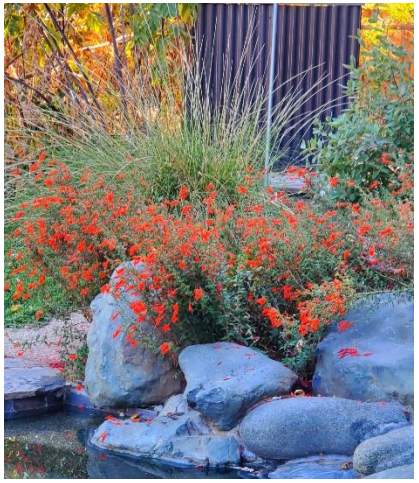
GARDENING GUIDE for Sacramento based on CNPS, Bloom, and Homegrown Habitat

More and more Californians are choosing native plants for their gardens. SacValleyCNPS.org/HH

Native plants have a beauty unique to California, are climate-conscious, and provide invaluable habitat.
Join the chorus of Californians bringing our state's natural splendor to their backyards, balconies, containers, and beyond. Why?

- Easy care: basic maintenance will keep gardens hassle-free
- Drought tolerance: many of California's native plants need little water to thrive.
- Habitat power: attract butterflies, birds, bees, and other wildlife that share our home



California Fuchsia w/ Deer Grass

Why plant in the fall?

Planting in the fall can be more beneficial for your native plants, especially the trees and shrubs. Here's the top 2 reasons:

Stronger Root Systems Perhaps the most important benefit to planting in the fall is that it gives your plants more time to develop strong root systems before the intense heat of the summer. While aboveground your native trees, shrubs, and perennials may be going dormant, below ground they will continue to put out roots until the ground freezes. Applying a layer of mulch in the fall can also help keep the ground warm longer, giving roots a little extra time to get established.

Less Stress on Your Plants The cooler nights and (hopefully) rainfall of autumn are less stressful for your plants and more beneficial for new root growth. Once you plant remember to water until Mother Nature takes over for the winter.

Know Before You Grow

- **Light conditions**: Observe sun and shade on your site throughout the day. Keep in mind, the sun is at its highest angle during summer and lowest during winter, so exposure will vary across seasons. And as plants grow they'll cast their own shade, changing the sun-shade exposure. Tip: Spend a full day taking photos of your garden every hour, so you can track how the sun moves and how much direct sunlight your space has.
- **Wet spots**: Identify low points (if any) where water might accumulate, perfect for plants that benefit from extra water.
- **Zones**: Based on your observations, divide your site into smaller zones of like conditions.
- **Involvement**: How much time and energy are you willing to spend taking care of your plants? Some plants don't need as much attention as others, but all plants require some basic maintenance! Remember that you can start by transitioning your yard on area at a time. And to enrich your soil, you can always pile wood chips on next year's project areas.
- **Cost**: What is your budget for the project? Adjustments to plant sizes/plant quantities or a phased approach to the design can help keep costs manageable. Ask your Water District if they have any incentives for you to take out a lawn!

Design Tips

- Plant fewer species in higher quantities for a more modern and calming effect.
- Plant in drifts and swaths of like plants, rather than a sprinkling of different plant species, for a simple but powerful visual effect.
- Try to plant in groups of odd numbers.

• Give plants room to grow into their mature dimensions! Always note the mature sizes on the container labels and space plants accordingly. When native annuals are seeded around shrubs and trees that will take time to fill out, they will add color, interest and be habitat for wildlife.
• Give structure to your yard with evergreen shrubs that will remain green year-round and that will act as a backdrop to more colorful perennials and annuals.
• Select a larger species, such as a Manzanita or Oak, as a single specimen for the landscape. Give it space so that it can grow to its full, mature form.
• When planting trees or large shrubs, there will be a lot of space between plantings. So, bonus! these open areas are a great places to plant annual seeds or plants.

