

Go Native!,

Gene Ratcliffe Tree of Life Nursery

*“When we see the land as a community to
which we belong, we may begin to use it with
love and respect.”*

-Aldo Leopold, The Sand County Almanac



Endless opportunities...

- **Reduce the use of Water. 50-70% Household water use to irrigated landscape, Approx 19% of California's Energy is spent on moving water!**
- **Reduce the use of synthetic pesticides and herbicides**
- **Reduce Urban run-off from irrigated landscape, *especially* where pesticides and herbicides have been used.**
- **Reduce green waste and where possible use on-site composting practices.**
- **Retain any rainwater on the property, use as much as possible on the landscape, allow water to percolate back into the water table.**
- **Maintain or even increase bio-diversity where ever possible.**
- **Create habitat.**
- **Reduce unused (non-recreational) lawn space!**



Same-old, Same-old thirsty landscapes?



Or - use California's relaxed atmosphere, attitude and plants to direct your landscape!

California Native plants:

- Plants that existed in California prior to European settlement.
- Use less water and labor resources (long-term sustainability).
- Flourish without fertilizers or synthetic pesticides, (less pollution in our waterways!).
- Provide habitat and create a sense of place.
- Habitat connectivity (for the humans).
- Are beautiful to look at!

“Bullet Proof Native Plants”



A (few) word(s) about invasive plants... (Please) Don't plant them!



Across California, invasive plants are damaging wildlands. Invasive plants displace native plants and wildlife, increase wildfire and flood danger, consume valuable water, degrade recreational opportunities, and destroy productive range and timberlands.

-California Invasive Plant Council
www.cal-ipc.org





Some Real-life beauties



“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time, is today.”

- Chinese proverb



Hummingbirds enjoying Sycamore as habitat

Western Sycamore
Platanus racemosa





Cercis occidentalis
Western Redbud

Evergreen Backbone shrubs: Large & Mid-Sized

Manzanitas range in size - from groundcover to tree size.



A. 'Sentinel'



A. edmundsii var. *parvifolium*



A. refugioensis

Large or Small -
Manzanitas
provide valuable
habitat.



A. glauca and an Oriole

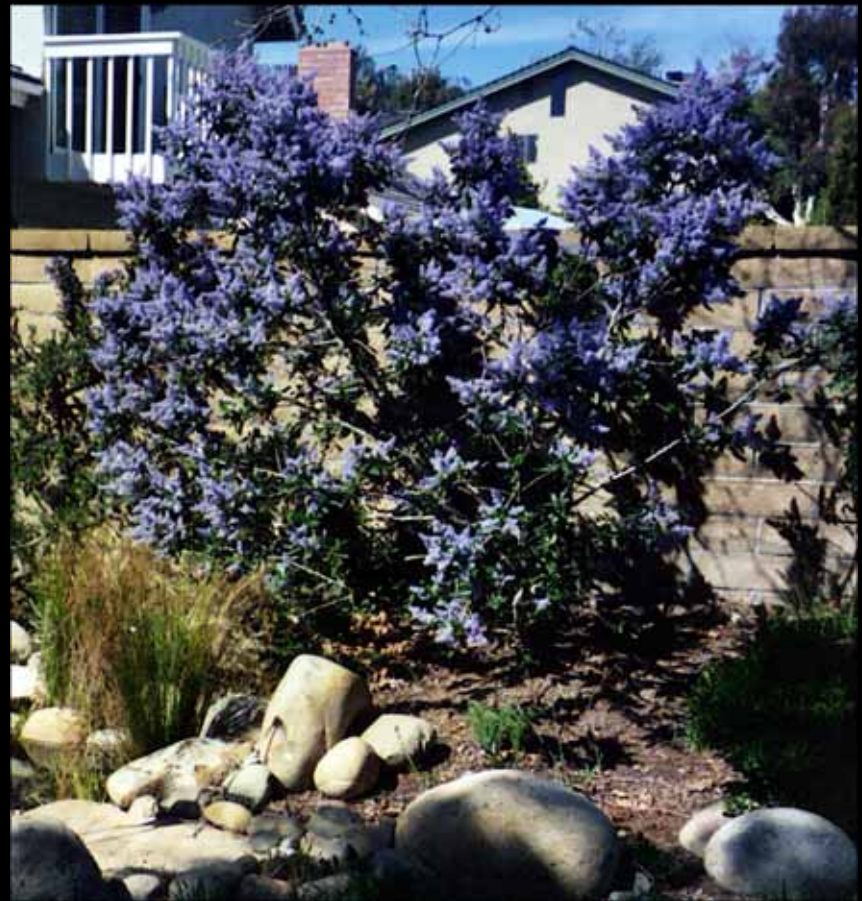


A. 'Byrd Hill' and Oriole



Arctostaphylos
'Lester Rowntree'
Lester Rowntree Manzanita

Ceanothus arboreus
Island Wild Lilac



Mahonia 'Golden Abundance'

