

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Native Plant Trust Announces “*Plants: Solos for Native Species*” on September 26; Registration for Fall and Winter Programs Open Now

For media inquiries: Kathryn Acerbo-Bachmann, 617-309-8926, kacerbobachmann@NativePlantTrust.org



WAYLAND, MA — Native Plant Trust, the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants, announced its lineup of Fall and Winter Programs, and a special fall collaboration with Boston Dance Theatre.

Saturday, September 26 Boston Dance Theatre will present “*Plants: Solos for Native Species*.” Throughout the day, visitors will experience immersive dance performances at different locations within

Garden in the Woods, Native Plant Trust's renowned botanic garden, featuring solo works inspired by individual native plant species. Four solo performances will loop throughout the day in different locations in the Garden. The event is free with Garden admission.

“Boston Dance Theatre's *Plants: Solos for Native Species* transforms the Garden into both stage and subject, allowing us to encounter our native landscape through a completely new lens, inviting us to see our surroundings differently,” said Sara O'Brien, Director of Public Programs at Native Plant Trust. “Boston Dance Theatre is known for bringing contemporary dance into conversation with the world around us, and these intimate solo performances give individual native species a remarkable new presence. Connecting people more deeply to native plants is central to our mission, and art has a unique ability to inspire the curiosity, wonder, and sense of connection that spurs us to champion the well-being of our native landscapes.”

Plants: Solos for Native Species is just one of the fall and winter classes and events focused on native plants now open for registration. Tim Johnson, CEO of Native Plant Trust, notes: “The way we think about our gardens and landscapes is changing. Increasingly, people want to understand not simply what to plant, but how their choices affect biodiversity, water, wildlife, climate resilience, and the

Photo: Participants of our Framework Trees of New England program at Garden in the Woods © Melissa Blackall

larger ecosystems around them. Our education programs meet that curiosity with the depth of science and horticultural expertise that has defined Native Plant Trust for generations. By making that knowledge accessible—from advanced botany and conservation to practical ecological gardening—we can help people turn their own landscapes into part of a much larger conservation effort.”

Highlights include:

Conservation Biology (September 15, 22, 29, 2026) Explore the factors that make a species vulnerable to extinction and the strategies and tools that can be used to protect plants and ecosystems.

Orange Sallow Moth Survey (September 26, 2026) Join members of Zoo New England’s Conservation Team for a rare field study focused on observing and surveying orange sallow moth eggs and larvae, which rely on the fern-leaved false foxglove (*Aureolaria pedicularia*).

Lunch and Learn with Director of Conservation Lea Johnson and Director of Horticulture Uli Lorimer (Virtual): **Why Ecoregions Matter** (October 1, 2026) and **What’s in a name? How Plant Names Shape How We See** (November 5, 2026).

Framework Trees of New England (October 16 and 17, 2026) The history and ecology of the Northeast’s forests from the Ice Age to present day.

Native Hydrangeas (January 7, 2027) A close look at native hydrangeas- beautiful, sustainable and suited to New England’s climate and gardens.

Winter Pruning (January 30, 2027) An opportunity for hands-on experience, including basic pruning techniques, when to prune different species and how to select and maintain tools.

Learn to Mount Herbarium Specimens (February 27, 2027)

How Plants Sense and Respond (March 2, 2027) Explore why plants have distinct scents, how they communicate and protect themselves, and the remarkable ways they perceive their surroundings in ways largely invisible to humans.

For more information and registration for these programs and others, please visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.

ABOUT NATIVE PLANT TRUST

For over a century, Native Plant Trust has been leading the movement to conserve native plants in the wild and use them in designed spaces. We do this to increase the beauty and resilience of New England and the planet. From our base in Massachusetts, staff and trained volunteers work throughout New England each year to monitor and protect rare and endangered plants, collect and preserve seeds to ensure biological diversity, detect and control invasive species, conduct research, and offer a range of educational programs. We welcome visitors from all over the world to Garden in the Woods, our renowned native plant botanic garden in Framingham, MA. We also operate a nursery at Nasami Farm in western Massachusetts and manage six sanctuaries in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont that are open to the public. Please visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.