

Native Plants Week – Proclamation

Webmaster March 29, 2020 :

The Evergreen Nature Center celebration of Native Plants Week, April 19-25, 2020, will look quite a bit different than we had originally planned but we will still celebrate! We look forward to the presentation of this Proclamation later in April and to promoting native plant identification, education, protection, and cultivation here in our mountain communities throughout the spring, summer and fall of 2020.

DRAFT PROCLAMATION:

WHEREAS, native plants are an important part of Evergreen’s mountain community identity, natural heritage, history; and

WHEREAS, Evergreen’s native plants are indigenous to our region, which spans multiple life zones and elevations, and flourish among the unique geology, hydrology and microclimates of the Bear Creek Watershed; and

WHEREAS, only 696 species of the 2300 total plants found in Colorado can be found on the Eastern Slope of the Rocky Mountains in which the town of Evergreen and the Bear Creek Watershed are situated; and

WHEREAS, native plants provide high-quality food and shelter for Evergreen’s native wildlife including both game and non-game species, birds, and pollinator such as bees, butterflies and other insects; and

WHEREAS, native plants support more than 320 species of birds, 189 of which are species found to be breeding within the boundaries of the Bear Creek Watershed, in which Evergreen is located, many of which are species of concern and increasingly threatened by climate change; and

WHEREAS, gardens and landscapes composed of Colorado’s native plants require less water and little to no fertilizer, soil amendment or pesticides; and

WHEREAS, the Evergreen Audubon chapter of National Audubon Society, as well as other local organizations and business, including nurseries and retail garden centers, work to expand the market for Colorado’s native plants; and

WHEREAS, by cultivating plants native to Evergreen’s mountain habitat we honor our natural heritage, sustain the beauty and benefits of our environmental resources, and preserve a natural link to wildland areas both past and present;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that April 19-25, 2020 is “Native Plants Week” in the mountain community of Evergreen, Colorado, and commend its observance to all citizens.