Hybrid Oregon Grape





Heteromeles arbutifolia, *Toyon*



Lemonade Berry

Rhus integrifolia



Mid/Low Evergreen Backbone

Rhamnus californica 'Little Sur'





'Sunset' Manzanita
Arctostaphylos 'Sunset'



Arcostaphylos densiflora

'Howard McMinn'

McMinn Manzanita



California Lilac
Ceanothus 'Concha'



Ceanothus 'Heart's Desire'

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Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'



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Arctostaphylos 'Point Reyes'

Artemesia californica 'Canyon Gray'

Canyon Gray Sagebrush



Ribes viburnifolium



*Evergreen Currant,
Catalina Perfume*

Here come the flowers: Flowering perennial natives

Cleveland Sage

Salvia clevelandii



Native sages attract local butterfly species!



Swallowtail Butterfly on Red Summer Sage
Salvia microphylla



Swallowtail Butterfly on Cleveland Sage
Salvia clevelandii



Penstemon 'Margarita'

Coyote Mint

Monardella



If you plant it...they will
come!!

Island Bush Snapdragon

Galvezia speciosa or 'Firecracker'



Bush Monkeyflower

Mimulus aurantiacus



Monkeyflower Hybrids

Mimulus Hybrids



M. 'Red Orange'



M. 'Trish'

M. 'Burgundy'



Mimulus in a Garden



M. 'Soquel Orange'

California fuchsia



Epilobium canum or
E. canum 'Catalina'





Woodland perennial garden

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Heuchera Hybrids



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LIFE**
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A class of their own:
show-stopping native accent
plants







Vitis californica 'Rogers' Red'







Structure, surprise.





Muhlenbergia rigens
Deer grass



Add habitat value...

Providing them a home makes our own home a more liveable place.



mini-habitat







California Thrasher

Add a passive water feature to attract more visitors!





Wildlife needed here.









An easy place to be in.

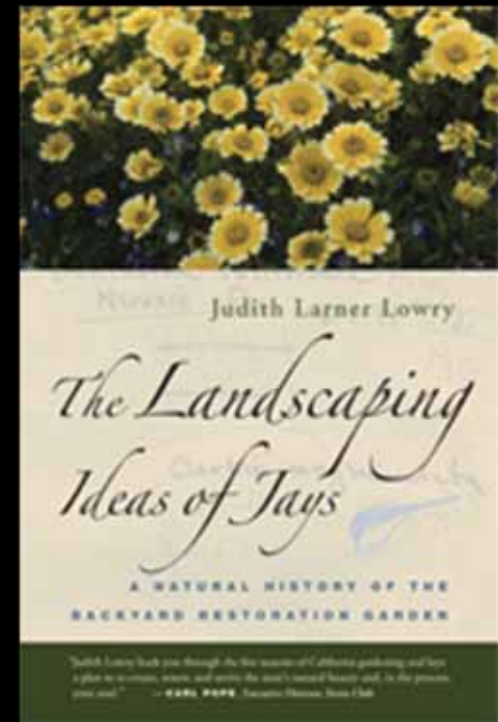
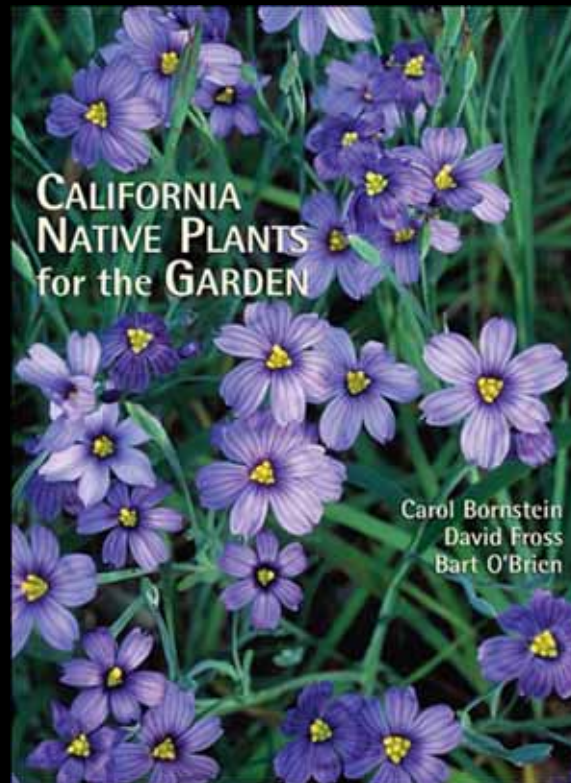
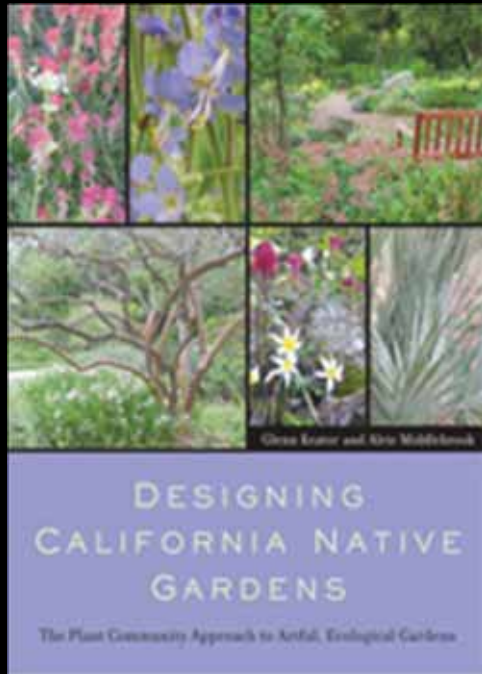
Altamira







