

WHEREAS, the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) began in the summer of 1980 in Winter Haven, Florida by a group of scientists, educators and conservationists concerned about the loss of Florida's native plants and the introduction of non-native species overtaking natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Society now consists of 37 chapters and 3,500 members from all walks of life who volunteer their time, knowledge and skills in public workshops, Jand Management Reviews, raising money for Conservation and Research Grants, Jandscape Awards, restoration projects and teaching Floridians about the benefits of native plants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville has an incredible wealth of natural areas to showcase Florida's native plants and native plant communities; and

WHEREAS, the Paynes Prairie Chapter of FNPS has members who participate in activities that benefit the citizens and environment of the City of Gainesville.

NOW, THEREFORE, I. Edward B. Braddy, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October, 2015 as

## Florida Wative Plant Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebration and gaining knowledge on preserving, conserving and restoring our native plants.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF. I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, A.D., 2015.

Edward B. Braddy Navor

