

Benefits of a Native Garden

Southern California native plants are those species that have evolved in our region. This means they're adapted to our local environmental conditions, such as the lack of rainfall from May to October in most years. Due to naturally low water requirements, native gardens can be maintained with little to no irrigation. Native landscaping not only saves water, but it helps us appreciate habitats unique to our region, and has much to offer in terms of beauty, fragrance, and support of wildlife.

Most nurseries sell a variety of ornamental plants from other parts of the world. While visually appealing, these "exotic" species generally don't provide the same benefits to the ecosystem that native plants do. Pampas grass, for example, provides local wildlife little in the way of food and shelter. It's also an aggressive invader that can interfere with the establishment and growth of native species when it escapes into wildlands. By choosing native species for our gardens, we're reducing demand for, and prevalence of, these and other detrimental invaders, and helping to keep alive our region's glorious botanical heritage.

Resources for Native Gardening:

<http://www.CNPS.org/>

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

<http://www.CNPSSD.org>

San Diego Chapter of CNPS

<Http://www.LasPilitas.com/>

Nursery north of Escondido: old Hwy 395

<http://www.TreeOfLifeNursery.com/>

Nursery on Ortega Hwy

<http://www.Cal-IPC.org>

California Invasive Plant Council

San Diego County Native Plants

- James Lightner

*The California Landscape Garden
Ecology, Culture, And Design*

- Mark Francis and Andreas Reimann

Growing California Native Plants

- Marjorie Schmidt

California Native Plants for the Garden

- Bornstein, Fross & O'Brien

*California's Changing Landscapes:
Diversity and Conservation of California
Vegetation*

- Barbour *et al.*

Sponsored by:

Buena Vista Audubon Society

<http://www.bvaudubon.org>

Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood
Association

<http://www.OCNA.info>

California Native Plant Gardens Walking Tour Seaside Neighborhood Downtown Oceanside



Drawing by Almi Kamp

Buena Vista Native Plant Club

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c/o Buena Vista Nature Center

2202 South Coast Hwy

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Oceanside Native Gardens April 2008 Tour

Why plant natives?

“One of the most significant benefits of putting native plants back into the landscape is the authentic sense of place provided to those exposed to them. By surrounding ourselves with landscapes that reflect the true nature of our region, we surround ourselves with the unique character, culture and traditions that make California such a wonderful place to live.”

-Tree Of Life Nursery web page

<http://www.TreeofLifeNursery.com>

- 1 - 515 Wisconsin
- 2 - 602 S Ditmar
- 3 - 610 Washington
- 4 - 425 S Ditmar
- 5 - 418 S Ditmar
- 6 - 429 S Horne
- 7 - 909 Alberta
- 8 - 1017 Alberta
- 9 - 1110 S Nevada
- 10 - 1145-51 S Nevada
- 11 - 1125 S Ditmar
- 12 - 1042-44 S Ditmar
- 13 - 812 Alberta
- 14 - 805 Wisconsin

MEETING PLACE
(St. Mary's School)

Is the garden hard to maintain?

Native plant gardens are easier to maintain than ornamental gardens once you understand them. The growing season starts with the rains in late fall. It's sufficient to water your native garden once a month, once plants are established. If native plants are watered more than this in the late summer, the seasonal dormancy that is part of the natural life cycle of many native species is interrupted, yet harmful bugs and microbes continue to multiply. Any desired pruning can be done twice a year, in January and August.

Other locations of interest (not mapped):

- 232 S Nevada
- 616 S Coast Hwy
- 402 Brooks



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