

Fall 2022 Plants Available



A project of:
Sacramento Valley Chapter of
California Native Plant Society
SacValleyCNPS.org/PS

Yarrow

Achillea millefolium [Link to CalScape](#)



Evergreen Perennial: Strongly scented leaves, attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Great in dried flower arrangements. Attracts: Birds, bees and butterflies (is a known host plant for the Painted Lady butterfly)

Height: 1-3'

Flower: Spring-fall blooming, small, white flowers in flat-topped, round cluster with beautiful fern-like leaves.

Water Needs: Once established, water deeply every 1-2 weeks. Ample water encourages spread.

Sun Needs: Part shade but can take more sun if watered.

Ecology: Grows in distributed in many habitats below 1200 feet.

Wildlife Supported: carnivorous insects; butterflies; bees and Host to 5 moth larva



California Broom

Acmispon glaber [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Perennial Shrub: It is a pioneer species in nature. When a plant community is disturbed it emerges and helps to reestablish the plant community.

Usually burdened by the common name of Deerweed, we call it California Broom! This plant is popular with wildlife, providing food for hummingbirds, bees, butterfly larvae and deer.

Height: 2-4'

Flower: Small, yellow flowers in spring through summer.

Water Needs: Dry, water deeply 1 time per month

Requirements: Full sun; good drainage

Local Ecology: Can be seen along the American River Parkway, including River Bend Park and Upper Sunrise.

Wildlife Supported: An important pollinator plant, it is host plant to Bramble Hairstreak, Afranius Duskywing, Persius Duskywing, and Acmon Blue butterflies. It is a nectar plant for other butterflies including the Chalcedon Checkerswing



California buckeye

Aesculus californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Large Shrub or Tree: *Summer* deciduous. Large shiny round “nuts” in late summer, early fall. All parts are toxic. It leafs out in early spring followed by ‘candles’. Butterflies love it!

Height: 10-30’

Flower: Late spring blooming, showy large clusters of white flowers follow spring leaves.

Water Needs: Once established, little to some water.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade

Ecology: Dry slopes below 600ft., canyons, borders of streams. Endemic to California

Wildlife Supported: Native insects including several butterfly species are attracted to the flowers. It is said to be toxic to non-native bees. Important nectar source in the late spring to migrant butterflies.

Narrow Leaved Onion

Allium amplexans [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Bulb: One of California's delicate looking bulbs that is in reality tough as nails and well adapted to our winter rains and then baking dry in summer.

Water Needs: Water only during winter drought. Needs to totally dry out in the summer.

Flower: White to Pink in spring. Plant goes dormant in summer.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Ecology: Native to California and limited to California alone.
Grows on slopes.

Wildlife Supported: Attractive to many bees, plus: Butterflies & moths hosted: 17 likely

Indianhemp Dogbane

Apocynum cannabinum



Perennial herb: plant that grows throughout much of North America - in the southern half of Canada and perennial herbaceous plant that grows throughout much of North America - in the southern half of Canada and throughout the United States. throughout the United States. In gardens it can be invasive, growing from spreading roots.

Size: 3.3 - 6.6 ft tall

Flower: Summer blooming

Sun: Part shade

Water: high

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies and moths

Butterflies & moths hosted: 1, 3 likely

Western Columbine

Aquilegia Formosa [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen perennial: Attractive to hummingbirds! This plant has delicate divided foliage and bright flowers. Grows easily in most gardens, requiring ample water, but not good in soggy or waterlogged soils. Seeds are attractive to goldfinches and other seed-eating birds.

Height: 2-4' Width: 1-2'

Flower: Red and yellow unusual flowers bloom late spring into summer.

Water needs: Moderate to regular.

Sun needs: Best is part shade in the valley.

Ecology: Moist places in woodlands below 9000 ft. California to Alaska, Montana, Utah, and Nevada.

Whiteleaf Manzanita

Arctostaphylos viscida [Link to Calscape](#)



Large shrub or tree, evergreen: It is a valuable source of food for wildlife. Various chaparral animals and bird eat manzanita fruits. Because of this plant blooms early in the year, it is important for Hummingbirds and butterflies.

Height: 10 - 17' tall and wide.

Flower: Clusters of delicate pendulous tiny flower in Jan and Feb.

Water Needs: None once established.

Requirements: Full sun.

Ecology: It is native to California and is also found outside of California, but is confined to western North America.

Wildlife Supported: Insects and hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers. Other birds are attracted to the fruits. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 54 likely

Dutchmans Pipevine

Aristolochia californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Vine: This California native vine has become fairly drought tolerant with time. Is the **Host Plant*** for the Pipevine Swallowtail. Vine can cover a trellis. It is SLOW to start growing, then once its roots are happy will shoot up!

Height: Easily climbs 10-30’.

Flower: In Spring the bare vine is covered with fascinating ‘pipe’ flowers. Then it leafs out.

Water Needs: Very little once established.

Sun Needs: The base of the plant prefers part shade but the vine will seek sun or filtered sun (i.e.. under an oak).

Ecology: Native to California and is endemic (limited) to California alone.

* A *butterfly* will lay her eggs on it’s *host plant*. The caterpillar will only eat this plant’s leaves.

California mugwort

Artemisia douglasiana [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial herb: It has a tall, erect habit, deeply lobed, silvery leaves of a delightful sweet fragrance. Pinch to encourage bushy shape, spreads with underground runners. It is said that if you put a mugwort leaf under your pillow, you'll have good dreams!

Height: 3-6'

Flower: Tiny, yellow in summer-fall.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times per month.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Common in open to shady places, often in drainages.

Wildlife Supported: Various insects are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 3 confirmed, 28 likely

Narrow Leaf Milkweed

Asclepias fascicularis [Link to Calscope](#)



Deciduous Perennial: This California native plant is drought tolerant. Milkweeds are **Host Plants** for the Monarch butterfly. Milkweeds die back completely by fall and don't leaf out until May.

Height: 2' - 3' stems.

Flower: Flower cluster bloom most of the summer.

Water Needs: It likes a little bit of water.

Sun Needs: Milkweeds need sun (fewer flowers in shade).

Ecology: Native to California and is also found outside of California, but is confined to western North America.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies, primarily Monarchs.
Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed , 4 likely

Showy Milkweed

Asclepias speciosa [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: This California native plant is fairly drought tolerant once established. Milkweeds are **host plants** for the Monarch butterfly.

Height: 3'-6' stems.

Flower: Showy, pink, fragrant flowers most of the summer.

Water Needs: Needs a moderate amount of water.

Sun Needs: Milkweeds need sun (it has less flowers in the shade).

Local Ecology: **Native** to California and is found on the American River Parkway at Lower Sunrise and Effie Yeaw Nature Center.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies, especially Monarchs, are attracted to all milkweeds. Many other insects are also attracted. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 4 likely.

Quailbush

Atriplex lentiformis [Link to Calscope](#)

Evergreen Shrub: This is a large shrub that is great for wildlife. Tolerates a variety of soils, especially alkaline. Also good for bank stabilization.

Size: 3-10' tall, 10' wide

Flower: Yellow/Brown in summer-fall.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times per month.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Plant Communities: Coastal Salt Marsh, Valley Grassland

Wildlife Supported: Various butterflies and birds, especially quail and thrashers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 14 likely



Julie is 5'8" tall

Coyote Brush

Baccharis pilularis [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Perennial Shrub: Branches upright and spreading, forming mats, sticky leaves. It is **crucial** habitat for many wild creatures. Great for hedge or background planting.

Height: 3-10' **Wide:** 3-10'

Flower: Small, white flowers in **WINTER** to spring.