Plant Speak

Height and Width: How big will your plant grow? Be mindful to leave space for growth at maturity to avoid overcrowding. It often takes about 3 years or more for plants to reach their maximum size.

Establishment Period

Native plants are not established until the second summer. Remember, it takes a few years for those roots to fully develop. If your plants are properly sited, you will not need to water much after the first full year.

(*A few of our*) **CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS**

Keystone plants **are native plants critical to the food web** and necessary for many wildlife species to complete their life cycle.

Water Needs *ONCE ESTABLISHED*	**Sun Needs**
VL= Very low- 1 time month	**Full = 6+ hours day**
Some=2-3 times month	**Part = 3-4 hours day**
High = 1-2 times weekly	**Shade = less than 3 hours and no afternoon sun**

Botanical Name	**Common Name**	**Bloom**	**Height**	**VL**	**Some**	**High**	**Sun**	**Part Sun**	**Shade**	**E /D**	**Wildlife**
					TREES						
Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	May-Jun	15-30'		X		X	X		E	Native and Honey Bees love this plant!
Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud	Feb-Apr	15-25'	X	X	X	X	X	X	D	Hummingbirds, Butterflies, Birds, HOST for 11 caterpillars.
Quercus wislizeni	Interior live oak	Mar-May	30-50'	X	X		X			E	Butterflies & moths hosted: 14 confirmed and 158 likely
Salix exigua	Sandbar Willow	Feb-Mar	10-23'			X	X	X		D	Butterflies & moths HOST: 10 confirmed, 215 likely
Sambucus nigra caerulea	Blue elderberry	Mar-Jul	15-30'		X		X	X		D	**Many edible uses.** An important food sources for birds. Butterflies & moths host: 23 likely
					SHRUBS						
Arctostaphylos viscida	Whiteleaf Manzanita	Jan-Feb	8-18'	X			X			E	Insects, hummingbirds, birds Likely host to 56 moth & Butterfly caterpillars
Baccharis pilularis	Coyote brush	Sep-Jan	4-8'	X			X	X		E	Important for many insects. Confirmed host: 11, likely: 18 caterpillars
Berberis aquifolium	Oregon Grape	Feb-Apr	4-7'		X		X	X		E	Birds, bees, likely host to 5 caterpillars
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat	Apr-Sep	3-4'	X	X		X	X		E	Bees, Butterflies; HOST: 15 confirmed, 36 likely
Frangula tomentella	Hoary coffeeberry	Jun-Aug	6-10'	X	X		X	X		E	Birds, Bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 33 likely
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	Jun-Aug	8-15'	X			X	X	X	E	Bees, Birds, Butterflies, moths host: 4 confirmed, 4 likely
Lupinus albifrons	Silver Bush Lupine	Apr-Jul	3-5'	X			X	X		E	Bumblebees. Butterflies moths hosted: 7 confirmed, 49 likely
Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub oak	Feb-Mar	10-20'	X			X			E	Birds, mammals, reptiles and insects. Butterflies, moths host: 165 likely

