Gardening and Landscaping Resources

Gardening Advice

Master Gardeners	(951) 683-6491 x231 www.ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG
Master Composters	(951) 486-3200 www.rcwaste.org/
Riverside Garden Council and Community Gardens	(951) 394-3793, https://riversidegardencouncil.org/
Ca Rare Fruit Growers - Inland Empire Chapter	http://crfg-ie.org/
California Native Plant Society, Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter	http://riverside-sanbernardino.cnps.org/

Gardens and Demonstrations

LandUse Learning Center 4500 Glenwood Dr., Riverside 92501	(951) 683-7691 www.rcrcd.org/#Landuse_Learning_Center
Waterwise Community Center & Garden 4594 San Bernardino St., Montclair 91763	(909) 626-2711 www.cbwcd.org
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711 Grow Native Nursery at RSABG	(909) 625-8767 www.rsabg.org
Theodore Payne Foundation for Native Plants 10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352 (North of LA)	(818) 768-1802 www.theodorepayne.org
Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts 5131 Carnelian St., Alta Loma, 91701	(909) 980-0412 www.malooffoundation.org
UCR Botanic Gardens University of California, Riverside Campus 92521	(951) 784-6962 www.gardens.ucr.edu

Native Plant Nurseries

If you live at the edge of wildlands, please request plants and seeds that were produced from local seed.

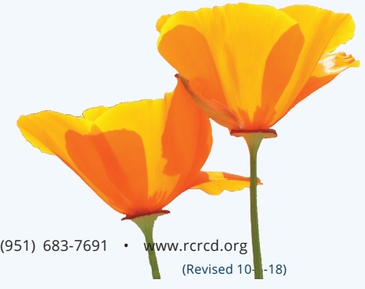
Grow Native Nursery at RSABG (above)	
Mockingbird Nursery, Riverside	(951) 780-3571 www.mockingbirdnursery.com
Tree of Life Nursery, San Juan Capistrano	(949) 728-0685 www.californianativeplants.com
El Nativo Growers, Azusa	(626) 969-8449 www.elnativogrowers.com
Las Pilitas Nursery, Escondido	(805) 438-5992 www.laspilitas.com
Back to Natives Restoration, Santa Ana	(949) 481-9090 www.backtonatives.org/nursery
Moosa Creek Nursery, Valley Center	(760) 749-3216 www.moosacreeknursery.com

Websites

SoCal Yard Transformation	www.socalyardtrans.com/
California Native Plant Society	www.cnps.org
California Invasive Plant Council	www.cal-ipc.org
National Wildlife Federation: Backyard Habitat	www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat
Pollinator Resource Center	www.xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center/
UC Integrated Pest Management Online	www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/
California Oak Foundation	www.californiaoaks.org

Plant Databases

Be Water Wise: So Cal Water Agencies	www.BeWaterWise.com
CalFlora	www.calflora.org
CALSCAPE plant guide	www.calscape.org
USDA Plants	www.plants.usda.gov



Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District 4500 Glenwood Dr., Bldg. A, Riverside, CA 92501 • (951) 683-7691 • www.rcrcd.org
(Revised 10-18)

Urban Area
of the LandUse Learning Center

During your visit, use these lists to check off the plants that you like.

The **Urban Area** includes four themed yards and an Arbor Trail with plants that use little to moderate amounts of water. The yards demonstrate ways to help sustain natural resources in urban and suburban ecosystems. Each yard has a small water feature with moving water that attracts birds.

The wooden arbors serve as doorways between Yards 1, 2 and 3.

1 Habitat Garden

The Habitat Garden provides food, water, and shelter for urban-adapted wildlife, such as birds, lizards and pollinators, including butterflies and bees. Many of the plants serve as host plants for butterfly larvae or provide nectar for butterflies and nectar-eating birds, especially hummingbirds. The plants are adapted to seasonal irrigation; their main growing season follows the winter rains. Many become dormant during the hot, dry conditions of summer.

The yard is graded to capture runoff, which reduces the flow of rain water into storm drains and increases the amount of water that infiltrates into the soil and percolates into underground water basins (aquifers). Runoff water becomes available for the plants at the edge of the basin, which reduces the amount of water needed for irrigation.

