

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT LIST



Sustaining Native Plant Communities

Contributors



California Native Plant Society

bewaterwise.com

Armstrong Garden Centers

Theodore Payne

County of San Diego



What are fire-resistant plants? Fire-resistant plants are those that do not readily ignite from a flame or other ignition sources. These plants can be damaged or even killed by fire; however, their foliage and stems do not significantly contribute to the fuel and, therefore, the fire's intensity. There are several other significant factors that influence the fire characteristics of plants, including plant moisture content, age, total volume, dead material, and chemical content.

Fire-resistant does not mean fireproof!



Even fire-resistant plants will burn if not well maintained. Be sure to keep all of your landscape plants healthy with appropriate watering, proper pruning, etc.

SUGGESTED PLANT LIST FOR A DEFENSIBLE SPACE

<u>BOTANICAL NAME</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>Climate Zone</u>
TREES		
Acer		
platanoides	Norway Maple	M
rubrum	Red Maple	M
saccharinum	Silver Maple	M
saccarum	Sugar Maple	M
macrophyllum	Big Leaf Maple	C/ (R)
Alnus rhombifolia	White Alder	C/I/M (R)
Arbutus		
unedo	Strawberry Tree	All zones
Archontophoenix		
cunninghamiana	King Palm	C
Arctostaphylos spp.**	Manzanita	C/I/D
Brahea		
armata	Blue Hesper Palm	C/D
edulis	Guadalupe Palm	C/D
Ceratonia siliqua	Carob	C/I/D
Cerdidium floridum	Blue Palo Verde	D
Cercis occidentalis**	Western Redbud	C/I/M
Cornus		
nuttallii	Mountain Dogwood	I/M
stolonifera	Redtwig Dogwood	I/M
Eriobotrya		
japonica	Loquat	C/I/D
Erythrina caffra	Kaffirboom Coral Tree	C
Ginkgo biloba "Fairmount"	Fairmount Maidenhair Tree	I/M
Gleditsia triacanthos	Honey Locust	I/D/M
Juglans		I
californica	California Walnut	C/I
hindsii	California Black Walnut	I/D/M
Lagerstroemia indica	Crape Myrtle	I
Ligustrum lucidum	Glossy Privet	C/I/M
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweet Gum	I
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree	
Lyonothamnus floribundus		C
ssp. Asplenifolius	Fernleaf Catalina Ironwood	C/I/D
Melaleuca spp.	Melaleuca	C/I
Parkinsonia aculeate	Mexican Palo Verde	
Pistacia		
chinensis	Chinese Pistache	
	Pistachio Nut	C/I/D

vera	Pistachio Nut	I
Pittosporum		
phillyraeoides	Willow Pittosporum	C/I/D
viridiflorum	Cape Pittosporum	C/I
Platanus		
acerifolia	London Plane Tree	All zones
racemosa**	California Sycamore	C/I/M
Populus		
alba	White Poplar	D/M
fremontii**	Western Cottonwood	I
trichocarpa	Black Cottonwood	I/M
Prunus		
xblireiana	Flowering Plum	M
caroliniana	Carolina Laurel Cherry	C
ilicifolia**	Hollyleaf Cherry	C
lyonii**	Catalina Cherry	C
serrulata 'Kwanzan'	Flowering Cherry	M
yedoensis 'Akebono'	Akebono Flowering Cherry	M
Quercus		
agrifolia**	Coast Live Oak	C/I
engelmannii	Engelmann Oak	I
** suber	Cork Oak	C/I/D
Rhus		
lancea**	African Sumac	C/I/D
Salix spp.**	Willow	All zones (R)
Tristania conferta	Brisbane Box	C/I
Ulmus		
parvifolia	Chinese Elm	I/D
pumila	Siberian Elm	C/M
Umbellularia californica**	California Bay Laurel	C/I

