

Chatsworth Native Plants



Sunflowers



Bush Sunflower

aka

Encelia Californica

Flowers bloom
from April to July
growing up to 3
feet in height.



Common Sunflower

aka

Helianthus annuus

1 ½ to 8 feet tall seen along roadsides



Canyon Sunflower

Venegasia carpesioides

prefers locations in moist canyons grows 3-4 feet tall



Collect flower heads after the petals have wilted...allow to dry



Lilac Trees

Lilac aka **Greenbark Ceanothus**

aka *Ceanothus spinosus*

Has deep purple/blue flowers that fade to white when mature

California Buckwheat

aka

Eriogonum fasciculatum



**Green all year round
with
white flowers that
bloom in
April through July
turning
rusty brown in the fall.
Found on slopes**

Buckwheat Early Spring





Chamise in bloom along rocky slope in Chatsworth

Chamise



Chamise

Aka

Greasewood

Aka

*Adenostoma
fasciculatum*

**Green all year.
Bright green tips
that become white
flowers, bloom in
April through July
turning rusty brown
in the fall.**



California Peony

aka

Paeonia californica

One of the
earliest
flowers;
very low to
the ground

Sticky Monkeyflower

aka
Diplacus aurantiacus



Diplacussis puniceus

Red Monkey flower is found primarily in the Santa Susana Mountains

The yellow is more common and has been used along freeway slopes as native plant reseeding.

The leaves feel sticky

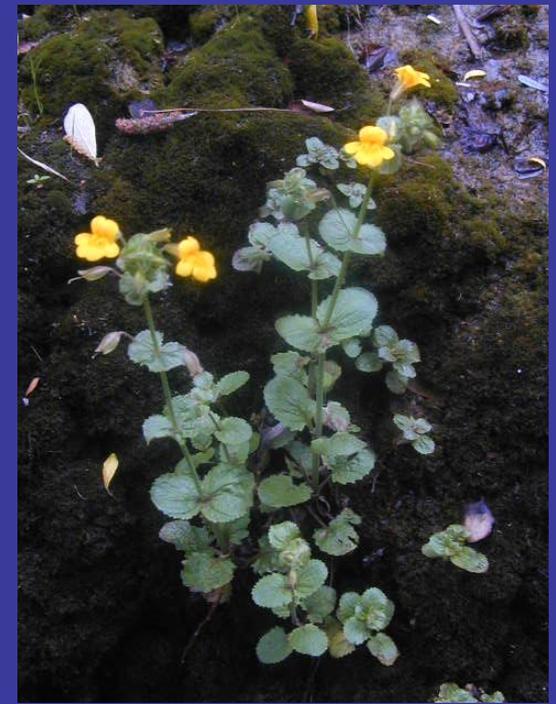


Creek Monkeyflower

Found along the
creek where
mossy and moist.

*Flowers look similar
but leaves are a
different shape.*

aka
***Erythranthe
guttata***

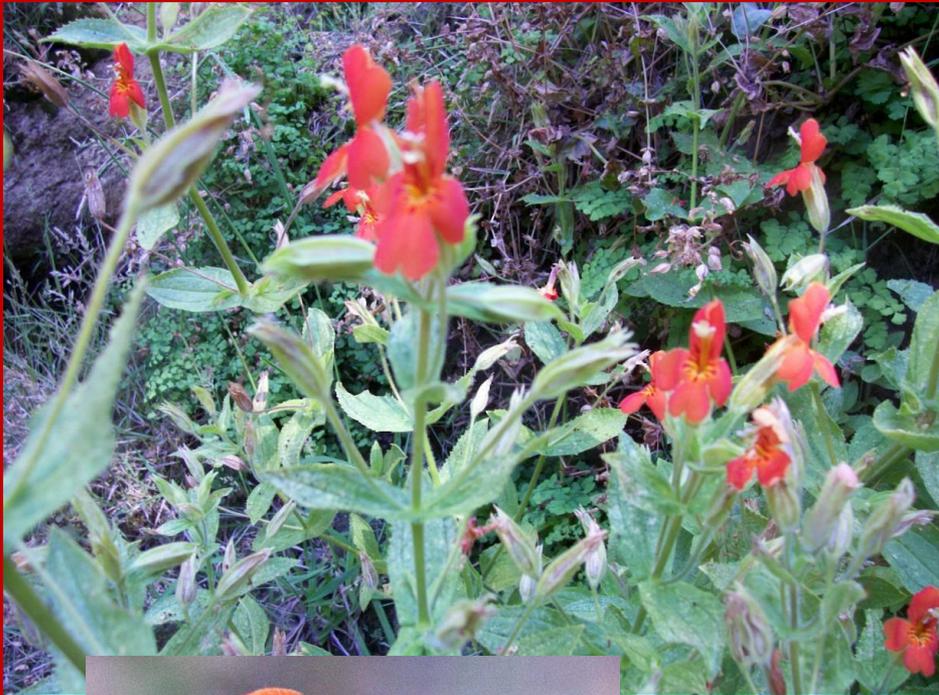


Scarlet Monkeyflower

Found along the creek
where mossy and moist.

