

Gardening with California Natives

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Gardening with Natives

1. Why plant natives?
2. Selecting native plants
3. Planting natives
4. Maintaining natives
5. Questions

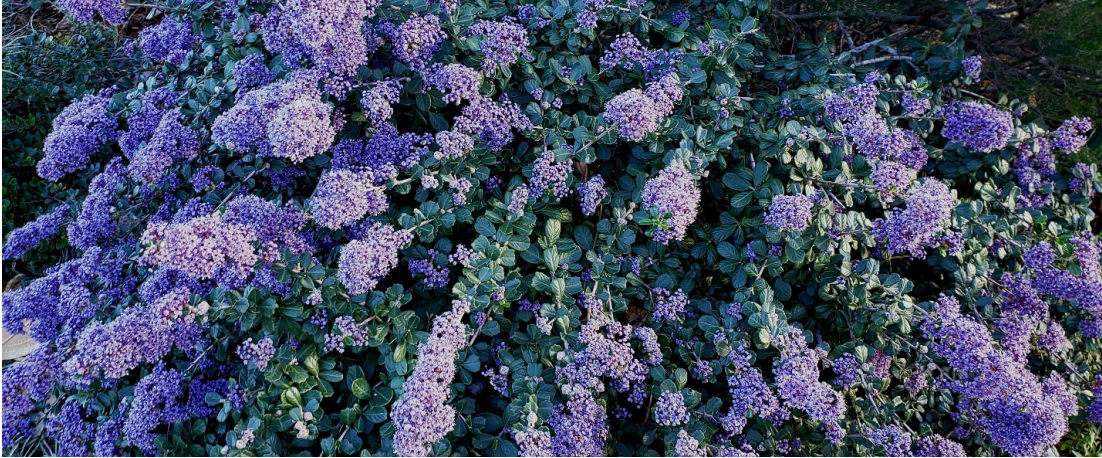
Cornus glabrata
Brown Twig Dogwood



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Why Plant Natives?



Ceanothus 'Valley Violet'



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Conventional yards

Lawn and Asian shrubs

- a. Status symbol
- b. Neatness we can understand
- c. Static and unchanging
- d. Nurseries offer plants adapted to nurseries



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Native Gardens

- a. Sustainable
- b. Easy to grow
- c. Interesting
- d. Biodiversity



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Sustainable

We are stewards of our land

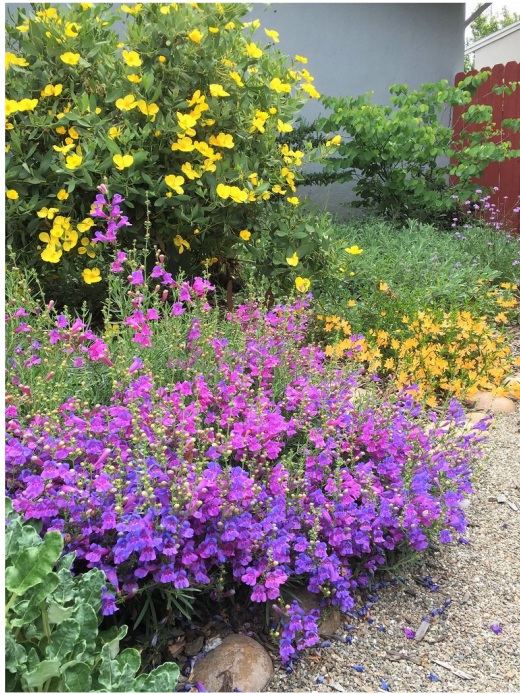
1. Habitat for pollinators
2. Habitat for birds and other animals
3. Soil building

Penstemon
'Margarita BOP'



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Easy to grow

- Low water
- No mowing, little pruning
- No fertilizers, chemicals

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Interesting

- Educational
- Bird watching
- Seasonal changes

Epilobium 'Marin Pink'
California Fuchsia



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Biodiversity



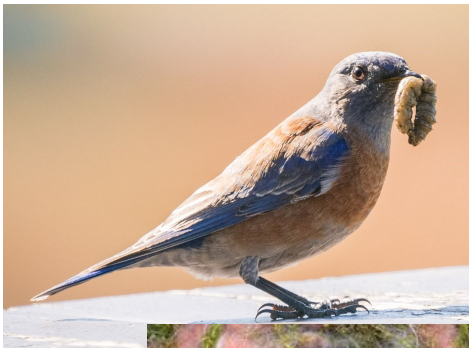
- Interconnected web
- Habitat gardens
- Soil building

