

## North Coast Nurseries That Specialize In Native Plants

**California Flora Nursery**  
P.O. Box 3; Fulton, CA 95439  
(707) 528-8813  
[www.calfloranursery.com](http://www.calfloranursery.com)

**Mendocino College**  
1000 Hensley Creek Road; Ukiah, CA 95482  
(707) 468-3000  
(Agriculture Dept. has an annual plant sale)

**North Coast Native Nursery**  
2710 Chileno Valley Rd.; Petaluma  
P.O. Box 660; Petaluma, CA 94953  
(707) 769-1213  
[nursery@northcoastnativenursery.com](mailto:nursery@northcoastnativenursery.com)  
[www.northcoastnativenursery.com](http://www.northcoastnativenursery.com)  
(Retail customers please call for an appointment)

**Sparetime Supply**  
208 E. San Francisco Ave; Willits, CA 95490  
(707) 459-6791

## Other Resources

**Far West Bulb Farm**—mail order  
(530) 272-4775  
[www.californianativebulbs.com](http://www.californianativebulbs.com)

**Sierra Seed Supply**—mail order  
358 Williams Valley Rd.; Greenville CA 95947  
[www.sierraseedsupply.com](http://www.sierraseedsupply.com)

**Online Resources**  
[www.gardenfortheenvironment.com](http://www.gardenfortheenvironment.com)  
Go to “resources”  
[www.nativehabitats.org](http://www.nativehabitats.org)  
Go to “native plant resources”

**Note:** The sources listed are for informational purposes *only* and do not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by University of California Cooperative Extension.

## UC Master Gardener Program

U.C. Master Gardeners are trained volunteer staff of the University of California Cooperative Extension (U.C.C.E.), the public service branch of the University of California. Master Gardeners are members of the local community who share a common interest in the growth and care of plants. Master Gardeners provide practical, science-based horticulture and gardening information to the citizens of Lake County. Master Gardeners are available to answer your questions Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a U.C. Master Gardener, please email [celake@ucdavis.edu](mailto:celake@ucdavis.edu) or call (707) 263-6838 and request a Master Gardener application.

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Diversity

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## GARDENING WITH NATIVE & NATURALIZED PLANTS IN LAKE COUNTY



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Lakeport, CA 95453  
(707) 263-6838

Email: [celake@ucdavis.edu](mailto:celake@ucdavis.edu)  
<http://celake.ucdavis.edu>



## WHAT IS A NATIVE PLANT?

Native or indigenous plants are defined as plants, shrubs, and trees originally from a specific area or biome. Some plants might be introduced from another area then become established; this is called “naturalized.” Whether native or naturalized, these plants have acclimated to the climate, micro-climate, altitude, soil, and rainfall of a particular area.

### Naturalistic Planting

This refers to the arrangement and selection of plants indigenous to a specific locale. Naturalistic plantings are characterized by groupings and forms which reflect how plants would grow in an undisturbed environment. ([www.csu.org/environment](http://www.csu.org/environment))



Native wildflowers growing on a serpentine outcropping.  
Photo: Nicole Gentry, UC Cooperative Extension

## WHY GARDEN WITH NATIVES?

Native plants that are adapted to your environmental conditions have positive and compelling benefits. Native plant gardens:

- increase biodiversity
- provide habitat for a wide variety of creatures such as birds and butterflies
- provide a home for many native plants that are becoming increasingly rare in the wild
- conserve water and reduce the need for chemical inputs such as pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers.

(source: Go for Green; The Active Living Environment Garden 2006)

## HOW DO I START A NATIVE GARDEN?

### *Survey your site:*

What are the growing conditions?

*The habitat* might be forest, serpentine, woodland, lakeshore, meadow, slopes, understory, or river bank to name a few.

*Specific site conditions* include sun, shade, and water availability and source.



Photo: California Native Plant Society

### *Select your species:*

Choose species that match your site conditions for sun and moisture, allowing for minimal use of garden watering after establishment.

Plants with spring and summer flower color or fall and winter foliage and berries, provide year round interest.

If children frequent your garden, choose non-poisonous plants.

Start with young stock so plants acclimate to your soil and conditions as they mature. Plant when natural rainfall 2-4 inches can aid in establishment.

Mulch with bark chips or other material. Keep mulch away from plant crowns.

Plant for diversity to imitate natural landscape patterns in your area.

Pay attention to edge vegetation. Do you need low growing plants, and do you need to control spreading varieties?

Know the mature height and width of your plants and allow room for growth.

Note if plants are evergreen or deciduous for seasonal appearance.

**Note:** All young plants need water to get established. Plant new plants when not too hot (fall is the best time) and mulch to keep weeds down to avoid competition for water and nutrients.