*Flowers look similar but
leaves are a different
shape.*

aka
***Erythranthe
cardinalis***



Stinging Lupine

Aka

Lupinus hirsutissimus

**Don't touch !
Less common
than bush
lupine**



Jimson Weed / Datura

aka

Datura stramonium



Used carefully by Native Americans in rituals; we should simply consider it poisonous. Large white flowers, avoid touching the plant!

Blue Larkspur / Parry's Larkspur



aka

Delphinium Parryi ssp. Parryi

Found in Upper Miranda Loop area in
good rain years. Blooms
mid-spring.

Phacelia – many varieties



Caterpillar phacelia



Phacelia parryi

Wishbone



*Mirabilis
californica*

very common
bush through out
park; flowers out
mid-day, spring
blooming

Black Sage *Salvia Mellifera*





Chia

Salvia columbariae

**A native american food;
high in protein, easy to
carry**

California Everlasting



Flowers may smell like maple syrup; deserves the “Everlasting” in its name for long term blooms

Pseudognaphalium californicum

Santa Susana Tarplant



Deinandra minthornii

Endangered, lives in sandstone rocks usually over 1000 feet elevation, Chatsworth to Malibu only; blooms near August.

Slender Tarplant



aka
Deinandra fasciculata



Deerweed

Acmispon glaber



Showy Penstemon

Penstemon spectabilis

Colors range from
pink to blue.



Elegant Clarkia

Clarkia Unguiculata

Blooms in Late Spring,
Very complex flowers



Bush Mallow



Malacothamnus fasciculatus,

Tall woody bush to 5 feet, typically blooms in late spring

Chaparral Currant



Ribes indecorum

White-flowered currant, usually blooms in January



Wild Hyacinth

**more commonly,
Blue Dick**

Dichelostemma capitatum

**Early Spring,
can fill a field with their
nodding tops**

Owl's Clover



- We only see this plant after a good rainy season

aka
Castilleja exserta

White Snapdragon

Antirrhinum Coulterianum



Late Spring, can be fairly striking -

Brickell Bush



**Tender
leaves in
spring
change to
dried out
bush in
summer**

Brickellia Californica



Padres Shooting Star

Primula clevelandii

- Early spring, normally in a damp meadow; out 2-4 weeks after good rains.

Sun Cup



- *Most Recent New Find in the Park*

Eulobus californicus

Desert Marigold



Baileya pleniradiata

Indian Tobacco

used by the Indians as a narcotic
but also smoked as a treatment for
asthma

Lobelia inflata



Grown easily by scattering seeds.

Wild Cucumber aka Manroot



Echinocystis

The manroots are perennial plants, growing from a large tuberous root.

California Wild Rose

rosa californica

- Only One Color
- Only One Pattern
- But it's Pretty Nice!



Prickly Phlox

Linanthus Californicus

Early spring, see on
Miranda Loop or
Devils Slide



Turkey Mullein *Croton Setiger*



Grows in mounds spreading out as it gets larger. Can grow to two feet in diameter, but stays low to the ground.

Coyote Bush

Baccharis pilularis



Dudleya Chalk Live Forever



During the spring following the rains with fresh growth they appear green as they pull water from the rocks, but turn gray-blue and the outer leaves dry and appear pink.

*Dudleya
pulverulenta*



Lance Leaf Dudleya

Seen only in spring after decent rains; find these on Miranda loop on the east side, in rocky areas like their Chalk Liveforever relative, but they generally are not seen together.

Dudleya lanceolata



Summer



These plants disappear in the fall and winter



Spring

Heart-leafed Penstemon



Found near the
creek



Keckiella cordifolia

Dark green leaves
with orange/red
flowers...





Hollyleaf Red Berry

Looks like small live oak leaves has small berries

*Rhamnus
ilicifolia*



*Prunus
ilicifolia*

Hollyleaf Cherry

Looks like small live oak leaves but shiny
Fruit hangs from the branch like a cherry.