SHRUBS

Agave	Century Plant	D
americana	Century Plant	D
deserti	Shawis Century Plant	D
shawii**		
Amorpha fruticosa**	False Indigobush	I
Arbutus		
menziesii**	Madrone	C/I
Arctostaphylos spp.**	Manzanita	C/I/D
Atriplex**		
canescens	Hoary Saltbush	I
lentiformis	Quail Saltbush	D
Baccharis**		
glutinosa	Mule Fat	C/I
pilularis	Coyote Bush	C/I/D
Carissa grandiflora	Natal Plum	C/I
Ceanothus spp.**	California Lilac	C/I/M
Cistus spp.	Rockrose	C/I/D
Cneoridium dumosum**	Bushrue	C
Comarostaphylis**		
diversifolia	Summer Holly	C
Convolvulus cneorum	Bush Morning Glory	C/I/M
Dalea		
orcuttii	Orcutt's Delea	D
spinosi**	Smoke Tree	I/D
Elaeagnus		
pungens	Silverberry	C/I/M
Encelia**		
californica	Coast Sunflower	C/I
farinosa	White Brittlebush	D/I
Eriobotrya		
deflexa	Bronze Loquat	C/I
Eriophyllum		
confertiflorum**	Golden Yarrow	C/I
staechadifolium	Lizard Tail	C
Escallonia spp.	Escallonia	C/I
Feijoa sellowiana	Pineapple Guava	C/I/D
Fouquieria splendens	Ocotillo	D
Fremontodendron**		
californicum	Flannelbush	I/M
mexicanum	Southern Flannelbush	I
Galvezia		
juncea	Baja Bush-Snapdragon	C
speciosa	Island Bush-Snapdragon	C
Garrya		
elliptica	Coast Silktassel	C/I
flavescens**	Ashy Silktassel	I/M

Heteromeles arbutifolia**	Ashy Silktassel	I/M
Lantana spp.	Toyon	C/I/M
Lotus scoparius	Lantana	C/I/D
Mahonia spp.	Deerweed	C/I
	Barberry	C/I/M
Malacothamnus clementinus		
	San Clemente Island Bush Mallow	C
fasciculatus**	Mesa Bushmallow	C/I
Melaleuca spp.	Melaleuca	C/I/D
Mimulus spp.**	Monkeyflower	C/I (R)
Nolina parryi		
parryi ssp. wolfii	Parry's Nolina	I
Photinia spp.	Wolf's Bear Grass	D
Pittosporum crassifolium	Photinia	All Zones
rhombifolium		C/I
tobira 'Wheeler'	Queensland Pittosporum	C/I
undulatum	Wheeler's Dwarf	C/I/D
viridiflorum	Victorian Box	C/I
Plumbago auriculata	Cape Pittosporum	C/I
Prunus caroliniana	Cape Plumbago	C/I/D
ilicifolia**		
lyonii**	Carolina Laurel Cherry	C
Puncia granatum	Hollyleaf Cherry	C
Pyracantha spp.	Catalina Cherry	C
Quercus dumosa**	Pomegranate	C/I/D
	Firethorn	All Zones
Rhamus alaternus	Scrub Oak	C/I
californica**		
Rhaphiolepis spp.	Italian Blackthorn	C/I
Rhus integrifolia**	Coffeeberry	C/I/M
laurina	Rhaphiolepis	C/I/D
lentii		
ovata**	Lemonade Berry	C/I
trilobata**	Laurel Sumac	C/I
Ribes viburnifolium	Pink-Flowering Sumac	C/D
speciosum**	Sugarbush	I/M
Romneya coulteri	squawbush	I
Rosa californica**	Evergreen Currant	C/I
minutifolia	Fuschia-Flowering Gooseberry	C/I/D
	Matilija Poppy	I

Salvia spp.**	California Wild Rose	C/I
Sambucus spp.**	Baja California Wild Rose	C/I
Symphoricarpos mollis**	Sage	All Zones
Syringa vulgaris	Elderberry	C/I/M
Tecomaria capensis	Creeping Snowberry	C/I
Teucrium fruticans	Lilac	M
Toxicodendron**	Cape Honeysuckle	C/I/D
diversilobum	Bush Germander	C/I
Verbena		
lilacina	Poison Oak	I/M
Xylosma congestum		
Yucca**	Lilac Verbena	C
schidigera	Shiny Xylosma	C/I
whipplei		
	Mojave Yucca	D
	Foothill Yucca	I