Resources for designing with natives

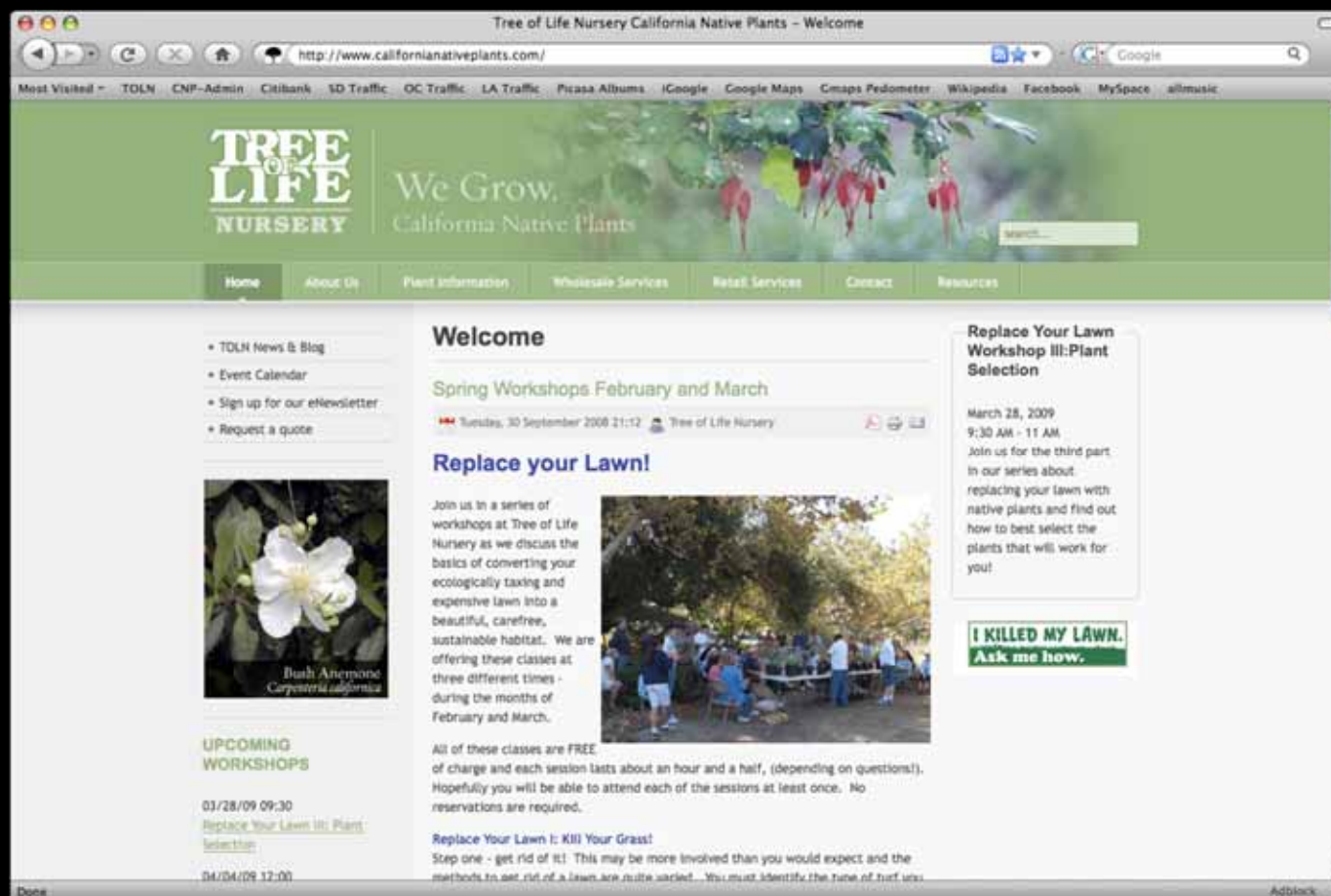




We Grow.