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Achillea millefolium	Common Yarrow	California native
	Anisacanthus thurberi	Chuparosa	
	Antigonon leptopus	Coral Vine	
	Asclepias species	Milkweed varieties	Monarch butterfly food
	Buddleja davidii & cultivars	Butterfly Bush	
	Buddleja 'Lochnich'	Butterfly Bush	
	Caesalpinia pulcherrima	Red Bird-of-Paradise Bush	
	Caryopteris x clandonensis	Bluebeard	
	Chilopsis linearis	Desert Willow	California native
	Eleocharis species	Eleocharis	Local native
	Encelia californica	California Encelia	Local native
	Epilobium canum (AKA: *Zauschneria canum)*	California Fuchsia	Local native
	Eriogonum thurberi	Thurber's buckwheat	
	Gaillardia x grandiflora	Blanket Flower	
	Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon (yellow berry variety)	Local native
	Juncus xiphioides	Iris-leaved Rush	Local native
	Keckiella antirrhinoides ssp. *antirrhinoides*	Yellow Bush Penstemon	Local native
	Lantana camara cultivars	Spreading Lantana	
	Nepeta x faassenii	Catmint	
	Oenothera elata	Hooker's Evening Primrose	Local native
	Romneya coulteri	Matilija Poppy	Local native
	Rudbeckia hirta	Black-Eyed Susan	Central US native
	Salvia clevelandii	Cleveland Sage	California native
	Salvia canariensis	Canary Island Sage	
	Salvia greggii	Autumn Sage	
	Salvia x jamensis	Salvia varieties	Southwest US native
	Sphaeralcea ambigua	Apricot Mallow	Local native
	Trichostema lanatum	Woolly Blue Curls	Local native
	Vitex agnus-castus	Chaste Tree	

2 Native and Cultivar Garden

The **Native Plant and Cultivar Garden** incorporates California native plants and cultivated varieties (*cultivars) of natives. This combination creates visual interest throughout the year. These plants are well adapted to the local climate and soil conditions. This garden requires little water and maintenance.

Many native plants become dormant from summer through fall to survive dry conditions. Alternately, they grow during our mild, wet winters, rather than during the long days of summer, as do most non-native, irrigated landscape plants. For this reason, consider grouping plants according to their watering needs (hydrozoning) when planting.

The variety of plants provides shade and habitat for urban-adapted birds and beneficial insects. The interior trail is composed of permeable decomposed granite which provides for water infiltration, aquifer replenishment, and reduced runoff.

Note: Cultivar names are within single quotes after the scientific name, e.g., *Ceanothus* 'Concha'.

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Abutilon palmeri	Indian Mallow	California native
	Agave species	Agave	Southwest US native
	Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Howard McMinn'	Howard McMinn Manzanita	California native cultivar
	Archtostaphylos 'Ray Hartman'	Ray Hartman Manzanita	California native cultivar
	Baccharis pilularis 'Pigeon Point'	Pigeon Point Coyote Brush	California native cultivar
	Carpenteria californica	Bush Anemone	California native
	Ceanothus 'Concha'	Concha Ceanothus	California native cultivar
	Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	Ray Hartman Ceanothus	California native cultivar
	Ceanothus 'Wheeler Canyon'	Wheeler Canyon Ceanothus	California native cultivar
	Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud Tree	California native
	x Chitalpa tashkentensis 'Pink Dawn'	Pink Dawn Chitalpa Tree (Desert willow x Catalpa)	Intergeneric hybrid of a Ca. native
	Dudleya pulverulenta	Chalk Dudleya	Local native
	Echinocactus grusonii	Golden Barrel Cactus	California native
	Epilobium canum	California Fuchsia	California native
	Galvezia speciosa	Island Bush Snapdragon	California native
	Hesperaloe parviflora	Red Yucca	Southwest US native
	Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon (red berry variety)	California native
	Keckiella antirrhinoides	Yellow Bush Penstemon	Local native
	Mimulus aurantiacus var. *longiflorus*	Yellow or Hairy Bush Monkeyflower	Local native
	Parkinsonia 'Desert Museum'	Hybrid Palo Verde Tree	California native cultivar
	Passiflora edulis	Passion Fruit Vine	Non-native. Butterfly food plant
	Penstemon cultivars	Penstemon	California native cultivars
	Quercus agrifolia	Coast Live Oak Tree	Local native
	Salvia clevelandii	Cleveland Sage	California native
	Salvia greggii	Autumn Sage	Southwest US native
	Salvia x 'Trident'	Trident Sage	Hybrid cross of three Ca. natives

*Cultivar: a cultivated race or variety of a plant that has been created or selected intentionally because of its decorative or useful characteristics. It usually retains those characteristics when propagated and is distinct from similar plants.