GROUNDCOVERS		
Achillea**	Yarrow	All Zones
Aptenia cordifolia	Apteria	C
Arctostaphylos spp.**	Manzanita	C/I/D
Baccharis**		
pilularis	Coyote Bush	C/I/D
Ceanothus spp.**	California Lilac	C/I/M
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-in-Summer	All Zones
Coprosma kirkii	Creeping Coprosma	C/I/D
Cotoneaster spp.	Redberry	All Zones
Drosanthemum hispidum	Rosea Ice Plant	C/I
Dudleya		
brittonii	Brittonis Chalk Dudleya	C
pulverulenta**	Chalk Dudleya	C/I
virens	Island Live Fore-ever	C
Eschscholzia californica**	California Poppy	All Zones
Euonymus fortunei		
‘Carrierei’	Glossy Winter Creeper	M
‘Coloratus’	Purple-Leaf Winter Creeper	M
Ferocactus viridescens**	Coast Barrel Cactus	C
Gaillardia grandiflora	Blanket Flower	All Zones
Gazania spp.	Gazania	C/I
Helianthemum spp.**	Sunrose	All Zones
Lantana spp.	Lantana	C/I/D
Lasthenia		
californica**	Common Goldfields	I
glabrata	Coastal Goldfields	C
Lupinus spp.**	Lupine	C/I/M
Myoporum spp.	Myoporum	C/I
Pyracantha spp.	Firethorn	All zones
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary	C/I/D
Santolina		
chamaecyparissus	Lavender Cotton	All Zones
virens	Santolina	All Zones
Trifolium frageriferum	O’Connor’s Legume	C/I
Verbena		
rigida	Verbena	All Zones
Viguiera laciniata**	San Diego Sunflower	C/I
Vinca		
minor	Dwarf Periwinkle	M

VINES		
Antigonon leptopus	San Miguel Coral Vine	C/I
Distictis buccinatoria	Blood-Red Trumpet Vine	C/I/D
Keckiella cordifolia**	Heart-Leaved Penstemon	C/I
Lonicera		
japonica 'Halliana'	Hall's Honeysuckle	All Zones
subspicata**	Chaparral Honeysuckle	C/I
Solanum		
jasminoides	Potato Vine	C/I/D

PERENNIALS		
Coreopsis		
gigantea	Giant Coreopsis	C
grandiflora	Coreopsis	All Zones
maritime	Sea Dahlia	C
verticillata	Coreopsis	C/I
Heuchera maxima	Island Coral Bells	C/I
Iris douglasiana**	Douglas Iris	C/M
Iva hayesiana**	Poverty Weed	C/I
Kniphofia uvaria	Red-Hot Poker	C/M
Lavandula spp.	Lavender	All Zones
Limonium californicum		
var. mexicanum	Coastal Statice	C
perezii	Sea Lavender	C/I
Oenothera spp.	Primrose	C/I/M
Penstemon spp.**	Penstemon	C/I/D
Satureja douglasii	Yerba Buena	C/I
Sisyrinchium		
bellum	Blue-Eyed Grass	C/I
californicum	Golden-Eyed Grass	C
Solanum		
xantii	Purple Nightshade	C/I
Zauschneria**		
californica	California Fuschia	C/I
cana	Hoary California Fuschia	C/I
'Catalina'	Catalina Fuschia	C/I

ANNUALS		
Lupinus spp.**	Lupine	C/I/M



Fire Resistant Native Plants with High Wildlife Value

Compiled by The Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants, Inc.
10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352 Phone: (818) 768-1802 <http://www.theodorepayne.org>

Important Note: All plants will eventually burn. There is no such thing as a fireproof plant. There are some plants that can retain moisture, even in dry areas, and are called fire resistant. This list is designed to identify some Californian native plants that are fire resistant and have wildlife value. These plants with few exceptions are listed as acceptable to plant in Fuel Modification Zones by Los Angeles County Fire. The purpose of this list is to help place fire resistant and wildlife important plants in areas where brush clearance can leave an area barren.

