

**Enrolled**  
**Senate Bill 547**

Sponsored by Senators SOLLMAN, GELSER BLOUIN; Senators BROADMAN, CAMPOS, LIEBER, MEEK, REYNOLDS, WEBER, Representatives MCLAIN, NATHANSON, WALTERS (at the request of Luci Moody) (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to Oregon Native Plant Appreciation Month; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Oregon has more than 4,700 plant species that grow in the wild without cultivation, 72.5 percent of which are native to this state and more than 115 of which are endemic to and only grow in this state; and

Whereas native plants in Oregon are those that have established in the landscape independently from direct or indirect human intervention, including those that are new to science or that existed prior to European arrival, and that have adapted to and evolved in the local environment; and

Whereas Oregon's native plants provide unique environmental, economic and cultural value to this state, including forming the foundation of this state's food chain and providing food to our native animals, including birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects; and

Whereas Oregon's native plants are essential to this state's healthy, diverse and sustainable ecosystems and help create and maintain clean air and water and stable soil; and

Whereas Oregon's native plants are well established in the ecosystems of this state and have very little potential to become invasive pests in our wild and natural areas, thus requiring minimal fertilizer, soil amendment, water and pesticide to maintain; and

Whereas Oregon currently contends with over 1,300 wild non-native plants, including more than 150 invasive species (including noxious weeds) growing in our wild and natural areas; and

Whereas noxious weeds displace and compete with native and desirable economic plants, negatively affect agricultural and forest economies, impact natural resources such as fish and wildlife and overall watershed health, threaten cultural resources and first foods and can contribute to extreme wildfire behavior; and

Whereas The Oregon Biodiversity Information Center ranks 633 of Oregon's native vascular plants as uncommon, threatened, vulnerable, imperiled or critically imperiled in this state; and

Whereas Oregon's native plants attract beneficial insects like butterflies, ladybugs and bumblebees, which help fight agricultural pests and pollinate food crops, thus boosting the economy of this state; and

Whereas many of Oregon's native plants improve soil health by increasing the diversity of soil microbes and helping the soil absorb and store water through their deep root systems; and

Whereas Oregon's Native American tribes have lived and thrived by their knowledge of native plants, which have provided them with food, clothing, shelter, dyes, tools, medicine and fuel for centuries; and

Whereas the Oregon grape has been Oregon's state flower since 1899, and was used by indigenous tribes for medicine, food and dyes; and

Whereas the Douglas fir has been Oregon's state tree since 1939, and was used by tribes such as the Nuxalk and Quinault for torches, structures, fuel, tools, caulking and medicine; and

Whereas Oregon's native plants are a major part of this state's natural heritage, providing countless aesthetic, cultural, economic and ecological benefits; now, therefore,

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. The month of April of each year is designated as Oregon Native Plant Appreciation Month.**

**SECTION 2. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.**

**Passed by Senate February 20, 2025**

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Obadiah Rutledge, Secretary of Senate

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Passed by House June 11, 2025**

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2025

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2025

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Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2025

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Tobias Read, Secretary of State