



FLORASCOPE

Occasional News from the Flora of Virginia Project

Join us at the State Fair of Virginia!



September 25-October 4, 2026

Find us in the Agriculture Tent on your way to the Pig Races to learn more about the importance of native plants to the biodiversity and health of our ecosystems across the Commonwealth. We can help you understand:

- The important definitions and differences between native, non-native and invasive plants.
- How to use the Flora App to determine the right native plants for your gardening and landscaping projects.
- The difference between the Flora App and the myriad AI apps on the market.

Also find us at...



VNPS Annual Meeting
October 2-4, 2026
Wakefield, VA

[Learn More](#)



Plant Native! Festival
October 24, 2026
Henrico, VA

[Learn More](#)

Virginia Natural Heritage Program Celebrates 40 Years



On Friday, August 7, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Natural Heritage Program (NHP). Established as a partnership between [The Nature Conservancy](#) and the Commonwealth of Virginia, "the Program's work focuses on science-based conservation to protect Virginia's native plant and animal life and the ecosystems upon which it depends. Scientists collect data on natural communities and rare plants and animals, develop land conservation data and online mapping tools, and provide up-to-date information to enable timely conservation decisions." Since 1986 NHP has created 69 Natural Area Preserves which permanently protect nearly 68,000 acres. They review over 3,000 projects a year, providing the best data to land-use decision-makers to inform their decisions.

[The Flora of Virginia Project was fortunately included in the celebration at one of NHP's first projects, Buffalo Mountain.](#) Flora founding member and author Chris Ludwig, one of NHP first botanists, worked with NHP director Michael Lipford to create and support The Flora of Virginia Project as a necessary resource for NHP success. Both were in attendance to celebrate the milestone. NHP staff continue to support the Flora of Virginia as co-authors and Flora board members. You can learn more about the Virginia Natural Heritage Program and the amazing work done by all of its staff [here](#).



Buy the App



Donate

The Flora of Virginia is evergreen, requiring ongoing attention to keep data up-to-date and to add new features and functionality. We rely on the generosity of our users and supporters to get our work done. Your tax-deductible donation supports all of the work necessary to Keep the Science Current.

Flora of Virginia Project, Inc.

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