

WE WELCOME people of all botanical abilities at our events. Beginners or experts, amateurs or professionals ... we all come to enjoy and learn about wild plants.

CONTACTING THE RIWPS OFFICE: The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society is, for the most part, a volunteer run organization. Email and voicemail messages are checked Monday through Friday in the morning and again in the evening. The most efficient and timely way to get a response is to contact the office by email whenever possible.

WALK NOTES & GUIDELINES

Most of our programs can accommodate only a limited number of participants, so we ask that you do the following to secure your spot:

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for all events with fees (and sometimes for those without fees). Register by contacting the RIWPS office at 401-789-7497 (if you leave a message, we'll get back to you on the next business day, or office@riwps.org). Registration closes 48 hours before the walk or as soon as the maximum number of people register, so please register early.

FEES: Members pay \$5, Non-members, \$10. Some programs have a higher fee; others may be free. We appreciate receiving your payment in the mail prior to the walk. This reserves your place in the program. Send check to RIWPS, PO Box 414, Exeter, RI, 02822.

WAITING LISTS: If an event is full when your registration is received, you will be asked if you wish to be on the Waiting List.

CONFIRMATION: Registered participants will receive directions to the site and more details by e-mail or telephone. Please be sure we have your email address, if you have one, as this is both the quickest and most efficient way to receive a quick response. Remember we often have a waiting list for the walks and programs, so it is to your benefit to complete your registration as soon as possible.

CANCELLATION: If you must cancel, please contact the office via email or leave a voicemail message (401-789-7497) as soon as possible so that we may notify those on the waiting list.

REFUNDS: No refunds unless RIWPS cancels.

DIFFICULTY: For your guidance, our walks are rated *easy*, *moderate*, or *strenuous* for healthy people of average physical ability. Our leaders are volunteers with no special training in first aid; participants assume full responsibility for their own well being.

DRESS AND EQUIPMENT FOR OUTDOOR EVENTS: Dress appropriately, usually in long pants, socks (for protection from poison ivy, briars and ticks) and sturdy shoes. Other options depending on the season, weather, and subject: insect repellent, hat, rubber boots, during hunting season an orange vest, field guides, hand lens, small notebook, hiking stick.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Most events are held regardless of the weather. In case of cancellation or postponement you will be notified.

PLEASE HELP US PROTECT OUR NATURAL AREAS: No smoking, no collecting, and no pets at our events.