California Native Perennial Plants for Our Area

These plants will grow with little to no summer water once established.

**Dry Sunny Areas**

### Small – Under 3 feet:

- **Artemisia douglasiana**
  - California Mugwort
  - Perennial herb
- **Asclepias cordifolia**
  - Purple Milkweed
  - Perennial herb
- **Ceanothus foliosus x thryrisiflorus var. griseus**
  - Centennial Wild Lilac
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Clematis lasiantha**
  - Pipestem
  - Perennial vine
- **Dactylis glomerata**
  - California Oat Grass
  - Perennial bunchgrass
- **Epilobium canum**
  - California Fuchsia ‘Calistoga’
  - Perennial herb
- **Epilobium canum var. latifolium**
  - Cal. Fuchsia ‘Everett’s Choice’
  - Perennial herb
- **Festuca idahoensis**
  - Idaho Fescue
  - Perennial bunchgrass
- **Lewisia cotyledon**
  - Cliff Maids ‘Elise’
  - Perennial herb
- **Monardella villosa**
  - Coyote Mint
  - Subshrub, evergreen
- **Salvia leucophylla**
  - Purple Sage ‘Point Sal’
  - Shrub, semi-evergreen
- **Salvia splendens**
  - Hummingbird Sage
  - Perennial herb, semi-evergreen
- **Sisyrinchium bellum**
  - Blue-eyed Grass
  - Perennial herb

### Medium – 3 feet to 6 feet:

- **Arctostaphylos densiflora**
  - Vine Hill Manzanita ‘Howard McMinn’
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Baccharis pilularis**
  - Coyote Bush
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Cirsium occidentale var. venustum**
  - Venus Thistle
  - Biennial herb
- **Dendromecon rigidula**
  - Bush Poppy
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Eriogonum giganteum**
  - St. Catherine’s Lace
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Muehlenbergia rigens**
  - Deer Grass
  - Perennial bunch grass

### Large – 6 feet and over:

- **Arbutus menziesii**
  - Pacific Madrone
  - Tree, evergreen
- **Cercis occidentalis**
  - Western Redbud
  - Shrub, deciduous
- **Fremontodendron californicum**
  - Flannel Bush
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Heteromeles arbutifolia**
  - Toyon
  - Shrub, evergreen
- **Quercus kelloggii**
  - Black Oak
  - Tree, deciduous
## Dry Shady Areas

### Small - Under 3 feet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Arctostaphylos (uva ursi x nummularia)</em></td>
<td>Manzanita ‘Emerald Carpet’</td>
<td>Shrub, evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Asclepias cordifolia</em></td>
<td>Purple Milkweed</td>
<td>Perennial herb, winter dormant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Asclepias eriocarpa</em></td>
<td>Kotolo, Monarch Milkweed</td>
<td>Perennial herb, winter dormant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Asclepias speciosa</em></td>
<td>Showy Milkweed</td>
<td>Perennial herb, winter dormant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Clinopodium douglasii</em></td>
<td>Yerba Buena</td>
<td>Perennial herb, creeping groundcover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cynoglossum grande</em></td>
<td>Hound’s Tongue</td>
<td>Perennial herb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dryopteris arguta</em></td>
<td>Wood Fern</td>
<td>Perennial fern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Festuca californica</em></td>
<td>California Fescue</td>
<td>Perennial bunchgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fragaria vesca</em></td>
<td>Woodland Strawberry</td>
<td>Perennial herb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Heuchera micrantha</em></td>
<td>Alum Root</td>
<td>Perennial herb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iris douglasiana</em></td>
<td>Douglas Iris</td>
<td>Perennial geophyte (bulb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iris macrosiphon</em></td>
<td>Ground Iris</td>
<td>Perennial geophyte (bulb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Iris sp.</em></td>
<td>Pacific Coast Iris Hybrids</td>
<td>Perennial geophyte (bulb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lewisia cotyledon</em></td>
<td>Cliff Maids ‘Elise’</td>
<td>Perennial herb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lonicera hispidula</em></td>
<td>Pink Honeysuckle</td>
<td>Perennial vine, sprawling to twining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pentagramma triangularis</em></td>
<td>Goldback Fern</td>
<td>Perennial fern</td>
</tr>
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### Medium–3 feet to 6 feet:

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<tr>
<td><em>Acmispon glaber</em></td>
<td>Deerweed</td>
<td>Subshrub, deciduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Frangula californica</em></td>
<td>California Coffeeberry</td>
<td>Shrub, evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mimulus aurantiacus</em></td>
<td>Sticky Monkey Flower</td>
<td>Shrub, deciduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Polystichum munitum</em></td>
<td>Sword Fern</td>
<td>Fern, evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ribes sanguineum</em></td>
<td>Red-flowering Currant</td>
<td>Shrub, deciduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ribes speciosum</em></td>
<td>Fuchsia-flowering Currant</td>
<td>Shrub, deciduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ribes viburnifolium</em></td>
<td>Evergreen Currant</td>
<td>Shrub, evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Symphoricarpos albus var. laevigatus</em></td>
<td>Snowberry</td>
<td>Shrub, evergreen</td>
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### Large– 6 feet and over:

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<tr>
<td><em>Cercis occidentalis</em></td>
<td>Western Redbud</td>
<td>Shrub, deciduous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Garrya flavescens</em></td>
<td>Ashy Silk Tassel</td>
<td>Shrub, evergreen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Quercus lobata</em></td>
<td>Valley Oak</td>
<td>Tree, deciduous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information in this document is from various sources including Milo Baker Chapter CNPS, Sonoma County Master Gardeners, Jepson eFlora, California Native Plants for the Garden (Bornstein et al. 2005), California Flora Nursery, Las Pilitas Nursery. Many of these plants are available at the Milo Baker October plant sale, California Flora Nursery, and at the Agriculture Department at Mendocino College plant sales. Updated 4/19/15 D. Jeffery.