

# 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*



*Diplacosis 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 reseedling.

The leaves feel sticky

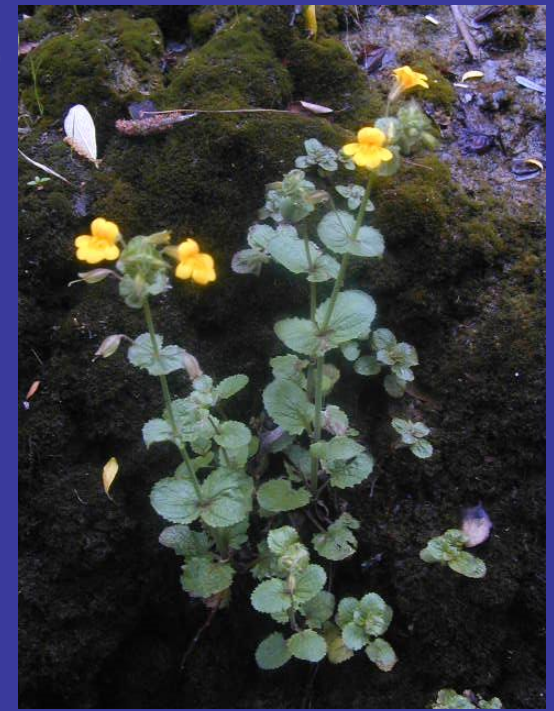


# Creek Monkeyflower

Found along the  
creek where  
mossy and moist.

