

**The Global Partnership  
for Plant Conservation**

Announcement | Save The Date

**March 12–14, 2025**

International Plant

# CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

Supporting the worldwide implementation  
of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation



## International Conference of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Circular and Abstract Submissions**

St. Louis, Missouri

March 12 through March 14, 2025

**The Global Partnership  
for Plant Conservation**



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



**BOTANIC  
GARDENS**  
CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL

  
**MISSOURI  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN**

# International Plant Conservation Conference – Taking Action Together- inspiring, guiding and implementing the new Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

## The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

An international conference of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPC) is being organized in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Botanic Gardens Conservation International. This conference will bring together plant conservation scientists, policymakers, and practitioners from across the world to consider the new goals of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), and its Complementary Actions, contributing to the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The conference will attract a wide range of participants to share their experiences and further the development of plant conservation practices actions and initiatives. The results of the conference and the workshops will be provided to the CBD as a contribution from the GPPC and the international plant conservation community towards plans for GSPC implementation, contributing to the attainment of the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity and the targets of the 2030 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

## Conference Objectives

- Showcasing examples and sharing experiences on GSPC implementation
- Providing guidance and support for national and regional GSPC implementation entering into the new phase
- Building leadership among the GPPC participating organizations for monitoring and to evaluate progress for the delivery of GSPC actions
- Developing and considering scenarios and new initiatives for the GSPC in the upcoming period
- Capacity building and measures to facilitate GSPC delivery, including supporting the work of GSPC national focal points
- Providing an opportunity for participants to consider ways they can contribute to national CBD reporting processes and inclusion of plant conservation in updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and reviewing their implementation

## Proposed Agenda

- The agenda will consist of plenary talks, individual presentations and symposia.
- These will be under the three work areas of the GSPC Actions:
  - Reducing threats to biodiversity (GBF targets 1-8)
  - Meeting people's needs (GBF Targets 9-13)
  - Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (GBF Targets 14-23)
- Host a series of thematic and expert workshops and discussion groups on subjects including plant conservation and climate change, ecological restoration, *in situ* and *ex situ* plant species conservation, and related topics

*A GPPC business meeting will be held to facilitate future organizational matters.*

**Who should attend?**

- National point persons for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Plant conservationists
- Representatives of GPPC partner organizations and potential GPPC members
- Donor agencies interested in biodiversity conservation
- National and regional biodiversity organizations and agencies
- Representatives of other biodiversity communities

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# ***Welcome to St. Louis!***

We hope that you will consider coming to St Louis to attend this important conference. We look forward to having you with us at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

*Peter Wyse Jackson, President, Missouri Botanical Garden & Co-chair, GPPC*

*Maité Delmas, Co-Chair, GPPC*

*Carly Cowell, Acting Secretary General BGCI, and GPPC Secretariat.*

## **About the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation**

The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation brings together international, regional and national organisations in order to contribute to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). The aim of the Partnership is to support the worldwide and national implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) and its objective to provide a framework to facilitate harmony between existing initiatives aimed at plant conservation, identify gaps where new initiatives are required, and promote mobilization of the necessary resources. The partnership currently includes 68 member organisations and brings together a diversity of groups working in different areas for plant conservation, such as protected areas, species, botanic gardens, agricultural biodiversity, forestry, wetlands, ecological restoration, etc.

## **About Botanic Gardens Conservation International**

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is the world's biggest plant conservation network, representing botanic gardens in more than 100 countries around the world. It is an independent UK charity established in 1987. It aims to support and empower its members and the wider conservation community, so that knowledge and expertise can be applied to reversing the threat of extinction facing plants. Its vision is a world in which plant diversity is valued, secure and supports all life, and our mission is: to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet.

## **About the Missouri Botanical Garden**

The Missouri Botanical Garden is a global leader in science, conservation, horticulture, and education. Its mission is to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life. The Garden's programmes operate locally and throughout the world to address key challenges facing humanity by empowering stakeholders to manage, protect, and restore biodiversity sustainably. Its exceptional resources include one of the world's largest collections of living and preserved plant material, the world's most comprehensive botanical database, Tropicos, a team of highly skilled experts, and a vast network of national and international connections and partnerships.

