

Homegrown Habitat, Supporting Bees, Birds and Butterflies and the rest of Nature

Sacramento Valley Top Habitat Plants SacValleyCNPS.org

Bloom	Common Name	Scientific Name	Life Cycle	Height	WUCOL	Sun	Notes
Early	Western Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	P	10'-20'	L	S/PS	Drought-tolerant; also tolerates semi-riparian conditions
	Red Willow	<i>Salix laevigata</i>	P	30'-50'	H	FS	Wetland-semi riparian; tolerates clay soils; fast grower, semi-deciduous
	Arroyo Willow	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	P	7'-35'	H	FS	Likes marshes/wet areas; spreads by root runners; deciduous
	Sandbar Willow	<i>Salix exigua</i>	P	10'-23'	H	FS	Constant moisture; spreads by basal shoots to any moisture
	Valley Oak	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	P	60'-100'	L	FS	Fast growing (20' in 5 years); drought tolerant
	Scrub Oak	<i>Quercus berberidifolia</i>	P	15'-20'	L	FS/PS	Smaller, drought tolerant, likes medium fast drainage
	Buck Brush	<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i>	P	5'-12'	VL	FS	Needs fast drainage; fast to moderate growth, evergreen
	California Everlasting	<i>Psuedognaphalium californicum</i>	P	3'	VL/L	FS	Semi deciduous, may like some afternoon shade in summer
	California Blackberry	<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	P	6'	M/H	FS/PS/S	Requires substantial moisture, wide spreading
	Dutchmans Pipe	<i>Aristolochia californica</i>	P	20'	L/M	S/PS	Deciduous vine, grows in moist woods along streams
	Baby Blue Eyes	<i>Nemophila menziesii</i>	A	.25'	L	FS/PS	Annual herb
	Chinese Houses	<i>Collinsia heterophylla</i>	A	.5'	M	S/PS	Annual purple flowering herb, good in containers
	Lacy Phacelia	<i>Phacelia tanacetifolia</i>	A	3'	VL/L	FS	Tolerates clay soils; good plant for biological pest control
	Miners Lettuce	<i>Claytonia perfoliata</i>	A	1.3'	L/M	PS	Edible spreading annual herb; in the valley, does best in part shade
Early-Mid	Blue Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> var. <i>cerulea</i>	P	20'-30'	M	FS	Easy to grow, fast growing deciduous shrub/tree; host plant for endangered Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle
	Interior Live Oak	<i>Quercus wislizenii</i>	P	15'-50'	VL	S/PS	Medium to large evergreen, moderate grower
	Blue Oak	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	P	16'-82'	VL	FS/PS	Slow grower deciduous, supports many species
	Toyon	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	P	12'	L	FS/PS	Evergreen shrub easy to grow, white flowers early summer, red berries in fall
	Shining Willow	<i>Salix lasiandra</i>	P	3'-30'	M/H	FS/PS	Winter deciduous riparian plant, good for restoration projects
	Mountain Mahogany	<i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i>	P	8'-20'	VL/L	FS/PS	In the valley this plant will do better with PM shade
	Hollyleaf Redberry	<i>Rhamnus ilicifolia</i>	P	9'	L	PS	PM shade in the valley, siting is critical for success
	California Broom/Deerwe	<i>Acmispon glaber</i>	P	3'	VL	FS	Not too showy subshrub with high habitat value
	Skunkbush, Fragrant Sum	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	P	8'	L	FS/PS	Winter deciduous shrub, may like PM shade in valley
	Chaparral Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera interrupta</i> (<i>hispidula</i>)	P		VL/L	FS/PS	Hardy, woody chaparral shrub/vine, summer flowering, edible/bitter berries
	Silver Bush Lupine	<i>Lupinus albifrons</i>	P	3'	L	FS/PS	Requires good drainage, PM shade in valley
	Foothill Penstemon	<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	P	5'	L	FS/PS	Perennial evergreen herb. May need pm shade in valley
	Sonoma Sage	<i>Salvia sonomensis</i>	P	1.3'	VL	PS	Moderately drought tolerant if given part shade
	Purple Needlegrass	<i>Stipa pulchra</i>	P	3'	VL/L	FS	CA state grass, perennial with deep roots
	California Poppy	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	A	.5'	VL/L	FS	CA State flower, tolerates clay soil, readily reseeds
	Elegant Clarkia	<i>Clarkia unguiculata</i>	A	.5'	L	FS/PS	Showy pink flowers, reseeds readily
	Globe Gillia	<i>Gillia capitata</i>	A	1'	L/M	FS	Showy pink to lavender flowers
Miniature Lupine	<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	A	1.3'	L	FS	Showy purple and white flowers, plant with CA poppies	
Sky Lupine	<i>Lupinus nanus</i>	A	2'	L	FS	Chaparral annual herb	