Symphotrichum chilense
California Aster



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Habitat for Birds

It takes 5,000-9,000 caterpillars to raise one clutch of chickadees*

Most caterpillars will only feed on one type of plant

*Douglas Tallamy



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Habitat for Pollinators

- Bees, wasps, and tiny creatures
- Butterflies: nectar for adults, host plants for caterpillars
- Hummingbirds: tubular flowers

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Selecting Plants

- Analyze the site
- Design needs



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Analyze the site

1. Soil and drainage
2. Sun/Shade
3. Water
4. Critters



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Assess landscape needs

1. Trees
2. Screening
3. Structural shrubs
4. Sculptural
5. Groundcovers
6. Infill



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Trees



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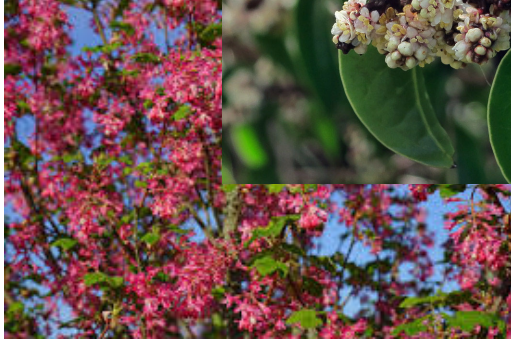
Screening



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Shrubs



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Groundcover

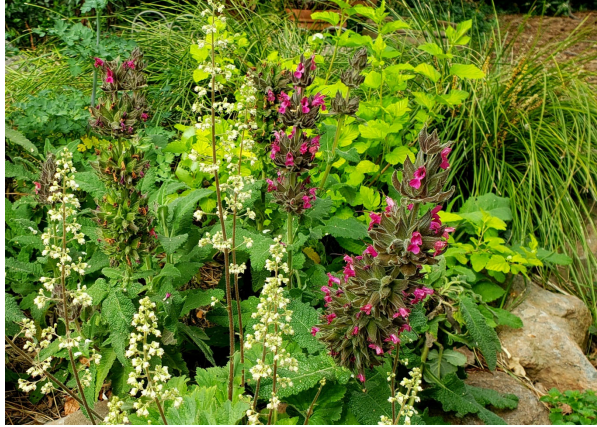


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Infill



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Native Plant Installation and Maintenance



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Planting- process



Epilobium
'Mattole Select'
California
Fuchsia

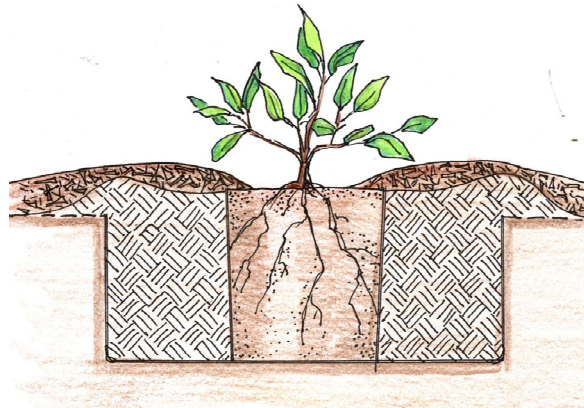


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Planting

- Dig hole twice as wide as rootball, 1-2" shallower
- Fill hole with water, drain
- Plant rootball high
- Check/score roots if needed
- Backfill- no amendment or fertilizer
- Water in thoroughly