LA County approved plant list for Fuel Modification: http://www.lacofd.org/forestry_folder/pdf/fmpg.pdf

GROUNDCOVERS

- *Atriplex barclayana*. **Beach Carpet Saltbush**. A low growing form of saltbush (6" high, spreading). This saltbush provides good ground cover for soil erosion and provides seeds, salt and cover for wildlife.
- *Atriplex canescens*. **Four-wing Saltbush**. A low growing form of saltbush (1-2' high, 3' wide) that happily grows in the desert. It provides seeds, salt and cover for wildlife.
- *Baccharis pilularis* "Pigeon Point". **Dwarf Coyote Bush**. While not a "showy" plant, it does produce some flowers and has a deep root system, that provides good erosion control. It grows 12" to 18" in height. It adds cover and seeds for a variety of birds. (LA County Fire approved)
- *Monardella linoides viminea*. **Willow Coyote Mint**. This federally protected coyote mint grows up to 18" tall and prefers North facing (somewhat shaded) or riparian areas. It has a long blooming cycle, flowering through the summer and fall and is an attractant to hummingbirds and butterflies. Songbirds also eat the seeds.

SHRUBS

- *Atriplex lentiformis breweri*. **Quail Bush**. A larger saltbush (4' high, 6-8' wide) that provides critical habitat for the California quail and other birds.
- *Galvezia speciosa*. **Island Bush Snapdragon**. This CNPS "rare" plant is from the Channel Islands and stays evergreen year round producing trumpet shape red flowers favored by hummingbirds. It grows in 18" to 24" in height and 3' to 5' in width. It also adds excellent cover for wildlife.
- *Isomeris arborea*. **Bladderpod**. A very drought tolerant shrub that forms yellow flowers and seedpods. (LA County Fire approved)
- *Mahonia nevinii* (aka *Berberis nevinii*). **Nevin's Barberry**. A federally endangered species, once common in the Verdugo Mountains, grows berries that are favored by many songbirds. The spiny leaves also add a protective cover. The shrub can grow up to 4' in height and 6' in width and is evergreen. (LA County Fire approved)
- *Mahonia*, *Aquifolium* and all subspecies. **Mahonia/ Barberry**. It's purple berries and yellow flowers are favored by many songbirds. The spiny leaves also add a protective cover. (LA County Fire approved)
- *Rhus laurina* (aka *Malosma laurina*). **Laurel Sumac**. While laurel sumac does have a high oil content, it has found to have a much higher incineration point than most other plants. It has been found to be one of the last plants to burn in fires. It provides important cover, food and nesting resource for many types of wildlife. A laurel sumac that has the lower third of it's branches pruned is considered fire-safe. It is a favorite shrub amongst warbler.
- *Mimulus* sp. "Big Tujunga" or "La Tuna". **Monkeyflower (local varieties)**. These two local varieties of Monkeyflower do well in the summer heat and provide pale to deep orange flowers. It grows 18" to 36" in height and 3' to 5' in width. The flowers and seeds provide wildlife value
- *Ribes aureum*. **Golden Currant**. This currant grows upright to 6' and is lacy in structure. In summers, it can go semi-drought deciduous, though with some water in will remain evergreen. It's berries offer a high wildlife value. (LA County Fire approved)
- *Rhus integrifolia*. **Lemonade Berry**. A very drought-resistant shrub that provides cover and food to wildlife. California Thrasher uses it's fruit and leaf material for nesting. It also is an excellent erosion control plant.
- *Symphoricarpos albus*. **Common Snowberry**. While not the favorite berry choice of most wildlife, it still gets eaten. Its root system is vigorous and deep enough to hold most banks. Snowberry has been seen on North-facing slopes in the full sun, though shaded areas such as under oaks is best.

TREES

- *Heteromeles arbutifolia*. **Toyon**. This small tree is found readily in La Tuna Canyon. It is very drought tolerant and provides red berry for months that are a favorite amongst many birds found in the area.
- *Quercus agrifolia*. **Coastal Live Oak**. Oak trees are important wildlife resources and have actually been found to suppress fire.



Search

go

Quick Links

- home
- store locator
- save water

Join Our Email List

Sign up to receive special offers and timely tips from your local garden experts.

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Fire-Resistant Plant Guide

One of the first steps to firescaping is identifying plants with fire retardant abilities. Below is a sample of trees, shrubs, ground cover and perennials that are ideal plants for firescaping.

Fire-Resistant Trees

Tree selection should be done with care as this is a plant that will be with you and your home for years to come.

