



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2010

Contact: Frank Tursi
Phone: 252.393.8185
Email: frankt@nccoast.org

N.C. Coastal Federation to Hold Fall Native Plant Sale

OCEAN – Fall is the perfect time for planting native shrubs and trees. The N. C Coastal Federation will help gardeners with their planting tasks by offering more than 700 native plants for sale at its Ocean headquarters. The sale will run Oct. 18-22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and volunteers will be on hand to assist shoppers.

“The recent rains bring home the need to better manage coastal landscapes. One of the ways to accomplish this is through the use of native plants and the creation of rain gardens,” explained Frank Tursi, a federation assistant director.

Rain gardens are depressions planted with native vegetation that absorb stormwater and reduce polluted runoff and flooding. While rain gardens are simple to build, sometimes native plants are difficult to find. The federation has found several native plant suppliers around the state and is able to purchase them in quantities so they can offer them at a good price.

Whether they find their way into a rain garden or not, native plants help the environment. Once established, native plants require much less watering, little if any fertilizer, and are much more resilient because they are acclimated to the climate.

More than 50 types of plants will be represented at the fall plant sale and include black cherry, cinnamon fern, fringe tree, marsh hibiscus, persimmon, wax myrtles and witch hazel. Plants vary in price from as little as \$2 up to \$23. All plants come with planting and care instructions. For a full list of available plants, check out the federation’s Website at www.nccoast.org.

The N.C. Coastal Federation is the state’s only non-profit organization focused exclusively on protecting and restoring the coast of North Carolina through education,

advocacy and habitat restoration and preservation. The federation headquarters are on Ocean in Carteret County between Morehead City and Swansboro. The federation also has regional offices in Wilmington and Manteo.