Wildlife: Invite urban-adapted wildlife into your yard, such as birds, butterflies, bees (important pollinators) and lizards.

- Provide at least one dependable source of water. Birds like moving water (fountains, creeks), water sources at differing heights, and water in a shallow bath (1-2 inch depth) for cooling. Moving water is attractive to birds.
- Provide a variety of plants, especially native plants and those that mature at different times of the year. Different birds eat different kinds of foods: fruits, seeds and nuts, nectar from flowers, insects.
- Grow plants of varying heights: low growing groundcovers, mid-level trees and shrubs, large trees, both deciduous and evergreen. Evergreen trees provide year-round shelter for wildlife.
- Eliminate the use of toxic pesticides and grow a variety of native plants to support biological pest controls: beneficial insects, birds, and bats.
- Native gardens complement, rather than damage neighboring native habitat.
- Prevent the invasion of exotic weed species into habitat lands by eliminating them from landscaping.

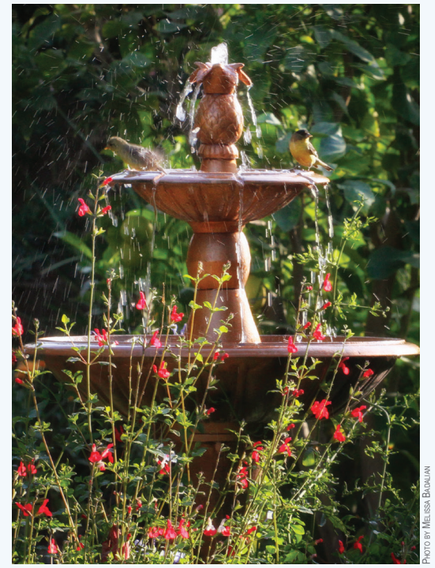


Photo by Melissa Baldwin

For information about Inland Empire birds and "birdscaping", see *Backyard Birds of the Inland Empire,* by Sheila Kee, available at libraries or for sale at RCRCD.

Plants:

- Remove invasive plant species from your landscape and grow native and water-wise plants. Native plants provide the best habitat for pollinators, especially for a variety of bees. For information about gardening with native plants see: http://www.rcrcd.com/Publications/WildAboutNatives.pdf, or pick up a free copy of *Wild about Natives* at RCRCD. Also visit the California Native Plant Society's website: www.cnps.org .
- For fire-wise landscaping: mow, instead of disk. Leave plant trimmings on the soil surface for erosion control. For information about creating defensible space around a home, see *Living on the Edge of the Urban-Wildland* interface at: http://www.rcrcd.com/Publications/LivingOnTheEdge.pdf or pick up a free copy at RCRCD.

Energy: Reduce, reuse and recycle.

- Plant the right tree for the right location. For shade: plant on the south and west side of a structure.
- Grow your own food to reduce inputs of fertilizers and pesticides and the need for shipping.

For more information about sustainable living, request a free copy of *Help Create a Sustainable Community* from RCRCD at (951) 683-7691 ext 207.

Sustainable Practices

The Urban Area demonstrates practices that help conserve natural resources in urban outdoor spaces, such as yards, campuses, and streets. To create more sustainable *urban ecosystems*, we can design and retrofit outdoor spaces so that they function more like natural ecosystems that filter and clean water and air, decompose waste and cycle nutrients, regulate disease carrying organisms, control flooding and erosion, moderate weather extremes, contribute to climate stability, foster pollination, generate soils and renew their fertility, and more. The following practices improve the functioning of urban ecosystems.