Humboldt Lily (not in SSPSHP)

Lilium humboldtii



- Found in Riparian areas, in deep shade, generally near oak trees; flowers 2 to 4 inches, stalks to 6 feet high. Striking. (Found in Devil Canyon about two miles north of SSPSHP, Malibu).

Trichostema lanatum



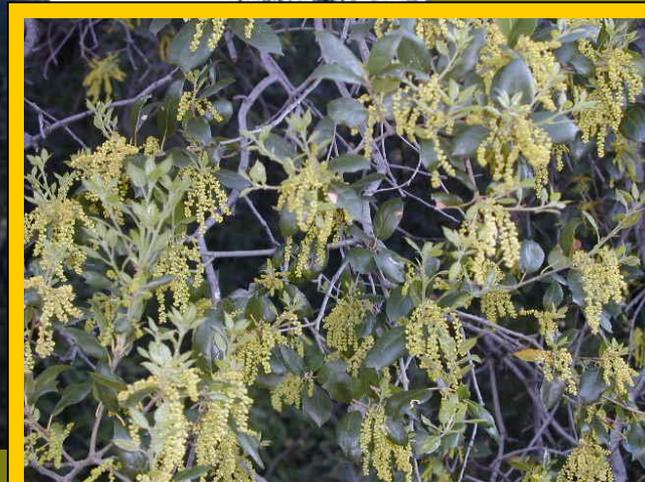
Woolly Blue Curls

- A haphazard compendium of a plant if you ever saw one...yes its woolly,
- Blue (to purple), with bluer flowers with long spikes reaching out. Woolsey Canyon to Malibu Creek Park.



Quercus agrifolia

Coast Live Oak



Oak tree blooms appear like tassels all over the tree dropping tiny flower debris

Scrub Oaks and Coast Live Oaks



Quercus turbinella

Scrub Oaks have a rounder acorn and a rounder flatter leaf. Coast Live Oak leaves are slightly curled and the acorns are long.



Quercus agrifolia

Valley Oaks and Coast Live Oaks



Quercus lobata

The Valley Oaks....aka White Oaks
have a broad flat leaf



Quercus agrifolia

Coast Live Oaks have a smaller
rounded leaf with sharp points

TOYON

Also known as the Christmas Berry since they bloom close to the holiday; white flowers are also attractive before berries arrive.



*Heteromeles
arbutifolia*

Long leaves...
The leaf color
ranges from a
gray green to
bright green.



Black Elderberry (previously Mexican Elderberry)

Early white flowers turn
into masses of purple fruit
in early summer.



Sambucus nigra

Our Lords Candle

was *yucca whipplei*; now
Hesperoyucca whipplei



Soap Plant



Chlorogalum pomeridianum

Dodder/Witches Broom



Dodder, Cuscuta

is a parasitic annual plant that infests many crops, ornamentals, native plants, and weeds.

Hummingbird Sage

- Found Riparian areas, in Sage Ranch, at SSFL and in lower Topanga Canyon / Malibu area.
- Flower stalk can be a foot or so long.

Salvia spathacea



Nightshade

Purple Nightshade

Solanum xanti



White Nightshade



Solanum douglasii

Mariposa Lilies

Late spring,
pictured is a
Butterfly
Mariposa
Lily.



Calochortus venustus

Yellow Mariposa Lily



- Less common than the white Mariposa lily in our area. Perfect yellow gold color.

Calochortus luteus

Plummers Mariposa Lily

Rare, Striking, blooms late spring



Calochortus plummerae

Poison Oak



**LEAVES OF
THREE...
LET IT BE**

Shiny green leaves in clusters of three. Leaves start out bright green adding some red on the edges through the fall. Once the leaves have fallen, the tall woody stems can still cause a reaction.



Toxicodendron diversilobum

Native Weeds



Stinging Nettles

Urtica dioica



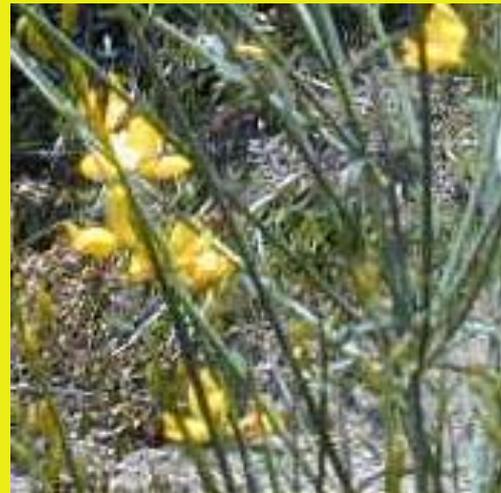
Horehound

Marrubium vulgare

Spanish Broom



Non-Native Found on canyon slopes along highways



Invasive and considered a fire hazard. Targeted for removal by State Park weed abatement.