Water Needs: Dry, water deeply 1 time per month

Requirements: Full sun.

Ecology: Coastal bluffs to oak woodland, sometimes on serpentine.

Wildlife Supported: Very attractive to insects, especially when in flower. It is common to find wasp galls on leaves.

Butterflies & moths hosted: 11 confirmed, 18 likely.

Coyote Brush 'Pigeon Point'

Baccharis pilularis ssp. pilularis 'Pigeon Point' [link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Perennial Shrub: Branches upright and spreading, forming mats, sticky leaves. It is **crucial** habitat for many wild creatures. Great for hedge or background planting.

Height: 1-2' **Width**: 6-8'

Flower: Small, white flowers in **WINTER** to spring.

Water Needs: Dry, water deeply 1 time per month

Requirements: Full sun.

Ecology: Coastal bluffs to oak woodland, sometimes on serpentine.

Desert Marigold

Baileya multiradiata



Herbaceous perennial: This sun-loving forb has silvery-green foliage and many flowers on tall naked stems. Great in dry rock gardens, it will flower throughout the year with occasional water. Attracts many insects, including butterflies and bees. Fast-growing, but short-lived., best in well-drained soil.

Height: 2' Width: 2'

Flower: Yellow daisy-like flowers

Water needs: Drought tolerant to occasional.

Sun needs: Full sun or little shade is best.

Ecology: Northern Mexico to Southwest US deserts.

Creeping Oregon Grape

Berberis aquifolium var. repens [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Shrub: Low growing, its leaves are dark green and holly shaped, and will often turn to hues of red and purple in the winter.

Dense clusters of mildly fragrant yellow flowers are produced in early spring. In California, it grows throughout the mountains and foothills of northern and central California



Size: 2-3' tall; 6' wide

Flower: Bright yellow flower in early Spring.

Water Needs: Low water; 1x monthly

Requirements: It takes most sun but can take to some shade.

Ecology: Foothill Woodland and Foothills

Wildlife Supported: Birds, bees, plus Butterflies & moths hosted 5 likely

Brickelbush

Brickellia californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Shrub: In late summer the amazing fragrance from its small yellowish flowers will drift across your yard. the fragrance can travel on a breeze hundreds of feet.

Needs very well drained soil.

Size: 2' - 5' tall and wide

Flower: Small daisy-like flower blossoms in late winter.

Water Needs: Water once per week.

Requirements: Full to part-sun.

Ecology: It lives in many plants communities including Chaparral and Valley Grassland.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 1 likely

Harvest Brodiaea

Brodiaea elegans [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Bulb: This plant at one time extended in vast numbers across the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. A charming bulb that blooms in May-June. Bulb colonies were managed by Miwok, Yana and other California tribes who dug up bulbs in early spring for boiling or roasting and eating.

Flower: Blue-purple to pink-purple in late spring. 12-18” tall. Plant goes dormant in summer.

Planting: Plant in the fall in full sun, 12 inches apart and 1-2 inches deep. Plants do best in soil that is light and loose, but can even take clay.

Water Needs: Water during winter drought. May totally dry out in the summer, but can take occasional water.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Ecology: Native to California.

Wildlife Supported: Bees and butterflies.

Spice Bush

Calycanthus occidentalis [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Shrub: The scent of the flower has been compared to bubblegum. Calycanthus oil, distilled from the flowers, is an essential oil used in some quality perfumes. It is tolerant to sandy or clay soils.

Size: 6' to 15' tall and wide

Flower: The small magenta flowers are produced in early summer after the leaves.

Water Needs: Likes regular water.

Sun Needs: Likes sun to partial shade.

Ecology: Foothill Woodland, Yellow Pine Forest, wetland-riparian between 0 and 4,000'.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 likely

Indian Paintbrush

Castilleja foliolosa [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Herbs: Indian Paintbrush is a hemiparasite. It has special roots that tap into a neighboring host plants roots for some of its nutrients. In the Sacramento region, the Paintbrush is often seen growing in the wild near Sticky Monkeyflower (an Evergreen Perennial) which has lovely yellow blooms. Do not separate these two plants or the Paintbrush will die. They can live together and both be healthy.

Height: 2-3'

Bloom: March - July/August

Water Needs: Low to moderate water.

Sun Needs: Full sun - mostly sun.

Ecology: Native to California and found only slightly beyond California borders.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 14 likely

Concha Ceanothus

Ceanothus 'Concha' [link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen shrub: One of the oldest and most spectacular of the Ceanothus cultivars. It's likely a hybrid of Ceanothus impressus and Ceanothus papillosus var. roweanus, both of which are native to the central coast area. This plant is often short lived when grown outside the central coast.. Prune immediately after flowering. Attracts butterflies.

Size: 3 - 6 ft tall, 3 -6 ft wide

Flower: Spring

Water: low

Sun: full sun, part shade

Buck brush

Ceanothus cuneatus [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen shrub: Use as open screen or as a small tree. It can have heavy scent when in flower. It is valued for providing pollen and nectar for many beneficial insects.

Size: 6' to 8' tall and wide

Flower: Small white, from March thru May.

Water Needs: This plant is very, very drought tolerant.

Sun Needs: Likes full sun.

Ecology: Native from Oregon to Baja in the Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Wildlife Supported: Insects, especially bees and butterflies, are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 confirmed, 86 likely





Ceanothus Ray Hartman

Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman' [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Shrub: it is a cultivated hybrid of *Ceanothus arboreus* and *Ceanothus griseus*. It has dark green glossy leaves, and grows quickly up to 15'. Bees love it! Las Pilitas says: The myth of *Ceanothus* being short lived is primarily spread by incompetent gardeners that insist on applying drip irrigation, summer water and soil amendments. Upland native plants hate all three. Expect a 25+ year life in most well tended (no overwatering, no soil disturbance, no fertilizing, no drip, no application of soil amendments) gardens.

Size: 15-30' tall and 5-10' wide

Flower: Abundant spring blooming flowers.

Water Needs: Water deeply but infrequently

Requirements: Full sun, part sun

Communities: Yellow Pine Forest, Foothill Woodland

Ceanothus Yankee Point [link to Calscape](#)

Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. *griseus* 'Yankee Point'



Evergreen shrub: Horticultural selection of cuttings of *Ceanothus griseus horizontalis* from Yankee Point on the central California coast just south of Carmel. Prefers sandy or loamy, well-drained soil.

Great for bank stabilization. Prune immediately after flowering. Attracts birds, bees, and butterflies.