Water:

- Select local native plants or low water-use plants and group them according to their watering needs (hydrozone).
- Maintain efficient irrigation systems that apply water directly to the soil surface in measured amounts to penetrate throughout the rooting area of the plant.
- Grade yards to capture runoff water for plant use and to increase water infiltration into underground aquifers. Retention basins (rain gardens) prevent pollutants, such as pesticides, from flowing away in runoff and washing into storm drains that drain to local streams and ultimately to the ocean.
- Use "smart" controllers (timers) to apply the correct amount of water for weather conditions, slope, soil type, and plant needs.
- Reduce turf areas to what you truly need for play or pet areas, and replace with low water-use groundcovers or habitat-landscaping.
- If you need turf in your yard, use low water-use varieties.
- Spread mulch to capture moisture, reduce evaporative water loss from the soil surface, and to shade out weeds.

Low-volume sprayer in Yarrow.

Compost bins by raised beds.

Soil: Build and protect productive topsoil.

- Use compost as a nutrient-rich soil amendment to renew soil. Recycling yard wastes into compost eliminates the flow of green waste to the landfill.
- Spread yard wastes, mulch, or compost to cover the soil surface. Mulch prevents erosion, shades out weeds, and creates a beneficial environment for soil-dwelling organisms. Mulch helps maintain soil moisture, tilth, and fertility.
- Prevent erosion and subsequent sedimentation by maintaining plants. Plant roots hold soil in place, and plant tops reduce the impact of raindrops that dislodge soil particles.

Land Use:

When developing property, use low-impact development (LID) practices. LID begins with site planning that first identifies critical natural resource areas for preservation. LID techniques include maintaining natural drainage flow paths, minimizing land clearance, clustering buildings, and reducing impervious surfaces. If building near waterways, refer to the publication *Conserving Waterways* at http://www.rcrcd.com/Publications/ConservingWaterways.pdf or pick up a free copy at RCRCD.

- Plan to preserve as many native plants and large trees as possible. Identify and fence-off important trees or shrubs to prevent them from being damaged by construction equipment during grading. In areas that do not have to be graded, mow or clear surface vegetation, leaving root systems, without disturbing the valuable topsoil. When developing orchards, disk in future tree rows, across slope, leaving native vegetation as a cover crop for erosion control.

3 Mediterranean Garden

The Mediterranean Courtyard Garden demonstrates order and geometry in the use of plants, paving, and pathways. Yard 3 incorporates design and ideas from classic Mediterranean gardens.

The garden incorporates a relatively large hardscape (hard surfaces, such as concrete), which reduces the amount of area that needs to be watered. The row of Bay trees along the fence line provides a windbreak for people and shelter for birds.

Arbutus unedo, Strawberry Tree

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name
	Anigozanthos	Kangaroo Paws
	Antigonon leptopus	Coral Vine
	Arbutus unedo	Strawberry Tree
	Arbutus 'Marina'	Hybrid Strawberry Tree
	x Chitalpa tashkentensis 'Pink Dawn'	Pink Dawn Chitalpa Tree
	Cistus purpureus	Orchid Rockrose
	Cistus x skanbergii	Pink Rockrose
	Cistus 'Sunset'	Sunset Rockrose
	Distictis buccinatoria	Blood Red Trumpet Vine
	Laurus nobilis	Sweet Bay (hedgerow)
	Lavandula angustifolia	English Lavender
	Lavandula dentata	French Lavender
	Lavandula 'Goodwin Creek Grey'	Goodwin Creek Lavender
	Lavandula x intermedia 'Provence'	Provence Lavender
	Lavandula stoechas 'Otto Quast'	Otto Quast Spanish Lavender
	Myrtus communis 'Compacta'	Dwarf Myrtle
	Osmanthus fragrans	Sweet Olive
	Punica granatum 'Nana'	Dwarf Pomegranate
	Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary
	Salvia officinalis	Garden Sage
	Trachelospermum jasminoides	Star Jasmine Vine

x Chitalpa tashkentensis 'Pink Dawn', Pink Dawn Chitalpa


Laurus nobilis, Sweet Bay

4 Sustainable and Edible Garden

The Sustainable* Backyard provides food for people and wildlife. The patio is covered overhead to create a comfortable outdoor room. Vegetables and herbs are grown to provide fresh, flavorful, and nutritious foods that require no transportation to and from market, thus reducing the use of fuel and resulting air pollution.

