

Wild harvesting plants for food, medicine, and craft

Do you have an interest in teaching your community about useful wild plants, but lack knowledge and confidence in wild harvesting? If so, then this presentation is for you. During the presentation, participants will learn best practices for identifying, harvesting, utilizing, and storing a variety of wild plants found in the eastern U.S for food, medicine, and craft. Participants will also be introduced to several popular wild harvested plants, including oak, persimmon, American elder, and black walnut. The presenter will share lessons learned from their successful 2021 six-part webinar series on wild harvesting, a new undergraduate course on the subject, and several wild harvesting hands-on workshops planned for 2022. The goal of wild harvesting educational programs is to build knowledge of and appreciation for the use and conservation of non-timber forest species, as well as increasing ecosystem health by encouraging and even increasing native plant diversity in natural environments.

Holly Campbell

Holly Campbell is a Public Service Assistant with the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, where she focuses on wildland fire, community forestry, woody plant ID, and wild harvest outreach and instruction. In 2021, Ms. Campbell developed a popular webinar series on wild harvesting in Georgia for University of Georgia (UGA) Cooperative Extension Agents, introduced the Fall 2021 course, Wild Harvest in Georgia, to UGA undergraduate students, and began a wild harvest publication series. In 2022, she is planning several hands-on wild harvesting workshops with UGA Agents around the state.