Virginia Native Plant Society

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Conserving Wild Flowers and Wild Places

Nature's Biodiversity, Human Belonging

A Commitment to Belonging, Access, and Opportunity in the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS)



At the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS), we celebrate and protect the rich biodiversity of Virginia's native plants and the ecosystems they sustain. Our mission is rooted in preserving this natural heritage for discovery, education, enjoyment, and the health of future generations.

The strength of nature comes from connection. A thriving ecosystem depends on many different species, each contributing something valuable to the whole. Likewise, conservation grows stronger when people with diverse experiences, perspectives, and relationships with nature come together in shared stewardship.

The Belonging, Access, and Opportunity (BAO) Committee is committed to advancing these values by strengthening connections, expanding access to native plant knowledge, and creating opportunities for more people to engage in conservation.

Belonging, Access, and Opportunity in Conservation

Conservation is a shared responsibility strengthened when more people see themselves as part of the story. Through Belonging, Access, and Opportunity (BAO), VNPS works to build stronger connections between people, native plants, and the natural world.

Belonging: Creating welcoming spaces where people feel valued, respected, and connected to conservation.

Access: Expanding pathways to native plant knowledge, resources, experiences, and participation.

Opportunity: Inspiring and supporting people of all backgrounds to learn, contribute, and become conservation leaders.

Growing a Stronger Conservation Community

Our commitment to protecting Virginia's ecosystems is connected to our commitment to building a stronger, more welcoming conservation community. Both require patience, care, diversity, adaptation, and an understanding that every part contributes to the health of the whole.

As we advocate for native plants and wild places, we also work to cultivate an organization that reflects the resilience and interconnectedness found throughout nature—where more people can discover their connection to the land and their role in protecting it.

Together, we can ensure Virginia's native landscapes and the communities who care for them continue to thrive for generations to come.

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