



Spring is well upon us already and now is the time to get your shovels in action for this year's annual plant sale. Coming up at our June meeting we will be holding our annual native plant sale that helps raise money for the society. We encourage all who attend to divide or propagate their own native plants and donate them to the sale. All members and non-members will be allowed to participate and those who donate plants for sale will get the first pick of those plants that evening.

We will hold the plant sale outside of Dakota Lodge on the patio area that overlooks Thompson Lake. We ask that all plant material arrive around 6:00PM so our volunteers will have plenty of time to get the sales area setup. The sale will take place after our main speaker's presentation that evening.

For those of you who will be bringing plants to donate we ask that only native plants from Minnesota be included in the sale. We ask that no cultivars (horticultural selection) of native plants be brought to the sale (i.e. 'Goldstrum' Black-Eyed Susan or 'Gateway' Joe-Pye-Weed). Plants should come from your own property, gardens or other's private property (with that owner's permission) and not public property. We do not want folks to bring in plants dug from areas without proper permission.

Those who donate their plants will need to dig the plants and bring them to the sale in a typical nursery container with adequate soil and water. Plants should be labeled with both common and scientific name. Pricing will be done by the volunteers so you don't have to figure out how much to charge for your plants. We will have plant identification guides available at the sale to assist those with labeling the plants correctly.

The earlier the better when it comes time to transplanting and dividing your plants. Plants that are dug a few days before the sale typically do not move well and look a little on the rough side. Try and dig your plants at least 2-4 weeks before the sale, especially if you are dividing your plants, that way the plants have more time to get through transplant shock.

A few volunteers are needed to help with setting up the sales area and assisting members with their plants. To volunteer, contact Ken Arndt (Chair of the plant sale) at [karndt@ccesinc.com](mailto:karndt@ccesinc.com) or 651-249-7080.

