

A message from our chapter president Penny Morgan

Welcome! We are glad you're joining other White Pine Chapter members in celebrating native plants. Together we can learn how to benefit native plants, the pollinators and other wildlife who depend upon them. My family will tell you how much I enjoy working together with fellow enthusiasts on projects, especially if they involve native plants and the people who love them too. I am grateful to all of you for sharing your curiosity and enthusiasm.

You ARE our chapter. With you, we can do so much to learn about, support, and enjoy native plants, their habitats, and the people who love those native plants. Please consider joining one of our committees (no expertise required, just healthy curiosity and willingness to help). I look forward to seeing you at presentations, field trips, plant walks, and projects (yep, we're planning those now, so please if you have a dream, let us know). Incorporating native plants into your yard has huge benefits. Native pollinators will find and use them (even a pocket garden of a few plants will help). Native plants help conserve water (they only need extra watering when they are getting established). Native plants add beauty and diversity (thus delighting all our senses).

In 2025, we'll continue working with many local partners planting and sharing curiosity and knowledge about planting and conserving native plants and their habitats. Join us for presentations. We are already planning for our native plant sale (May 14-17, 2025, at the Depot at the Latah County Fairgrounds), our grants program, and many conservation projects. In June, we plan to host some tours of local gardens and yards to see how people have incorporated native plants to add beauty, support local pollinators, and make habitats for birds and insects. In spring, summer and fall, we will host field trips near and far, and we encourage members to join local plant walks to learn about our rich native biodiversity.

I'm back after taking a hiatus from the Idaho Native Plant Society last fall to have surgery and recovery from full knee replacement. I thank Judy Ferguson for serving as Acting President and all the board for managing very effectively with one less board member. I return with renewed enthusiasm.

Being in nature brings me great joy, and I wish that for you too. As we move into spring and summer, may you too delight in learning about native plants and their habitats. Please come participate in chapter activities to connect with others who share your interests.

Penny Morgan, 3/15/2025