Grow to 5 feet tall with bright yellow flowers.

Spartium junceum

Castor Bean

non-native weed grows where the ground has been disturbed



**Seed pods
scatter
hundreds of
seeds. Small
plants grow
quickly into
small trees.
Seeds are
poisonous**



Ricinus communis

California Sycamore

Spanish name is Aliso; leaves are shaped like a hand. Leaves show fall colors and drop in Nov/Dec

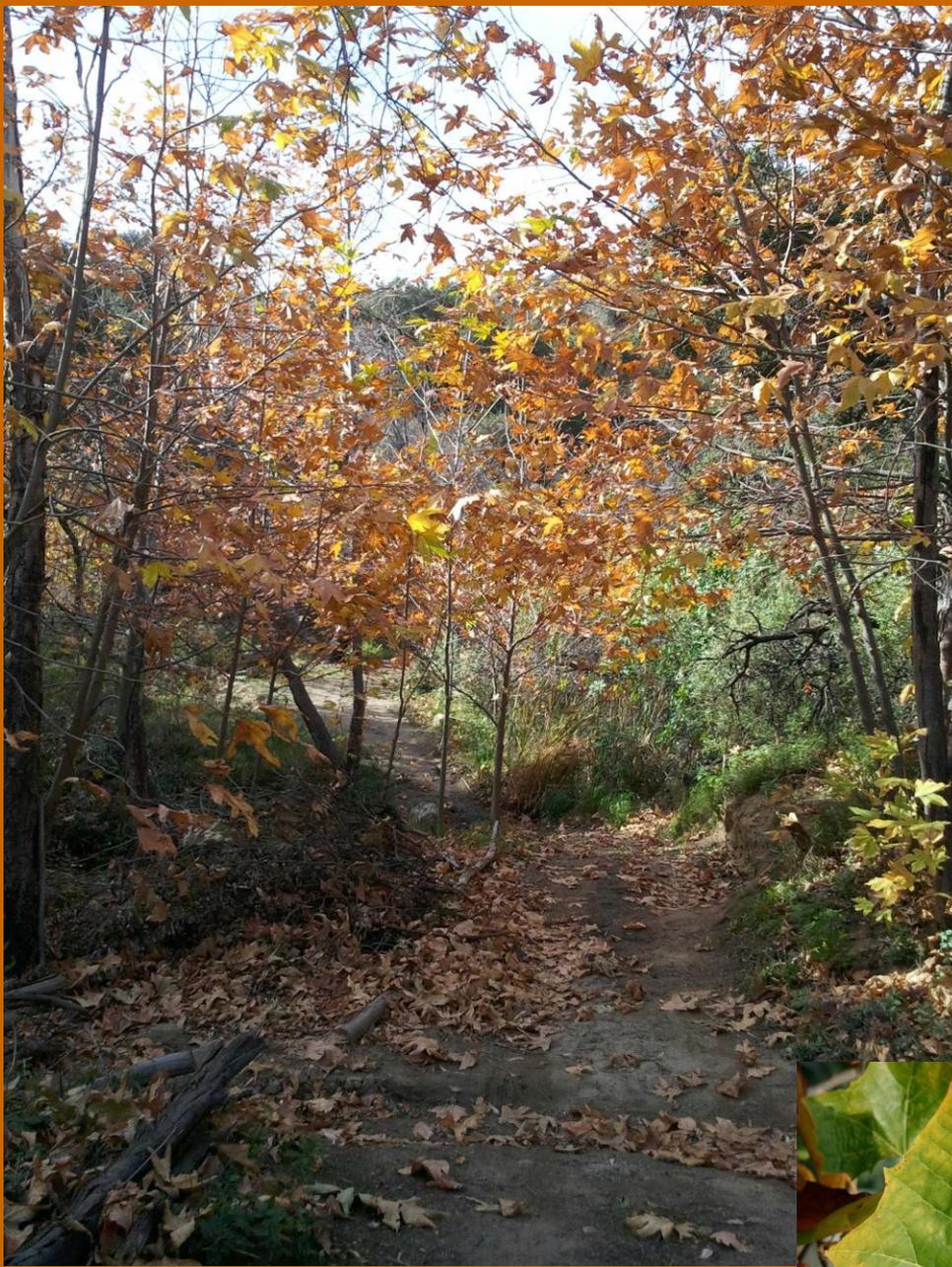


Photo: Teena Takata

Platanus racemosa

Southern California Black Walnut



A large shrub or small tree in SSPSHP

Juglans californica

Photo: Teena Takata

Golden Yarrow

Good Mini Wildlife plant



Photo: Teena Takata

Eriophyllum confertiflorum

Photos above from
Las Pilitas Nursery

White Sage

Salvia apiana, White sage is a five foot evergreen perennial. The flowers emerge in summer and are white with a little lavender.

Smudging is a cleansing ritual where the leaves of the Sage plant are burned.



Salvia apiana

Photo: Ann Vincent

Coastal Sagebrush



Artemisia californica

Photo: Ann Vincent



Photo: John Luker

Yerba Santa

The leaves have historically been used to treat asthma, upper respiratory infections and allergic rhinitis. The Chumash used it as a poultice for wounds, insect bites, broken bones, and sores.



Eriodictyon californicum

Red Stem Filaree



- Not native to California, from Eurasia
- Seed stems curl up and get stuck in your socks
- Aka: Stork's bill



Erodium cicutarium

Photos: Teena Takata

Tree Tobacco (non-native from South America)

Grows where the ground has been disturbed on hills and roadsides

Nicotiana glauca



Photo: Ann
Vincent



Common Mallow

Buttonweed, Cheeseweed

- Seeds are in cheese shaped disks.
- They have a deep thick root and they can grow to be 3 feet tall in fields and disturbed areas.
- Non native from Africa and Eurasia

Malva neglecta



Photo: Ann Vincent

Chatsworth Native Plants 2022

- This presentation was shared online on February 5th as a part of the Simi Hills Naturalist/Hike Leader Training
- Contributors/Presenters
 - Dottie Acker
 - Teena Takata
 - Ann Vincent

Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park



Simi Hills Naturalist / Hike Leader 2022 Training

Sponsored by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains

HOW MUCH: \$50 for entire series; \$15 per class (drop-ins)

