



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT MONTH

WHEREAS, native plant species are an important part of Kissimmee's heritage, providing valuable aesthetic, economic and ecological contributions that make our ecity a special place to live and visit; and

WHEREAS, Osceola County is home to amazing biodiversity with over 800 native plant species within varied ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, native plants are the ecological foundation that feeds and protects native wildlife, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects, which are food for many other species, including young songbirds and migratory birds and butterflies; and

 $\label{eq:WHEREAS} WHEREAS, native plant ecosystems provide flood protection and protect water quality; and$

WHEREAS, many native plants are endangered or threatened species and must be protected; and

WHEREAS, invasive non-native species present a great threat to sustaining our native plant ecosystems and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, Kissimmee has parks and natural areas to showcase our native plants and natural communities to our citizens and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Florida Native Plant Society chapters across the state are working to support the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the City Commission for the City of Kissimmee do hereby proclaim October 2018 as Florida Native Plant month in Kissimmee, Florida.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, this is signed this 2nd day of October, 2018.

CITY MANAGER

MAYOR-COMMISSIONER