

Green Gardening with Less Water Plant List



California native plants in bold type

PLANT NAME	FORM and SIZE	FOLIAGE	HABITAT	FLOWER	WILDLIFE VALUE
Australian Fuchsia <i>Correa sp.</i>	Perennial height: 18-24 inches	Green to gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring to fall white to red	Bees, butterflies, birds
Buckwheat <i>Eriogonum spp.</i>	Perennial height: 1-5 feet	Green to gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Fall, white, cream, pink	Beneficial insects, butterfly (nectar)
Coffeeberry <i>Rhamnus californica</i>	Shrub height: 3-18 feet	Dense foliage, deep green	Sun/part shade	Spring, small, greenish	Butterfly (host), berries for birds
Coyote Bush <i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	Shrub height: 1-8 feet	Dense foliage, light green leaves	Sun, well-drained soil	Fall/Winter, white	Beneficial insects, butterfly (host), birds
Fuchsia, California <i>Epilobium canum</i>	Perennial 18-24 inches	Narrow, soft gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Late Summer-fall, red	Hummingbirds
Lavender <i>Lavandula sp.</i>	Perennial 18-24 inches	Fragrant, gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Summer, lavender	Bees, beneficial insects
Lilac, California <i>Ceanothus sp.</i>	Shrub, 1-12 ft. Many varieties	dark green	Sun, well-drained soil	Early Spring, blue	Native bees, butterflies
Lupine <i>Lupinus sp.</i>	Shrub, 2-6 ft. Many species, not all drought tol.	Silvery to gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring, purple	Butterflies (host & nectar), birds
Milkweed, showy <i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	Perennial up to 4 feet	Large grayish velvety leaves	Sun, well-drained soil	Summer, purplish	Butterfly (host & nectar) beneficial insects
Monkeyflower, sticky <i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Woody perennial height: 3-4 feet	Narrow bright green leaves	Sun, best with some water	Spring/Summer yellow to orange	Butterfly (host), hummingbirds, beneficial insects, birds
Catmint <i>Nepeta sp.</i>	Perennial height: 1-2 feet	Aromatic, gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring/Summer violet to blue	Bees, butterflies, birds
Penstemon <i>Penstemon sp.</i>	Perennial height: 1-3 feet	Pale to dark green	Sun, well-drained soil	Summer, pink, red, blue	Hummingbirds, butterflies, birds
Rosemary <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Shrub height: 3-4 feet	Fragrant, needle-like leaves	Sun, well-drained soil	Blue	Bees, butterflies, birds
Sage, Purple <i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	Shrub height: 3-7 feet	Fragrant silver gray	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring/Summer, pinkish purple	Hummingbirds, bees, birds
Sagebrush, California <i>Artemisia californica</i>	Small shrub height: 2-4 feet	Fragrant gray-green, fine texture	Sun, well-drained soil	Summer, tiny, greenish	Birds
Thyme <i>Thymus sp.</i>	Groundcover 3-12 inches	Fragrant tiny green leaves	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring white to rose	Bees, butterflies, birds
Toyon <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	Small tree height: 6-25 feet	Large green leaves	Sun, well-drained soil	Summer, white	Birds (berries in fall)



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Tree Mallow <i>Lavatera sp.</i>	Shrub height: 10-12 feet	Green to gray-green	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring/Fall. pink to purple	Bees, butterflies, birds
Strawberry, Beach <i>Fragaria chiloensis</i>	Groundcover height: 4-6 inches	Dark green	Sun, well-drained soil	Spring, white	Berries for birds
Buttercup <i>Ranunculus californicus</i>	Perennial height: 8 in to 2 ft	Green, finely divided	Sun, clay or silty soil	Spring, yellow	Beneficial insects, butterfly (nectar)
Grass, Blue-eyed <i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Perennial 4-16 inches	Grass-like mound	Sun, clay or silty soil	Spring, purple-blue	Beneficial insects
Needlegrass, Purple <i>Stipa pulchra</i>	Grass 12-18 inches	Silvery green blades	Sun, clay or silty soil	Spring	Butterfly (host & nectar)
Oak, Coast Live <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Tree 30-75 feet	Evergreen leaves, toothed edge	Sun, clay or silty soil	Spring	Butterfly (host), birds, beneficial insects
Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Perennial up to 2 feet	Fern-like leaves	Sun, clay or silty soil	Spring/Summer, white	Beneficial insects, butterfly (nectar)
Rush, Grey <i>Juncus</i>	Perennial up to 3 feet	Grayish green erect round blades	Sun, clay or silty soil, some water	Summer	Insects
Buckeye, California <i>Aesculus californica</i>	Tree height: 15-40 feet	Large palmate leaves	Sun/part shade	Spring, white	Butterfly (host), hummingbirds, bees
Coast Silkassel <i>Garrya elliptica</i>	Large shrub height: 8-24 feet	Dark green leaves, long male catkins	Sun/part shade	Winter. greenish white	Birds
Currant, Pink Flowering <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Shrub height: 5-12 feet	Maple-shaped aromatic	Part/full shade, some moisture	Early Spring, pink	Hummingbirds, birds, butterflies (host & nectar)
Douglas Iris <i>Iris douglasiana</i>	Perennial height: 12-24 inches	Deep green, long flat blades	Part/full shade, some moisture	Spring, lavendar to blue	Bees, beneficial insects, butterfly (nectar)
Fescue, California <i>Festuca californica</i>	Grass 12-24 inches	Green to gray-green	Part/full shade	Summer	Butterfly (host), birds
Guava, Pineapple <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Shrub/Small Tree height: 6-20 feet	Green to blue-green	Sun/part shade	Spring/Summer white to red	Butterflies, birds, bees
Honeysuckle, Calif. <i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	Vine/Groundcover up to 18 feet	Green to gray-green	Part/full shade	Summer, small white	Birds, hummingbirds, beneficial insects
Oak, Valley <i>Quercus lobata</i>	Tree up to 70 feet	Deciduous lobed leaves	Sun/part shade	Spring	Butterfly (host), birds, beneficial insects
Yerba Buena <i>Satureja douglassi</i>	Groundcover 1-12 inches	Small, green fragrant	Part/full shade,	Spring, tiny white	Beneficial insects, butterfly (nectar)
Coral Bells <i>Heuchera maxima</i>	Perennial 6-30 inches	Mounding shape	Part/full shade, some water	Spring, tiny pink	Birds
Strawberry, woodland <i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Groundcover height: 4-6 inches	Dark green divided leaves	Part/full shade	Spring, white	Berries for birds
Oregon grape <i>Mahonia sp.</i>	Shrub, size varies	Glossy dark green, spiny edges	Sun to part shade, some moisture	Spring, yellow	Berries for birds
Redbud <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Large shrub/small tree, 6-18 feet	Pale to dark green	Sun, well-drained soil	Early spring, magenta	Birds, hummingbirds, leaf cutter bees
Phacelia <i>Phacelia spp.</i>	Herbaceous perennial or annual	Gray-green fuzzy or sticky leaves	Full sun to part shade, good drainage	spring to summer, blue or white	Nectar for butterflies and bees