

Native Plant Society, Upstate Chapter

Upstate Chapter, Native Plant Society, policies and procedures on plant rescues.

Date Adopted by Board of Directors: 10 August 2004

1. There is a need for a code of ethics to guide the membership in polite and ethical treatment of native plants.
2. Two committees are needed to regulate the plant rescue operations of the Upstate Chapter of the Native Plant Society. The first we will call for now "The Seek and Acquire Committee", and the second is a "Placement Committee."
3. The task of the "Seek and Acquire Committee" would be to find plants in need of rescue and to make arrangements for their rescue. This would entail coordination with county planning officials, the DNR, realtors, landscape design companies, and developers and contractors. Arrangements would include obtaining permission from landowners, developers and/or contractors; establishing a botanical schedule for rescues, establishing a work schedule and crews, and delivery to a holding area.
4. The task of the placement committee would be to arrange for the transfer of plants from a holding area to a permanent home in accordance with policies of the Native Plant Society.
5. The two committees and the board must work together to find a temporary holding area or areas for the housing and care of plants in the process of being rescued.
6. Policies on placement of plants.
 - a. We recommend that whenever possible a limited number of plants or seeds should be made available to participants in a rescue team for their private, non-commercial use, in gardens or the home. This is a courtesy extended to participants and can not be extended when the practice would be in violation of state and/or federal law or policy, or would not be in the best interests of the plants involved. Original owners of plants being rescued may further restrict the private acquisition of plants. The Seek and Acquire Committee will set the regulations on private acquisition of rescued plants for each rescue operation.
 - b. The first generation of any plants privately acquired through a plant rescue operation may not be offered for sale.
7. Priorities for plant placement. All things being equal, priorities for placement of rescued plants will be as follows (from highest to lowest).
 - a. A reasonable allocation of plants or seeds for the personal use of participants in the rescue itself.
 - b. Allocation to projects of the Upstate Chapter of the Native Plant Society. In this sense projects would include both those administered directly by the Chapter and projects we are working on cooperatively with other organizations.
 - c. Allocation to a plant sale sponsored by the Upstate Chapter of the Native Plant Society.
 - d. Allocation to educational institutions from elementary through high school.
 - e. Allocation to other public landscaping projects.
 - f. Allocation to botanical gardens.
 - g. Allocation for the purposes of research.
8. Unifying theme in determining the allocation of rescued plants is based on the policy:

Placement of rescued plants is made first on the basis of the long-term welfare of the plants rescued and second on the benefits that accrue to the Upstate Chapter, NPS, as a result of that rescue.