

LA Native & Palms Green Committee

Recommended California Native Trees and Plants for West LA Area

Note: All of the following plant choices are clay-adapted or adaptable and will grow in any type of soil. No soil amendments are needed. All plant choices grow to 4' or less (except for the trees, of course, and a few species whose flower spikes grow taller than the plant. Plants with > 4-foot flower spikes are noted with a *).

For information about and photos of these plants, use the Native Plant Wikipedia on the Theodore Payne Foundation website www.theodorepayne.org, under “Native Plant Gardening” on the home page.

Sun = 8 hours or more of direct sunlight per day

Part Sun = 4 hours or less of direct sunlight per day

Part Shade = Mostly reflected / filtered sunlight, no extended times of direct sunlight

Shade = No direct sunlight at all

Native trees should be used to form the canopy for the native shrubs and groundcovers beneath, utilizing plants with similar water requirements. If non-native plants are to be mixed with natives (which we do not recommend, as there is a native for every need), then plants with similar water needs should be grouped together.

Trees:

- Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)
- Blue Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea*)
- Blue Oak (*Quercus douglasii*)
- Blue Palo Verde (*Cercidium floridum*)
- Box Elder (*Acer negundo*)
- Guadalupe Palm (*Brahea edulis*)
- California Bay Laurel (*Umbellularia californica*)
- California Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
- Canyon Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*)
- Catalina Cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia ssp. lyonii*)
- These produce cherries, though in general not as prolifically as commercial cherry trees.
- Catalina Ironwood (*Lyonothamnus floribundus*)
- Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*)
- Desert Willow (*Chilopsis linearis*)
- Feltleaf or Catalina California Lilac (*Ceanothus arboreus*)
- Incense Cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*)
- Littleleaf Palo Verde (*Cercidium microphyllum*)
- Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*)
- Mesa Oak (*Quercus engelmannii*)
- Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*)

- Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*)
- Pacific Wax Myrtle (*Myrica californica*)
- Pinyon Pine (*Pinus monophylla*)

- Santa Cruz Island Ironwood (*Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp. asplenifolius*)
- Guadalupe Cypress (*Cupressus guadalupensis*)
- Southern California Black Walnut (*Juglans californica*)
- Tanbark Oak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*)
- Tecate Cypress (*Cupressus forbesii*)
- Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) Official Native Plant of Los Angeles
- Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*)
- Western Redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*)
- White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*)

Plants, 4ft-wide areas, sun:

- Bladderpod (*Isomeris arborea*) May grow taller than 4'
- Canyon Silver Catalina Silverlace (*Eriophyllum nevinii* 'Canyon Silver')
- Cape Sebastian Seaside Daisy and Wayne Roderick Seaside Daisy (*Erigeron glaucus* 'Cape Sebastian' and 'Wayne Roderick')
- Greensphere Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos edmundsii* 'Greensphere')
- Lilac Verbena (*Verbena lilacina*)
- Margarita BOP Penstemon (*Penstemon* 'Margarita BOP')
- San Diego Marsh Elder (*Iva hayesiana*)
- Shirley's Creeper Sage (*Salvia* 'Shirley's Creeper')
- Wedge-Leaved Horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* ssp. *cuneata*)
- Wild Cascade Buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* 'Wild Cascade')

Plants, 4ft-wide areas, part sun:

- Firecracker Island Snapdragon (*Galvezia speciosa* 'Firecracker')
- Margarita BOP Penstemon (*Penstemon* 'Margarita BOP')
- Mound San Bruno Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica* 'Mound San Bruno')
- San Diego Marsh Elder (*Iva hayesiana*)
- Selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris* var. *lanceolata*)
- Wedge-Leaved Horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* ssp. *cuneata*)
- Yerba Buena (*Satureja douglasii*)

Plants, 4ft-wide areas, part shade:

- Creeping Barberry (*Berberis aquifolium* var. *repens*)
- Mound San Bruno Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica* 'Mound San Bruno')
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Yerba Buena (*Satureja douglasii*)

Plants, 4ft-wide areas, shade:

- Creeping Barberry (*Berberis aquifolium* var. *repens*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Yerba Buena (*Satureja douglasii*)

Grasses, full sun:

- Alkali Dropseed (*Sporobolus airoides*)
- Blue Wild Rye (*Elymus glaucus* ssp. *glaucus*)

Grasses, full to part sun:

- Canyon Prince Wild Rye* (*Leymus condensatus* 'Canyon Prince')
- Slender Sedge (*Carex praegracilis*)

Grasses, full sun to part shade:

- Deer Grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*)

Groundcovers, full sun on coast

- Wood strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)

Rushes, full sun to shade:

- California Grey Rush, Carman's Grey and Elk Blue Wiregrass (*Juncus patens*, *J. p.* 'Carman's Grey' and 'Elk Blue')

Low Spreading Shrubs, part shade to shade:

- Creeping Barberry (*Berberis aquifolium* var. *repens*)

Low Spreading Shrubs for sun:

- Bee's Bliss, Dara's Choice, Green Carpet, or Terra Seca Sage (*Salvia* 'Bee's Bliss', 'Dara's Choice', 'Green Carpet' or 'Terra Seca')
- Bruce Dickinson Buckwheat, Theodore Payne Buckwheat (*Eriogonum* 'Bruce Dickinson', *Eriogonum* 'Theodore Payne')
- Canyon Gray Sagebrush and Montara Sagebrush (*Artemisia californica* 'Canyon Gray' and *A. c.* 'Montara')
- Carmel Creeper, Joyce Coulter, Maritime, Yankee Point CA Lilac (*Ceanothus griseus horizontalis* 'Carmel Creeper' and *C. thrysiflorus* var. *griseus* 'Yankee Point', *C.* 'Joyce Coulter', *C. martimus*)
- Conejo Buckwheat (*Eriogonum crocatum*)
- Carmel Sur, Emerald Carpet, San Bruno Mountain Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos edmundsii* 'Carmel Sur', *A.* 'Emerald Carpet', *A. uva-ursi* 'San Bruno Mountain')
- Pigeon Point Coyote Bush (*Baccharis* 'Pigeon Point')
- Prostrate-form Chamise 'Nicolas' (*Adenostoma fasciculatum* 'Nicolas')
- Twin Peaks Coyote Bush (*Baccharis* 'Twin Peaks')

Shrubs for full sun:

- Allen Chickering Sage (*Salvia* 'Allen Chickering')
- Bladderpod (*Isomeris arborea*) May grow taller than 4'
- Boca Rosa Island Bush Snapdragon (*Galvezia* 'Boca Rosa')
- California Buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*)
- California Fairy Duster (*Calliandra californica*)
- Canyon Silver Catalina Silverlace (*Eriophyllum nevinii* 'Canyon Silver')
- Dana Point Buckwheat (*Eriogonum* 'Dana Point')
- Firecracker Island Snapdragon (*Galvezia speciosa* 'Firecracker')
- Pozo Blue or Deer Spring Silver Sage (*Salvia* 'Pozo Blue' or 'Deer Spring Silver')
- Santa Cruz Island Buckwheat (*Eriogonum arborescens*)
- Skylark CA lilac (*Ceanothus* 'Skylark')
- Sunset Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* 'Sunset')
- White Sage* (*Salvia apiana*)

Shrubs for full to part sun:

- Eve Case California Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica* 'Eve Case')
- Firecracker Island Snapdragon (*Galvezia speciosa* 'Firecracker')
- Sunset Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* 'Sunset')