Size: 3 - 4 ft tall, 10 - 12 ft wide

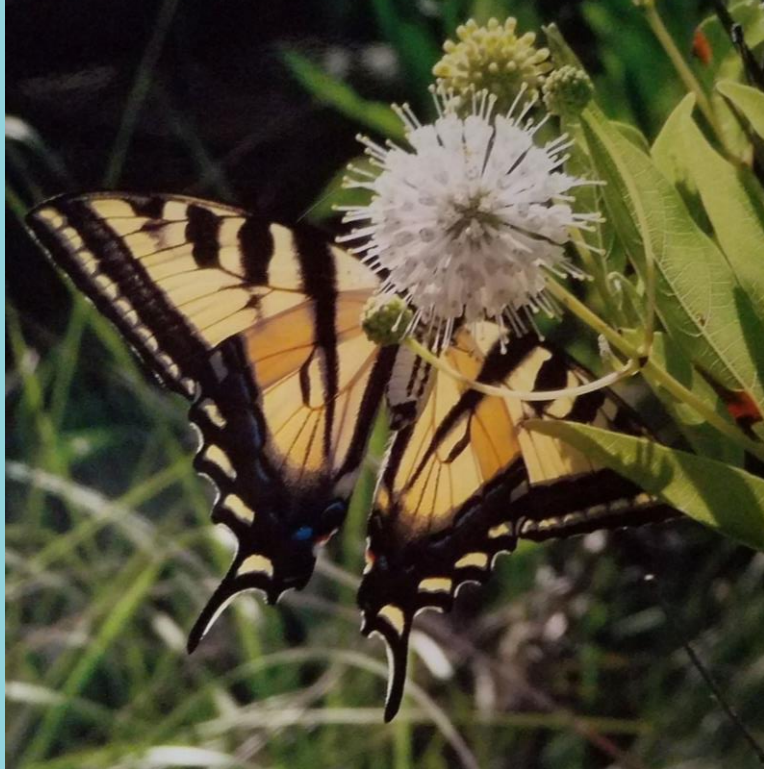
Flower: Spring

Water: low

Sun: full sun, part shade

California Buttonbush

Cephalanthus occidentalis [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Shrub or Small Tree: This plant is a beauty, with year round interest - fall leaf color of yellow with some orange. It has smooth, dark green leaves. Great for a ***Rain Garden***. The nectar attracts both **Butterflies** and **Hummingbirds**. Plus their seeds are eaten by waterfowl.
Butterflies & moths hosted: 3 likely

Height: 6'-20' tall

Flower: 1-2" creamy white flowers in Summer.

Water Needs: Water deeply. It likes stream-side locations.

Requirements: It prefers full sun but can take some shade.

Ecology: Foothill Woodland, Valley Grassland

Western Redbud

Cercis occidentalis [Link to CalScape](#)



Small Tree/ Large Shrub, deciduous: Attracts many beneficial insects. Good for stabilizing/restoring disturbed or degraded areas. Great in any garden!

Height: 15-25'

Flower: Early spring bloom pink flowers before leaves appear, attractive seedpods in summer, fall foliage.

Water Needs: Once established, water deeply 1-2 times a month.

Requirements: Sun/part shade, good drainage.

Ecology: Dry, shrubby slopes, canyons, ravines, stream-banks, chaparral, foothill woodlands to 500'.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies, Birds, Hummingbirds and Butterflies & moths hosted: 11 likely

Mountain Mahogany

Cercocarpus betuloides [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Shrub to Small Tree: The whole plant appears silvery in the late summer through fall, due to the feathery fruits. The *seed* is tipped with a persistent feathery style, which is corkscrew-like and enables the *seed* to penetrate the ground. On the American River Parkway, we've seen birds use these seed feathers in their nests.

Height: 8'-25' (It is easily pruned.)

Flower: White in Spring. But the fall foliage color is silver!

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times a month.

Requirements: It tolerates full sun to partial sun.

Ecology: It is found in Oregon, California, and more.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 confirmed, 21 likely

Soap Plant

Chlorogalum pomeridianum [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous bulb: night-blooming, Soap Lily has long, strap-like, wavy leaves that lie along the ground. It flowers from around May to August, then goes dormant in summer and fall

Height: loose spikes to 3' tall

Flower: Small white flowers on tall spikes.

Water Needs: Prefers occasional deep watering.

Sun Needs: It prefers full to partial sun.

Ecology: Natural plant communities include Valley Grassland.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous small insects are attracted to the flowers, such as native bees and hover flies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed

Virgin's Bower

Clematis ligusticifolia [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial: This vine is easy. Water well and keep soil moist the first year. After that it is drought tolerant and "tough as nails". Good for screening as the dense leaf canopy remains green until late fall. Attracts bees and butterflies

Size: 10-30 ft. It likes to climb trees then throws a spray of flowers.

Flower: Small but showy white flowers followed by attractive plumed seed heads.

Water Needs: First year keep moist. Low after that.

Sun Needs: Base in shade, will seek sun.

Ecology: Native in several counties mostly in Southern California, but also occurs along the American River.

Wildlife Supported: Attracts bees and butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 8 likely

Yerba Buena

Clinopodium douglasii [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial: Yerba Buena is a creeping perennial herb that grows primarily in northern and central California. Good container garden plant. This herb has been used medicinally by native people for indigestion, insomnia, fevers, colds, arthritic pain & toothaches. Lovely fragrance. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 likely

Size: 3-7" tall, 3' wide

Flower: Small white flowers in spring or summer

Water Needs: Low water.

Sun Needs: Full shade, afternoon shade.

Communities: Northern Coastal Scrub, Closed-cone Pine Forest, Redwood Forest, Mixed Evergreen Forest, Chaparral

Red Osier Dogwood

Cornus sericea [link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: This useful shrub has year-round interest—pretty spring flowers, green summer foliage, multicolored fall foliage and berry-like fruit, and red branches in winter. Useful in bordering lawns or streams, to stabilize banks, this shrub can grow aggressively when well-watered, but fairly easily maintained in the valley.

Height & Width: 10'-12' can keep smaller with regular pruning

Flower: Terminal white clusters in April and May, some throughout summer.

Water needs: Regular water inland

Sun needs: Sun to shade.

Ecology: Streambanks and moist places in much of North America

Ookow

Dichelostemma congestum [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Bulb: Grows best in full sun to filtered shade and gravelly to well-drained clay soils. Looks best planted in groups.

Flower: Umbels of 10-20 purple flowers in spring. Up to 2' tall.

Planting: Space at least 12" apart and plant 2" deep.

Water Needs: Enjoys ample water in winter and spring, but don't water in the summer.

Sun Needs: Full sun or part shade.

Ecology: Native to California.

Sticky Monkeyflower

Diplacus aurantiacus

[Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Perennial: Green, hairy, erect stems. Pollinators love it! Common uses: Deer Resistant, Hummingbird Gardens, Bird Gardens, Butterfly Gardens, Bee Gardens.

Size: **Height:** 5' and **Width:** 5'

Flower: Very showy orange tube flowers for 2-4 months in late spring-summer.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times a month.

Requirements: Full sun/part shade

Ecology: Rocky hillsides, cliffs, canyon slopes to 800', disturbed areas, borders of chaparral, open forest.

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds, insects. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 7 likely



Blue Dicks

Dipterostemon capitatus [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Bulb: This plant at one time extended in vast numbers across the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. A charming bulb that blooms in May-June. Bulb colonies were managed by Miwok, Yana and other California tribes who dug up bulbs in early spring for boiling or roasting and eating.

Flower: Blue-purple to pink-purple in late spring. 12-18" tall. Plant goes dormant in summer.

Planting: Plant in the fall in full sun, 12 inches apart and 1-2 inches deep. Plants do best in soil that is light and loose, but can even take clay.

Water Needs: Water during winter drought. May totally dry out in the summer, but can take occasional water.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Ecology: Native to California.

Wildlife supported: Butterflies & bees

Sticky cinquefoil

Drymocallis glandulosa [Link to Calscape](#)



Herbaceous Perennial: It works beautifully in containers as well as perennial gardens. The flowers last longer in part shade with moderate water, but this perennial grows well in full sun with regular water. Butterflies & moths hosted: 13 likely.

Flower: APR-JULY. creamy yellow flowers, soft leaves and red stems

Size: 1 -2' tall.

Water Needs: Low water once established.

Sun Needs: Full sun, part shade.

Ecology: It is native to California and is also found outside of California, but is confined to western North America.

California Fuchsia

Epilobium canum [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous, perennial shrub: If you are into hummingbird gardening, you must have this plant. You can cut to ground after flowering in the fall but starts to regrow almost immediately. Spreads nicely if watered.

Height: 1-1 ½'

Flower: Tubular red-orange flowers in summer-fall.

