

2024

## Why enroll in the Certificate in Native Plants program?

Have you ever wondered “What is that plant?” Or have you yearned to know more about native plants or to participate in plant conservation activities but felt you “just didn’t know enough?” Have you considered a career in plant biology, ecology or conservation horticulture? The Certificate in Native Plants program will provide you with basic knowledge and skills that dedicated amateurs and professionals need to know about native plants and their conservation. Even if you do not plan on a professional career in plant conservation, knowledge gained in this program will equip you to be a more effective advocate and volunteer in your community.

For additional information and applications, email [sbgeduc@uga.edu](mailto:sbgeduc@uga.edu) or call 706-542-6156

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia at the University of Georgia is a “living laboratory” for university students and faculty who utilize the collections and natural plant communities for studies in a variety of disciplines. This facility is also a public space for enjoyment by anyone who finds beauty, knowledge and peace in a garden.

### Classes offered in partnership with:



Medicine Bow Wilderness School



Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center  
College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



## Certificate in Native Plants

The Certificate in Native Plants offers committed individuals a comprehensive series of short courses in identification, cultivation, propagation, ecology and conservation of native Georgia plants. With an emphasis on participatory learning, courses are designed to provide a supportive and challenging learning atmosphere. Participants will gain a greater appreciation and understanding of native plants in a broad context.



State Botanical Garden of Georgia  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

2450 S. Milledge Avenue  
Athens, Ga. 30605

To register for classes, visit:  
[botgarden.uga.edu](http://botgarden.uga.edu)

An education initiative of:  
The State Botanical Garden of Georgia  
and  
The Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance

## The Certificate in Native Plants is ...

### Knowledge-based

Courses are taught by experts – university professors, conservation professionals and experienced field botanists who are dedicated to sharing their knowledge, experience and enthusiasm in a relaxed setting and accessible format.

### Field-directed

Plan to get your hands dirty and your feet wet! All courses involve hands-on experience with plants and plant communities. Volunteer activities and field trips will help you learn by doing.

### Conservation-oriented

We believe that the old saying “knowledge is power” applies to conservation. Once you know the basics of botany and plant conservation, you will be prepared and motivated to contribute to the conservation of Georgia’s flora and native plant habitats.

### Learner-friendly

Students may take as long as needed to complete the program. Courses are offered so the program can be completed in as little time as one year. Classes may be taken in any order (with few exceptions) and at your own pace.

### Certificate Requirements

4 Core Courses	32 hours
6 Electives	24 hours
2 Field Trips	8 hours
Volunteer Service	16 hours
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80 hours</b>

## 2024 Schedule

6 Continuing Education Units (CEU) available through the University of Georgia

### CORE CLASSES

Plant Taxonomy (V), April 13, 15, 16  
Plant Conservation (V), Aug. 10, 13  
Basic Botany (V), Nov. 9, 12

### ELECTIVES

Winter Tree Identification, Jan. 27  
Native Plant Propagation, Feb. 2  
Native Plant Symposium, Feb. 15  
Spring Wildflowers of Upland Deciduous Forests, March 16  
Spring Wildflowers of the Granite Outcrops\*, Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, March 21  
Soils of the Georgia Piedmont & Beyond, March 23  
Ethnobotany of Native Plants\*, Medicine Bow Wilderness School, May 9  
Introduction to Graminoid ID, May 11  
Carnivorous Plants, June 1  
Native Ferns of the Georgia Piedmont, June 2  
The Bee-uitiful World of Native Bees\*, Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center, June 7

Summer Tree Identification, June 8  
Native Plant Propagation\*, Chattahoochee Nature Center, June 22  
Carnivorous Plants\*, Chattahoochee Nature Center, July 27  
Fungal Ecology & Diversity, Aug. 23  
Native Plants & Insect Pollinators\*, Chattahoochee Nature Center, Aug. 24  
Fall Wildflowers of the Georgia Piedmont, Sept. 7  
Native Ferns of the North Georgia Mountains, Sept. 14  
Fall Wildflowers of the Granite Outcrops\*, Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, Sept. 19  
Managing Invasive Plants\*, Gaskins Forest Education Center, Sept. 28  
Plants We Love to Hate, Oct. 5  
Warm-Season Grasses, Oct. 19  
Groundcover Restoration\*, Gaskins Forest Education Center, Oct. 26  
Got Privet? (V), Nov. 16

### Note:

\*locations other than the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.  
(V) virtual (online) classes

### 4 Core Courses - 8 hours each

**Fee: \$105 per course (10% off for Friends)**

- Basic Botany
- Plant Taxonomy
- Natural Communities of Georgia
- Plant Conservation

### 6 Elective Courses - 4 hours each\*

**Fee: \$50 per course (10% off for Friends)**

Participants choose six courses from a wide range of elective course offerings.

\*Some classes may exceed 4 hours in length

### 16 Hours of Volunteer Service

Participants complete 16 hours of volunteer service with a conservation organization.

### 2 Field Trips

Participants complete two half-day field trips organized by the Georgia Botanical Society, Georgia Native Plant Society or another approved organization.

### \$30 Registration Fee

Participants must pay an initial \$30 registration fee to cover cost of class materials.