- African Sumac (*Rhus lancea*)
- Ash (*Fraxinus* sp.)
- Carob (*Ceratonia seliqua*)
- California Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
- Carrotwood Tree (*Cupaniopsisanarcardiodes*)
- California Bay Laurel (*umbellularia californica*)
- Catalina Ironwood (*Lyonothamnus* sp.)
- Chinese Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*)
- Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*)
- Coral Tree (*Erythrina caffra*)
- Cork Oak (*Quercus suber*)
- Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*)
- Elm (*Ulmus* sp.)
- Flowering Cherry (*Prunus* sp.)
- Guadalupe Fan Palm (*Brahia edulis*)
- Honey Locust (*Gleditisa triacanthos*)
- King Palm (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*)
- Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*)
- Macadamia (*Macadamia* sp.)
- Maidenhair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*)
- Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* sp.)
- New Zealand Christmas Tree (*Metrosideros* sp.)
- Palo Verde Tree (*Parkinsonia* sp.)
- Paperbark Tree (*Melaleuca* sp.)
- Purple Leaf Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*)
- Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*)
- Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus unedo*)
- Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar stryaiflua*)
- Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
- Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Victorian Box (*Pittosporum undulatum*)
- Western Redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*)
- White Alder (*Alnus rhombifoli*)

Fire-Resistant Shrubs

- California Lilac (*Ceanothus* sp.)
- Bronze Loquat (*Eriobotrya deflexa*)
- Bush Morninglory (*Convolvulus cneorum*)
- Flannel Bush (*Fremontodendron* sp.)
- India Hawthorn (*Raphiolepis indica*)
- Lantana (*Lantana* sp.)
- Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*)
- Matilija Poppy (*Romneya coulteri*)
- Mock Orange (*Pittosporum* sp.)
- Monkey Flower (*Mimulus* sp.)
- Natal Plum (*Carissa grandiflora*)
- Ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*)
- Pineapple Guava (*Feijoa sellowiana*)
- Pink Escallonia (*Escallonia* sp.)
- Rockrose (*Cistus* sp.)
- Rose (*Rosa hydrida*)
- Sage (*Salvia* sp.)
- Shiny Xylosma (*Xylosma congestum*)
- Silverberry (*Elaeagnus punge*)

Fire-Resistant Ground Cover

- Creeping Coprosma (*Coprosma kirkii*)

Dwarf Myrtle (Vinca minor)
Gazania (Gazania sp.)
Lantana (Lantana sp.)
Manzanita (Arctostaphylos sp.)
Myoporum (Myoporum parvifolium)
Periwinkle (Vinca major)
Red Apple Ice Plant (Aptenia cordifolia)
Rosea Ice Plant (Drosanthemum hispidu)

Fire-Resistant Perennials

Blue-Eyed Grass (Sisyrinchium bellum)
Coral Bells (Heuchera sp.)
Douglas Iris (Iris douglasiana)
Golden-Eyed Grass (Sisyrinchium californicum)
Lavender (Lavandula sp.)
Red-Hot Poker (Kniphofia uvaria)
Seafoam Statice (Limonium perezii)

  [Employment](#) [Terms of Use](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Site Map](#)

© 2007 Armstrong Garden Centers. All Rights Reserved.



Fire-Resistant California Friendly Plants

[Shrubs](#) | [Trees](#) | [Perennials and Annuals](#) | [Groundcover](#)

Shrubs



California Redbud

An interesting plant all year long, with magenta flowers on leafless stems in summer, followed by crimson seedpods and heart-shaped blue-green leaves. Deciduous, with yellow or red fall foliage falling away in winter to reveal smooth reddish brown trunks. Long lived, very drought tolerant, and flowers more profusely as it matures.



Monkeyflower (Mimulus)

This entire species is endorsed for use by San Diego County planners and the Los Angeles and Orange County fire departments. Be sure to check out the drought-tolerant varieties.



Ceanothus 'Concha'

This California lilac is a large shrub with a dense mass of dark green, 1-inch leaves, with dark blue clusters of flowers appearing in spring. Requires good drainage; can tolerate summer water. Grows to six feet.



Sage (Salvia)

Nothing evokes California quite like a sage-scented hillside. Beloved by hummingbirds and firefighters alike, the autumn sage pictured here is endorsed for use by the Orange County Fire Authority, while the [entire sage species](#) is endorsed by the Los Angeles County Fire Department.