Water Needs: some, water deeply 1-2 times per month.

Requirements: Full sun/part shade

Ecology: Dry slopes and ridges, Central valley, desert mountains

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds. Butterflies & moths hosted: 15 likely

Everett's California Fuchsia

Epilobium canum 'Everett's Choice' [link to more](#)



Semi-evergreen perennial groundcover: Fuzzy gray-green foliage covered with tubular flowers that attract hummingbirds. Prune to 2" in winter after frost sets in.

Height: 6-12" Width: 3'-5'

Flower: Bright red flowers summer through fall

Water needs: Flowers best with occasional deep watering best

Sun needs: Full sun, tolerates some shade

Ecology: Selection of species that is widespread throughout lower elevations of much of the state.

Smooth Horsetail

Equisetum laevigatum [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial fern: Also called smooth scouring rush, this common pteridophyte is especially useful in boggy spots, ponds, containers, and bird gardens. The upright green stems have dark brown nodes and are topped with cone-shaped sporangia. Prefers moist loamy-clay soils.

Height: 2' to 6' Width: 1' clumps to spreading,

Flower: None. Terminal sporangia. Water needs: Needs moist soils.

Sun needs: Sun to shade.

Ecology: Native to most of North America except Northern Canada and Southern Mexico.

Fleabane Daisy

Erigeron foliosus [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: This aster will die back and disappear in late summer, only to re-appear in the spring. Particularly striking when planted with California Fuchsia and California Goldenrod. A nectar source for moths and butterflies.

Height: 1'

Flower: Spring blooming, lavender-purple daisy like flower with yellow center.

Water Needs: Tolerates dry to wet.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Grasslands, salt marshes, disturbed places below 200'.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 13 likely

California Buckwheat

Eriogonum fasciculatum [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial shrub: This plant is a nice low and spreading. Birds and butterflies love this plant! We were surprised to find it growing around Folsom Lake.

Height by width: 1-3' H x 3' W

Flower: Pink/white flowers in very late spring into the fall.

Water Needs: Dry, once established, water deeply once a month.

Requirements: Full sun.

Ecology: Occurs in many Plant Communities including in Valley Grasslands, though usually in Southern or Central California.

Wildlife Supported: Bees, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 15 confirmed, 36 likely

Theodore Payne California Buckwheat

Eriogonum fasciculatum 'Theodore Payne' [link](#)



Perennial: This selection tolerates almost any soil type. Selection of foothill and desert species of southern California. Hardy to 15 degrees. The buckwheats are very important butterfly plants and one of the pillars of their communities.

Size: ½ - 1' tall; 6' wide

Flower: Pink flower in Summer-Fall.

Water Needs: Low water; 1x monthly

Requirements: It takes most sun but can take to some shade.

Red Buckwheat

Eriogonum grande var. rubescens [Link to Calscape](#)



Herbaceous Perennial: It is endemic to three of the northern Channel Islands. Birds and bees love this plant!

Height by width: 1/2 - 1 1/2" H x 3' W

Flower: Pink flowers in very late spring into the fall.

Water Needs: Dry, once established, water deeply once a month.

Requirements: Full sun.

Ecology: Occurs in dry, rocky cliffs and protected pockets on the northern Channel Islands where the dominant atmospheric conditions are strongly marine influenced.

Woolly Sunflower

Eriophyllum lanatum [Link to Calscope](#)

Perennial herb: A low growing perennial with blue/gray “wool” on green stems and leaves. It is a pollinator favorite. Great for wildlife including in Butterfly Gardens, Bee Gardens and it is Deer Resistant.

Height: 1-2’

Flower: Summer blooming, daisy-like, yellow petals and yellow center.

Water Needs: Dry once established. If allowed to grow without water, it may act like a perennial shrub. Needs good drainage.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Local Ecology: Along the American River Parkway including at Upper Sunrise.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous insects. Butterflies & moths hosted:
7 likely



Scarlet Monkeyflower

Erythranthe cardinalis [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: It is well-liked by most pollinators and is an important hummingbird flower. It is an aggressive seeder and easy to grow. It can live on the edge of a pond.

Height: 1 ½-3'

Flower: 2-inch red tubular flowers most of the year; flowers are very showy and.

Water Needs: It likes regular garden water weekly.

Sun Needs: Likes sun to full shade.

Ecology: Native to many plant communities in California and outside of California.

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds love it. Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 likely

California Poppy

Eschscholzia californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Annual to Perennial: An annual or perennial plant that is beneficial to native bees, honey bees, and butterflies! The flowers are bright and beautiful. Prolific reseeders. Easy to control. Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 confirmed, 2 likely

Height: 2'

Flower: Bright orange. Blooms April - July (if it gets some supplemental water).

Water Needs: None - it will die back early.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Native to California and elsewhere, but not outside western North America.

Wildlife Supported: Birds, small herbivores, butterflies, bees, other pollinators. Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 confirmed, 2 likely

Siskiyou Blue Idaho fescue

Festuca idahoensis 'Siskiyou Blue' [link to more](#)



Plant Type: Grass (cool season)

Height by Width: 1' H x 1-2' W

Growth Habit: Tufted bunchgrass

Deciduous/Evergreen: Summer-dormant

Growth Rate: Fast

Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Soil Preference: Well-draining

Water Requirements: Drought-tolerant to moderate

Cold Hardy to: 15 degrees F Flower Season: Spring

Distribution: Selected for use in the garden

Natural Habitat: Dry openings in woods and rocky slopes
below 5,000'

Woodland Strawberry

Fragaria vesca [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Herb: A good groundcover that spreads horizontally with above ground stems. Tasty though small.

Height: 4”-6”

Flower: Fragrant 1” white flowers

Water Needs: Likes moisture. (1/gal/week)

Sun Needs: Prefers shady damp area.

Ecology: Native to shady places, Sierra Nevada, coast ranges. Cold tolerant to at least 15 deg. if not 0.

Wildlife Supported: Bees, Butterflies, Birds. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 41 likely

Hoary Coffeeberry

Frangula californica tomentella [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Shrub: It has velvety, grey green foliage. Berries attracts thrushes, jays, mockingbirds, thrashers, quail, robins, waxwings, finches. A good choice for hedgerows and habitat gardens!

Size: 8 -10' tall and 10-12' wide.

Flower: Flowers aren't showy but pollinators enjoy them in the Spring. The berries attract birds in Summer and Fall.

Water Needs: Will become quite drought tolerant once established.

Sun Needs: Full sun to part shade.

Ecology: It is native to California and is endemic (limited) to California alone.

Wildlife Supported: Birds, Bees, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 33 likely

Island Snapdragon

Gambelia speciosa [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial shrub: is a somewhat vine-like perennial plant native to the Channel Islands of California and Guadalupe Island, Mexico. It has trumpet-shaped red flowers which attract birds, especially hummingbirds. Under the right conditions it can bloom almost year round. Prefers fast-medium draining soil.

Size: 1-2' tall, 10' wide

Flower: red, Feb-May

Water: low

Sun: Full Sun, part shade

Wildlife Supported: Birds, especially hummingbirds, and various insects

Gum Plant

Grindelia camporum [Link to Calscope](#)



Perennial Herb: A colorful and attractive plant that grows in soils from sandy to clay. It is called gum plant because of the sticky substance covering the plant. It is great for the front of a dry border of a California garden. Attracts birds and butterflies. Species in the Grindelia genus are host plant to the Common Buckeye and Great Copper butterflies.

Height: To 3 feet high and wide.

Flower: Attractive yellow daisy flowers from May through October.