The variety of plants supports diverse beneficial insects that help control pests. Yard trimmings are composted. The composted waste becomes a rich soil amendment, eliminating the need for purchased, chemical fertilizers. Mulch shades out weeds, reduces evaporation from the soil surface, and creates an environment that is beneficial for soil life and healthy soil. Different types of irrigation systems (pop-up sprayers, rotors, gears, drip) and controllers (timers) demonstrate ways to improve watering efficiency.

Punica granatum 'Wonderful', Pomegranate split open, exposing fruit for wildlife.

Trees and Vines

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name
	Casimitoa edulis	Suebelle sapote
	Clytostoma calystegioides	Lavender Trumpet Vine
	Fortunella crassifolia	Meiwa kumquat
	Prunus dulcis 'All-in-One'	All-in-One Almond
	Pyrus pyrifolia 'Tsu Li'	Asian Pear

See additional kinds of fruit trees that are suited for the local climate in the Agricultural Area.

Hedges

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Iva hayesiana	San Diego Marsh Elder	near path
	Prunus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf Cherry	near gazebo
	Punica granatum 'Wonderful'	Pomegranate	
	Rhus integrifolia	Lemonade Berry	

Lawn Alternatives

Lawn-substitutes demonstrate regional naitve alternatives to traditional turf. The lawn-alternatives require less water and less energy to maintain than commonly used turf varieties.

Achillea millefolium Common Yarrow
Forms dense mats. For meadow: mow twice per year. For lawn look: mow every month. Tolerates some foot traffic when short. Flowers rise up to 2 feet above leaves.

Carex pansa Dune Sedge
A creeping sedge, reaching 8-12" high. Water approximately twice per month. For meadow: leave un-mowed. Trim with a string trimmer 2 - 3 times per year for a thicker, neater look.

Carex praegracilis Clustered Field Sedge
Tolerates drought, inundation, poor soils, heat, cold, and foot traffic. Fine textured, dark leaves reach 1-foot high. Freely spreading. Mow or string-trim into a lawn, or leave un-mowed for meadow look.

Mixed Meadow includes native grasses, sedges, and wildflowers.

**Sustainable:* Natural resources are used in ways so they are neither depleted nor damaged, optimizing the use of resources and minimizing adverse impacts. Simply put: sustainability is using resources so they last forever.

Arbor Trail: Trees suitable for inland Southern California valleys

The **Arbor Trail** includes trees that are selected for low water-use and low hazard for urban areas. Trees create urban forests that cool and clean the air, reduce runoff, and provide wildlife habitat. In the Artbor Trail, learn about ways to plant and maintain trees and to provide shade for your home and yard.

Chionanthus retusus, Chinese Fringe Tree

Deciduous

Deciduous trees lose their leaves during the cold winter, going dormant. When placed with the sun in mind, deciduous trees provide cooling shade during summer but do not block out the warming sunrays during winter.

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	
	Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy'	Forest Pansy Eastern Redbud	
	Chionanthus retusus	Chinese Fringe Tree	
	Chitalpa taskentensis 'Pink Dawn'	Pink Dawn Chitalpa	
	Ginkgo biloba	Maidenhair Tree	
	Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistache	
	Platanus racemosa	California Sycamore	Local native
	Tabebuia chrysotricha	Golden Trumpet Tree	
	Tabebuia impetiginosa	Pink Trumpet Tree	
	Quercus engelmannii	Engelmann or Mesa Oak	Local native
	Quercus lobata	Valley Oak	California native

Evergreen

Evergreen trees do not lose their leaves during winter, so provide year-round screening. They are used for windbreaks, privacy, sound barriers, air-filters and for wildlife cover.

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Arbutus 'Marina'	Hybrid Strawberry Tree	
	Geijera parviflora	Australian Willow	
	Laurus nobilis	Sweet Bay	
	Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'	Dwarf Southern Magnolia	
	Quercus agrifolia	Coast Live Oak	Local native

Understory Plants

✓	Scientific Name	Common Name	
	Carex praegracilis	Clustered Field Sedge	Local native sedge
	Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud	California native: shrub, small tree
	Mimulus aurantiacus var. *puniceus*	Red Bush Monkey Flower	Local native perennial shrub
	Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	Local native grass