-native favorites. Native plants play a critical role in supporting pollinators and wildlife, strengthening biodiversity, and creating plant communities adapted to local conditions. Non-native species contribute structure, seasonal interest, and continuity. Learn how to integrate them for a balanced, thriving landscape.

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 5:30-6:30 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Marie Chieppo, native plant designer and horticulturist

Getting to Know Pollinators

Learn about native insect pollinators you can observe in your own garden. Some fascinating specialized relationships between insect pollinators and plants here in the Northeast will be highlighted. You will leave knowing how to support insects throughout their life cycles with your garden practices.

Date: Tuesday, July 21, 6-7 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Daphne Minner, garden coach and botanical educator

Designing a School Pollinator Garden

This educator-focused webinar will walk you through the steps to planning, designing, and planting a native plant pollinator garden at your school.

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 10-11 AM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Daphne Minner, garden coach and botanical educator, and Michael McCarthy, retired wildlife biologist and science teacher

Managing Invasives for Homeowners

Learn to identify a range of common invasive species, also known as ecologically harmful plants, and come away with tips for moderating their impact on your landscape. Hear a

case study that details a multi-year process of removing less beneficial species and restoring habitat for native insects and birds, and encounter techniques that you can apply to your own yard.

Date: Tuesday, September 8, 5:30-7 PM

Fee: \$35

Instructor: Michael McCarthy, retired wildlife biologist and science teacher

An Introduction to the Liverworts of New England

Despite being (perhaps) less showy than many flowering plants, Liverworts—a group of rather diminutive, non-vascular plants that are closely related to the mosses—nonetheless play a critical role in the functioning of countless ecosystems, including many that are found in New England. This class will introduce the biology of liverworts and examine the ecological role played by these plants. Additionally, we will discuss a select assortment of liverwort species that can be found growing in New England.

Date: Tuesday, September 15, 6-7 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Sam Gilvarg, fire ecologist; Ph.D. student, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

The Ericaceae of New England: Diversity, Ecology, and Phylogeny

Explore a subset of the Ericaceae—commonly known as the heath family—whose species grow and thrive in some of New England's most challenging environments. Learn about the traits and interspecific relationships that contribute to the ecological success of this incredibly diverse group of flowering plants.

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 6-7 PM

Fee: \$25

Instructor: Sam Gilvarg, fire ecologist; Ph.D. student, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Self-Paced Courses In Native Plant Foundations

Looking for a deeper dive with more flexibility? Explore our self-guided courses - fully online at your own pace and on your own time.

All courses take approximately 12 hours to complete.

Plants 101: Introduction to the Green World*

Grow your understanding of plant biology, ecosystems, and the particular plants native to the Northeast region.

Designing with Native Plants

Develop a robust toolkit for incorporating native plant communities into your garden and landscape design.

Gardening for Pollinators

Gain insight into the plant-pollinator relationship and learn how you can support pollinators with your garden.

These courses are \$115 each.

**This course is also appropriate for individuals who have some plant knowledge and would appreciate a refresher. If you are new to the world of plants and interested in our Basic Certificate, we recommend taking this course before enrolling in our foundational certificate courses, Plant Form and Function, Plant Families, or Plant Ecology.*

Questions?

Reach out to our team, and we are happy to help: edu@NativePlantTrust.org.

A scenic landscape featuring a gravel path that winds through a lush garden. In the foreground, there are vibrant purple flowers and green ferns. To the right, a tree is covered in delicate pink blossoms. The background shows more greenery and a stone wall, suggesting a well-maintained outdoor space.

SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Field and Landscape Studies

Our field studies are designed to introduce students to gorgeous locations, many of which are known for unique native plant communities, and real-time conservation happening in the field. Field studies are designed for students with some botanical knowledge, and are ideal for certificate program students, committed avocational learners, and conservation and botany professionals. Intensity and level vary per offering.

Our landscape studies are designed to expand students' understanding of how best to incorporate native plants into both public and private spaces.

Field Studies:

Joralemon Park Field Study

Explore a rich sugar maple forest about 15 miles south of Albany, NY. Joralemon, a town park in Coeymans, NY, is renowned for its variety and abundance of spring wildflowers, including a number of unusual species.

Date: Saturday, April 25, 11 AM-2 PM

Fee: \$90

Location: Joralemon Park, Coeymans, NY

Instructor: Ted Elliman, botanist and author of *Wildflowers of New England*

Exploring Habitat Diversity Field Study: Four Plant Communities in Leverett, MA

Follow the Leverett town trail system as it meanders through four different ecological communities, including a meadow, pine-hemlock stand, deep marsh, and sub-shrub wetlands. You'll learn about the key characteristics of each plant community and identify predominant plant species found in each. Bring your field ID guide, and experience the only covered bridge in Leverett as a bonus.