Water Needs: Very adaptable to coastal or inland gardens, water or drought, clay or sandy soil.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Ecology: Native to California and limited to California.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous insect pollinators are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 9 likely

Toyon / Christmas Berry Bush

Heteromeles arbutifolia [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Shrub: Great screen or specimen plant. Great hedge plant, often mixed with Coffeeberry, Manzanita and Ceanothus. Also called ‘Christmas Berry’.

Size: Width: 8-15 ft. Height: 15-25 ft.

Flower: Spring blossoms are a favorite of pollinators. Red berries in winter attract many birds.

Water Needs: Very drought tolerant.

Sun Needs: Toyon likes full sun, tolerates full shade.

Local Ecology: Native to California and occurs on the American River Parkway including at Upper Sunrise, River Bend, and William Pond.

Wildlife Supported: Bees are attracted to the flowers. Birds love the berries. Butterflies & moths hosted: 4 confirmed, 4 likely

Crevice Alumroot

Heuchera micrantha [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Herb: A preferred groundcover under evergreen oaks. When this plant is clumped it makes a very delicate show that is first class. If you have a shade garden with a little spot 2-3' across that you need a little 2' flower show this is it!

Size: 1' perennial with a 2' spike of very dainty white flowers.

Water Needs: Once established, water deeply every 1-2 weeks. Ample water encourages spread.

Sun Needs: Part to Full Shade.

Ecology: It is native to much of California and is found only slightly beyond California borders

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbird, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed

Hibiscus / Rose Mallow

Hibiscus lasiocarpus [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: Is the Sacramento Valley CNPS Chapter flower. Naturally occurs in marshy areas. Great plant for a *Rain Garden*.

Height: 4'-6' tall, 6'-8' wide

Flower: It flowers (huge showy) in late August.

Water Needs: Moderate water; water deeply every couple of months.

Sun Needs: The more sun the better.

Ecology: It is included in CNPS's inventory of rare and endangered plants on list 2.2 (rare, threatened, or endangered in CA; common elsewhere).

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 likely

Pacific Coast Iris Hybrids

Iris 'Pacific Coast Hybrid'



Evergreen herbaceous perennial: Best massed or in mixed border, edging water features, as an understory for native oaks. Good in flower arrangements. Strap-like leaves are glossy and dark green.

Height: 1'-3' Width 2-3'

Flower: 2-3" flowers in a variety of colors in spring.

Water needs: Moderate best in valley, avoid overwatering in clay soils.

Sun needs: Part shade best in valley

Ecology: Depends on species, from Transverse Ranges north to Washington

Junegrass

Koeleria macrantha [Link to Calscape](#)

Herbaceous Perennial Bunchgrass: Koeleria is used as an exceptionally low-maintenance lawn and turf grass. It is not suitable for high-traffic use due to its slow growth rate. Plants in the Koeleria genus are host plant for the Columbian Skipper butterfly. Valley Tassels grow with this plant.

Height: 8 - 24 inches high.

Flower: The inflorescence is a cluster of several spikes of dark brownish flowers in summer.

Water Needs: Prefers occasional deep watering.

Sun Needs: It prefers full to partial sun.

Ecology: is native to California and is also found elsewhere in North America and beyond

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 1 likely



Blue Flax

Linum Lewisii [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial Herb: Tiny, showy sky blue flowers from March to September. Good vertical accent in a summer container. Trim back when it turns brown in winter.

Size: 2 - 3 ft.

Water Needs: Tolerates drought. Does best in fast draining soils.

Sun Needs: Full sun and will tolerate part shade.

Ecology: Native to middle and high elevations from 1,312 to 11,155 feet . California, North America and beyond.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 likely

Pink Honeysuckle

Lonicera hispidula [Link to Calscape](#)

Deciduous vine: This chaparral vine to shrub seems to be deer proof. Hummingbird flower. This honeysuckle is not aggressive vigorous vines like the kind you see completely engulfing chain link fences.

Length: 8-20'

Flower: has delicate pink flower in May and June, followed by red berries - a bird favorite.

Water Needs: likes a dry spot. (<1 gal/week)

Sun Needs: Shade to full sun.

Ecology: Dry slopes and ridges, Central valley

Wildlife Supported Hummingbirds are very attracted to the flowers. Other birds are attracted to the fruits. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 22 likely



Silver Bush Lupine

Lupinus albifrons [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen shrub: Silvery shrub with erect stems. Very fast to 3' then slowly to 5'. It tends to be short lived but puts out babies to replace it. It is stunning when in bloom. Great for birds and bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

Size: 3-5' tall and wide

Flower: Violet to lavender flower cluster spikes in spring.

Water Needs: Will tolerate some water but best on the dry side.

Requirements: Full sun/part shade

Ecology: Chaparral, foothill woodlands to 1,300'

Wildlife: Very attractive to bumblebees and butterflies.
Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 confirmed, 49 likely

Coyote Mint

Monardella villosa [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial shrub: Small green leaves with soft hairs. It is stress deciduous. Leaves have a minty fragrance. Butterflies love this plant! It was used by Native American groups as a remedy for stomach upset, respiratory conditions, and sore throat. It may also be steeped into a mint tea. Can re-bloom if deadheaded.

Height: 12-24”

Flower: Purple - blue “puff balls” of tiny flowers in summer.

Water Needs: 1-2 times a month; prefers well drained soil

Sun Needs: Part shade to sun.

Local Ecology: Several Plant Communities including Oak Woodland.

Wildlife Supported: Primarily butterflies for nectar. Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 confirmed, 2 likely

Deer Grass

Muhlenbergia rigens [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Grass: It looks like a small pampas grass but without the aggressive seeds and leaf cuts. Deer Resistant. Commonly used for making baskets by the Ca. Indians. Very Easy.

Size: 3' with 2 foot plumes.

Water Needs: Low water.

Sun Needs: Full sun.

Ecology: Native to much of Calif. up into the mountains. It grows on banks of seasonal creeks.

Wildlife Supported: Seed eating birds will be attracted to it in summer. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 likely

Firecracker Penstemon /Eaton's Penstemon

Penstemon eatonii [link to Calscape](#)



Perennial herb: In California it is found primarily in high desert areas. It is a perennial herb producing several sprawling to erect stems reaching one meter in maximum height.

Size: 2.5'-3' tall, 3' wide

Flower: Yellow to red in June and July

Water: Very low

Sun: Full sun, part shade

Wildlife Supported Hummingbirds love the flowers. Birds, Butterflies, Bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 12 likely

Foothill Penstemon

Penstemon heterophyllus [Link to Calscape](#)



Perennial: Beautiful bloomer that attracts hummingbirds and other pollinators. Remove old flower stalks to extend bloom time. **Host plant** for the Chalcedon Checkerspot butterfly.

Height: 1-3'

Flower: Spring bloomer. Bright blue as it blooms, then change to violet-purple-blue.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times a month.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Chaparral, Foothill Woodland, Yellow Pine Forest, forest openings below 400'.

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds and insects, especially bees, are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 17 likely; **Plus 6 Specialist Bees**

Palmer's Penstemon

Penstemon palmeri



Perennial: This is a great hummingbird, butterfly and bee plant, especially for bumblebees. It's tidy gray-green foliage is topped with striking 4-5' flower stalks in early summer. Soil tolerant. Good at the back of a border or as specimen. AKA Balloon Flower

Height: 4-5' Width: 2'

Flower: Creamy to pale pink

Water needs: Very drought tolerant

Sun needs: Sun

Ecology: Hot dry desert mountains of Southern California and Arizona

Wildlife supported: Birds, hummingbirds, butterflies and bees.
Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 likely

Bladderpod

Peritoma arborea



Evergreen Perennial Shrub: Open branching, bluish leaves, peculiar smell and unusual fruit. Prefers well-drained soil. Fast-growing and adaptable, this shrub is attractive to hummingbirds. Useful as a screen or informal hedge, for erosion control on dry slopes. Few diseases or pests.

