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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NJSEA Native Plant Day Celebrates The Flora Of DeKorte Park  
On Sunday, May 31**

The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority celebrates the abundance of flora at Richard W. DeKorte Park on Native Plant Day, taking place on Sunday, May 31, in Lyndhurst, NJ. The event, sponsored by the NJSEA and the Bergen County Audubon Society, runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Native Plant Day includes guided walks, talks and information tables focused on the many native species found throughout DeKorte Park. Native plants play a significant role in helping to sustain a healthy ecosystem. They provide food and habitat for birds and pollinators, maintain healthy soil, and contribute to biodiversity.

Some species depend on specific native plants for their survival. Milkweed, found in great numbers in the park, is the only plant on which a Monarch Butterfly will lay its eggs, while Purple Coneflower provides food for Goldfinches.

NJSEA and Bergen Audubon experts will discuss how visitors can help the environment by creating native plant gardens in their own backyards. They will also explain differences between native and non-native species and the positive environmental impact of choosing native plants.

“Native Plant Day is a great opportunity to enjoy, appreciate, and better understand how native plants are critical to the success of the Meadowlands’ sensitive urban ecosystem,” said Jill Hirsch, President and CEO of the NJSEA. “We are pleased to host public programs with the Bergen County Audubon Society that foster environmental stewardship in the community.”

Native Plant Day is free to the public. DeKorte Park is located at 2 DeKorte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst.