



# Sacramento Region's Native Plants grown by SacValley CNPS Nursery & Gardens

A project of:  
Sacramento Valley Chapter of California Native Plant Society  
[SacValleyCNPS.org/Nursery](http://SacValleyCNPS.org/Nursery)

# 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



# Maidenhair Fern

*Adiantum jordanii* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Perennial Fern:** It grows in moist rock crevices. It does occur in the shade of many of the oaks, particularly the live oaks. Soils can be heavy clay, gravel or just rock.

**Height:** 1.5' **Width:** 2-3'

**Water Needs:** Likes moisture. It just need wet feet in winter and early spring, as the ground dries out, so do they, gradually going dormant in mid-summer.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers shady damp area.

**Ecology:** It is Plant Communities are Chaparral, Valley Grassland, wetland-riparian.

# 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.

# Sicklepod Rockcress

## *Arabis sparsiflora* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Biennial Perennial:** This is a very unusual plant! It occurs at Upper Sunrise on a rocky pile. The basal leaves clump but the flowering stems rise 2'. Seedpods are 2-5" long, recurved and held outward from the stem.

**Height:** 10 "- 2'

**Flower:** Tiny light pinkish-lavender flowers

**Water Needs:** Low to moderate water.

**Sun Needs:** Mostly to Full sun.

**Ecology:** Native to California and beyond.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 14 likely

# 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 birds 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 flowers 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 Calscape](#)



**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.

# 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.

# 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

# 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

# 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



# 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:** 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:** 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



# Elegant Clarkia

## *Clarkia unguiculata* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** An upright annual plant that is beneficial to both butterflies and bees with striking leaves and beautiful flowers. Its reseeds freely! Common uses include Butterfly and Bee gardens. (Its leaves can be solid green to this beautiful combination of colors!)

**Height:** 1-3'

**Flower:** Bright pink flowers; Blooms late spring

**Water Needs:** Can tolerate dry to moist soils

**Sun Needs:** Full or partial sun.

**Ecology:** This plant is endemic to California, where it is found in many woodland habitats.

**Wildlife Supported:** Insects, especially bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 3 likely

# Miner's Lettuce (Indian Lettuce)

*Claytonia perfoliata* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** It is native to a large portion of western North America, including almost every county in California.. Butterfly magnet. Birds love the seeds! Plus the leaves of this plant are great in a salad or soup!

**Size:** 1-1.3 ft. and 1 ft. wide.

**Flower:** Small but showy white flowers

**Water Needs:** It likes moisture; plant is larger with it.

**Sun Needs:** Shade to sun.

**Ecology:** Native over most of Sacramento including along the American River.

**Wildlife Supported:** A variety of insects, birds love the seeds. Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 1 likely

# 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

# Chinese Houses

## *Collinsia heterophylla* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** It gets its name from its towers of flower clusters, of decreasing diameter, which give the plants in full flower a certain resemblance to a pagoda. Common uses: Butterfly Gardens, Bee Gardens.

**Height:** 12 - 18”

**Flower:** Blue, lavender, white and purple flowers March through June.

**Water Needs:** Needs water weekly.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers partial to full sun.

**Ecology:** Native to California and Baja California

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 3 confirmed

# 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

# Sticky Monkeyflower / *Diplacus aurantiacus*

## Indian Paintbrush / *Castilleja foliolosa*



These are two different plants that grow together in the Sacramento region.

**Perennial Herbs:** Indian Paintbrush is a hemiparasite . It has special roots that tap into a neighboring host plants roots for some of its nutrients. It has lovely red blooms and is often seen growing in the wild near:

**Evergreen Perennial:** Sticky Monkeyflower which has lovely yellow blooms. Do not separate these two plants or the Paintbrush will die. They can live together and both be healthy.

**Water Needs:** Low to moderate water.

**Sun Needs:** Full sun.

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



# Live Forever

## *Dudleya cymosa* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Perennial herb:** It is a succulent that is native to California and is endemic (limited) to California alone. It is an excellent hummingbird plant. **Host Plant** for Sonora Blue Butterfly.

**Height:** Basal leaves 3-4", flowering stalk 5-8"

**Flower:** yellow-red flowers that are displayed on short stems that emerge from a cluster of fleshy green succulent leaves.

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

**Sun Needs:** Part shade to sun with afternoon shade. They prefer good drainage but can tolerate clay. Dudleya plants should be planted at an angle to prevent them from rotting.

**Ecology:** Rocky slopes of Oak Woodland, Foothill Woodland, Chaparral.

**Wildlife Supported:** Hummingbirds, butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 2 likely



# 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

# 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

# Wand Buckwheat

## *Eriogonum roseum* [Link to Calscape](#)

Annual: Leaves in a rosette at the base of the plant. This genus provides larval food plants for various species of butterflies: Bramble Hairstreak, Blue Copper, Acmon Blue, Square-spotted Blue, Dotted Blue... Excellent for dry, wild gardens, and ecological restoration.

Butterflies & moths hosted: 40 likely

Height: 1.5 - 2.5'

Flower: Flowers tiny, in pom-pom-shaped clusters at the top of the flowering stems. Blooms in summer.

Water Needs: None needed once established in sandy, dry washes, sandy spots

Sun Needs: Full to part sun.

Ecology: Plant

Wildlife Supported: Native bees; Predatory or parasitoid insects; Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 45 likely



# Wild Buckwheat

## *Eriogonum nudum* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Perennial shrub:** (Nude Buckwheat) This plant has 3” leaves in a rosette at the base of the plant from which a tall stem shoots up with small flower clusters near the top. Native bees, butterflies (including, blues, hairstreaks, and metalmarks), as well as many others. It is an important **Host** plant to caterpillars like the Acmon Blue butterfly.

**Height:** 3’ - 6’

**Flower:** Several small white flower clusters on each stem in spring-summer.

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

**Requirements:** Full sun.

**Ecology:** Occurs in many Plant Communities.

**Wildlife Supported:** Native bees, butterflies, as well as many other pollinators. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 confirmed, 39 likely



# Sulphur Buckwheat

## *Eriogonum umbellatum* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Herbaceous Perennial:** This plant is a nice groundcover, low and spreading. Birds and butterflies love this plant! We were surprised to find it growing along the American River Parkway at Rossmoor Bar.

**Height by width:** 12-18” H x 3’ W

**Flower:** Bright yellow flowers in the late spring to summer.

**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 higher elevations in California.

**Wildlife Supported:** Buckwheats generally are very important for pollinators. Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 confirmed, 37 likely



# Woolly Sunflower

*Eriophyllum lanatum* [Link to CalScape](#)

**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:** 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

# Seep Monkeyflower

*Erythranthe guttatus* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual sometimes perennial:** Useful along the edges of ponds or in floating planters. Very floriferous for months in spring through summer. Seep monkey flower is well liked by hummingbirds, disliked by deer. If Seep monkey flower goes dry it disappears, sometimes coming back the next year.

**Flower:** Yellow and is edible (so says Las Pilitas).

**Size:** Small but beautiful and abundant

**Water Needs:** Likes regular water. Tolerates sand, clay and no drainage.

**Sun Needs:** Likes sun.

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

**Wildlife Supported:** Hummingbirds, butterflies, bees.  
Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 8 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

# 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

# Blue Field Gilia

## *Gilia capitata* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** Also known as bluehead gilia and globe gilia. It is native to much of western North America from Alaska to northern Mexico. *Gilia capitata* is great for a butterfly garden. Easy to grow! Nice with CA Poppies.

**Size:** Height: 6” - 2’

**Flowers:** Lt Blue to Med Blue in Spring

**Water Needs:** 2 - 3 times monthly

**Sun Needs:** Sun

**Ecology:** In the wild it is endemic to California where it grows in the Central Valley and surrounding mountain ranges and foothills, with major populations around the Bay Area.

**Wildlife Supported:** Numerous insects. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 4 likely

# Tricolor Gilia

*Gilia tricolor* [link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** It is widely cultivated around the world and is frequently included in wildflower seed mixes that are sold in many places. Bloom time - Spring and Summer. Companion plants include Clarkia and Chinese Houses.

**Size:** Height: 1.2'; Width: ½'

**Flowers:** Blue, Lavender, White

**Water Needs:** 2 - 3 times monthly

**Sun Needs:** Sun

**Ecology:** In the wild it is endemic to California where it grows in the Central Valley and surrounding mountain ranges and foothills, with major populations around the Bay Area.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterfly, bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 4 likely

# Gum Plant

*Grindelia camporum* [Link to Calscape](#)



**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



# Sunflower

*Helianthus annuus* [Link to Calscope](#)



**Annual:** This sunny plant attracts birds, bees, and butterflies alike! It grows in all soil types, and makes great cut flowers for bouquets.

**Height:** 5-10' **Width:** to 2'

**Flower:** Bright yellow flowers in Summer

**Water needs:** Moderate to high

**Sun needs:** Full sun is best

**Ecology:** Native to wetlands - riparian and non wetland, characteristic of disturbed places.

**Wildlife Supported** Sunflowers seeds are very attractive to numerous birds. The flowers are important nectar source for various insects including Monarch and Bordered Patch butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 confirmed, and 28 likely. Plus **7 Specialist bees.**

# Toyon

## *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

# Common Rush

*Juncus effusus* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Evergreen shrub:** Reed-like shrub perfect for poolside or water-garden habitat. Great container plant. Tolerates some drought as well.

**Height:** 18-24”

**Flower:** with white-pinkish flower spurts at stem joints.

**Water Needs:** Some to wet, water deeply once a week.

**Requirements:** Part shade.

**Ecology:** Waterways and wet places below 600’.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 likely

# Bush Beardtongue

*Keckiella breviflora* [Link to Calscope](#)



**Evergreen Shrub:** This bush penstemon is a sprawling subshrub that usually props itself up on a rock or neighbor so you can see the purple striped, white flowers. Hummingbirds are attracted to it.

**Height:** 3'-5'

**Flower:** The flowers consist of white petals fused into short tubes and a gaping, open mouth marked with purple lines.

**Water Needs:** little water needed (> 1 gallon/week)

**Requirements:** Prefers good drainage, shade to part shade.

**Ecology:** It is native to many of the mountain ranges and foothills of central California and beyond.

**Wildlife Supported:** Insects are attracted to the flowers. Hummingbirds, Birds, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 19 likely

# 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



# Pitcher Sage

*Lepechinia calycina* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Evergreen Perennial:** Pitcher Sage is native to chaparral areas in California where it can live in most aspects and exposures. This perennial likes sun to part shade is drought tolerant but tolerates extra water. Cold tolerant to -5 deg. or less. **A Hummingbird plant.** Fairly deer proof. Needs good drainage.

**Size:** 3-4' tall and 4-5' wide

**Flower:** Blooms in April and May.

**Water Needs:** Once established, little to some water.

**Sun Needs:** Full sun/part shade

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

**Wildlife Supported:** Insects, Hummingbirds, Butterflies.  
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

# Woodland Star

## *Lithophragma bolanderi* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Herbaceous Perennial:** It has basal leaves with a flowering stalk with a delicate white flower. Dies back to the ground but comes back in the winter. It grows well in containers.

**Height:** The leaves can form a nice little ground cover with the flowering stock reaching up to 2 feet.

**Flower:** White. Can bloom February to July.

**Water Needs:** Light watering.

**Sun Needs:** It prefers partial sun. (It grows under tall trees and the north side of cliffs along the American River Parkway.)

**Ecology:** Native to, and found only in, California.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted:  
3 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



# Chaparral Honeysuckle

## *Lonicera interrupta* [Link to Calscape](#)



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

**Length:** 8-20'

**Flower:** has delicate yellow 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:** Hummingbird, Bird, Bees, Butterflies.  
Butterflies & moths hosted: 23 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 bees and butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 confirmed, 49 likely

# Spider Lupine

## *Lupinus benthamii* [Link to Calscope](#)

**Annual:** It is endemic to central California, where it is known from the Central Coast Ranges across the Central Valley into the Sierra Nevada foothills. It is common in some areas, covering hillsides with its blue blooms in the spring..

**Height:** .7 - 2.3'

**Flower:** Blue, white and purple flowers March - June.

**Water Needs:** Regular to low.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers full sun.

**Ecology:** Native to western North America from southwestern British Columbia south to the Mojave Desert in California and Baja California

**Wildlife Supported:** The flowers attract numerous insects.  
Butterflies & moths hosted: 51 likely



# Miniature Lupine

## *Lupinus bicolor* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Annual:** This an annual wildflower which often shares a habitat with the California poppy. Like other Lupines it is nitrogen-fixing and so is useful in restoration projects.

**Height:** .26-1.3' **Width** 1'

**Flower:** Blue, white and purple flowers March - June.

**Water Needs:** Regular to low.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers full sun.

**Ecology:** Native to western North America from southwestern British Columbia south to the Mojave Desert in California and Baja California

**Wildlife Supported:** The flowers attract numerous insects. Lupines generally are host plant for the Arrowhead Blue butterfly. Butterflies & moths hosted: 54 likely



# Chick Lupine

*Lupinus microcarpus* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** it gets its name from its towers of flower clusters, of decreasing diameter, which give the plants in full flower a certain resemblance to a pagoda. Good in Butterfly and Hummingbird Gardens.

**Height:** 2 ½' **Width** 1'

**Flower:** Blue, white and purple flowers March - June.

**Water Needs:** Regular to low.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers full sun.

**Ecology:** Native to western North America from southwestern British Columbia south to the Mojave Desert in California and Baja California

**Wildlife Supported:** Birds, Bees, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 53 likely



# Wild Cucumber

## *Marah fabacea* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Deciduous Perennial Vine:** Has a very large tuberous root. Dies to the ground after fruiting. Very untidy with all the dead vegetation in late summer. Best for restoration areas or natural areas of native gardens. Grows in washes or under oaks. The Indians of California used the seeds as food, red paint was made from the seeds and the roots were used as medicine.

**Size:** To 20'.

**Flower:** White with yellow centers. Early bloom!

**Water Needs:** Seasonally moist.

**Sun Needs:** Full sun to part shade.

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

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 4 likely

# Onion Grass

## *Melica californica* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Grass:** In California it is found primarily in the Coast Ranges and Sierra foothills. It is a perennial grass, generally with rhizomes, producing a dense cluster of stems up to about 1.3 meters in maximum height. The flower cluster is a narrow series of purple-banded green spikelets. Also called California Melicgrass.

**Height:** 1 - 4'

**Form:** Fountain

**Water Needs:** Moderately drought tolerant.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers partial to full sun.

**Ecology:** It is native to Oregon and California, where it grows in many types of habitats, from mountain forests to open grassland at sea level.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 likely



# Torrey's Melicgrass

*Melica torreyana* [Link to Calscape](#)

Grass: This species is endemic to California, where it grows in chaparral, grassland, and other hillside and mountain habitats in the central Coast Ranges and Sierra foothills.

Size: 1-3 ft.

Flower: Small brown seeds resemble rice.

Water Needs: Supplemental water it will stay evergreen. In Sacramento it dies back.

Sun Needs: Near the coast it can tolerate full sun, inland it needs part shade.

Ecology: Native in Coastal areas to the foothills and Sacramento Valley.

Wildlife Supported: Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 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

# Baby Blue Eyes

## *Nemophila menziesii* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Annual:** Looks like a delicate little garden plant, but grows in sunny hot spots where it looks out of place. It is useful with poppies or goldfields to make an eye popping flower show. A truly beautiful wildflower.

**Size:** to 8 or 9” tall

**Flower:** Blue with center spot. Blooms in spring.

**Water Needs:** Likes occasional water.

**Sun Needs:** Full sun.

**Ecology:** It is found virtually throughout California, in meadows, grasslands, chaparral, woodlands, slopes, and desert washes. Tolerates sand.

**Wildlife Supported:** Numerous insects including butterflies are attracted to the flowers. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 4 likely



# Evening Primrose

*Oenothera elata hookeri* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Herbaceous Annual:** The flowers attract a wide range of pollinators and the seeds are adored by finches and juncos. Best used in naturalistic settings where space allows. It spreads by prolific seed production, which also makes it attractive to many seed-eating birds. Flowers open around 8:30 pm and close around 11:30 am. It puts on a show when it opens!

**Height:** 3-6'

**Flower:** Abundant, small, yellow flowers in spring.

**Water Needs:** Dry, water 1 time per month

**Sun Needs:** Best in full sun.

**Ecology:** In many wetland-riparian communities

**Wildlife Supported:** A number of insects use this plant. Hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers, and smaller birds such as Goldfinches are attracted to the seeds in fall. Butterflies & moths hosted: 15 likely

# Coffee Fern

*Pellaea andromedifolia* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Perennial Fern:** It grows in moist rock crevices. It does occur in the shade of many of the oaks, particularly the live oaks. The leaves are green when new, then turn red, purplish, or brown. A good subject for rock garden, slow, likes good drainage. It grows in sites that make you wonder about 'delicate ferns.'

**Height:** 8" - 18"

**Water Needs:** Likes moisture. It just need wet feet in winter and early spring, as the ground dries out, so do they, gradually going dormant in mid-summer.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers shady damp area.

**Ecology:** It's Plant Communities are Chaparral, Foothill Woodland, Mixed Evergreen Forest.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 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**

# Goldenback Fern

*Pentagramma triangularis* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Perennial Fern:** It goes dormant in summer without water. It has dark green fronds, the underside coated with a yellowish powder. It tends to grow in slopes and rocky places, at elevations from 0-7500 feet.

**Height:** 4" - 20"

**Water Needs:** It just needs wet feet in winter and early spring, as the ground dries out, so do they, gradually going dormant in mid-summer.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers shady, rocky area.

**Ecology:** It's Plant Communities are Chaparral, Coastal Sage Scrub, Foothill Woodland, Mixed Evergreen Forest .

# Pine Bee Flower

## *Phacelia imbricata* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Perennial, evergreen:** Evergreen basal leaves. They're a-buzz with activity in May. You'll fall in love with it because of the pollinators it attracts. Keep out of pathways and borders as it can cause contact dermatitis.

**Height:** Basal leaves to 5 "- 10" a rosette; Deciduous flowering spikes to 2 ½'

**Flower:** White flowering spikes in late spring.

**Water Needs:** Drought tolerant, well drained soil.

**Sun Needs:** It prefers full to partial sun.

**Ecology:** Native to California's Chaparral and Foothill Woodland.

**Wildlife Supported:** Very attractive to insects, especially bees.

Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 likely; **Plus 15 Specialist Bees**



# Tansy (Lacey) Phacelia

## *Phacelia tanacetifolia* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Annual** : Very attractive to insects especially bees and hover flies and butterflies.

**Height**: 2 - 3 1/2'

**Flower**: Light Blue flower in spring.

**Water Needs**: If you water, flowers last longer and the plant will be more showy.

**Sun Needs**: It prefers full to partial sun.

**Ecology**: Native to Foothill Woodland, Chaparral, Valley Grassland

**Wildlife Supported**: Very attractive to insects, especially bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 9 likely;  
**Plus 15 Specialist Bees**



# 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

# California Polypody

*Polypodium californicum* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Perennial Fern:** It grows in moist rock crevices. It does occur in the shade of many of the oaks, particularly the live oaks. Soils can be heavy clay, gravel or just rock.

**Height:** 6” - 14”

**Water Needs:** Likes moisture. It just need wet feet in winter and early spring, as the ground dries out, so do they, gradually going dormant in mid-summer.

**Sun Needs:** Prefers shady damp area.

**Ecology:** It's Plant Communities are Chaparral, Coastal Sage Scrub, Foothill Woodland, Mixed Evergreen Forest .

# California Everlasting

*Pseudognaphalium californicum* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Deciduous Perennial** : The green herbage is hairy, sticky, & pleasantly scented. Commonly used in butterfly gardens. Nice in dried arrangements. It is the **Host plant** for Painted Lady butterflies.

**Height:** 2 - 2 ½' **Width** 2'

**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 Calscape](#)



**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.

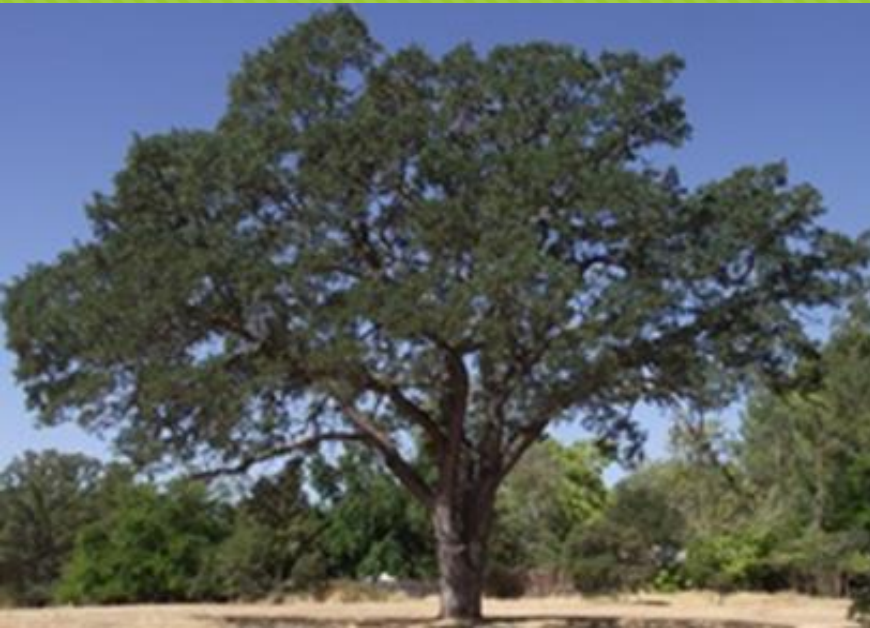
**Sun Needs:** It likes sun! It creates dappled light.

**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

# 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



# 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

# Dusky Willow

## *Salix melanopsis* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Deciduous Shrub:** The flowers are produced in catkins in late spring, after the leaves appear. It is one of the smaller members of the genus, making it suitable for many gardens. *Consider watering with Grey Water such as Laundry to Landscape or the next slide's Outdoor Shower drains into a Rain Garden.*

**Size** 6.6 - 13 ft tall

**Flower Color:** Yellow, White

**Flowering Season:** March - July

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

**Wildlife Supported:**

**Butterflies & moths hosted: 218 likely;  
Plus 8 Specialist Bees use Willows**

## HOW TO USE WATER EFFICIENTLY

**Grey Water**: the relatively clean waste water from baths, sinks, washing machines

**Laundry to Landscape** is a simple, inexpensive way to get the most greywater out on to the home landscape

**Rain Garden**: a garden that lies below the level of its surroundings, designed to absorb rainwater that runs off of a surface such as a patio or roof



Shower drain is piped under walkway to Rain Garden which contains a Willow plus native plants that can tolerate winter flooding.



# 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



# 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



# Checkerbloom

*Sidalcea hartwegii* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** A sweet plant with delicate flowers. Common in seasonal wetlands. The plant is endemic to California. Tolerant of Serpentine soils.

**Height:** 12”

**Flower:** Pink - lavender. **Bloom time:** May - June.

**Water Needs:** Likes water.

**Sun Needs:** It prefers partial sun.

**Ecology:** where it grows in the Sacramento Valley and adjacent foothills of the California Coast Ranges to the west, and of the Sierra Nevada to the east.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 likely

# 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

# Alkali sacaton

*Sporobolus airoides* [Link to Calscope](#)



**Deciduous Perennial grass:** Reddish to purplish tones.

**Size:** 3-4' tall, 2' wide

**Water Needs:** Likes water 2-3 times monthly.

**Sun Needs:** Likes sun to partial shade.

**Ecology:** Grows in spots throughout much of California from below sea level to 5000ft. and east to the Great Plains.

**Wildlife Supported:** Butterflies & moths hosted: 2 likely

# 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, stream 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

# Vinegarweed

## *Trichostema lanceolatum* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Annual:** An annual plant with a distinctive smell. Leaves are hairy/wooly and they do well in the heat.

**Size:** 1-2 feet tall and 2-5 feet wide

**Flower:** Purple. Blooms August - September

**Water Needs:** Drought tolerant

**Sun Needs:** Full sun

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

**Wildlife Supported:** The flowers great summer nectar for bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 likely

# California Bay

## *Umbellularia californica* [Link to Calscape](#)

**Evergreen Tree:** A refined plant. Its leaves are aromatic like its Greek relative and can be used as seasoning. It has a stronger flavor; use 1/3 as much as a recipe calls for.

**Size:** A slow grower, it can be easily kept to 6-8 feet tall. It may grow as much as 4" a year and can reach over 45 feet in 100 years. Tolerates clay soil.

**Water Needs:** 3 times monthly

**Sun Needs:** Part shade in the valley.

**Ecology:** Native through much of California and found only slightly beyond our state borders in chaparral, mixed evergreen forest, and wetland-riparian communities.

**Wildlife Supported:** Numerous insects and birds are attracted to the flowers and fruits. Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 confirmed, 3 likely





# Common Nettle

*Urtica dioica* [Link to Calscape](#) [Link to More info](#)



**Herbaceous Perennial:** The plant has a long history of use as a source of medicine, food, and fibre. Also called Stinging Nettle it is abundant in northern Europe and much of Asia, usually found in the countryside.

**Size:** 3-7 feet tall

**Water Needs:** 3 times monthly

**Sun Needs:** Part shade in the valley.

**Ecology:** It grows in abundance in the Pacific Northwest, especially in places where annual rainfall is high.

**Wildlife Supported:**. Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 confirmed including: Red Admiral, Milbert's Tortoiseshell, and Sarty Angelwing; 13 likely

# 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



# California Wild Grape

*Vitis californica* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Vine, deciduous:** Exuberant deciduous native vine, fast-growing, that provides flavorful grapes in September and October. Glorious fall color. Likes part-shade, some summer water. Gives a lush tropical appearance in summer. Excellent for trellises and fences.

**Height:** 20 - 40'

**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:** Common in Northern Oak Woodland, Foothill Woodland, wetland-riparian areas

**Wildlife Supported:** many species of birds and small mammals. Butterflies & moths hosted: 41 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.

# Narrowleaf Mule Ears

*Wyethia angustifolia* [Link to Calscape](#)



**Herbaceous Perennial:** It grows in clumps in grassland, meadows, and other open habitat. Bees and butterflies love this!

**Height:** Leaves to 20" tall, Flowers to 2 ½ - 3'

**Flower:** In spring, it produces huge yellow blooms.

**Water Needs:** Tolerates dry to wet.

**Sun Needs:** Full sun/part shade.

**Ecology:** It grows in dry Foothill Woodland, Chaparral, Valley Grassland.

**Wildlife Supported:** Numerous insects, including bees and butterflies, are attracted to plants in the Asteraceae family



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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