HOW OFTEN: 13 session series - Sessions run from January - March

WHAT TIME: Each session runs from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WHERE: Depends upon the session

All Interested must register by Email to santasusanafriends@gmail.com

- 1/08- Native Americans in Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenter: Alan Salazar* – Fernandeno Tataviam Tribal Elder)
- 1/15 - Archaeology & Geology of the SSPSH** Location: SSFL
(*Presenter: Barbara Tejada* - California Department of Parks and Recreation Archaeologist)
- 1/22 - Critters of the Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenters: Sharon Shingai* – Herp Connection & *Cathy Schoonmaker* - National Park Service)
- 1/29 - Oak Trees of the Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenter: Rosi Dagit* - Santa Monica Mountains Resource Conservation District)
- 2/05 - Plants in the Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenters: Teena Takata & Dottie Acker* – Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park [SSPSHP] Hike Leaders)
- 2/12 - Birds of the Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenter: Ranger Frank Hoffman* – Placerita Canyon State Park & *Art Langton* - Audubon Society)
- 2/19 – Stagecoach Trail History Hike** Location: Andora entrance to the SSPSH
(*Presenter: Dottie Acker* – Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park Hike Leader)
- 2/26 – Parks of the Simi Hills & Santa Susanas** Location: SSFL
(*Presenters: Barbara Tejada* – California Department of Parks and Recreation, *Kamara Sams* – Boeing Corporation, *Elizabeth Harris* – Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains)
- 3/5 – Third Grade Field Trip Program** Location: Andora entrance to the SSPSH
(*Presenter: Dottie Acker & Sharon Shingai* – SSPSH Field Trip Program Coordinators; *Bob Dager* – SSPSH Stagecoach Educator; *TBD* – SSPSH Bird Educator)
- 3/12 - Interpretation Basics** Location: SSFL
(*Presenter: Karina Lincon* - Interpretive Specialist, California Department of Parks and Recreation)
- 3/19 & 3/26 – Choose between Hike Leader Training or Oak-Intensive Practicum** (*Featuring* Hike Leaders of the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park and the Sky Valley Volunteers)

NOTE – SSFL = Boeing - take Woolsey Canyon from Valley Circle Blvd