Native plant habitats on residential properties are critical to sustaining our native ecosystem—their plants, wildlife, water, soil, and air are a vital contribution to a world that has lost so much.

The GNPS Native Plant Habitat Certification Program recognizes the importance of planting, nurturing, and protecting native plants in small landscapes.

Educate, Demonstrate, Celebrate!

By pursuing certification, you are educating yourself and others in best practices for sustaining high-quality habitat. Your property is unique; creating and preserving a native plant habitat will have its ongoing tasks and challenges, and its unfolding pleasures. Certifying your property demonstrates the importance of your work and shows how a few thoughtful choices in your landscape can benefit a variety of insects, birds, amphibians, and other wildlife. There is no better way to celebrate biodiversity!
A trained member of the certification committee will arrange to visit you on your property as part of the certification process. Having a guide to help you explore the plants and site conditions on your property can be a fun and inspiring way to see it with new eyes.

Properties can be certified at either the Silver or Gold levels. These levels are distinguished by the amount and diversity of native plants on the property and the number of sustainable gardening practices. Specific criteria are listed at gnps.org/habitat.

Get Started

Visit our website at gnps.org/habitat to begin the certification process.

If you are not yet a member of GNPS, join at gnps.org/get-involved/become-member.

Questions? You can send an email to habitatcertification@gnps.org.