



ALABAMA EXTENSION

NORTH ALABAMA NATIVE PLANT SYMPOSIUM

North Alabama Native Plant Symposium

May 30-31, 2026

Greetings!

We are excited to contact you about sponsoring the 2026 North Alabama Native Plant Symposium. This full-day event focuses on the integration of native plants into landscapes, inviting horticultural professionals, conservationists and homeowners to envision cultivating beauty while sustaining ecology. The 2025 symposium sold out with 150 attendees: this year, we aim to grow in a new location.

The symposium features both classroom presentations and field excursions from botanists, ecologists, and landscape professionals on topics related to Alabama's native plants and ecological landscaping. The symposium runs May 30-31 with classroom sessions on Saturday at the UAH Shelby Center for Science and Technology and botanical excursions (hikes, garden tours, and field visits) throughout north Alabama on Sunday.

Sponsorship directly supports the conference and its goals to grow and support the network of native plant professionals and enthusiasts in Alabama who are striving for financial, environmental, and cultural sustainability. All sponsors will be recognized and benefit from digital and in-person opportunities to connect with attendees and other stakeholders.

The North Alabama Native Plant Symposium features keynote addresses by Dr. Alan Weakley and Dr. Wayne Barger, two presenter tracks, vendors, networking, and site visits. Thank you for your consideration in supporting this convergence to keep our costs to participants low and barriers to learning minimal. On behalf of Alabama Cooperative Extension System and our partners at North Alabama Wild Ones and UAH Department of Biology, we appreciate your support!



Sincerely,
The North Alabama Native Plant Symposium Team



For symposium inquiries, contact Holt Akers-Campbell at hza0093@auburn.edu

Sponsorship Levels

Sponsorship Level	Sponsor Benefits
I. Spring Ephemeral \$200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Logo on printed conference agenda ○ Verbal recognition at conference opening
II. Native Pollinator \$400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All level I benefits ○ Logo on all conference promotional materials, flyers and digital marketing ○ Exhibitor table ○ Conference registration for 1
III. Fungal Associate \$600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All level II benefits ○ Conference registration for 2 ○ Printed half-page agenda feature
IV. Host Plant \$1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All level III benefits ○ Conference registration for 3 ○ Printed full page agenda feature
V. Keystone Species \$2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All level IV benefits ○ Opportunity to speak (5 minutes) prior to keynote address

2026 Symposium Topics	
May 30 at UAH	May 31 across North Alabama
<p>Flora of the Southeastern US – Dr. Alan Weakley, UNC Botanical Gardens</p> <p>Alabama Biodiversity – Dr. Wayne Barger, SUCC</p> <p>Safeguarding Native Trees: Pests and Diseases That Shape Landscape and Nursery Success – Dr. Annakay Newell, Auburn</p> <p>Research from Field to Garden: Native Flowers with Proven Performance – Dr. Bodie Pennisi, University of Georgia</p> <p>North Alabama Butterflies – Allyson Shabel, AL Cooperative Extension System</p> <p>Native Seed Collection and Processing – Gus Rasich, Southeastern Grasslands Institute</p> <p>Native Plant Conservation through Foraging – Jesse Akozbek, Feral Foraging</p> <p>Horticulture of Alabama Milkweed Species – Carmen Flammini, AL Cooperative Extension System</p>	<p>Native Gardens in Public Spaces – Aaron Stiles, Foraging Ahead</p> <p>Botany of Devil's Racetrack at Wade Mountain – Sara Johnson, North American Land Trust</p> <p>Garden Tour: Designing with Native Plants – Denise Woodring, Green Thumb Design</p> <p>Grassland Restoration and Invasive Species Control at Graham Farm & Nature Center – Norm Haley, AL Cooperative Extension System</p> <p>Botanical Stroll at Hays Farm – Helen Czech, Alabama A&M University</p> <p>Paint Rock Forest Dynamics Plot Excursion – Patience Knight, Alabama A&M University</p> <p>Plant Walk at Bloucher Ford Nature Preserve – Lynne Weninegar, Alabama A&M University</p> <p>Native Plant Conservation & Nursery Production – Dr. Vania Pereira, Huntsville Botanical Garden</p>