- Ecological Restoration
- 'California Friendly'
Landscape Plants



www.CaliforniaNativePlants.com

















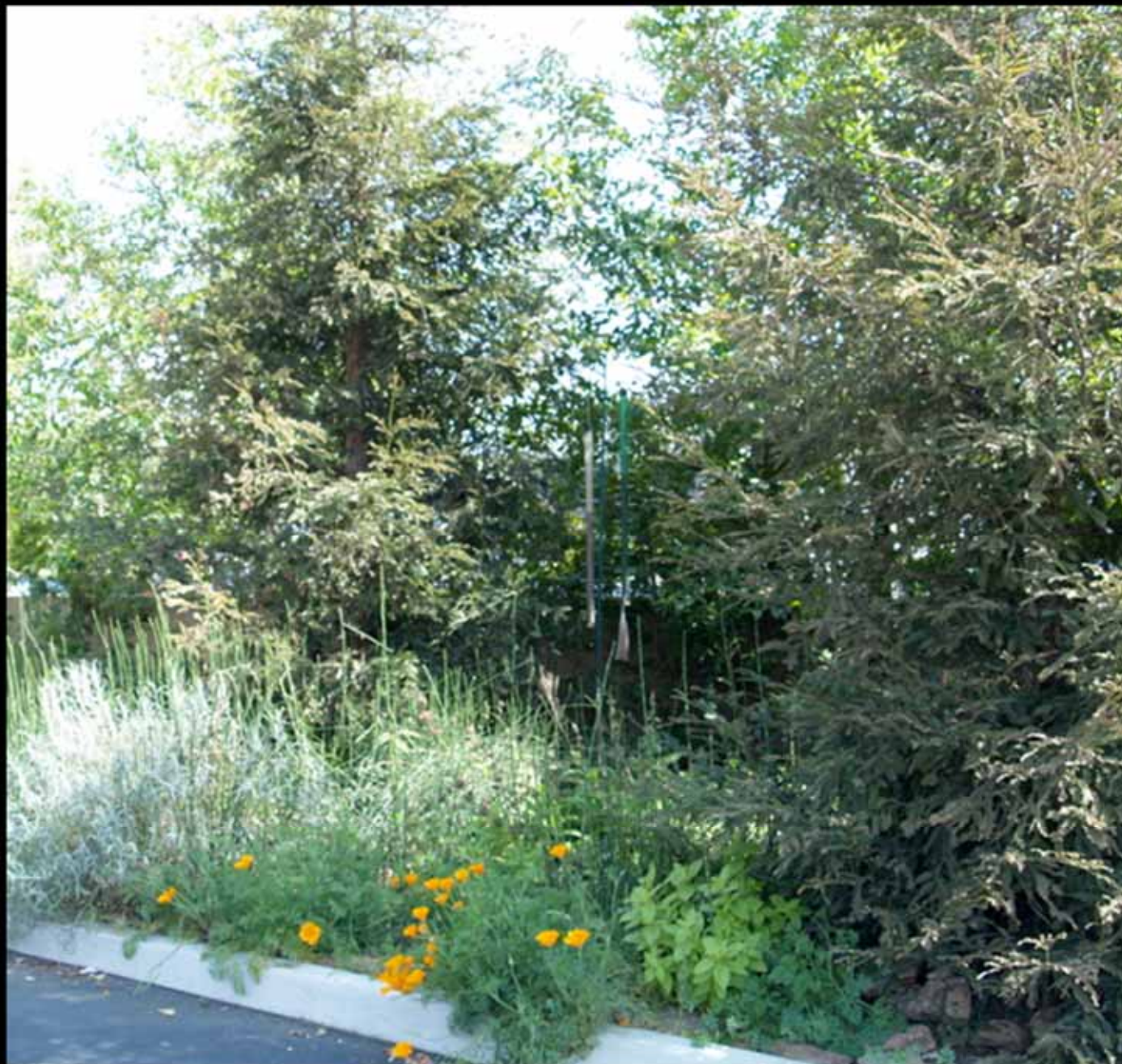
Ceanothus

Appropriate Grouping



Compare with a planter of California native plants. All of these are low-water use plants.



