

OHIO NATURAL AREAS AND PRESERVES ASSOCIATION



Dedicated to promoting, protecting, and improving Ohio natural areas and preserves for educational and scientific purposes.

ONAPA Officers

Guy L. Denny,
President

Jennifer Windus,
Vice President

Richard E. Moseley Jr.
Secretary

Dr. Ray Heithaus
Treasurer

Jim McGregor
Governmental Affairs
Officer

ONAPA Directors

Dr. Barbara Andreas
Dr. James k. Bissell
Delores Cole
Edwin Dengg, Esq.
Randy Haar
Cheryl Harner
Jim Mason
Gordon Maupin
Timothy Snyder
Dr. David Todt

Advisors to Board

Ian Adams
Pamela Bennett
Frances Buchholzer
Mary Christensen, J.D.
Dr. W. Hardy Eshbaugh
Robin Green, J.D.
Dewey Hollister
Kimberly Kaufman
Paul Knoop
Robert McCance
Steve Pollick
Jack Shaner
Joseph J. Sommer
Hope Taft

January 30th, 2019

Dear Senators:

ONAPA is a statewide non-profit organization formed in 2012 to support ODNR's Division of Natural Areas and Preserves and is dedicated to promoting, protecting and improving Ohio natural areas & preserves for educational and scientific purposes. We endeavor to ensure Ohio's natural areas & preserves are adequately protected, receive appropriate management, and are appreciated and supported for the benefit of all Ohioans.

I am writing in support of legislation to designate April as Ohio Native Plant Month. The proposed legislation states, "The month of April is designated as 'Ohio Native Plant Month' to increase public awareness of Ohio's native plants and the many benefits they provide to pollinators, Ohio's economy, and the health of Ohio's environment."

Passage of this bill is an important step in the growing nationwide effort to help native ecosystems and our declining pollinators. Native plants are good for Ohio, good for the environment, and good for business. Please make Ohio one of the first states in the nation to officially recognize the importance of native plants.

We appreciate your support of this important legislation for Ohio.

Respectfully,

Guy L. Denny, ONAPA President

Protecting Ohio's Natural Legacy

PO Box 415 · Johnstown, OH 43031 · www.ONAPA.org