



TOWN OF BLUFFTON
Bluffton Native Plant Proclamation

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 Bluffton, South Carolina's soils, temperatures, precipitation, and environmental conditions, making them the best option for conserving and protecting our environment, and adapting to its changes; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina is home to more than 135 native plant species which include large shade trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, grasses, and wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage public awareness about the benefits of Bluffton's native plants to pollinators and other wildlife, to the economy, and to the health and sustainability of our Lowcountry's fragile ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Sulka, Mayor of the Town of Bluffton, along with Bluffton Town Council, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as "**Bluffton, South Carolina Native Plant Month**", and encourage Bluffton citizens to observe this by removing non-native invasive plants in our yards and communities, planting native trees, shrubs, and flowers, and educating our citizens about the many benefits of native plants.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Bluffton to be affixed this 11th day of April 2023.



Lisa Sulka, Mayor