To become a native plant gardener, you might look at state and local CNPS sites

- Conservation
- Education
- Gardening
- Rare Plant Science
- Vegetation Science
Welcome to the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. Our chapter lies in El Dorado County on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada, stretching from the foothills at the edge of the Sacramento Valley to the mountains at Echo Summit. Our chapter works to protect and teach about all native plants in the county, from rare to common. Learn about our chapter history.

**Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 pm**  [general meeting]

**Landscape Design**

Our next speaker will be Bernadette Balics of Ecological Landscape Design. Her design for the spectacular Big Sky Garden in Davis was featured in Pacific Horticulture this summer. [https://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/planting-new-california-garden-part-3-bernadette-balics/](https://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/planting-new-california-garden-part-3-bernadette-balics/).

The El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society is sponsoring the talk in Placerville at 7 pm on September 26th at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fair Lane Court. The talk is free and open to the public.

Get driving directions and learn more about our general meetings
The Redbud Chapter of CNPS

Second Edition of Wildflowers of Nevada and Placer Counties NOW AVAILABLE!!

The Redbud Chapter of the California Native Plant Society welcomes all native-plant lovers in Nevada and Placer counties. We are dedicated to exploring, educating, researching, and writing about the diversity and beauty of our native flora. We:

- Lead field trips to stunning foothill and mountain wildflower displays.
- Offer 100s of locally adapted, hand-picked native plants at our fall sale.
- Advocate for native flora and organize conservation projects.
- Meet up to propagate plants and learn ethnobotany first-hand.
- Publish two books on over 700 local wildflowers, trees and shrubs.

Together, we explore and restore nature, and find new friends!
Sherwood Demonstration Garden

Next to Folsom Lake College, back by the Observatory
The Sherwood Demo Garden has a native section, with an example of grouping by plant community.
American River Conservancy Native Garden
Wakamatsu Farm on Cold Springs Rd
Private property, by appt, call 530-621-1224
OPEN FARM DAYS: 1st Saturdays in Oct, Nov
**Ceanothus maritimus 'Valley Violet'** - valley violet maritime ceanothus. California native plant; best small ceanothus for Central Valley gardens; clusters of dark-violet flowers bloom in spring; attracts beneficial insects. [More Details](#)

**Salvia apiana** - California white sage. California native plant; spring flowers attract pollinating bees; leaves contain fragrant oils. [More Details](#)

**Salvia clevelandii 'Winnifred Gilman'** - Winnifred Gilman Cleveland sage. California native plant; evergreen shrub produces maroon-stemmed, blue-violet flowers; heat and drought tolerant; attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and beneficial insects. [More Details](#)

**Viguiera parishii** - desert goldeneye. California native plant; golden daisies blossom from early spring until mid-fall among triangular-shaped green leaves; tolerates full sun or part shade and is low maintenance. [More Details](#)
California Native Garden

Plant this California Native Garden at home. The design below was developed for your home garden by Arboretum experts. The plan below is based on a 10-foot by 10-foot garden bed.

Berberis aquifolium
'Compacta'
compact Oregon grape

Bouteloua gracilis
blue grama grass

Heteromeles arbutifolia
toyot, christmas berry
California holly

Muhlenbergia rigens
deergass

Ceanothus maritimus
'Valley Violet'
valley violet
maritime ceanothus

Epilobium canum
California fuchsia

[Diagram of the garden plan with specific plant locations and labels]
Best host plants for butterflies and moths, by zip code

http://nwf.org/Garden-For-Wildlife/About/Native-Plants.aspx
How native is it?

• California native?

• El Dorado County native?