Founded in 1859, the Missouri Botanical Garden, located in the city of St. Louis in the US heartland; it is one of the nation's oldest botanical institutions and a National Historic Landmark. The beautifully landscaped gardens, along with the off-site Shaw Nature Reserve and the Butterfly House, attract over one million visitors a year.

## **Registration**

Registration for the conference is open to all. There is no registration fee.

However, please note that all participants (both in-person and virtual) must register in advance for the conference. A registration form will be provided.

Lunches during the conference will be available for purchase in advance when you arrive at the conference venue.

We hope to have a post-conference tour on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March to the Garden's Shaw Nature Reserve. This is a 2,400 acre reserve dedicated to ecological restoration, native plant horticulture and conservation, and outdoor education. Details will be included in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular.

## **Website**

A website is under construction and will be announced shortly. It will contain information on the programme and all the details included in this Circular.

## **Letters of Invitation**

**URGENT** - Participants intending to participate in the conference, from some countries, will require a visa to enter the U.S.A. Please note that it can take several months to obtain these visas. We strongly urge you to make applications for visas when appropriate and as soon as you can. If you need a letter of invitation from the conference organisers, please contact them as soon as possible at email [GPPC2025@mobot.org](mailto:GPPC2025@mobot.org) giving the mailing address to which the letter should be sent (it will be returned by email an attachment), as well as the dates you propose to enter and leave the U.S. Please check online what are the visa requirements and regulations in relation to citizens of your country entering the U.S.

## **Accessibility**

- The Conference language will be English.
- The conference venues are wheelchair accessible.
- There are gender-inclusive (single-stall) bathrooms in the conference venue.
- There is a quiet space – in the Garden's Bayer Event Center West.

## **Virtual Options for the Conference**

The 2025 conference will be hybrid. Virtual attendees can present and attend conference sessions via Zoom. The organisers will endeavor to ensure that all presentations in plenary and parallel sessions will have a virtual option, but cannot guarantee that all workshops and discussion groups in parallel sessions will be available virtually.

All times are in the U.S. Central Standard Time Zone (UTC-+ 5 hours). To convert to your time zone, see [Time Zone Conversion](#).

## Recycling and Waste Reduction

The Missouri Botanical Garden is committed to recycling and composting. We encourage all participants to pay careful attention to our recycling stations.

## Social Media Ethics

To encourage this conference to be a safe and inviting space for diverse voices and perspectives, we offer the following guidelines for respectful social media conversations:

- Only post content that represents your thoughts.
- Act professionally and constructively, especially regarding sensitive or meaningful topics.
- Please show respect for others' opinions and their rights to choose to participate or refrain from commenting on online discussions.
- Do not post presenters' ideas or data without the presenter's permission.

## Accommodation and Shuttles

Taxis and Rideshare apps such as Uber, Lyft and Via are available in St Louis and from the airport.

**Please note that all those attending the conference are responsible for organizing, booking and paying for their own accommodation.**

The Conference Organizers recommend the following hotels where special rates for participants have been negotiated. Please use the links provided below for bookings.

In addition, shuttles between the hotels and the conference venue will be arranged each day (details below). If you stay in other accommodations, you will be required to make your own arrangements to travel to and from the Missouri Botanical Garden.

A very limited number of modest accommodation opportunities are available for conference participants. These are open to delegates facing financial hardship and from developing countries. If you would like to request and be considered for one of these places, please contact the conference organisers at [GPPC2025@mobot.org](mailto:GPPC2025@mobot.org).

### **Accommodations:**

- **THE ROYAL SONESTA CHASE PARK PLAZA**

212 N. Kingshighway Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108 Tel: 001.314.633.3000

**\$185.00 deluxe standard**

**Missouri Botanical Garden:** Booking Link [MOBG](#)

- **Forest Park Hotel**

5915 Wilson Avenue, St. Louis, MO. 63110 Tel: 001.314.645.0700



**\$89.99 \*all rooms**

<https://forestparkhotelbymdr.com/>

*\*A special rate for the conference will apply when booked via the website. Complete the Booking Details and add 'Botanical Garden' in the Coupon Code Box for the special rate.*

