

# NPC DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

STONE COTTAGE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN



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Planting of the Stone Cottage Garden began in 2002. In July, 2005, over 150 visitors from around the county came to the Dedication of the NPC's second demonstration garden. In 2007 the gardens continue to thrive and educate the community about the importance of natives.



THE LADY BIRD JOHNSON DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

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# THE NATIVE PLANT CENTER

AT

## WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FIRST NATIONAL AFFILIATE OF THE  
LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER



“Our environment tells us who we are and what we value.”

— Lady Bird Johnson

**The Native Plant Center** was established in 1998 under the auspices of the Westchester Community College Foundation, and soon became the first national affiliate of the **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center** in Austin, Texas. The Westchester Center, founded by three Board Members of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, was established to provide outreach for the Texas Center, as there was no native plant organization in the New York metropolitan area.

Over the years, *The Center's* membership has grown to more than 400. *The Center* reaches thousands of interested gardeners, naturalists and native plant enthusiasts in the tri-state area with its newsletter and website.

The mission of *The Native Plant Center* is **to educate the community about the environmental necessity, economic value and natural beauty of native plants in the Northeast.** By native plants, we mean the plants which were in place in this region before European settlement – the plants that sustained life in the Northeast for millions of years.

**To accomplish its mission, *The Native Plant Center* :**

- Organically Maintains two Demonstration Gardens at the College to show what native plants look like and how they can thrive without the use of pesticides and extra water
- Works with state, county and local government agencies to place native plants along parkways and streets, in parks, and in other public places as part of Project Wildflower
- Offers lectures and workshops on various aspects of using and growing native plants and symposia with nationally known experts speaking and leading discussions
- Hosts field trips to local, regional and national gardens
- Maintains a website at [www.nativeplantcenter.org](http://www.nativeplantcenter.org)
- Sponsors the annual Wildflower and Native Plant Sale along with a January Pre-Sale
- Collaborates with like-minded organizations to sponsor educational events such as Westchester Wildflower Week
- Publishes a bi-annual newsletter

Funding for the not-for-profit *Native Plant Center* comes primarily from membership dues, lectures, special events, and the region's only Wildflower and Native Plant Sale.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS



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**Project Wildflower**

Meadow planting on Taconic State Parkway began in 2002. In 2007, motorists continue to enjoy the beauty of the joint efforts of the NYS DOT, *The Native Plant Center* and other local environmental organizations.

“Wherever I go in America, I like it when the land speaks its own language in its own regional accent.”

— *Lady Bird Johnson*

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“Fifteen years ago, when I decided to ‘throw my hat over the windmill’ and founded the National Wildflower Research Center with the help of Helen Hayes and some like-minded friends, one of my greatest hopes was that satellite centers would rise in other regions of the country. Today, you transform that hope into reality. I am thrilled and delighted that you are affiliated with us.”

— *Lady Bird Johnson*  
October, 1999