Common Yarrow (Achillea millefolium)

It appears on fire-resistant lists for California Native Plant Society, Western MWD (zone 3), San Diego County, and Orange County fire. However it is not on the approved list for Los Angeles County fire. Yarrow also can be used as a groundcover if mowed.



French Lavender (Lavandula dentata)

Although not a true California native, this attractive drought-tolerant plant is endorsed for Zone B use in Los Angeles County, and also makes fire-resistant lists for the Inland Empire and Orange and San Diego counties.

Trees



Coast Live Oak
Handsome shade tree. Round-headed with dense foliage, grows 20-70 feet tall. Smooth, dark grey bark, with leathery dark green leaves. Native to coastal central and Southern California.



California Sycamore
Sycamores have delighted generations of Californians, and this particular variety is endorsed for use by the Los Angeles and Orange County fire departments, plus San Diego County.



Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
A classic California native, it has white flowers in the summer and berries in the winter, it gets good marks from Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego and the Inland Empire.

Perennials and Annuals



California Fuchsia (*Epilobium canum/californica*)
This sprawling plant is one of the few perennials listed by Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties.



Beard Tongue (*Penstemon palmeri*)
This particular variety is native to the Southland, but the [entire species](#) has been embraced by native plant enthusiasts and firefighters alike, and is approved for use in L.A., Orange and San Diego counties.

Groundcover



Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria chilolensis*)
Looking for a low-growing plant that you can plant next to your home? This species has the rare distinction of being approved by Los Angeles County fire department for any zone in your yard.

Pyrophytic Characteristics

HIGH PYROPHYTIC plants, shrubs and trees ignite and burn intensely and typically share certain characteristics:

- 1) They are usually blade-leaf or needle-leaf evergreens
- 2) They have stiff, woody, small or fine, lacey leaves
- 3) Their leaves and wood usually contain volatile waxes, fats, terpenes or oils (crushed leaves have strong odors)
- 4) Their sap is usually gummy, resinous and has a strong odor
- 5) They usually contain plentiful fine, twiggy, dry or dead materials
- 6) They may have hair covered leaves
- 7) They may have loose or papery bark
- 8) These plants flame (not smolder) when preheated and ignited with a match

Defensible Space

Every home requires defensible space. Defensible space is the area around the home free from dangerous accumulations of flammable pyrophytic vegetation. This allows firefighters a safe working area from which to defend against an oncoming wildfire.

A firewise landscape includes LOW pyrophytic plants, shrubs and trees (those less likely to burn and slower to ignite), strategically placed and maintained to resist the spread of fire. It also, is a landscape maintained free of dead and dry plant materials, with living plants, shrubs and trees properly spaced and managed so they will not serve as ladder fuels during a wildfire.

Understanding Pyrophytic

A plant, shrub or tree with HIGH PYROPHYTIC properties means they will ignite easily and burn intensely.

Understanding the characteristics of Xeriscape plants, native plants, shrubs and trees, will help determine the correct placement and proper selection of your plants. This will help to make your landscape more fire resistant and help your local firefighters protect your home during the threat of a wildfire.

HIGH PYROPHYTIC plants, shrubs and trees should be planted in areas further than 15 feet from a structure, including decks and patios. Maintenance of high pyrophytic plants, shrubs and trees should include removing all dead plant material. The crowns (lower branches) of shrubs should be raised at least 2 to 3 feet off the ground and limited to a single specimen with spacing between plants of 2 times the height of the tallest shrub, unless the shrub is isolated or heavily modified.

For more information on how to make your home more fire resistant, log on to www.tbhisin.org

*Working Together
We Can Make the Big Bear Valley
A More Fire Safe, Firewise Community.*



Get In The Race For Defensible Space

*City of Big Bear Lake
Fire Department*

*This brochure was created in cooperation with
the Big Bear Group of the Sierra Club*



BIG BEAR Firewise Planting Guide



Get In The Race For Defensible Space

*City of Big Bear Lake
Fire Department*

Many Xeriscape and native plants, shrubs and trees found in the Big Bear Valley are listed here, and are low in Pyrophytic properties (they **WILL NOT** easily ignite or burn intensely).

