

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

RESOLUTION 2025 –

WHEREAS, Florida enjoys an incredible and distinctive variety of native plants with more than 3,300 native species inhabiting a rich array of natural communities, ranging from the scenic coastal marshes of Hernando County to the tropical hammocks of the south, and from the distinctive pinelands of the Brooksville Ridge to the mangrove swamps of the coast; and

WHEREAS, Hernando County is home to an exemplary array of natural areas that showcase native plants and native plant communities for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike, including the Withlacoochee State Forest, Chassahowitzka National Wildlife refuge, Weeki Wachee Preserve and Cypress Lake Preserve; and

WHEREAS, Florida Agriculture is dependent on native plants to support the native butterflies, bees, and other pollinators required to sustain many of the food crops grown commercially and in family gardens; and

WHEREAS, the People of Florida treasure their native wildlife, as demonstrated by longstanding support for programs to conserve wildlife, and preserving viable native plant communities is an essential prerequisite to the conservation of our native wildlife; and

WHEREAS, native plants impart natural grace and beauty to developed landscapes, are naturally adapted to our climate and rainfall patterns, and provide an attractive alternative to landscaping dominated by nonnative plants that often require larger amounts of water, fertilizer and pesticides for their maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Hernando County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society is dedicated to conserving Hernando's native plants and pursues its mission through individual and collective action, and by collaborating with Hernando County and the City of Brooksville on various initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is distinguished by a particularly spectacular display of seasonal native wildflowers, and the Society wishes to share its celebration and appreciation of Florida's native plants with all the people of Hernando County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HERNANDO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Board of County Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of October 2025, as **FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT MONTH** in Hernando County.

SECTION 2. The Board of County Commissioners encourages all citizens to celebrate **FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT MONTH** by incorporating native trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, and grasses into their landscapes, which benefits the environment by drastically reducing the need for irrigation, fertilizers, and pesticides in our community.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 14th day of October 2025, A.D.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attest:

Douglas A. Chorvat, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

Brian Hawkins
Chairman

Steve Champion
Commissioner

Jerry Campbell
Vice Chairman

Ryan Amsler
Commissioner

John Allocco
Second Vice Chairman