

NATIVE PLANTS

Bring birds and butterflies to your backyard—it's easy with native plants!

WHY GARDEN WITH NATIVE PLANTS?

Is your garden your outdoor sanctuary? It can also be a haven for birds and butterflies! When you garden with native plants, your yard, patio, or balcony becomes a sanctuary for nesting and overwintering birds. Each native plant garden is a pocket of habitat—planting more gardens means we create a neighborhood of bird-friendly habitats.

Did you know that most landscaping plants available in local nurseries are from other parts of the world? They provide little value to our local insects and birds. Native plants provide food and shelter for native birds and other wildlife. Birds feed on the insects that evolved with native plants. When you plant an exotic plant in your landscape, it provides no benefit to wildlife.



Native plants also benefit people—allowing them to spend more time watching birds and less time with the hose and lawnmower. Because they evolved here, our native plants are adapted to our region. They don't need extra watering or nutrients.

You'll also see environmental benefits—mowers and weed-whackers burn 800 million gallons of gasoline per year, adding to greenhouse gases that drive climate change. Less mowing also means less water and noise pollution. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 30 to 60 percent of fresh water in American cities is used to water lawns.

There are many reasons to choose native plants. But perhaps the best reason of all is that they're beautiful.

Contact Audubon today to learn more about the benefits of native plants and to select native plants that will thrive in your space. Call (412) 963-6100 or visit aswp.org.

AUDUBON CENTER FOR NATIVE PLANTS

Our Native Plant Nursery

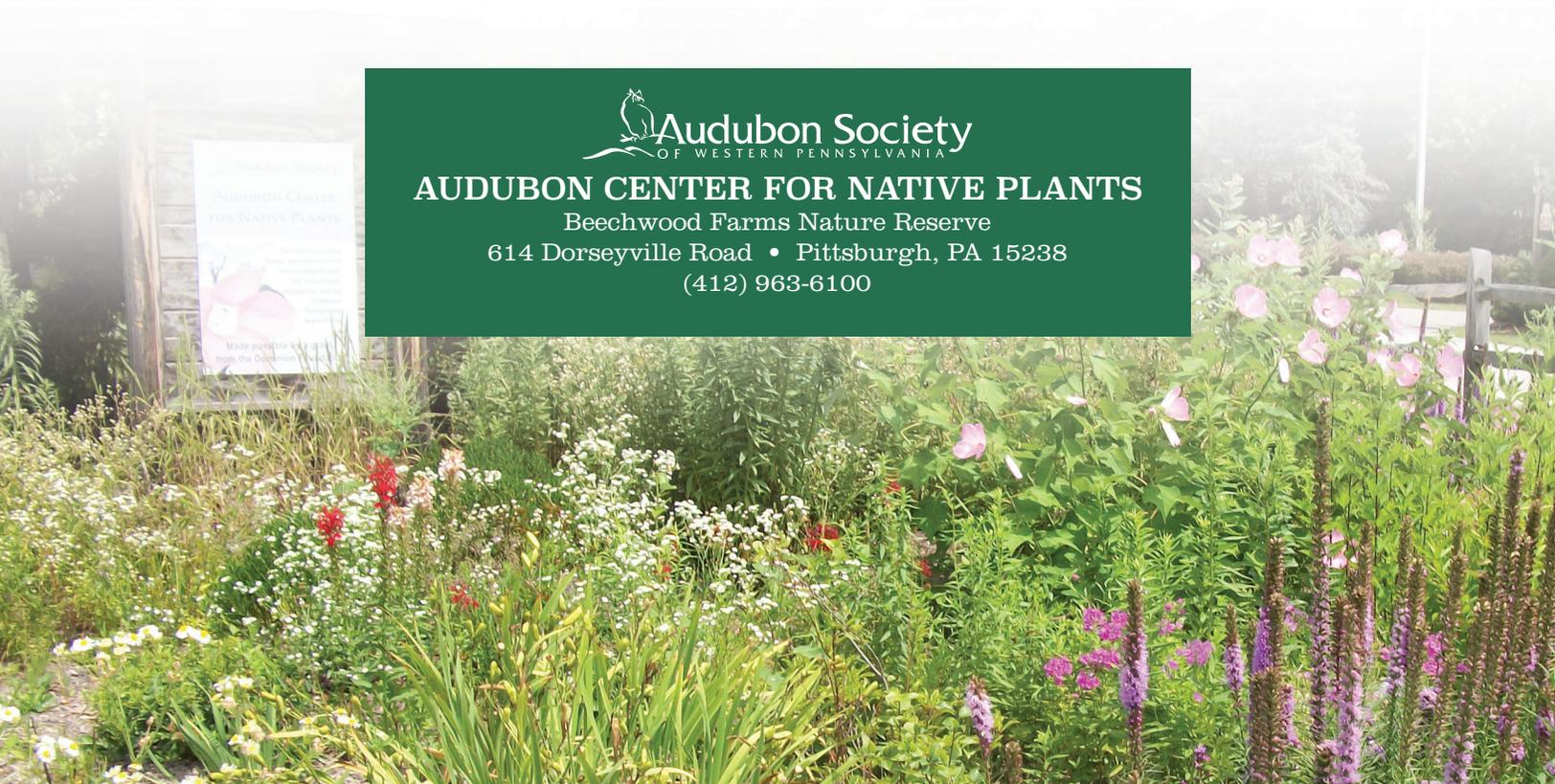
Opened in 2000, Audubon Center for Native Plants (ACNP) is the region's largest provider of western Pennsylvania native perennials.

At our native plant nursery, anyone may purchase plants—our staff will help you to choose the correct plants for your gardening goals. If you want to create a pollinator garden, attract hummingbirds to your yard, or select deer-resistant native plants, we can help.

ACNP has successfully propagated over 140 species of native plants and has over 100 species on-hand for sale during the growing season. Volunteer support helps us to grow and care for thousands of native plants each year. Native plant experts run educational workshops and provide support to groups such as community-based organizations and municipalities.

Interested in a native plant garden but don't want to tackle it on your own? Contact us to create your own customized Certified Backyard Habitat!

Ready to learn more? Visit aswp.org for more information about our native plant nursery, gardening with native plants, and other helpful resources.



 **Audubon Society**
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

AUDUBON CENTER FOR NATIVE PLANTS
Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve
614 Dorseyville Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15238
(412) 963-6100