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For immediate release

Mother's Day Native Plant Sale Pre-Order Due April 20 **Plant Sale: May 7 & 8**

Milwaukee, WI (April 8, 2016) – Gardeners can choose from a list of over 120 native plants for their gardens and landscapes, but, for best selection, they'll need to submit a pre-order form to Wehr Nature Center by 4:30 p.m. on April 20. The Mother's Day Weekend Native Plant Sale Pre-Order form helps staff plan for the annual sale (this year, May 7 and 8, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.). Wehr is located at 9701 W. College Ave.

From American bittersweet to wild ginger, native plants offer gardeners advantages over non-native plants. According to the National Park Service, benefits of native plants include adding beauty to the landscape and preserving the area's natural heritage, providing food and habitat for native wildlife, reducing the amount of water needed for landscape maintenance, producing longer root systems to hold soil in place, and protecting water quality by controlling soil erosion.

The list of plants on Wehr's pre-order form includes 68 prairie plants, 31 woodland plants, 16 wetland plant species, and eight spring ephemerals, all from a local nursery. Plants are available for sunny or shady locations, with soil conditions that are wet or dry.

Plants will be sold in 4.5-inch pots, gallon-sized pots, and trays of 2.5-inch plugs (16 per tray). Potted plants will have been grown 2–5 years and will be of transplant size.

Pre-order forms are available online at county.milwaukee.gov/MothersDayPlantSale.

During the plant sale, parking is free for shoppers.

For more information, call Wehr Nature Center at (414) 425-8550.

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