

Why Include Native Plants in your Garden?

You can be effective in conserving our natural heritage by including some native plants in your garden. Or go wild and plant a whole native garden and conserve more!

In addition to their uniqueness and natural beauty, native plants require:

- Less water: native plants are adapted to our low, seasonal rainfall
- Less use of chemicals: little or no fertilizer or chemical pesticides
- Less work: minimal pruning, fertilizing and mulching

Native plants provide:

- Food, nesting space, and protection for birds and beneficial animals

Native plants are

- A magnet for native birds, bees, butterflies and other wildlife
- Adapted to our soils

Native Plants

- Give a sense of San Diego as a unique place with a variety of habitats
- Are being displaced by non-native plants



Resources for Information

Websites

California Native Plant Society
Calflora

Books

California Native Plants for the Garden by
Bornstein, Fross and O'Brien

The Drought Defying California Garden
by Rubin and Warren

Bringing Nature Home by Tallamy



Native Plant Nurseries

Moosa Creek (wholesale but local nurseries
will order plants for you)

Native West

Tree of Life (San Juan Capistrano)



Master Gardener Association of San Diego County
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Master Gardeners of San Diego County.

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Natives In your Garden



Hotline: 858-822-6910

mastergardenersd.org

help@mastergardenersd.org

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Native plants require a somewhat different way of gardening.

These plants don't want fussing.

- Don't amend the soil when you plant. These plants LIKE our soils.
- After the first year, reduce water to as low as once per month.
- Best time to plant is during our rainy season, November to April.
- To ensure success, pick plants that naturally live in your area. They will do well in your climate conditions.
- Put plants with similar watering needs together.
- Some need seasonal pruning once established.



Planting native plants

Native plants do best when planted in native soil.

- Dig a hole twice as wide and at least as deep as the nursery pot.
- Fill the hole with water; let it drain.
- Place the plant in the moistened hole with the crown about 1" higher than surrounding soil.
- Backfill with native soil around the plant and water several times,
- Creating a moat around the plant for the first few months help retain water.
- Water thoroughly every few days for several months. Then let the natural rains supply the plants with water.
- Adding extra water to the roots in hot, dry periods will help the plants cope.
- See websites for more details regarding planting and care.

Some Favorite plants

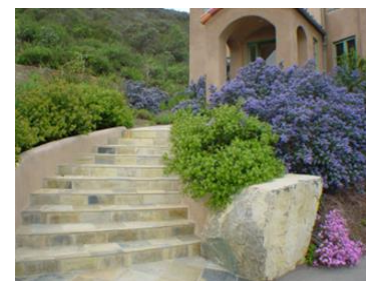
Native plants evolved here and are adapted to our climate so they do well here.

Trees: Western redbud, Oaks

Perennial shrubs: Manzanitas, Lemonade berry, Toyon, Coyote bush, Ceanothus.

For color: Buckwheat, Deerweed, Penstemon, Mallows, Monkeyflower, Bulbs

Native Plants Fit Any Style of Landscaping



Enjoy the beauty of your garden and your success in providing growing space for native plants and the wildlife they support!

