



## Sacramento Native Plants • Rain Garden Zones and Uses

Version 1.0

Grow Water  
Sacramento, CA  
www.growwater.org  
info@growwater.org  
(916) 668-0875

| Type      | Common Name                   | Latin Name               | Height    | Water Needs | Rain Garden Zone       | Plant Type | Human Uses      | Sun/Shade |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Annual    | Slender buckwheat             | Eriogonum gracile        | 14-16"    | L,M         | Dry,Terrace            | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Bulb      | Mariposa Lily                 | Calochortus luteus       | 2'        | L,M         | Top                    | D          | EDB*            | FS        |
| Bulb      | Soap plant                    | Chlorogalum pomeridianu  | 2'        | L,M         | Top, Terrace           | D          | EDSH*,CRFT,MED* | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Clustered field sedge         | Carex praegracilis       | 1-2'      | L, M        | Terrace                | D          | CRFT            | PS        |
| Perennial | Fleabane daisy                | Erigeron foliosus        | 10-12"    | L, M        | Terrace, Top           | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Wild strawberry               | Fragaria vesca           | 4-6"      | M,H         | Terrace                | E          | EDF             | PS,FSH    |
| Perennial | Foothill Iris                 | Iris macrosiphon         | 4-8"      | L,M         | Terrace, Top           | D          |                 | PS        |
| Perennial | Coyote mint                   | Monardella villosa       | 12"       | L,M         | Terrace                | D          | MED,CUL         | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Common Yarrow                 | Achillea millefolium     | 1-3'      | L,M         | Terrace,Top            | E          | MED             | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Maidenhair fern               | Adiantum jordanii        | 18"       | L-H         | Terrace                | E          | CRFT            | FSH       |
| Perennial | Indian Hemp                   | Apocynum cannabinum      | 3-4'      | L,M         | Terrace                | D          | CRFT            | FS        |
| Perennial | California mugwort            | Artemisia douglasiana    | 3-5'      | L,M         | Terrace, Top, Domes    | E          | MED             | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Purple Milkweed               | Asclepias cordifolia     | 2-3'      | L,M         | Terrace,Dry            | D          | CRFT            | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Narrowleaf milkweed           | Asclepias fascicularis   | 2-3'      | L,M         | Terrace,Dry            | D          | CRFT            | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Showy milkweed                | Asclepias speciosa       | 3-6'      | L,M         | Terrace,Dry            | D          | CRFT            | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Canyon Dudleya, Liveforever   | Dudleya cymosa           | 3-6"      | L,M         | Dry,Terrace            | E          | EDL*            | PS,FSH    |
| Perennial | California fuchsia            | Epilobium canum          | 1-1 1/2'  | L,M         | Dry,Terrace            | D          | MED             | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Wright's Buckwheat            | Eriogonum wrightii       | 18"-3'    | L,M         | Dry,Terrace            | D          |                 | FS        |
| Perennial | Woolly sunflower              | Eriophyllum lanatum      | 1-2'      | L           | Dry,Terrace            | E          |                 | FS        |
| Perennial | Western goldenrod             | Euthamia occidentalis    | 2-4'      | M,H         | Dome, Bottom, Terrace  | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Blue Flax                     | Linun lewisii            | 2-3'      | L,M         | Terrace,Dry            | D          | EDS,CRFT,MED    | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Sticky monkeyflower           | Mimulus aurantiacus      | 3-5'      | L,M         | Terrace                | D          | EDL,DYE         | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Red monkeyflower              | Mimulus cardinalis       | 1 1/2 -3' | H           | Dome, Bottom           | D          | EDL,DYE         | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Foothill penstemon            | Penstemon heterophyllus  | 1-3'      | L,M         | Terrace, Top           | E          | MED             | FS        |
| Perennial | Pine Bee Flower               | Phacelia imbricata       | 1-2'      | L           | Top                    | D          |                 | FS        |
| Perennial | Lippia                        | Phyla nodiflora          | 2-4"      | M           | Terrace                | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | California goldenrod          | Solidago californica     | 1'        | M,H         | Terrace, Domes, Bottom | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Creeping Sage                 | Salvia sonomesis         | 6-12"     | L,M         | Top                    | E          | CUL             | PS        |
| Perennial | California figwort, Bee Plant | Scrophularia californica | 4-6'      | M           | Terrace                | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | California skullcap           | Scutellaria californica  | 5-12"     | M           | Terrace                | E          | MED             | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Blue-eyed grass               | Sisyrinchium bellum      | 1'        | M           | Terrace,Domes          | D          | MED             | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | California aster              | Symphotrichum chilense   | 2'        | L,M         | Terrace                | D          |                 | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Narrowleaf Mule ears          | Wyethia angustifolia     | 20"       | L,M         | Terrace,Top            | D          | EDL*,EDS,MED    | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Santa Barbara Sedge           | Carex barbarae           | 1-2'      | M,H         | Bottom, Domes          | E          | CRFT            | FS,PS     |