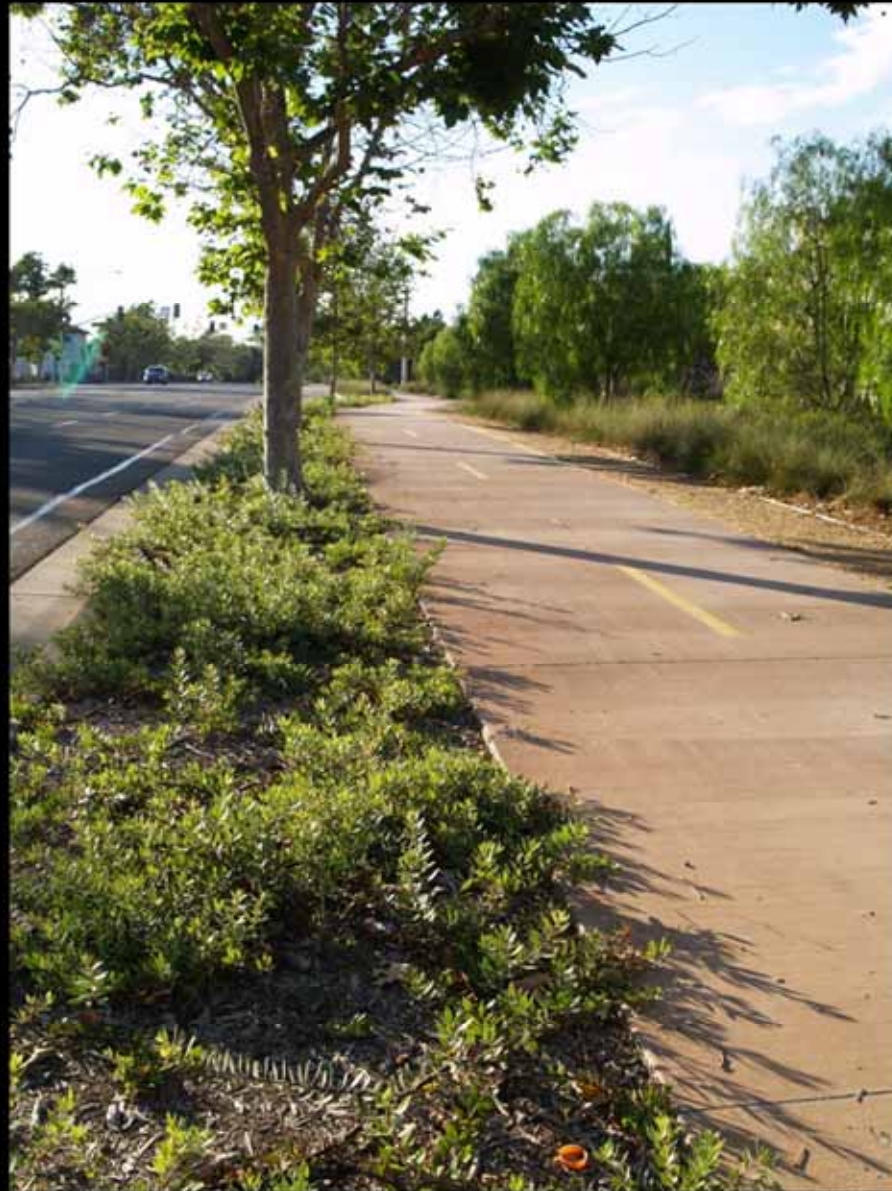






Acorn Naturalists, Tustin, CA





Arctostaphylos 'Pacific Mist'

A bit of 'Sage' advice...



Manzanita = *Arctostaphylos*!

Ecology



A pattern of relations between organisms and their environment.

Greek:

oikos - 'house, dwelling place, habitation'

logia - 'study of'