Date: Saturday, June 27, 8-11 AM

Fee: \$90

Location: East Leverett Meadow, Leverett, MA

Instructor: George Locascio, Assistant Professor, Mount Wachusett Community College

Wells Barrens Preserve Field Study

Explore several carefully stewarded parts of the 367-acre fire-adapted landscape of the Wells Barrens Preserve. Managed by The Nature Conservancy, the preserve's sandplain grasslands, blueberry heath barrens, and pitch pine woodlands demonstrate how prescribed burns sustain rare plant communities and the flora and fauna that depend on them.

Date: Saturday, August 1, 10 AM-1PM

Fee: \$90

Location: Wells, ME

Instructor: Ted Elliman, botanist and author of *Wildflowers of New England*

Keyes Sandplain Grassland Field Study

Observe the early impacts of a habitat restoration project at the Ebenezer Keyes Conservation Area in Gardner, MA, with conservation staff from North County Land Trust. The goal of this project is to restore ecological value, improve biodiversity, and increase climate resiliency to a site disturbed by failed development projects. This habitat type is globally rare and supports multiple species on the Massachusetts list of species of special concern. Participants in this field study will have the opportunity to practice

techniques for removing invasive species, and to observe preliminary growth of little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), among other species.

Date: Friday, August 21, 11 AM-2 PM

Fee: \$90

Location: Ebenezer Keyes Conservation Area, Gardner, MA

Instructor: Emily Merlino, Director of Land Programs, North County Land Trust

Co-Sponsorship with North County Land Trust

Field Study: Botany of the Connecticut Coast

Explore the flora and ecology of tidal marshes, dunes, and near-shore uplands in the expansive coastal landscape of Hammonasset Beach State Park and Natural Area Preserve. Participants will also visit a tidal marsh restoration site within the park.

Date: Saturday, September 19, 10:30AM - 1:30 PM

Fee: \$90

Location: Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison, CT

Instructor: Dr. Lori Benoit, wetland scientist and environmental consultant

Field Study: Orange Sallow Moth Survey

Join members of Zoo New England's conservation team for a rare field study focused on observing and surveying orange sallow moth eggs and larvae, which rely on fern-leaved false foxglove (*Aureolaria pedicularia*) for survival.

Date: Saturday, September 26, 10 AM-1PM

Fee: \$90

Location: Horn Pond Mountain, Woburn, MA

Instructor: John Berkholtz, Senior Field Conservationist, Zoo New England

Co-Sponsorship with Zoo New England

Landscape Studies:

Landscape Study: Spring Residential Landscape

Join us in our home habitat to see what "spring clean-up" looks like when managing your garden for wildlife. We will discuss timing and techniques for managing last year's dead plants as many provide nesting sites for our native bees. We will cover topics such as mulching, and observe how insects and other animals use various landscape features through their lifecycle.

Date: Saturday, April 11, 1-3 PM

Fee: \$60

Instructor: Daphne Minner, garden coach and botanical educator

Landscape Study: Balancing Native and Non-Native Plantings

Experience a vibrant home landscape that demonstrates possibilities for incorporating native plants into your landscape alongside non-native favorites. Explore examples of how to balance plants that strengthen biodiversity and create plant communities adapted to local conditions with plants that contribute structure, seasonal interest, and more. You'll leave with design recommendations and suggestions for plant combinations to incorporate into your own space.

Note: this landscape study complements the Zoom session on Balancing Native and Non-Native Plantings, but is open to all participants, whether or not they have attended the Zoom class.

Date: Saturday, June 27, 1-3 PM

Fee: \$60

Location: Sagamore, MA

Instructor: Marie Chieppo, native plant designer and horticulturist

Landscape Study: Exploring Lawn Alternatives, Designed Meadows, and Ecological Gardening Practices

Visit a vibrant demonstration garden in Lincoln, MA, that has been transformed and managed by landscape designer Leisha Johnson of Gardens By The Yard. Encounter enticing alternatives to traditional lawns, witness the beauty of designed meadows, and discuss ecological gardening practices that not only support wildlife but also create texture and interest throughout seasons.

Note: this landscape study complements the Zoom session "So You Want Less Lawn..." but is open to all participants, whether or not they have attended the Zoom class.