The Xeriscape and native plants, shrubs and trees listed that are in a **RED BOLD ITALIC TYPEFACE** & identified with the  icon are HIGH in PYROPHYTIC PROPERTIES (they **WILL** easily ignite or burn intensely).

 **HIGH PYROPHYTIC** plants, shrubs and trees should be planted in areas further than 15 feet from a structure, including decks and patios. Maintenance of HIGH pyrophytic plants should include removing all dead plant material. The crowns (lower branches) of shrubs should be raised at least 2 to 3 feet off the ground and limited to a single specimen with spacing between plants of 2 times the height of the tallest shrub, unless the shrub is isolated or heavily modified.

Flowering Perennials

- Alum Root

Beardtongue

Bergenia

Blue Catmint

Buckwheat - Sulphur-flowered

Buckwheat - Wright's

Coral Bells

Daylily

Dianthus

Fuchsia - California

Goldenrod - California

Hollyhock

Honeysuckle

Iris - Bearded

Jupiter's Beard
- Lamb's Ears

Lavender

Mallow - Apricot

Mint - Coyote

Mint - Hummingbird

Mojave Mound

Penstemon - Beakflowered

Penstemon - Bumblebee

Penstemon - Firecracker

Penstemon - Scarlet

Phlox - Creeping

Poppy - California

Poppy - Oriental

Poppy - Prickly

Primrose - California Evening
- Primrose - Fragrant Evening

Rydberg's Horkelia

Sage - Desert Purple

Sage - Garden

Sage - Meadow

Sage - Rose

Sage - Russian

Sage - Silver

Wallflower - Western

Western Blue Flag

Whirling Butterflies

Yarrow - Moonshine

Yarrow - Paprika

Yarrow - Wooly

Shrubs

- Bitter Brush** - 

Blue Mist

Butterfly Bush

Currant

Flannel Bush - 

Gray Santolina (Lavender)
- Juniper Shrubs (any type)** - 

Lilac

Manzanita - Greenleaf - 

Mountain Mahogany (Ironwood) - 

Mountain Whitehorn - 

Oregon Grape
- Sagebrush** - 

Serviceberry - 

Snowberry

Wild Rose

Trees

- Black Oak

Incense Cedar - 

Jeffrey Pine - 
- Juniper** -  (all types, including Western Juniper)

Leyland Cypress - 
- Pinyon Pine** - 

White Fir - 



Sources for Native Plants in Southern California

[Annual Plant Sales](#)

[Sources for California Native Seeds and Bulbs](#)

CNPS San Diego Chapter Monthly Meetings: We usually carry a small selection of native plants at our monthly meetings. New members who sign up at the meeting will receive a free gift. For more info contact us info@cnpssd.org

Nurseries in the San Diego Area that Specialize in California Native Species

In addition to the following specialty nurseries, many other nurseries do grow and stock a limited choice of species.

Be aware that many lists of California Native Plants provided by non-speciality nurseries are not accurate.

If in doubt check on species on the Cal Flora www.calflora.org website or the San Diego Plant Atlas Project website www.sdplantatlas.org

If any readers learn of other nurseries in the Southern California region, please contact me - [Kay Stewart](#)

Cal-Native Plants Nursery, (Formerly Plants for Dry Places) 25735 Garbani Road, Menifee, CA (near Temecula) 92584, ph 909-301-8075/fax 909-301-8314. Specializing in natives under new ownership.

****new** City Farmers Nursery**, San Diego. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 4832 Home Ave. San Diego CA 92105. 619-284-6358. Ask for Farmer Bill.

****new** Cedros Gardens**, Solana Beach. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 330 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach CA 92075. 858-792-8640. Ask for Mia or Matt.

Coastal Sage Gardening, 3685 Voltaire Street, (Ocean Beach), San Diego, CA 92106-1253, ph 619-223-5229. A garden shop with a selection of native plants and wildflower seeds. Owner John Noble will deliver plants from Tree-of-Life Nursery. Open weekends or by appointment, email coastalsagegardening@cox.net

El Nativo Growers, 200 S. Peckham Rd., Azusa, CA 91702-3238, ph 626-969-8449/fax 626-969-7299. Well-established wholesale grower, 500 species in sizes from 4" to 24" box for some trees; will contract grow.