Height: 2-5' Width: 2-5'

Flower: Terminal yellow-gold blooms are heaviest in spring, but occur year-round

Water needs: Drought tolerant to occasional.

Sun needs: Sun to part shade

Ecology: Dry ridges, slopes, and sandy washes below 4000 feet. San Luis Obispo, Fresno, and Inyo counties south to Baja California

Wildlife supported: Birds, hummingbirds, and butterflies.

Butterflies & moths hosted: 4 likely

Mock Orange

Philadelphus lewisii [Link to Calscape](#)



Shrub: This deciduous shrub grows quickly, has a lovely fragrant and delicate arching branches.

Height: Has a form and growth pattern similar to a lilac; to 6' tall.

Flower: Delicate, open white 2" beauty, May-June.

Water Needs: Garden tolerant and drought tolerant. A little water (1 gal/week) produces more flowers.

Requirements: A great background shrub

Ecology: Native to the northwestern United States.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies love the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 likely

Lippia

Phyla nodiflora [Link to Calscape](#)



Groundcover Perennial herb: All sorts of insects are drawn to the flowers of this verbena relative. It is an exuberant grower. Best in confined areas because it spreads aggressively with regular water, but it prunes easily.

Flower: Blooms May and June. Small lavender/white.

Size: 5" tall

Water Needs: Likes regular water.

Sun Needs: Likes sun to partial shade.

Ecology: Grows throughout California and is found in other warm areas around the world.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 1 likely

Pacific Ninebark

Physocarpus capitatus



Shrub: This dense, deciduous shrub has distinctive maple-like lobed leaves and broad, and ball-like clusters of small white flowers with five petals and numerous red-tipped stamens. The unique fruit is an inflated glossy red pod. At lower elevation inland locations it benefits from part shade and moisture.

Size: 3 ½' - 8' tall

Flower: Delicate, open white 2" beauty, May-June.

Water Needs: Garden tolerant and drought tolerant. A little water (1 gal/week) produces more flowers.

Requirements: part shade and moisture

Ecology: Native to Chaparral, wetland-riparian, more

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies love the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 7 likely

Fragrant Everlasting

Pseudognaphalium beneolens [Link to CalScape](#)



Deciduous Perennial : The silver-green herbage is hairy, sticky, & pleasantly scented. Commonly used in butterfly gardens. Nice in dried arrangements.

Height: 4'

Flower: Creamy white.

Water Needs: Dry, water deeply 1 time per month

Sun Needs: Full sun to part shade.

Ecology: It is native to the west coast of North America from Washington to Baja California, where it is a member of the flora of many habitats, including chaparral..

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 14 likely

Interior Scrub Oak

Quercus berberidifolia [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen small tree or large shrub: A true oak only much smaller. It is great for a bird garden. It grows at about 1'-2' per year. Easy to grow. Great for Bank Stabilization, Hedges, Bird Gardens, Butterfly Gardens. It is Deer Resistant.

Size: Height and Width: 10-20'

Flower: Flowers are inconspicuous but acorns are large.

Water Needs: Drought tolerant once established.

Sun Needs: Full sun to part shade.

Ecology: *Q. berberidifolia* is found in Chaparral and Coastal Sage Scrub Plant Communities.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous birds, mammals, reptiles and insects. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the following butterflies which use Oaks as host plant: California Sister, Propertius Duskywing, Mournful Duskywing, Golden Hairstreak, and Gold-Hunter's Hairstreak. Butterflies & moths hosted: 165 likely

Canyon Live Oak

Quercus chrysolepis [Link to Calscope](#)



Evergreen Tree: This tree is often found near creeks and drainage swales growing in moist cool microhabitats. The leaves are dark-green on top and fuzzy gold-white underneath. Great for a bird garden.

Size: Height: 66' Width: 30 - 60'

Flower: It's flowers are not showy. Acorns are large and beautiful.

Water Needs: It takes a moderate amount of water.

Sun Needs: It likes sun! It creates dappled light.

Ecology: It is native to many plant communities across California and beyond.

Wildlife Supported: Many insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals are attracted to oaks. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the following butterflies which use Oaks as host plant: California Sister, Propertius Duskywing, Mournful Duskywing, Golden Hairstreak, and Gold-Hunter's Hairstreak. Butterflies & moths hosted: 14 confirmed, 165 likely

Blue Oak

Quercus douglasii [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous tree: The canopy of the Blue Oak is typically rounded with many crooked branches. It has blue-green leaves and light-colored bark. Not a fast growing tree. Good candidate for bonsai. *A beautiful, elegant tree.*

Height: 30'-50' Easy but very slow, 1-3 inches/year, with occasional bursts of moderate, 1 whole FOOT!

Flower: Male flowers are yellow-green catkins. Female flowers are small and often solitary flowering from April through May.

Water Needs: Water deeply 1-2 times a month to establish.

Requirements: Full sun, part shade.

Ecology: It is **native** to California and is endemic (limited) to California alone, from Los Angeles to Sacramento.

Wildlife Supported: A very large variety of wildlife are attracted to oaks. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the Butterflies & moths hosted: 11 confirmed, 159 likely

Leather Oak

Quercus durata [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Shrub: This small oak is useful for hot dry rocky areas. It is easy to grow and takes well to pruning.

With boulders, manzanitas and a lot of mulch you could create a Japanese garden that would not need care or water. This tree has excellent bonsai properties.

Size: 3-12' with an average of 8' tall.

Water Needs: The best watering is slow, deep water for the first summer, then 1/month second summer, then 1-3 times in spring the third summer.

Sun Needs: It likes sun!

Ecology: Chaparral and Central Oak Woodland. A native limited to California.

Wildlife Supported: A very large variety of wildlife are attracted to oaks. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 166 likely



Oregon White Oak

Quercus garryana semota [link to Calscope](#)

Deciduous shrub or small tree: Bright green leaves are not velvety underneath, and turn rusty brown in the fall. Fire resistant with low level burning. Large acorns bulge out of their caps and provide food for many small mammals and birds.

Height: 65' Flower: Catkins in spring

Water needs: Drought tolerant to regular

Sun needs: Full sun

Ecology: From Southern California to Southwestern British Columbia in the foothills of many mountain ranges

Wildlife Supported: Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally. Butterflies & moths hosted 124 likely



Black oak

Quercus kelloggii [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous tree: Its leaves turn yellow, orange, red in fall. *One of the prettiest trees in the world.* A lot of color, a neat leaf, with bristles on each tip, and an attractive bark. It is very garden tolerant.

Height: 50', growing about 2' per year.

Flower: Long catkins of small white flower clusters on each stem in spring-summer.

Water Needs: Water deeply 1-2 times a month to establish.

Requirements: Partial sun is preferred in Sacramento area.

Ecology: Native to mountains of Sierra Nevada, and coast ranges.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous types of wildlife are attracted to oaks. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including many butterflies which use Oaks as host plant. Butterflies & moths hosted: 8 confirmed, 171 likely

Valley Oak

Quercus lobata [Link to Calscape](#)

Deciduous Tree: It is endemic to California, growing in the hot interior valleys and foothills. With water it can grow to 20' in 5 years. It will then slow down in height, then begin to fill into a vase-like tree. Birds and pollinators love oaks. Apple galls often decorate this tree.

Size: 70' eventually.

