

NEWS RELEASE

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(RIDGELY, MD—March 25, 2015)

Adkins Arboretum Announces Native Plant Nursery Opening Weekend

Adkins Arboretum's **Native Plant Nursery**, offering the Chesapeake gardener the largest selection of ornamental native plants for more than 20 years, will celebrate its 2015 **Opening Weekend** Sat. April 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sun., April 26 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Arboretum Visitor's Center in Ridgely. The sale benefits the Arboretum's education programs and affords the public an opportunity to learn about the region's native plants and their connection to a healthy Chesapeake Bay. **Following the sale weekend, the Nursery will be open to the public during the growing season.**

Plants for sale will include a broad selection of perennials, ferns, vines, grasses, and flowering shrubs and trees for spring planting. Native flowers and trees provide food and habitat for wildlife and make colorful additions to home landscapes, whether in a perennial border, a woodland garden or a restoration project. Tall spikes of purple-blue flowers grace blue wild indigo, while native honeysuckle entices hummingbirds. Cardinal flower, ferns and Joe-pye attract frogs, butterflies and dragonflies, and native azaleas present a veritable rainbow of bloom colors.



Flowering dogwood (Cornus florida) is among the flowering trees for sale at Adkins Arboretum during its Native Plant Nursery Opening Weekend, April 25–26, and throughout the growing season. Photo by Ann Rohlfiing.

The Arboretum is a participating nursery in the Marylanders Plant Trees native tree discount program. For any native tree valued at \$50 or more, shoppers will receive a \$25 discount. Some of the special larger trees available for this discount include birch, ironwood, dogwood, and several cultivars of redbud, the Arboretum's 2015 Native Tree of the Year.

The Arboretum gift shop will be open and will offer books and nature-inspired gifts for gardeners.

Members receive a 10% discount on plants, gift shop items and new books. Members at the Contributor level (\$100) and above receive a 20% discount on plant purchases.

A sale day for members will be held Fri., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All members are welcome, and new memberships will be accepted that day. Chris Pax, lead designer for the Arboretum's Native Landscape Design Center, will offer **Great Natives** from noon to 1 p.m. In this free program, Pax will provide ideas for spring planting and will discuss how native plants contribute to the home landscape.

Donations of garden books, field guides and gardening/landscaping magazines for the used book sale are greatly appreciated. The sale helps support the Arboretum's library. Books may be left at the Visitor's Center between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, call 410-634-2847, extension 0 or visit adkinsarboretum.org.

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Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum is the region's resource for native plants and education programs about nature, ecology and wildlife conservation gardening. For additional information about Arboretum programs, visit www.adkinsarboretum.org or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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