****new** El Plantio Nursery**, Escondido. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 1322 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido CA 92027. 760-745-8736.

****new** Green Thumb Nursery**, San Marcos. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 1019 San Marcos Blvd. San Marcos CA 92069. Contact Jeff Funk. 760-744-3822.

Las Pilitas Nursery, Nelson Way at Old Highway 395, Escondido, CA 92026, ph 760-749-5930. The satellite of a 30-year old natives nursery near Morro Bay. Increasing variety, 1 to 5 gallon sizes. Retail, wholesale, contract grow, consulting, growing guide.

Manzanita Native Plant Nursery, 39397 Highway 94, Boulevard, CA 91905, ph 619-733-9843, manzanitanursery@aol.com. Most Saturdays or by appointment. Local California native conifers, penstemons and other interior natives and carries more familiar species and cultivars as well. Will contract grow.

Matilija Nursery, 8225 Waters Road, Moorpark, CA 93021, ph 805-523-8604, matilijanursery@gtemail.net. Entertaining web site includes contests and details on the plants available. Wholesale and retail available.

Mission Hills Nursery, 1525 Fort Stockton Dr. San Diego, ph. 619-295-2808. Now has California Native Plants. Currently there are 40 species in stock but an additional 150 species are available for special order. For special orders, you can download the availability list at www.moosacreeknursery.com/availability-list.pdf. The prices are very reasonable so stop by this weekend and check it out! Fausto, the owner, or Tiger the Manager will be happy to help with your native plant requirements.

Moosa Creek Nursery, 28435 Wilkes Road, Valley Center, CA 92082, Hank and Su Kraus, ph 760-749-3216, Grow plants from San Diego County chaparral and woodlands. Availability list on website and monthly plants.

Native Plant Connection, in the Descanso area, juljanssen@yahoo.com, (619) 445-8771

Rancho Jojoba Nursery, 11935 Hwy 67, Lakeside, CA 92040, ph 619-561-0751/fax 619-504-2017, allenj.k@sbcglobal.net. Stocks and grows a wide variety of native plants, wholesale and retail.

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden, 100 N. College Ave, Claremont, CA 91711-3157, ph 909-625-8767/fax 909-626-7670. Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden is devoted to the collection, cultivation, study, and display of native California plants and to graduate training and research in plant systematics and evolution. Native plants are sold during the Fall Sale on the first weekend of November, the Spring Sale on the first Saturday in April, and in the Garden Shop year-round except during the summer.

Recon Native Plant Nursery, Wholesale to the industry, 1755 Saturn Blvd. San Diego, CA 92154 Ph: 619-423-2284 Fax: 619-423-0632. Large grower of native plants to the Southwestern US. Current plant inventory available online, contract grow, and consulting. Plants grown at Recon now available at these retail locations: [Simpsons Garden Town](#) in Jamul, [Miramar Wholesale Nursery](#) (over 70 varieties in stock, ask for Wayne), [Walter Andersen Nursery](#) in Pt. Loma.

****new** San Carlos Hardware**, San Carlos. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 7375 Jackson Drive, San Diego CA 92119

[Santa Barbara Botanic Garden](#), 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, ph 805-682-4726 x127. Sells plants and seeds in the gift shop.

[Simpsons Garden Town](#) in Jamul

[Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants](#), 10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352-2126, ph 818-768-1802. 80-year old nonprofit retail nursery sells California native plants, seeds and books. Over 300 native species for sale.

[Tree of Life Nursery](#), Mailing: PO Box 635, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693; Physical: 33201 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675, ph 949-728-0685, fax 949-728-0509. Wholesale, restoration, contract grow; retail Monday through Friday and most Saturdays. Over 600 types of native plants for landscaping and revegetation.

****new**** [Walter Anderson](#), Poway. 40 different native plant species available with ability to special order 200 additional species and have them delivered within one week. 12755 Danielson Court, San Diego CA 92064. Contact David. 858-513-4900.

Updated January 2011

[Horticulture](#) | [Home](#)

Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter
c/o San Diego Natural History Museum - P.O. Box 121390, San Diego, CA 92112-1390