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|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------|----------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| Perennial | Common rush                     | <i>Juncus effusus</i>               | 18-24" | M,H         | Bottom, Domes        | E          | CRFT           | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Deer grass                      | <i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>          | 5'     | L,M         | Top,Terrace          | E          | CRFT           | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Alkali sacaton                  | <i>Sporobolus airoides</i>          | 2'     | M           | Terrace              | D          |                | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Nodding Needlegrass             | <i>Stipa cernua</i>                 | 2'     | L           | Top                  | D          |                | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Purple needlegrass              | <i>Stipa pulchra</i>                | 2'     | L           | Top                  | D          | EDS            | FS,PS     |
| Perennial | Harvest brodiaea                | <i>Brodiaea coronaria</i>           | 6-8"   |             |                      |            | EDB*           | FS        |
| Shrub     | California Broom                | <i>Acmispon glaber</i>              | 2-4'   | L           | Top                  | D          | N2             | FS        |
| Shrub     | Whiteleaf Manzanita             | <i>Arctostaphylos visida</i>        | 4-12'  | L           | Top                  | E          | EDF*,CRFT, MED | FS        |
| Shrub     | Coyote brush                    | <i>Baccharis pilularis</i>          | 4-8'   | L           | Top                  | E          | MED            | FS        |
| Shrub     | Western Spicebush               | <i>Calycanthus occidentalis</i>     | 8-15'  | M,H         | Terrace              | D          | MED            | PS,FSH    |
| Shrub     | Buck brush                      | <i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i>           | 5-10'  | L           | Top                  | E          | MED,CRFT,N2    | FS        |
| Shrub     | Mountain Mahogany               | <i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i>       | 10-15' | L           | Top                  | E          | N2             | FS        |
| Shrub     | Hoary coffeeberry               | <i>Frangula tomentella</i>          | 6-10'  | L, M        | Top,Terrace          | E          | MED            | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Silver Bush lupine              | <i>Lupinus albifrons</i>            | 3-5'   | L           | Top                  | E          | N2             | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Mock Orange                     | <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>         | 6-8'   | M           | Terrance             | D          | MED,CRFT       | PS,FSH    |
| Shrub     | Holly-leaf Redberry             | <i>Rhamnus ilicifolia</i>           | 5-15'  | L,M         | Terrace, Top         | E          |                | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Skunkbush, Squaw bush           | <i>Rhus trilobata</i>               | 3-6'   | L,M         | Terrace, Top         | D          | EDF*           | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | California wild rose            | <i>Rosa californica</i>             | 3-6'   | L,M         | Terrace,Top          | SE         | MED,EDF*       | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | California blackberry           | <i>Rubus ursinus</i>                | 8-15'  | M           | Terrace              | SE         | EDF            | PS        |
| Shrub     | Snow drop bush                  | <i>Styrax redivivus officinalis</i> | 5-7'   | L,M         | Terrace              | D          |                | PS        |
| Shrub     | Snowberry                       | <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>         | 3-4'   | M           | Terrace              | D          | MED,CRFT       | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | California Brickellbrush        | <i>Brickellia californica</i>       | 2-3'   | L           | Dry                  | D          |                | FS        |
| Shrub     | Yerba Santa                     | <i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>     | 3-6'   | L,M         | Terrace,Dry          | E          | MED            | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Nude Buckwheat                  | <i>Eriogonum nudum</i>              | 3-6'   | L,M         | Dry,Terrace          | D          |                | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Toyon                           | <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>      | 8-15'  | L           | Dry,Terrace          | E          | EDF*,CUL,DYE   | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Hibiscus                        | <i>Hibiscus lasiocarpus</i>         | 4-6'   | M,H         | Dome,Bottom, Terrace | D          |                | FS,PS     |
| Shrub     | Bush Beardtongue, Gaping Penste | <i>Keckiella breviflora</i>         | 3-4'   | L           | Top                  | D          |                | PS,FSH    |
| Tree      | California buckeye              | <i>Aesculus californica</i>         | 10-30' | L, M        | Top                  | D          | EDN*, CRFT     | FS/PS     |
| Tree      | Buttonbush (buttonwillow)       | <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>    | 3-15'  | M,H         | Bottom, Dome         | D          | CRFT           | FS/PS     |
| Tree      | Western redbud                  | <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>          | 15-25' | L, M        | Terrace, Top         | D          | EDFL,CRFT      | FS/PS     |
| Tree      | Blue oak                        | <i>Quercus douglasii</i>            | 30-50' | L, M        | Top                  | D          | EDN*, CRFT     | FS/PS     |
| Tree      | Interior live oak               | <i>Quercus wislizenii</i>           | 30-80' | L, M        | Top                  | E          | EDN*, CRFT     | FS/PS     |
| Tree      | Blue Elderberry                 | <i>Sambucus mexicana</i>            | 10-25' | L,M         | Terrace, Dry, Domes  | D          | EDF*EDFL,MED   | FS,PS     |
| Vine      | California pipe vine            | <i>Aristolochia californica</i>     | 10-40' | L, M        | Terrace, Top         | D          |                | FS/PS     |