Flower: March-April, male flower on long catkin are followed by female flower are tiny, singular or small clusters.

Water Needs: Establish with deep watering for the first few years. Then back off when its roots reach the watertable.

Sun Needs: It will seek full sun.

Ecology: It is native to the central valley, valleys of Sierra foothills, and coast ranges of California.

Wildlife Supported: Oaks generally are very important to wildlife including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the many butterflies which use Oaks as host plant.
Butterflies & moths hosted: 17 confirmed, 151 likely



Interior Live Oak

Quercus wislizeni [Link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen Tree: It is a beautiful tree that needs no special care. It has glossy, dark-green leaves. Great for a bird garden.

Size: 30' to 50' tall and wide

Flower: It's flowers are not showy.

Water Needs: The best watering is slow, deep water for the first summer, then 1/month second summer, then 1-3 times in spring the third summer.

Sun Needs: It likes sun! It creates dappled light if not watered (after it is established). Solid shade if watered.

Ecology: It is endemic (limited) to California alone, in the Foothill Woodland, Chaparral plant communities.

Wildlife Supported: Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the many butterflies which use Oaks as host plant. Butterflies & moths hosted: 14 confirmed, 158 likely



Oracle Oak

Quercus x morehus [More info](#)



Evergreen Tree: *Q. x morehus* is a cross between Black Oak, *Q kelloggii*, and Live Oak, *Q wislizenii*. It is a beautiful evergreen tree with large leaves that needs no special care. Great for a bird garden.

Size: 20' - 40' tall and 20' - 30' wide

Water Needs: The best watering is slow, deep water for the first summer, then 1/month second summer, then 1-3 times in spring the third summer.

Sun Needs: It likes sun!

Ecology: Oracle oaks occur on lower slopes of the western Sierra Nevada and on the inner Coast Ranges.

Hollyleaf Redberry

Rhamnus ilicifolia [Link to Calscope](#)



Evergreen Large Shrub or Tree: It grows slow - unless you give it a lot of water the first year. Hummingbirds and insects collect nectar from the flowers. Quail, Thrushes, Robins, Finches, Towhees, Thrashers and Jays love the berries. Prunes easily.

Height: 5-11'

Flower: Small yellow flower in spring. Brilliant red berries in late summer and fall.

Water Needs: Once established, drought tolerant. Needs well drained soil.

Sun Needs: Part shade to full sun.

Ecology: Dry, shrubby slopes, canyons, ravines, stream-banks, chaparral, foothill woodlands to 500'.

Wildlife Supported: Numerous birds are attracted to the berries. Butterflies & moths hosted: 19 likely

Golden Currant

Ribes aureum var. gracillimum [link to Calscape](#)



Shrub: Golden Currant is a species of small to medium-sized deciduous shrub. golden yellow flowers, often with a pronounced fragrance similar to that of cloves or vanilla. Leaves turn red in autumn. The plant is deciduous from late December to early February. The shrub produces berries about half an inch in diameter from an early age. Ripe fruits, amber yellow to black in color, are tasty, and attract a wide range of birds.

Size: 3-6' tall, 3'6' wide

Flower: Yellow, Feb-April

Water: low to moderate

Sun: Full sun, Part shade

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds, many other bird species, other pollinators. Butterflies & moths hosted:
72 likely

California Wild Rose

Rosa californica [Link to Calscape](#)

Shrub: A deciduous shrub is a upright grower that forms thickets. A very important wildlife plant but it spreads easily when watered.
Common uses: Hedges, Deer Resistant, Bird Gardens, Butterfly Gardens, Bee Gardens.

Size: **Height:** 4-8' **Width:** 10'

Flower: 1-2" pink fragrant flowers followed by 3/4" red smooth fragrant hips.

Water Needs: Water encourages this plant to spread. Low water keeps in check.

Requirements: Prefers shade to part shade on Valley floor.

Ecology: It is **native** to California and is also found outside of California, but is confined to western North America and elsewhere in North America and beyond.

Wildlife Supported: Bees, butterflies and birds. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 70 likely



California Blackberry

Rubus ursinus [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Shrub: This species is one of the original parents of the hybrids Loganberry and Boysenberry. It is commonly used in Hedgerows, Bird Gardens. It is typically dioecious so that only the female plants produce fruit.

Size: 3-6' tall and wide

Flower: Its fragrant flowers are white sometimes with pinkish hues becoming numerous toward the end of April & into May.

Water Needs: Once established, water deeply monthly.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Generally moist places, scrub, stream-sides.

Wildlife Supported: Pacific Blackberry is attractive to a wide ranges of wildlife, from butterflies to bears. Butterflies & moths hosted: 4 confirmed, 63 likely

Sandbar Willow

Salix exigua [Link to CalScape](#)



Deciduous Shrub: Willows are very important to wildlife including: Butterflies & moths hosted (10 confirmed, 215 likely)

Size: 10-23' tall and wide

Flower: Its fragrant flowers are white sometimes with pinkish hues becoming numerous toward the end of April & into May.

Water Needs: Once established, water deeply monthly.

Sun Needs: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: Generally moist places, scrub, stream-sides.

White Sage

Salvia apiana [link to Calscape](#)

Evergreen shrub: Bold white foliage, striking flowers, powerful scent make this an interesting addition to any garden. Attracts many bees, almost pest-free. Important to native Californians as a ceremonial plant. Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds, insects, esp. carpenter bees and bumble bees Butterflies & moths hosted: 8 likely



Height: 2-3' with 4-10' flower stalks Width: 3-6'

Flower: spikes of lavender-white in spring

Water needs: drought tolerant to occasional. Sun needs: Sun.

Ecology: dry slopes mainly in coastal scrub and chaparral, some woodlands below 4500' in Southern California

Bee's Bliss Sage

Salvia 'Bee's Bliss' [link to Calscape](#)



Groundcover Perennial herb: Salvia Bee's Bliss is an excellent ground cover and habitat plant. It grows around 2 feet high and 6 to 8 feet wide. The leaves are grey-green with lavender flowers in the spring. It is drought tolerant after it is established but is tolerant of a wide range of garden conditions. Hummingbirds and bees are attracted to the flowers. Is frost intolerant. Attracts Hummingbirds, birds, bees.

Size: 2' tall and 6-8' wide

Flower: Spring

Water: Very low

Sun: Full sun, part shade

Dry Earth Black Sage

Salvia mellifera 'Terra Seca' [link to CalScape](#)



Evergreen Perennial: Drought tolerant groundcover sage. Has deep green foliage and whitish-blue flowers. Will trail and cascade over walls. Performs well on slopes and in either full or partial sun. Recommended for erosion control. Plant has spines. Flowers are fragrant

Size: 1-2' tall, 6' wide

Flower: White/Lavender

Water: Low

Sun: Full sun, part sun

Wildlife supported: This plant is attractive to bees, butterflies and/or birds

Creeping Sage

Salvia sonomensis [Link to Calscape](#)



Groundcover Evergreen Perennial: A beautiful ground cover between manzanita with monkey flowers and monardella and is beneficial to hummingbirds and butterflies. Very fragrant.

Common uses: Hummingbird Gardens, Bird Gardens, Butterfly Gardens, Bee Gardens.

Size: 1 foot tall

Flower: Purple. Blooms March - July

Water Needs: Drought tolerant

Sun Needs: Full sun to shade!

Ecology: Native to California in woodlands and chaparral.

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds, butterflies and various other insects are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 likely

Hummingbird Sage

Salvia spathacea [Link to Calscape](#)



Herbaceous Perennial: It is an one foot high perennial that spreads by rhizomes. As the name implies Hummingbirds work this species very heavily Hummingbird sage has proven deer proof at Las Pilitas Nursery.

