How to Apply

Applications are accepted year-round. Landowners will be notified about the acceptance of their property into the Wild Plant Sanctuary program within six months.

For more information or to receive an application, please contact:

DCNR, Bureau of Forestry
P.O. Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
717-787-3444
RA-PAPlantSanctuary@state.pa.us

Visit us at:

www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/ plantsanctuaries



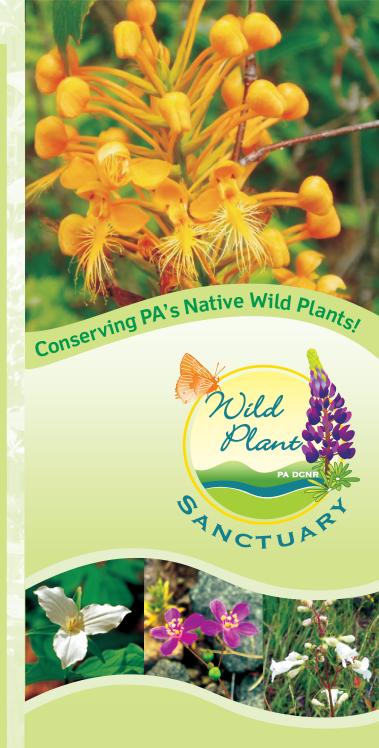
Photos courtesy of John Kunsman of the Pa Natural Heritage Program except where otherwise noted.



The Wild Resource Conservation Act establishes the authority for the conservation of native wild plants within Pennsylvania.

In cooperation with the Wild Resource Conservation Program, the Wild Plant Sanctuary Program is implemented through DCNR's Bureau of Forestry, whose mission is to ensure the long-term health, viability, and productivity of the Commonwealth's forests and to conserve native wild plants.





About the Program

Most of Pennsylvania's threatened and endangered plants and animals are found on lands that are not state or federally owned and managed. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources created the Wild Plant Sanctuary program to formally commend landowners for conserving and enhancing native wild plants and communities.

The program seeks to raise awareness of Pennsylvania's special plants and plant communities by recognizing landowners who are committed stewards of these important natural resources. These landowners serve as role models in educating others about the importance of native plants in our natural world.

Benefits of the Program

Landowners will become part of a voluntary statewide network of Wild Plant sanctuaries.

Participants are eligible for professional guidance on good stewardship and ecologically sound restoration practices.

In recognition of their sound stewardship, they'll receive a plaque identifying their land as a Wild Plant Sanctuary.

Eligibility

Lands with special or unique wild plant resources qualify for the program. To receive formal designation as a Wild Plant Sanctuary, the property must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- supports plants that are rare, threatened or endangered in PA
- contains host plants for rare moths, butterflies or invertebrates
- includes outstanding or unique natural features or plant communities
- is being maintained and managed using ecologically sound practices

