



PENNSYLVANIA WILD PLANT SANCTUARIES

Most of Pennsylvania's threatened and endangered plants and animals are found on privately owned land. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources created the Wild Plant Sanctuary Program to formally commend private land owners for conserving and enhancing native wild plants and communities.

Program Goals:

- Raise awareness and educate about the important role wild plants play in Pennsylvania while providing information to help conserve native wild plants;
- Establish a voluntary statewide network of Wild Plant Sanctuaries on private lands;
- Recognize, inform, and provide technical assistance to landowners whose properties support habitats and wild plant species of statewide or local significance;
- Encourage and recognize good stewardship practices (including scientifically-sound ecological restoration) for native habitats and wild plant species;
- Provide natural reserves for native wild plant species that would be made available for research and education.

Properties will be considered for the Wild Plant Sanctuary Program if they contain one or more of the following:

- ✓ Plants that are rare, threatened, or endangered in Pennsylvania
- ✓ Host plants for rare moths, butterflies, and other arthropods
- ✓ Outstanding or unique natural features or plant communities
- ✓ Exceptional management practices (e.g., restoring a rare plant community using local genetic material)

Areas NOT considered appropriate for Wild Plant Sanctuaries include:

- Formal gardens or landscaping with "improved" nursery stock of state-listed plant species
- Sites restored using plants or seeds from sources outside Pennsylvania or of unknown origin
- Properties threatened by future development, poor management practices, or unmanageable invasive plant infestations

Attached is an application for Wild Plant Sanctuary designation. Applications are accepted throughout the year. Applicants can expect a response from the Wild Plant Sanctuary Committee within about six months from the time the application is submitted.



PRIVATE WILD PLANT SANCTUARY DESIGNATION APPLICATION
 PA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

I (We) propose the property described below be designated as a private wild plant sanctuary.			
Name of Site		County	
Contact Person		Organization	
Email Address		Phone No.	
Mailing Address			
Are you the landowner? (Check if "yes") <input type="checkbox"/>		If not, please provide the following information:	
Landowner		Contact Person	
Email Address		Telephone No.	
Mailing Address			
Landowner Category (check all boxes that apply)			
Private <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> College/University <input type="checkbox"/> Land Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (describe below)			
Name and description of other landowner type:			
If there are additional person(s) with a bona fide interest in the proposed property, please attach additional sheets listing their name and contact information.			



PRIVATE WILD PLANT SANCTUARY DESIGNATION APPLICATION (CONT.)			
Has a professional biologist or ecologist evaluated/ inventoried the proposed area? (Check if "yes") <input type="checkbox"/>			
Name of expert		Title	
Employer/Affiliation		Telephone No.	
Date Property was Evaluated			
Any significant findings: (attach additional pages as necessary)			
Location of and directions to the proposed sanctuary (Please include the following if available: map showing site boundaries, lat/long coordinates of boundary, township, county, or USGS quad name).			
Latitude		Longitude	
Proposed sanctuary size in acres			
Is the property enrolled in the Forest Stewardship Program? (<i>check, if yes</i>)			<input type="checkbox"/>
Please select the category/categories that best describes the proposed sanctuary:			
Contains plant species that are rare, threatened, or endangered (species of concern) within PA; <i>(Information will be added to the PA Natural Diversity Index (PNDI) database to aid in the protection of species of special concern)</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Contains plant species that act as host plants for "at-risk" invertebrates;			<input type="checkbox"/>
Contains outstanding or unique natural features or plant communities such as old growth forests or waterfalls;			<input type="checkbox"/>
Contains areas that have been ecologically restored using native plants whose known genetic source is Pennsylvania.			<input type="checkbox"/>



PRIVATE WILD PLANT SANCTUARY DESIGNATION APPLICATION (CONT.)	
Plant species (if any) classified in PA as Endangered, Threatened, Rare, or Vulnerable or host plants for “at-risk” invertebrates which occur at the site. A list of these species can be found at www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us .	
Unique natural features or plant communities on the site	
General environmental description of the proposed sanctuary (If available, please include a CD of any applicable photos of the site; photos will not be returned; electronic file attachments not to exceed 2 MB)	
Current uses of the site	
Planned future uses of the site	
Though not a condition for selection, would you allow public access to your property? Check, if “yes.”	<input type="checkbox"/>
Though not a condition for selection, would you allow DCNR and affiliates to access the property for research and/or seed collection? No plants will be removed or harmed in the process. Check, if “yes.”	<input type="checkbox"/>
Though not a condition for selection, would you allow us to publish photos and information about the site in publications and/or our website? Check, if “yes.” Otherwise you and your property will remain anonymous.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please attach additional sheets if necessary to complete any section of this application. Include your name at the top of each page.	



PRIVATE WILD PLANT SANCTUARY DESIGNATION APPLICATION (CONT.)			
All property owners and/or all parties with a bona fide property interest in the land proposed for sanctuary designation must indicate their approval by signing below.			
I verify that all the information contained in the application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.			
Applicant's signature		Today's Date	
Landowner's signature (if different from applicant)		Today's Date	
Please mail this application to:	DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17105 For questions, please call 717-787-3444		

