



PLANTING FOR WILDLIFE: SELECTED NATIVE PLANTS FOR
WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Acer macrophyllum - Big Leaf Maple. Large deciduous tree (too large for most home gardens but ideal for parks or nature centers). Seeds, buds, and flowers eaten by House Finches, Goldfinches, Black-headed Grosbeak and other seed eating birds.

Alnus rhombifolia - White Alder. Large, fast growing deciduous riparian tree. Seeds eaten by various Finches, particularly Goldfinches.

Aquilegia formosa var. truncata - Red Columbine. Excellent border plant for woodland effect. Attracts hummingbirds which serve as its primary pollinator.

Arctostaphylos spp. - Manzanita. A large variety of short to medium height shrubs are available for general wildlife cover. Fruit eaten by birds and mammals. Hummingbirds use flowers.

Atriplex lentiformis ssp. breweri - Coastal Quail Brush. Excellent conservation plant, tolerates poor soil. Seeds eaten by small mammals and birds. Also serves as important cover plant providing general protection and nest sites for low-nesting birds.

Baccharis pilularis consanguinea - Coyote Brush. Excellent cover plant, dense foliage.

Ceanothus spp. - Ceanothus. Some of our most attractive cultivated shrubs providing good general wildlife cover.

Cercocarpus betuloides - Mountain Mahogany, and C. minutiflorus - San Diego Mountain Mahogany. Two important chaparral plants for good general wildlife cover. Seed eaten by birds and small mammals.

Encelia californica - California Encelia. Easy, fast growing subshrub. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals.

Eriogonum fasciculatum - California Buckwheat. Good low cover. Seeds eaten by birds and small mammals.

Galvezia speciosa - Island Bush Snapdragon. Good low cover. Showy accent plant in small clumps. Hummingbirds use red tubular flowers.

Heteromeles arbutifolia - Toyon. Outstanding wildlife plant and slope stabilizer. General tall shrub cover. Fruits eaten by many birds including California Quail, Northern Mockingbird, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Western Bluebird, and Black-headed Grosbeak.

Isomeris arborea - Bladderpod. Very drought tolerant. Flowers most of year. Seeds eaten by finches, sparrows, and doves. Bright yellow flowers occasionally visited by hummingbirds.

Keckiella cordifolia - Heart-leaved Penstemon. Vining shrub, good in shade. Flashy red flowers. Hummingbirds.

Lonicera subspicata - Chaparral Honeysuckle. Deciduous vining shrub with attractive orange berries eaten by many birds.

Mimulus cardinalis - Scarlet Monkey Flower. Low, herbaceous perennial spreading readily by underground root stocks. Good in partial shade. Red flowers attract hummingbirds.

Mimulus longiflorus - Bush Monkey Flower and **M. puniceus** - Red Bush Monkey Flower. Good mixed in with low shrub cover. Profuse bloomers. Hummingbirds.

Myrica californica - Pacific Wax Myrtle. Large attractive fragrant tree. Waxy coated fruit and its seed eaten by variety of birds.

Penstemon centranthifolius - Scarlet Bugler. Small herbaceous perennial. Showy in bloom. Hummingbirds attracted to its red tubular flowers.

Penstemon spectabilis - Showy Penstemon. Tall flower spikes, abundant bloom, lavender-purple flowers used occasionally by hummingbirds.

Pinus spp. - Pine. Seeds eaten by many birds and mammals. Mature trees provide shelter and nest sites.

Platanus racemosa - Western Sycamore. Large riparian tree. Seeds eaten by various finch species. Mature trees provide nest sites for raptors and cavity nesting birds.

Populus fremontii - Fremont Cottonwood. Large native tree in riparian habitats. Flower buds eaten by numerous birds. Raptor nest sites.

Prosopis juliflora var. torreyana - Mesquite. Deep rooted deciduous shrub with attractive yellow flowers. Seeds eaten by birds and small mammals.

Prunus ilicifolia - Hollyleaf Cherry. Good for general tall cover. Lush green growth, very drought tolerant, showy white flower clusters and attractive fruits eaten by birds and mammals.

Quercus agrifolia - Coast Live Oak. As mature tree one of most valuable for wildlife. Acorns eaten by wide variety of birds and mammals. Nesting substrate for many bird species large and small. Foraging habitat for many insect eating birds.

Rhamnus californica - Coffeeberry and R. crocea ilicifolia - Hollyleaf Redberry. Good for tall shrub cover. Many birds eat fruit.

Rhus integrifolia - Lemonadeberry. One of the best and most dependable species for general wildlife cover including bird nesting substrate. Birds eat fruit. Deep network of fleshy roots provides good slope stabilization.

Rhus laurina - Laurel Sumac. Great tall shrub cover. Many bird species nest in it. Many birds eat flower buds and fruit.

Ribes spp. - Currants and Gooseberries. Several species of low to medium shrubs. Do well in shade. Attractive fruits eaten by many birds and mammals. Hummingbirds use flowers of R. malvaceum, R. speciosum, and R. sanguineum.

Rosa californica - California Wild Rose. Outstanding for low shrub cover. Forms protective thickets for nesting birds.

Rubus ursinus - California Blackberry. Great protective cover. Fruits eaten by many birds and mammals.

Salix spp. - Willow. Important wildlife plant in wetland habitats for general cover and nest sites. Flowers and buds eaten by various finches. Foraging habitat for insect eating birds.

Salvia spp. - Sages. Many good low shrub cover species. Seeds eaten by birds and mammals. Hummingbirds visit S. mellifera, S. apiana, S. greggii, and S. clevelandii.

Sambucus mexicana - Elderberry. Outstanding wildlife shrub. Good as cover. Fruit eaten by a very long list of birds and mammals.

Solanum xantii - Purple Nightshade and S. douglasii - White Nightshade. Low shrubs. Fruit eaten by many birds and mammals.

Trichostema lanatum - Woolly Blue Curls. Beautiful accent shrub. Showy, profuse bloomer. Heavily used by Hummingbirds.

Umbellularia californica - California Bay Laurel. Good tall shrub to tree size depending upon conditions.

Vitis girdiana - Desert Grape. Great cover for shelter and bird nest sites. Fruit eaten by long list of birds and mammals.

Zauschneria californica - California Fuchsia. Great small accent shrub. Profuse bloomer. Bright red flowers. A Hummingbird favorite.