Rhamnus ilicifolia	Holly-leaf Redberry	Apr-Jun	5-15’	X	X		X	X		E	Birds. Butterflies & moths hosted: 19 likely
					ANNUALS						
Claytonia perfoliata	Miner’s Lettuce (Indian Lettuce)	Feb-May	8-12”		X			X	X	D	**Entire plant is edible. Great as salad!** Insects, birds **love** the seeds. Butterflies & moths host: 2 confirmed, 1 likely
Eriogonum roseum	Wand Buckwheat	May-Sep	1-2’	X			X	X		D	Native bees; Predatory insects; Butterflies, moths host: 1 confirmed, 45 likely
Helianthus annus	Sunflower	Jun-Aug	5-10’		X		X			D	Birds, insects, Butterflies, moths host: 9 confirmed, and 28 likely. + **7 Specialist bees**.
Lupinus benthamii	Spider Lupine	Mar-Jun	.7-2’		X	X	X	X		D	numerous insects. Moths, Butterflies, host: 51 likely
Phacelia tanacetifolia	Tansy (Lacey) Phacelia	Mar-May	2-3 ½’		X		X	X		D	Insects, especially bees. Butterflies, moths host: 9 likely; + **15 Specialist Bees**
					PERENNIALS						
Achillea millefolium	Common Yarrow	Apr-Aug	1-3’		X			X	X	E	Carnivorous insects; butterflies; bees; Host: 5 caterpillars
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrowleaf milkweed	Jun-Sep	2-3’		X		X	X		D	Butterflies, primarily Monarchs
Diplacus aurantiacus	Sticky monkeyflower	Mar-Aug	3-5’	X	X		X	X		E	Hummingbirds, insects. Butterflies & moths host: 1 confirmed, 7 likely
Epilobium canum	California fuchsia	Aug-Oct	1-1 ½’		X		X	X		D	Hummingbirds. Butterflies, moths host: 15 likely
Eschscholzia californica Annual to Perennial	California Poppy	Feb-Sep	2’	X	X		X	X		D	Birds, bees, bumblebees, Butterflies, moths host: 5 confirmed, 2 likely
Grindelia camporum	Gum plant	Apr-Oct	2-4'	X	X		X			D	Many insects, pollinators. Butterflies & moths host: 2 confirmed, 9 likely
Monardella villosa	Coyote mint	Jun-Aug	1-2’	X	X		X	X		D	**Leaves make tea.** Butterflies & moths host: 7 confirmed, 2 likely
Oenothera elata hookeri	Evening Primrose	Jun-Sep	3-6’		X		X	X		D	Hummingbirds, smaller birds- Goldfinches eat seeds in summer & fall. Butterflies & moths hosted: 15 likely
Penstemon heterophyllus	Foothill Penstemon	May-Jun	1-3’		X			X		E	Hummingbirds, bees. Butterflies & moths hosted: 17 likely; **Plus 6 Specialist Bees**
Symphyotrichum chilense	California aster	Jul-Aug	1.5-3’	X	X	X	X			D	Flowers attract many beneficial insects. Butterflies & moths hosted: 10 likely
					GROUNDCOVERS						
Epilobium canum ‘Everett’s Choice’	Everett’s California Fuchsia	Jun-Oct	6-12”		X		X	X		SD	Hummingbirds
Eriogonum Theodore Payne	T.P. California Buckwheat	Jun-Aug	6-12”	X	X		X	X		E	Bees, butterfly plants
Phyla nodiflora	Lippia		2-4"		X			X		D	Bees love this! Host: 1
					VINES						
Aristolochia californica	Dutchman's pipe	Jan-Apr	10-40’	X	X		X	X		D	Sole host plant for Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly, insects
Lonicera hispidula	Pink Honeysuckle	May-Jul	8-20’		X			X		D	Hummingbirds, birds. Butterflies & moths host: 2 confirmed, 22 likely
Lonicera interrupta	Chaparral Honeysuckle	Apr-Aug	8-20’	X	X			X		D	Hummingbird, Bird, Bees, Butterflies. Butterflies & moths hosted: 23 likely
Vitis Roger’s Red	Roger's California Grape	May-Jun	15-30’	X	X		X	X		D	Birds love the fruit!
					GRASSES						
Carex tumulicola	Foothill Sedge	Apr-Jul	2’		X		X	X	X	E	Shelter and Butterflies & moths hosted: 7 likely
Juncus effusus	Common rush	Jun-Aug	18-24"		X	X	X	X		E	Butterflies & moths hosted: 5 likely
Melica torreyana	Torrey’s Melicgrass	Mar-Jun	1-3’		X				X	D	Butterflies & moths hosted: 1 likely
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deer grass	May-Jun	4-5'	X	X		X	X		E	Large, Seed eating birds will be attracted to it in summer.