Size: 1' high.

Flower: The flowers are magenta, 1" long with 10-20 on a 1-2' spike

Water Needs It likes regular water.

Sun Needs: Full sun to full shade.

Ecology: This sage is native to coastal California from Napa to Orange..

Blue Elderberry

Sambucus nigra ssp. Caerulea [Link to Calscape](#)



Large shrub or tree, deciduous: Fast growing, host to endangered beetle. Many bird species love this plant. Elderberries are one of the most important source of food for birds in California. Berries are tart, distinctive, and versatile. From Syrup and Jam to Wine.

Height: 15-30' tall and wide.

Flower: Huge clusters of white blossoms in the spring.

Water Needs: Moderate water.

Requirements: Sun/part shade



Ecology: It is native to California and is also found elsewhere in North America and beyond.

Wildlife Supported: Host to the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle. Many bird species. Elderberries are one of the most important source of food for birds in California. Butterflies & moths hosted: 23 likely

California Figwort

Scrophularia californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen shrub: AKA Bee Plant. Although California figwort is sometimes found in sand, it comes into full glory in open heavy clay. The Chalcedon Checkerspot lives on this species and sequesters Iridoid glycosides from the plant, making the larva poisonous and adults unpalatable. So, unless you're a butterfly, do not eat this plant..

Size: 2' to 4' with three foot flower spikes.

Flower: Tiny, red. **Water Needs:** 20 to 30 inches of rainfall.

Sun Needs: Some shade in the valley.

Ecology: Native to many Communities including Chaparral and Central Oak Woodland.

Wildlife Supported: Attracts bees, hummingbirds, and a species of small wasp, for which nectar is awarded. Figwort is a host plant for the butterfly larvae of Common Buckeye. Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 confirmed, 5 likely

Skull Cap

Scutellaria californica [Link to Calscape](#)



Evergreen Perennial: Small green plant.

Flower: Bearing small, white or yellowish snapdragon-like flowers which are said to smell of apples

Size: Forms small clump one foot wide.

Water Needs: Moderate summer water with excellent drainage.

Sun Needs: Full or part shade.

Ecology: It is found in the scrub and low elevation mountains of Northern California.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 likely

Stone Crop

Sedum spathulifolium

Perennial: A perennial succulent plant that grows well sandy or rocky soil and is beneficial to butterflies.

Size: Up to 6 inches tall, spreads as ground cover

Flower: Yellow. Blooms April - July

Water Needs: Somewhat moist

Sun Needs: Partial shade

Ecology: Native to California and elsewhere, but not outside western North America

Wildlife Supported: Species in the Sedum genus are host plant to the Variegated Fritillary butterfly



Blue-eyed Grass

Sisyrinchium bellum [Link to Calscape](#)

Deciduous Perennial: Flat, grass-like foliage with taller flower stalks holding delicate, single blooms. Can also be drought tolerant. Watch out for snails. Common uses include as Groundcovers and in Butterfly Gardens. It is Deer Resistant. Drought deciduous but will keep green with regular summer water.

Height: 1'

Flower: Spring blooming. Small, purple to pale lavender petals with yellow center.

Water Needs: Moderate.

Sun Needs: Full sun to part shade.

Ecology: Common. Open, generally moist, grassy areas, woodlands, below 600'.



California Goldenrod

Solidago velutina ssp. Californica

[Link to Calscape](#)



Semi-evergreen herbaceous perennial: Especially good massed in meadows, as understory groundcover for oaks, or in a perennial border. Butterflies, bees and other

insects love it. Good in bouquets, too!

Height: 1-4' **Width:** spreads with irrigation

Flower: Golden yellow clusters in summer into fall

Water needs: Drought tolerant to moderate

Sun needs: Sun to part shade

Ecology: Dry or moist sites below 7000 ft., California Floristic Province and Modoc Plateau

Wildlife Supported: Numerous insects are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 39 likely

Snowdrop *Styrax redivivus* Bush

Styrax redivivus [Link to Calscape](#)

Deciduous Shrub or Small Tree: It's flowers have a delicate fragrance beauty and *darling seeds* in the summer. It is a slow grower. It is a uncommon native shrub.

Height: 6-9'

Flower: Large, white, drooping flowers in spring.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply twice per month.

Requirements: Part shade.

Ecology: It is **native** to California and is endemic (limited) to California alone.



Common Snowberry

Symphoricarpos albus [Link to Calscape](#)

Deciduous Shrub: Reddish, slender stems with deep green, round leaves. Striking white berries in winter. Spreads by underground rhizomes, more when watered.

Size: Height & Width: 4-5'

Flower: Spring blooms with tiny white or pink bell shaped flowers along stem.

Water Needs: Some, water deeply 1-2 times per month.

Sun Requirements: Part shade/shade. *In sun the leaves are smaller and the plant blooms more.*

Ecology: Shady woods, steam banks, northern slopes below 400'.

Wildlife Supported: Various insects and hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers. Berry and seed eating birds are attracted to the fruit. Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 confirmed, 19 likely



California Aster

Symphotrichum chilense [Link to Calscape](#)



Deciduous Perennial: It is a quick spreading plant and a good soil stabilizer, but can be invasive if not managed. A good filler in a meadow garden. Attracts butterflies and other beneficial insects.

Height: 3' **Width:** 3'

Flower: Blooms in late summer-fall, daisy-like, lavender colored petals with yellow center.

Water Needs: Tolerates dry to wet.

Requirements: Full sun/part shade.

Ecology: It is native to western North America from British Columbia to California, where it grows in many types of habitat, especially along the coast and in the coastal mountain ranges.

Wildlife Supported: The flowers attract many beneficial insects. Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 likely

Pretty face

Triteleia ixioides [link to Calscope](#)



Perennial Bulb: Best in groups under native oaks and pines. Prefers filtered afternoon shade. Clay to gravelly soils with good drainage.

Flower: Umbels of 10-20 shiny yellow flowers in spring.

Planting: Space at least 12” apart and plant 2” deep.

Water Needs: Enjoys ample water in winter and spring, but don’t water in the summer.

Sun Needs: Full sun or part shade.

Ecology: Native to California.

Vervain

Verbena lasiostachys [Link to Calscape](#)

Herbaceous Perennial: It can grow aggressively, but is great for erosion control and attracts loads of butterflies and pollinators. Verbena is lanky and adapts to many garden conditions. This plant has a long bloom period beginning in April and lasting until September. Purple-blue flowers are densely clustered on tall green stalks.

Size: 2-3 ft tall and 4-5 ft wide

Flower Color: Blue, Lavender, Purple

Flowering Season: Spring, Summer, Fall

Water Needs: Some, moderate amount.

Requirements: Full Sun, Part shade.

Ecology: Shady woods, steam banks, northern slopes below

Wildlife Supported: Hummingbirds, birds, bees, butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 6 likely



Roger's California Grape

Vitis Roger's Red [More info](#)



Vine, Deciduous: It turns flaming red in the fall before losing its leaves. Also sets fruit profusely. The fruit is tasty though they have large seeds. (Parentage: *Vitis californica* x *Vitis vinifera*)

Height: 15-30' - A vigorous vine growing 3-6 feet per year

Flower: Very small yellow flower cluster in spring, small fruits in summer to fall.

Water Needs: Water deeply 1-2 times per month

Sun Needs: Full to part sun.

Ecology: This California Wild Grape was selected by Roger Raiche at the U.C. Berkeley Botanic Garden.



Learn more about the importance of native plant habitat for our local fauna.

Because the native plant habitat we protect, plant or restore today will determine what LIFE
looks like tomorrow.

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