Date: Saturday, August 22nd, 1-3 PM

Fee: \$60

Location: Lincoln, MA

Instructor: Leisha Johnson, owner, Gardens by the Yard



SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Certificate Programs

Native Plant Trust offers three certificate programs designed to add breadth and depth to existing knowledge and skills.

Our certificate programs are designed for conservation, horticulture, and design professionals as well as committed avocational learners.





Basic Certificate Program

The Basic Certificate program familiarizes students with the plants of New England, emphasizing structures, skills, and processes.

All courses are offered twice per year.

Required Basic Certificate Courses:

Foundations:*

- Plant Form and Function*
- Plant Ecology*
- Plant Families*

Plants and Their Habitats:*

- Wildflowers of New England*
- Native New England Shrubs*
- Framework Trees of New England*

Specialty:*

- Understanding and Managing Soils*

Electives:

- Minimum of two courses, totaling 6 hours (one Botany, one Horticulture)

Application:

- Two studies (one Field, one Landscape)
- Community Service: 15 hours
- Final Portfolio

Advanced Certificate Programs

The **Advanced Botany and Conservation Certificate** program offers students the opportunity to build on their skills for future work in botany and conservation, whether as professionals or engaged citizen scientists. Students in this program will deepen their knowledge of best practices for protecting plants and ecosystems, grow their plant identification skills, and gain experience in working with field guides and conducting botanical inventories.

Required Advanced Botany & Conservation Certificate Courses:

Foundations:

- Conservation Biology*
- New England Plant Communities*
- Plant Systematics*

Field Conservation:

- Field Identification Techniques*
- Botanical Inventory Methods and Techniques*
- Basic Wetland Identification and Delineation*
- Seed Conservation

Specialty:

- Invasive Plants: Identification, Documentation, and Control*

Electives:

- Minimum of Two Botany Electives, totaling 6 hours

Application:

- Two Field Studies
- Community Service Leadership Project: 25 hours
- Final Portfolio

The **Advanced Horticulture and Design Certificate** program offers students the opportunity to build on their skills for future work in horticulture and landscaping, whether as professionals or committed amateur gardeners. Students in this program will deepen their knowledge of best practices for ecological landscaping, native plant design principles, plant selection and propagation, and more.

Required Advanced Horticulture & Design Certificate Courses:

Advanced Horticulture & Design Foundations:

- Landscape for Life*
- History and Principles of Landscape Design
- Introduction to Ecological Horticulture*

Building Your Plant Palette:

- Residential Landscape Design*
- Native Herbaceous Plant Materials (Early Season & Late Season)*
- Native Woody Plant Materials*

Specialty:

- Propagation*

Electives:

- Minimum of two horticulture electives, totaling 6 hours

Application:

- Two Landscape Studies
- Community Service Leadership Project: 25 hours
- Final Portfolio

Program Calendar

April

- April 4:** The Graminoids
- April 7:** Container Gardening
- April 11:** Landscape Study: Spring Residential Landscape
- April 11:** Spring Watercolor
- April 14:** Plant Systematics
- April 15:** Revitalizing the Home Landscape
- April 18:** Spring Seasonal Self Care
- April 23:** Ecological Integrated Pest Management
- April 24:** Online Self-Paced Classes begin
- April 25:** Native Herbaceous Plant Materials - Early Season
- April 25:** Field Study: Joralemon Park
- April 28:** Matrix Planting
- April 29:** Framework Trees of New England (Online)

May

- May 2:** Native New England Shrubs (in person)
- May 5:** Wildflowers of New England (Online)
- May 5:** Native Plant Trust Trillium Collection: An Inside Look
- May 5:** Container Gardening
- May 6:** Native New England Shrubs (Online)
- May 8:** Twilight Trilliums
- May 14:** Wildflowers of New England (in person)
- May 15:** Framework Trees of New England (in person)
- May 30:** Understanding and Managing Soils
- May 30:** Flower Talk

June

- June 5:** How to Choose Competitive Native Ground Covers
- June 6:** Early-Season Grasses
- June 9:** New England Plant Communities
- June 19:** Mushrooms for Beginners
- June 20:** Native Woody Plant Materials
- June 23:** Plants' Scents and Sensibilities
- June 27:** Field Study: Plant Communities in Leverett, MA
- June 27:** Landscape Study: Balancing Native and Non-Native Plantings

July

- July 18:** Anthotypes and Eco-Prints
- July 21:** Getting to Know Pollinators
- July 25:** Native Herbaceous Plant Materials - Late Season
- July 25:** Edible Landscapes with Mass Audubon