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Watering

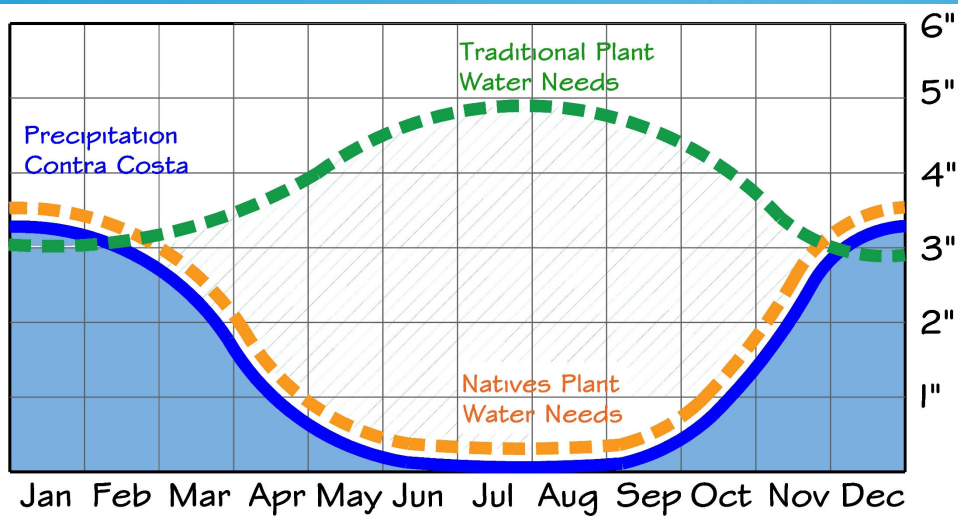
- First year
- Summer Water
- Winter Water
- Irrigation:
 - In line drip
 - Point source drip
 - Hand watering

Calycanthus occidentalis
Spice Bush



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California's Unique Climate



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Watering

- First year
- Summer Water
- Winter Water
- Irrigation:
 - In line drip
 - Point source drip
 - Hand watering



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Keeping it Neat

Pruning

- Heading – for density
- Thinning- for sculptural shape
- Removal- for mat forming plants
- Coppicing- extreme cutting back



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A Few Select Plants



Salvia 'Dara's Choice'
Dara's Choice Sage



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Ceanothus

- *Ceanothus griseus horizontalis*



- *Ceanothus 'Concha'*

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Manzanitas

- *Arctostaphylos* 'Emerald Carpet'

- *Arctostaphylos* 'Dr Hurd'

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Sages



Salvia Hybrid

Salvia apiana
White Sage

Salvia spathacea
Hummingbird Sage



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Buckwheats



Eriogonum 'Warriner Lytle'
Warriner Lytle Buckwheat



Eriogonum grande rubescens
Red Flowering Buckwheat



Eriogonum umbellatum
Sulfur Buckwheat



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References

Pollinators:

<https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/blog/support-california-native-bees-these-10-plants>

<https://arboretum.sf.ucdavis.edu/blog/hey-oh-honey-bee-learn-more-about-california-native-bees>

<https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-california>

Natives plant care:

<https://marinmg.ucanr.edu/CARE/PLANTCARE/CANatives/>

planting process:

https://acmg.ucanr.edu/Over_the_Fence/Planting_California_Natives/

maintaining pruning tools:

<https://ucanr.edu/datastoreFiles/268-723.pdf>

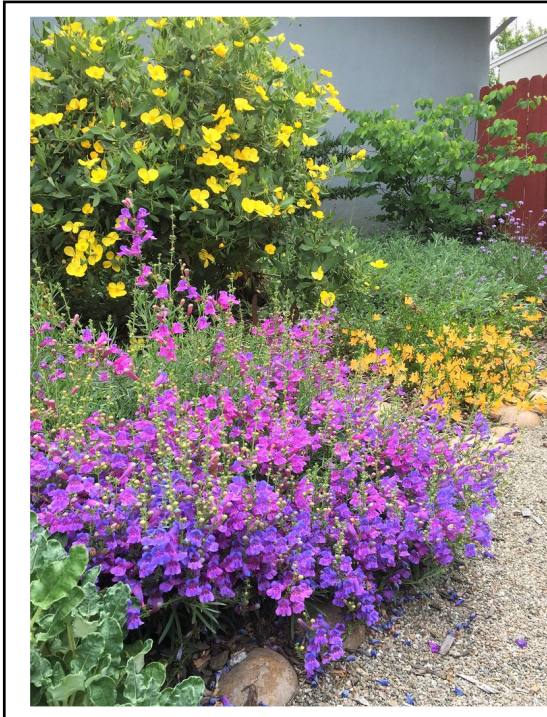
watering natives:

<https://www.cnps.org/gardening/prepping-and-planting/watering>



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QUESTIONS?