



The Kentucky Native Plant Society's WILDFLOWER WEEKEND

Hello higher education students of Kentucky!

Kentucky Native Plant Society would like to invite you to submit an abstract about your Kentucky based research for our Student Poster Session at Wildflower Weekend 2026. See below for times, location, requirements, how to submit your abstract and scholarship opportunities.

Wildflower Weekend Event Information

Friday-Sunday, April 17th-19th, 2026

Natural Bridge State Resort Park and Red River Gorge Geological Area

Poster Sessions

Formal Poster Sessions (One is required)

Saturday, April 18th, 2026 from 8am-10am; Woodland Center

Saturday, April 18th, 2026 from 12:30pm-2:30pm: Woodland Center

Students will be expected to be present with their poster during their entire session (besides bathroom breaks and snack breaks). Chairs will be provided.

Informal Poster Session (Only required for scholarship recipients) Saturday, April 18th, 2026 from 6pm-9pm: Woodland Center (during Saturday evening speaker session)

Students should stand by their posters before and after the speakers, and during breaks. Otherwise, students are encouraged to attend the talks with everyone else.

Requirements

- Applicants must be an undergraduate, graduate, or PhD student at a university or college within the state of Kentucky during the 2026 spring semester
- Posters must be on research that was conducted within the state of Kentucky
- Posters should be about research in any of the following fields: botany, plant ecology, natural communities, community ecology, bryophytes, lichens, mycology, ethnobotany, pollinator relationships with plants, plant or natural community management, or other related fields
- Applicants must provide information on a university or college professor or instructor that oversaw student research
- Applicants must submit an abstract by **3/1/26** (see submission details below)

Scholarship Opportunity

Free poster printing provided by KNPS (~\$40 value)

Provided to all students participating in any poster session

*Students will need to upload their poster in an appropriate format by **3/21/26** to guarantee time for printing*

Lodging/Traveling Scholarship (\$100 value)

\$100 reimbursement toward lodging and travel

In order to receive the lodging/travel scholarship, students will be required to complete **all of the following**:

1. One formal poster session
2. Informal poster session
3. Volunteer one of the following ways:
 - Friday Morning, April 17th, 2026: 11:30am-1pm
Assist in registration, raffle ticket sales, provide guests and hike leads with information and materials, and set up tables, raffle prizes, signs
 - Saturday Morning, April 18th, 2026: 7:30am-8am AND 10am-11am
Assist in registration, raffle ticket sales, provide guests and hike leads with information and materials
 - Saturday Afternoon, April 18th, 2026: 12:30pm-1pm AND 3pm-4pm
Assist in registration, raffle ticket sales, provide guests and hike leads with information and materials
 - Saturday Evening, April 18th, 2026: 5:30pm-6pm AND 9pm-10pm
Assist in chair/table set up and tear down for speaker session, raffle ticket sales, raffle and misc clean up
 - Sunday Morning, April 19th, 2026: 7:30am-9am
Assist in registration, provide guests and hike leads with information and materials
 - Sunday Morning, April 19th, 2026: 11am-12:30pm
Assist with misc clean up after event
 - Lead or Co-lead a hike during the Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, of Sunday morning sessions

Students will receive reimbursement upon completing requirements and providing proof of lodging. Failure to complete all requirements will result in the student not receiving their reimbursement.

How to Submit Your Abstract/Apply for Scholarship/Submit Poster

Timeline for Poster Sessions

3/1/26: Abstract Proposals and Scholarship Inquiries Due to KNPS

3/8/26: Students will be notified of approval/denial of abstract and granting of scholarships

3/21/26: Students submit final draft of posters to KNPS

4/18/26: Students Present Poster

Abstract Submission (ABSTRACTS DUE 3/1/26)

Abstract submission is handled via online form available here: [Wildflower Weekend 2026 - Student Poster Session Abstract Submission and Scholarship Application - Kentucky Native Plant Society](#)

Students need to have the following information for abstract submission

- Student full name, email and phone number
- Student's major and name of university or college attending
- Professor or instructor name and email (must be willing to oversee student through poster creation)
- Poster Title
- Abstract of research project (2 paragraph maximum)

Scholarship Application (APPLICATIONS DUE 3/1/26)

- Students **MUST** indicate interest in scholarship opportunity when they submit their abstract for approval

Students will receive approval/denial of their abstracts and scholarship requests from KNPS by 3/8/26

Poster Submission (FINAL DRAFTS DUE 3/21/26)

Students will submit their posters to KNPS by 3/21/26 via online form provided upon abstract approval

Posters need to meet the following parameters

- Formats accepted: .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .gif, .pdf, .psd, .ai, .ppt, .pptx, .tif, .tiff
- Must not exceed 24" x 36" (Use safety area size below to ensure quality printing)

Full Bleed Size	36.5" x 24.5" 927.1 x 622.3 mm
Document Trim Size	36" x 24" 914.4 x 609.6 mm
Safety Area	35.84" x 23.84" 910.4 x 605.6 mm

- Horizontal orientation
- At least 300 pixels per inch
- Posters must include the following information and sections
 - Title block that clearly indicates the title of the study, full names of all authors, and the affiliation and email for the presenting author
 - Abstract, Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, Discussion, Citations
 - Include appropriate in-text citations, with a reference list that presents enough information for readers to unambiguously locate the reference

Tips for poster formatting

- Use a large font for the main text
- Graphics can help to indicate methods clearly and concisely, e.g., screenshots of models, cartoons of experimental setups, overall workflows
- Main results are usually best presented visually with figures; tables should be reserved for cases where readers need to see data with certain precision
- Ensure contents have a logical flow.

Questions? Contact us at kyplants@knps.org