• Native to your neighborhood?
The granddaddy of online plant selection tools
Click on the map to set the vertices of a polygon. Drag a vertex to move it. Click on a vertex to delete it.
**Calochortus superbus**  *Yellow mariposa*

1 record (1 CCH)

**Calycadenia multiglandulosa**  *Rosin weed*

3 records (2 CCH)
Toyon
Heteromeles arbutifolia
Western redbud
*Cercis occidentalis*

Communities: Chaparral, Foothill woodland
Habitat: canyons, slopes
Western Azalea

Rhododendron occidentalis
Flannelbush

Fremontodendron decumbens
To see descriptions of the plants native to your location, enter a California address or click on the map.
Number of plants: 199

1. Blue Eyed Grass
   Sisyrinchium bellum
   Add to My Plants

2. California Fuchsia
   Epilobium canum
   Add to My Plants

3. Western Columbine
   Aquilegia formosa
   Add to My Plants

4. Foothill Penstemon
   Penstemon heterophyllus
   Add to My Plants

5. Scarlet Monkeyflower
   Mimulus cardinalis
   Add to My Plants

6. California Goldenrod
   Solidago velutina ssp. californica
   Add to My Plants

7. Checker Bloom
   Sidalcea malviflora
**Blue Eyed Grass**

Sisyrinchium bellum

**Summary Description**

- **Plant Type**: Perennial herb
- **Maximum Height**: 1 feet
- **Site Type**: Meadows, seasonally moist grasslands
- **Sun**: Sun, Part Shade
How do you want your yard to look in 5 years?
Identify the dominant plant communities for your yard

Blue Oak
Interior Live Oak
Grey pine
Western redbud
Toyon
Manzanita
Chamise
Buckbrush
Coyote brush
Evaluate your own goals

- Save water
- Reduce workload
- Attract birds and butterflies
- Save species from extinction

Natives (species and cultivars), and low-water, probably Mediterranean

Natives (species and cultivars) and their close relatives, and “butterfly garden” plants

Native species and varieties
Consider structural plants first

Protect oaks

Add high-value species for ecosystem
Consider adult plant size

Example:

Giant wild rye
_Elymus condensatus_
“Lotties choice”

Matilija poppy
Note varieties and cultivars:

**Variety:** grows in nature, reproduces true to type

**Cultivar:** cultivated variety, may or may not reproduce true to type

*Are often cloned in the nursery trade*
Design with dormancy in mind
Grouping can help
Or appreciate the natural look
Evergreens

Example:

Bush Anemone

*Carpenteria californica* ‘Elizabeth’
Dwarf coyote bush

*Baccharis pilularis* ‘Pigeon Point’
Plan to do some maintenance

You’ll dead-head and cut back as needed
Finding Plants
Native Plant Sales

El Dorado CNPS:
First Saturday in April and October

Master Gardener Plant Sale:
Spring, sometimes Fall but not in 2017

Propagate
Examine plants before you buy
• Plant when soil is warm and you anticipate seasonal rainfall

• Plant in plant community zones, by water needs

• Do not amend soil in the planting hole

• Top dress with leaves, compost, mulch, small rocks, as appropriate for the zone

• Be tolerant of insect damage
Water to establish, usually 1-3 years:

1\textsuperscript{st} summer: once a week
2\textsuperscript{nd} summer: 2-3 times a month, deeper
3\textsuperscript{rd} summer: 1-2 times total, very deep
4\textsuperscript{th} summer: 0

Water in the early morning
Established plants show significant new leaf growth

This can take 1-3 years
Most gardeners over water

Don’t!

Check soil with fingers—is it damp?
  If YES, don’t water!
  If NO, maybe water

Do not water if going dormant
or showing signs of fungal wilt
Not during heat of day

Once established, revise watering, especially in
drought. Emulate winter and spring rains if
needed.
UC Davis plant trials

Goal:
Find native plants for commercial nursery trade that use less water and fewer chemicals

Method:
Chose 10 underused/unused native plants
- Established 24 of each in a hot sunny field for 2 years
- Once established, tested 4 watering regimes
- Evaluated for foliage, flowering, vigor
Native plants are survivors

Palmer Oak, *Quercus palmeri*

13,000 years old
Heuchera - Coral bells

Solidago - goldenrod
Oregon Grape
Mahonia aquifolium
Berberis aquifolium
Creeping mahonia
*Berberis aquifolium var. repens*
yarrow

Sticky monkeyflower

Lupine

Linum - western blue flax

Douglas Iris

Mimulus cardinalis
Narrowleaf Milkweed

Asclepias fascicularis

Showy Milkweed

Asclepias speciosa
Mock Orange
Philadelphus lewisii
Ssp. californicus ‘Covelo’
Wild ginger

Salal

Gaultheria shallon
Woodland strawberry

Wild grape