- **The Drury Inn & Suites at Forest Park**

2111 Sulphur Ave, St. Louis, MO 63139 Tel: 001. 314.646.0770

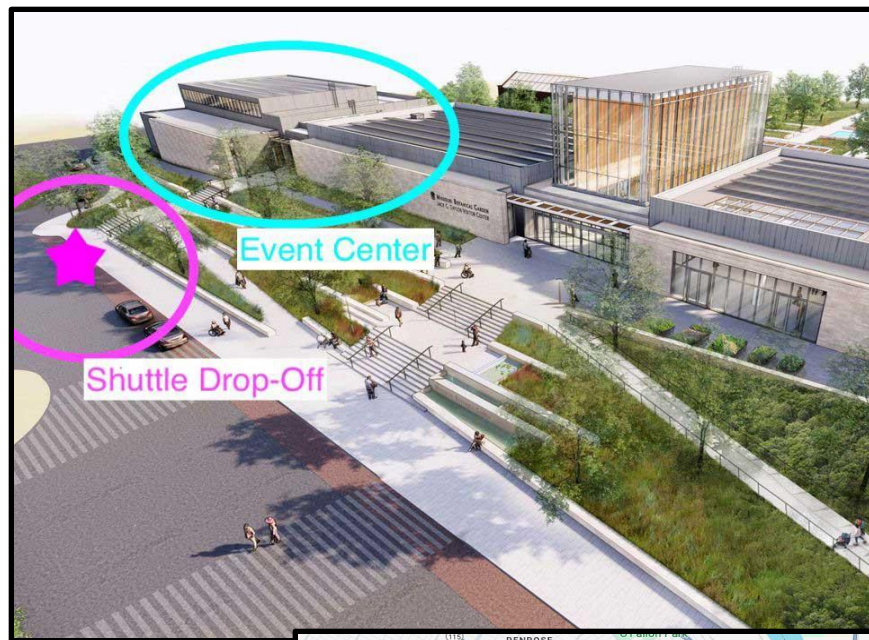
**\$149.00 standard (dates are limited.)** [Drury Inn - Forest Park](#)

### Shuttles:

Shuttle services between the conference hotels and the Missouri Botanical Garden will be available. All attendees are encouraged to use the shuttle.

**MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN** →

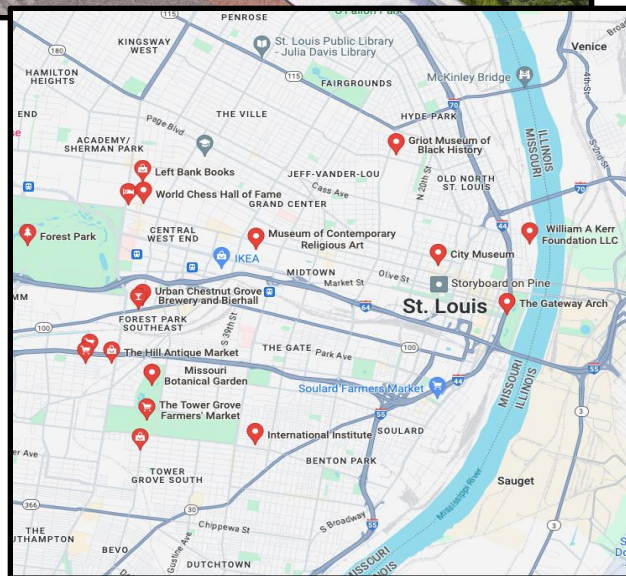
Shuttle drop-off location (pink star) at Missouri Botanical Garden (Circled in blue).