August

- August 1:** Wells Barrens Preserve Study
- August 2:** Exploring Lawn Alternatives Landscape Study
- August 4:** Designing a School Pollinator Garden
- August 5:** Landscape for Life
- August 6:** Field Identification Techniques
- August 7:** Wetland ID and Delineation
- August 8:** Nature Journaling
- August 15:** Native Fern Identification
- August 15:** Visualizing Garden Design
- August 18:** Knotweeds
- August 21:** Keyes Sandplain Grassland Field Study
- August 27:** Introduction to Ecological Horticulture
- August 29:** Coaxing Colors from Plants

September

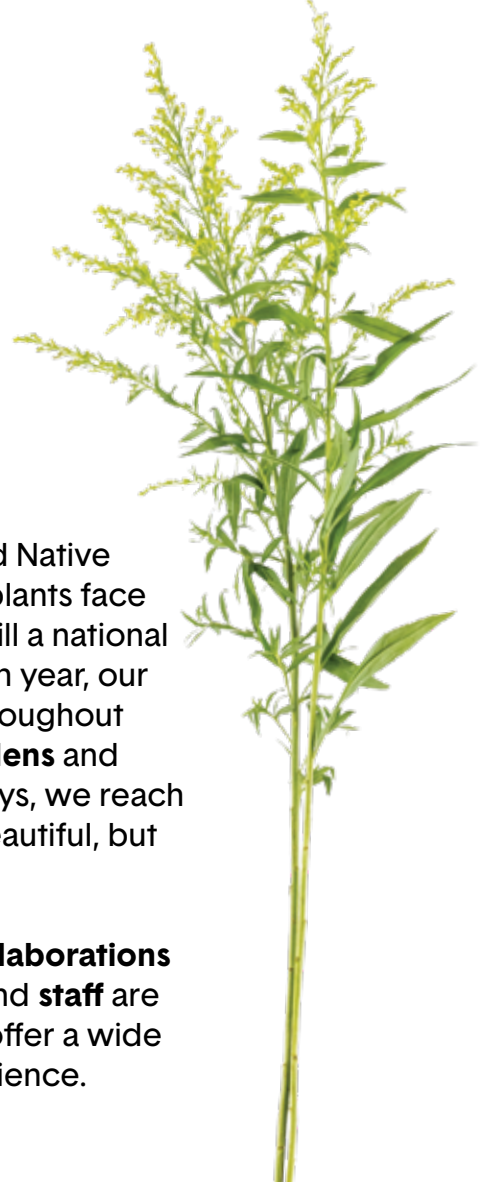
- September 2:** Residential Landscape Design
- September 4:** Caterpillar Lab
- September 10:** Botanical Inventory Methods and Techniques
- September 12:** Invasive Plants - Identification, Documentation, and Control
- September 15:** An Introduction to Liverworts of New England
- September 15:** Conservation Biology
- September 19:** Field Study: Botany of the Connecticut Coast
- September 22:** The Ericaceae of New England
- September 26:** Asters and Goldenrods
- September 26:** Field Study: Orange Sallow Moth Survey

About Us

Native Plant Trust is the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants

More than a century ago, our founders organized what is now called Native Plant Trust to stop the destruction of native plants. Today, as native plants face the greatest wave of threats since the last mass extinction, we are still a national leader in native plant conservation, horticulture, and education. Each year, our 30 staff members and many of our 1,500 trained volunteers work throughout New England to **save native plants in the wild, grow them for gardens** and restorations, and **educate others** on their value and use. In these ways, we reach a wide audience with our message that native plants are not only beautiful, but ecologically important to the wider landscape.

We develop new insights, **create cutting-edge tools**, and foster **collaborations** that advance our own work and that of our peers. Our **leadership** and **staff** are internationally recognized as experts in their respective fields. We offer a wide range of resources and **programs** for all levels of interest and experience.



Donate

This year, you and fellow plant lovers across the country have gone outdoors and online to learn about plants. Today you have a wonderful opportunity to show your appreciation for the native plants that bring you peace and joy—and for the programs that help you identify, protect, and grow them. With the record-breaking demand for our classes, we need your support to continue providing new content in accessible formats. Participant fees do not cover the costs of developing and delivering innovative programs. We need your help to keep our educational experiences available and affordable to everyone this year.

DONATE ONLINE www.NativePlantTrust.org/fundprograms

DONATE BY MAIL Use the envelope provided in this catalog

DONATE BY PHONE (774) 519-5570 or (774) 519-5553





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