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|------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Vine | Virgin's Bower        | Clematis sp.        | 10-30' | L, M        | Terrace, Top     | D          |            | PS        |
| Vine | Pink Honeysuckle      | Lonicera hispidula  | 8-12'  | L, M        | Terrace, Top     | D          | EDF*       | PS        |
| Vine | Chaparral honeysuckle | Lonicera interrupta | 8-15'  | L, M        | Terrace, Top     | D          | EDF*       | PS        |
| Vine | California wild grape | Vitis californica   | 10-20' | L, M        | Terrace          | D          | EDF, CRFT  | PS        |

**KEY**

**RAIN GARDEN ZONES DESCRIPTION**

|                    |                   |                        |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Water Needs</b> | <b>Plant Type</b> | <b>Human Uses</b>      |
| L= Low             | D = Deciduous     | *= Requires Processing |
| M=Moderate         | E = Evergreen     | EDF = Edible Fruit     |
| H= High            |                   | EDL = Edible Leaf      |
|                    |                   | EDS = Edible Seeds     |
|                    |                   | EDSH = Edible Shoots   |
|                    |                   | EDN = Edible Nuts      |
|                    |                   | EDB = Edible Bulb      |
|                    |                   | EDFL = Edible Flowers  |
|                    |                   | CUL = Culinary         |
|                    |                   | Dye = Dye              |
|                    |                   | CRFT = Crafts          |
|                    |                   | MED = Medicinal Uses   |
|                    |                   | N2 = Nitrogen Fixation |

**Top** = Area beside, but not IN the basin. Can be high on the bank, but above the level of inundation.

**Terrace** = Mid bank area of a basin. Level, or slightly above the level of inundation

**Domes** = A mound within the bottom of a basin that raises the crown of the plant level to, or slightly above the level of inundation.

**Bottom** = The bottom level of the basin. Plants accustomed to seasonal inundation are best planted here.

Note: This is an evolving list and we welcome feedback! Please thoroughly research, and consult with experts, regarding plants listed as edible, medicinal, etc., particularly any with an \* beside the description, before attempting to harvest, process, use or eat ANY of the aforementioned species. Grow Water does not take any responsibility regarding the use or misuse of any of the aforementioned plants. If you have any questions, comments, or experiences to share, please contact Grow Water at: info@growwater.org.