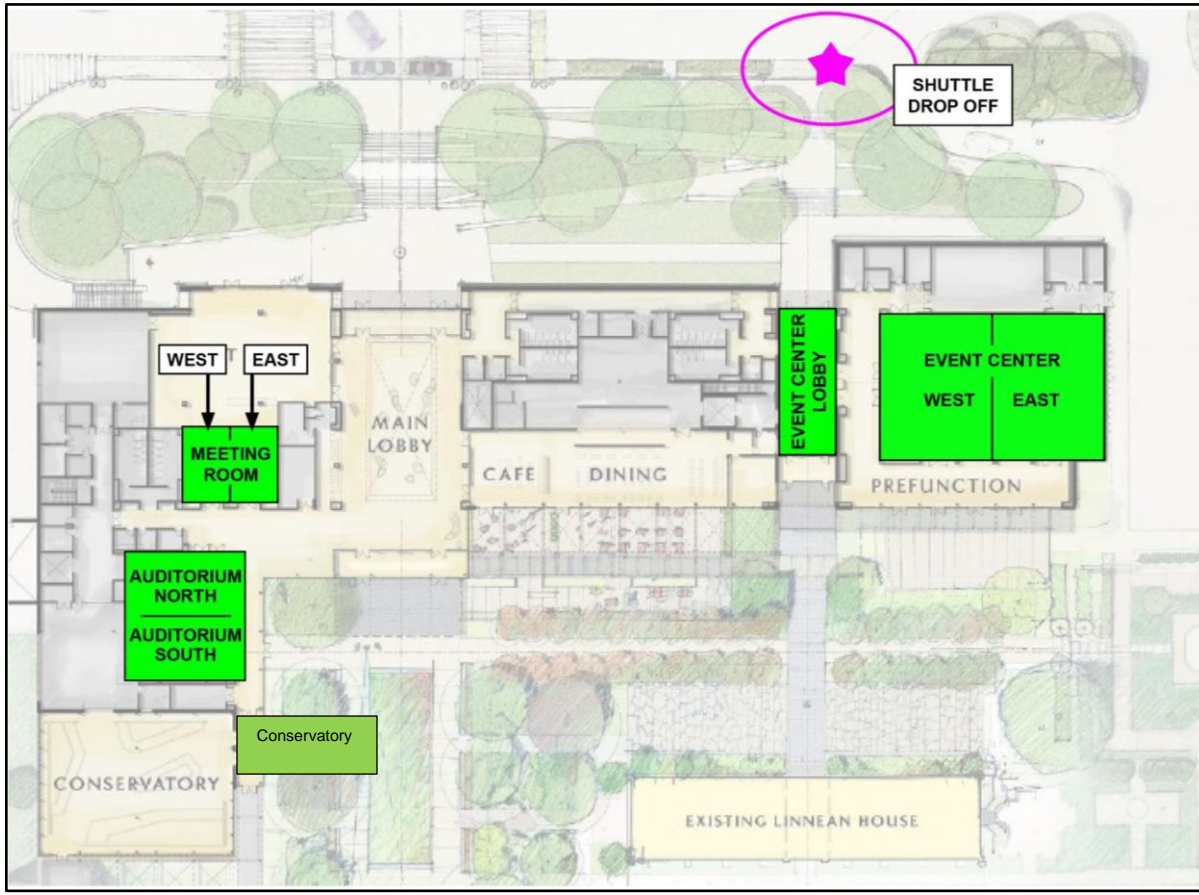
### St. Louis Dining



Use the hyperlink above (URL in footnote) for recommendations to notable places to eat around the Central West End and the Missouri Botanical Garden.



**Map of Venue: Missouri Botanical Garden  
4344 Shaw Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63110 USA**





# Abstracts

If you submit an abstract for consideration for the programme, you will also **need to register** for the Conference in due course. Email is currently the only method of submitting abstracts, and their receipt will be acknowledged by the organizers. Authors are welcome to make more than one submission, however, consideration will be given to content from a variety of presenters across the programme.

Key Dates in the Process:

Abstract submissions open: **15 December, 2024**

Abstract submissions close: **1 February, 2025**

Deadline for presenters to register: **28 February 2025**

Conference participants are encouraged to submit suggestions for individual presentations, symposia, workshops and discussion groups that they would like to be considered for inclusion in the conference programme. Oral presentation slots are 20 minutes each, ideally comprising a 15-minute talk and a 5-minute Q&A. Only abstracts submitted as MS Word or OpenOffice files will be accepted. These should be sent by email to the following address: [GPPC2025@robot.org](mailto:GPPC2025@robot.org).

The final decision to accept an abstract for an oral presentation within a specific symposium will be made by the conference organizers. The final decision to accept an abstract for posters will also be made by the conference organizers. In case an abstract for an oral presentation is not accepted in a symposium (remember there are only six presentations in each symposium), the organizing committee may invite you to present it as a poster.

The author submitting the abstract must be the presenting author but does not have to be the first author.