



# GO NATIVE U

at Westchester Community College

## Certificate Program in Sustainable Gardening with Native Plants

*Program Requirements—50 total hours*

### INDIVIDUAL AUDIT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CORE COURSES (18 hours required; completion of all core courses is mandatory for certificate)

Month/Year Completed:	Hours
_____	Introduction to Native Plants and Landscapes CE-GRDN 2010 (offered in fall) 6
_____	Native Trees and Shrubs CE-GRDN 2009 (offered in spring) 4
_____	Native Plant Communities CE-GRDN 2013 (offered in spring) 2
_____	Native Perennials: Spring/Summer CE-GRDN 2016 (offered in spring) 2
_____	Native Perennials: Summer/Fall CE-GRDN 2008 (offered in fall) 2
_____	Plant Identification in the Field CE-GRDN 2023 (offered in fall) 2

#### ELECTIVES (17 hours required)

**Note: Please use the blank spaces below to add elective courses you have taken not listed here.**

Month/Year Completed:	Hours
_____	Gardener's Toolkit for Invasive Species CE-GRDN 2037 4
_____	Great Native Plants for Containers CE-GRDN 2057 3
_____	Meadowscaping at Home CE-GRDN 2041 3
_____	Get the "Dirt" on Soil CE-GRDN 2134 3
_____	Advanced Plant Identification in the Field CE-GRDN 2050 2
_____	Best Practices for Garden Maintenance CE-GRDN 2074 2
_____	Identifying and Supporting Local Wild Bees CE-GRDN 2120 2
_____	Intro to Botanical Latin Plant Names CE-GRDN 2139 2
_____	Title/Catalog #/hours: _____

#### VOLUNTEER SERVICE (15 hours at The Native Plant Center; can be served at any time during progression)

Month/Year Completed:	Hours
_____	Native Plant Center Sale _____
_____	Rosedale Benefit Sale _____
_____	Garden maintenance in Native Plant Center gardens _____

#### FINAL EXAM (Content covers information from core courses; to be taken after all coursework is completed)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date completed

\* Return completed audit form to: Gabrielle Fox, Director, Community Education, Westchester Community College, ADM Bldg., Room 207, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10595; [gabrielle.fox@sunywcc.edu](mailto:gabrielle.fox@sunywcc.edu)

## **About Go Native U**

Go Native U at Westchester Community College is a joint project of the College's Division of Workforce Development and Community Education (WDCE) and The Native Plant Center. The non-credit courses teach students how to grow and maintain a beautiful and sustainable landscape using plants native to the Northeast. Classes are taught by leading experts and are designed to benefit industry professionals as well as home gardeners. Students may register for individual courses or enroll in the certificate program.

## **Certificate in Sustainable Gardening with Native Plants**

The certificate comprises 50 contact hours: 18 hours of core courses, 17 hours of electives, and 15 hours of volunteer service. A final exam must also be passed to receive a certificate. The program offers participants an understanding of regional ecology and sustainable practices that will serve to guide gardening, landscape design, grounds management, and plant selection. Students may take as long as needed to fulfill the program.

## **Volunteer Service**

Students pursuing a certificate can begin earning volunteer service hours at The Native Plant Center at any time. Opportunities include event assistance as well as garden maintenance and are geared to continuing the student's education with hands-on opportunities working with native plants. Contact The Native Plant Center to schedule volunteer time at [native.plant@sunywcc.edu](mailto:native.plant@sunywcc.edu) or call 914-606-7870. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own volunteer hours.

## **Audit Form**

After completing coursework and volunteer service, certificate candidates must fill out the audit form and forward it to the Community Education office: Westchester Community College, Administration Building, Room 207, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10595, or e-mail [gabrielle.fox@sunywcc.edu](mailto:gabrielle.fox@sunywcc.edu). Upon a determination that all the requirements have been met, the student will be sent the final exam.

## **Final Exam**

The final exam is a take-home test based on the content of the core courses. This is the last component of the certificate program. The exam will be e-mailed to the student, who should return the completed exam to Carolyn Summers, [csummers@springmail.com](mailto:csummers@springmail.com). A successful grade will complete the certificate, which will be issued within 7–10 business days.

## **More Information**

Questions? Call 914-606-6830.