



Confidentiality Form

Rare species are endangered for many reasons. Habitat loss, disease and invasive species are often pointed to as leading causes, but in some cases, the beauty or culinary or medicinal value of a plant has led to its rarity. Unfortunately, poaching of plants and/or their fruits occurs all too frequently. Even those who only wish to view rare plants may damage their habitat by excessive trampling. In order to preserve our rarest species and their habitats, it is important to maintain the confidentiality of their locations. Rare Plant Monitoring Program volunteers are privileged to work directly with these plants, but this privilege brings with it the responsibility to keep the information confidential.

As a rare plant monitor, I understand that all information must be kept secure. I agree not to reveal the location of any rare species to others who are not involved in the monitoring, ownership, or legitimate management of the site(s) where I monitor. Any person who assists me with my monitoring assignment will have pre-approval from the Rare Plant Monitoring Program staff, and/or the landowner/land manager. Any person who assists me will also sign this confidentiality agreement. I also agree not to remove or destroy any plant material, such as but not limited to seeds, propagules, flowers, stems, leaves, and roots, from the preserves where I monitor except with an official written permit to do so. As a rare plant monitor, if you become aware of any immediate threat to the population, notify, without delay, the land manager or Rare Plant Monitoring Program staff.

Signature _____

Date _____

Print name _____

This document is permanent. It only needs to be signed once regardless of the number of years or sites you monitor for the Rare Plant Monitoring Program. This agreement remains in place even if you terminate your monitoring. A copy of this form will be kept on file with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.