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Mid	California Buckwheat	Eriogonum fasciculatum	P	2.5'	VL/L	FS	Tough, easy to grow, prefer good drainage
	Hoary Coffeberry	Frangula californica var tomer	P	20'	L	FS/PS	May prefer PM shade in valley
	California Wildrose	Rosa californica	P	8'	M	FS/PS	Tolerates clay soils; drought-tolerant; spreads through underground runners
	California Wild Grape	Vitis californica	P	10'-40'	L/M	FS/PS	Common along rivers and streams, winter deciduous
	Common Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	P	3'	L-H	FS/PS	Looks best with regular water; semi deciduous in drier conditions; can be aggressive
	Coyote Mint	Monardella villosa	P	2'	L	PS/S	Requires good drainage, needs PM shade in the valley
	Showy Milkweed	Asclepias speciosa	P	5'	L/M	FS	Tolerates clay soils; spreads through underground rhizomes
	Imbricate Phacelia	Phacelia imbricata	P	1'	L	FS/PS	Perennial herb; tolerates clay soil; can re-seed
	Woolly Sunflower	Eriophyllum lanatum	P	2'	L	FS/PS	Summer semi-deciduous; can be extremely drought-tolerant
	Nude Buckwheat	Eriogonum nudum	P	6'	L	FS	Summer semi-deciduous; leafless stems
	Blue Wild Rye	Elymus glaucus	P	5'	L	FS/PS	Popular accent grass for gardens; summer semi-deciduous
	Deergrass	Muhlenbergia rigens	P	5'	L	FS	Attractive bunch grass; easy to grow; grows in most soils
	Fleabane Daisy	Erigeron foliosus	P	3.3'	L	PS	
	Lippia	Phyla nodiflora	P	6"	L	FS/PS	Flowering ground cover; spreads rapidly
	Spider Lupine	Lupinus benthamii	A	2.3'	VL	FS	
Seep Monkeyflower	Erythranthe guttata	A	5'	M/H	FS/PS	Aquatic annual plant; good in ponds or rain gardens	
Mid-Late	Narrowleaf Milkweed	Asclepias fascicularis	P	1.5'	M	FS	Not showy; tolerates clay; host to Monarchs
	Virgin's Bower	Clematis ligusticifolia	P	30'	L/M	PS/SH	vine; showy white flowers; summer deciduous; part shade to shade
	Hooker's Evening Primros	Oenothera elata	P	5'	M-H	FS/PS	Wetland-riparian but still drought tolerant; reseeds aggressively
	California Fuchsia	Epilobium canum	P	3'	L	FS	Hummingbird favorite; spreads; cut back in winter
	Gumplant	Grindelia camporum	P	4'	L	FS	Tolerates most soils; can be cut back in winter
	Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus	P	6'	L	PS/SH	Moist shady areas; winter deciduous; spreads by rhizomes
	Slender Woolly Buckwheat	Eriogonum gracile	A	5'	EL/VL	FS/PS	Small annual; tolerates most soils; winter semi-deciduous
	Common Madia	Madia elegans	A	7'	L	FS/PS	Annual herb; showy yellow flowers; tolerates many soils
	Common Sunflower	Helianthus annuus	A	5'	M	FS	Tolerates most soils; can get very large
Late	California Aster	Symphyotrichum chilense	P	5'	VL/L	FS/PS	Tolerates clay soil; winter deciduous; cut back in winter; aggressive spreader
	California Goldenrod	Solidago californica	P	3'	VL/M	FS/PS/S	Easy to grow; for late color plant with Epilobium canum; spreader
	Sulphur Buckwheat	Eriogonum umbellulatum	P	7'	VL/M	FS	Showy yellow flowers; variable plant; evergreen
	Bee Plant	Scrophularia californica	P	4'	L	PS	Strong bee attractant; tolerates most soils; needs good drainage
	Coyote Brush	Baccharis pilularis	P	10'	VL/L	FS/PS	Tour easy to grow shrub; variable forms; blooms into winter
	Rubber Rubberbrush	Ericameria nauseosa	P	9'	L	FS	Needs good drainage; summer/fall bloom
	Vinegarweed	Trichostema lanceolatum	A	1'	L	FS	Does not do well in seed mixes; sow individually; tolerates dry clay soils