

Press Release
Cedar City Native Plant Society
February 8, 2009

Cedar City Native Plant Chapter Forms

In the face of limited water supply and water-hungry Cedar City and Iron County, it is most appropriate to offer another way and still have a beautiful garden. This can be accomplished by having drought-resistant flowers, shrubs, and trees around our homes and public areas.

We are very pleased to announce the formation of “The Cedar City Native Plant Chapter”; an affiliate of the state organization, “The Utah Native Plant Society”. The newly formed chapter will hold its first meeting on Wednesday evening, February 18th, at 7:00 PM at the Southern Utah University Science Building, room 312. All gardeners, regardless of your background and experience, and those interested in preserving and protecting our beautiful native environment are invited to attend this milestone meeting.

Attendees will be invited to join the Cedar City Native Plant Chapter and become Charter members. Charter membership, per year, is \$15 per person, \$25 for a family, \$9 for students, \$12 for Seniors, or a one-time-pay Life Membership of \$250. Members will be taught how to explore and develop xeriscape gardens using drought-resistant Native plants, hundreds of kinds of flowers, shrubs and trees. Charter members as of February 8th are: Winnie Washburn, Alice Maas, Neal & Marguerite Smith, Candace Schaible, Joleen and Steve Wise, David and JoAnn Aldrich, Gayle Anderson, Anne Stanworth, Margaret Conrad, Beverly Everett, Catherine Delaney, Kim Fiero, Jacquelyne George, Susan Bender, Gretchen Merrill, Joseph Page, Marion Sokol, David and Dorothy Uherka, and Mike Yardley. Dr. Ron Martin, Head of Biology Dept., and Biology professor Dr. Terri Hildebrand from Southern Utah University and assisted by retired professors Dr. James Bounds and Dr. Al Tait will provide guidance and mentor the Chapter.

The Chapter will deal primarily with the beginning steps of: (a) appropriate soil preparation for different varieties of Native Plants, (b) choice of plants to suit the area to be planted, (c) where to find and purchase these plants, (d) use of seeds, and plants ready to set out, (e) to water or not to water, and how to do this. We will talk about whether to replace lawns, about demonstration gardens, landscaping, visit local gardens already established, have field trips, see wildflowers at Cedar Breaks, hear from the experts on how to do xeriscaping, and still more. Welcome to the joy of gardening combined with preserving our very beautiful part of Southern Utah with the “Cedar City Native Plant Chapter”. Please phone Winnie Washburn at 435-867-8878 for further information.