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

aka  
***Erythranthe  
guttata***

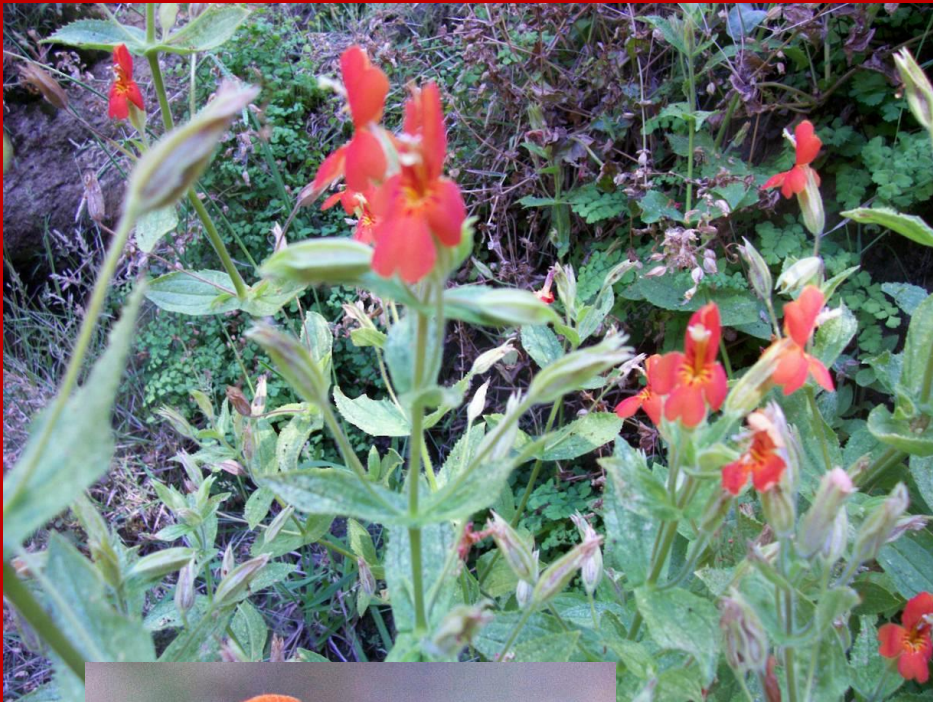


# Scarlet Monkeyflower

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**

# Everlasting



**California Everlasting**  
Leaves smell like maple syrup



**Pearly White Everlasting**  
No Smell – Tall stalks



**White Everlasting**  
leaves are gray/white and soft like a lambs ear

# Santa Susana Tarplant



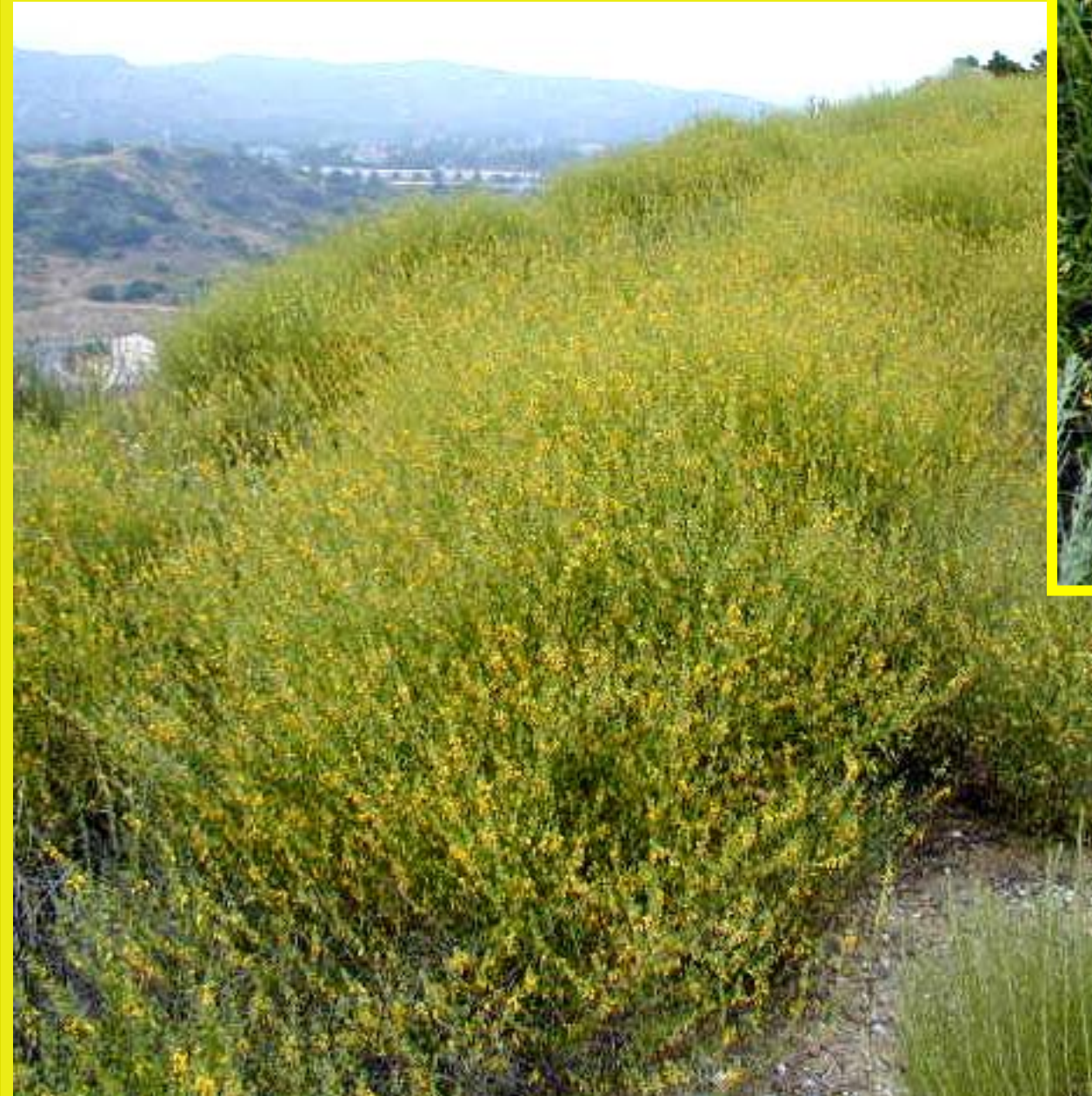
*Deinandra minthornii*

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*



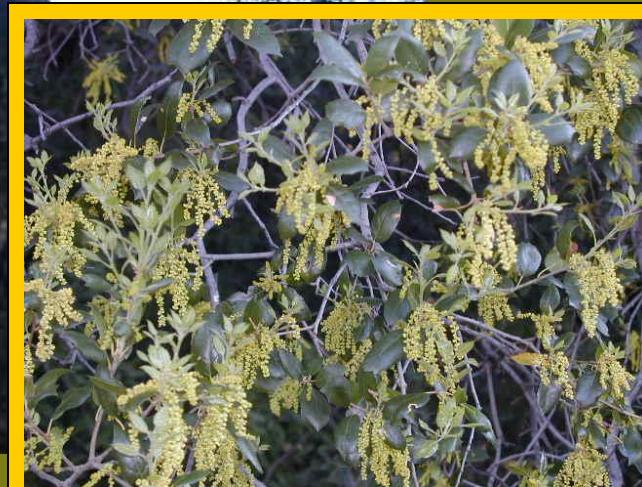
# Woolly Blue Curls

- 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



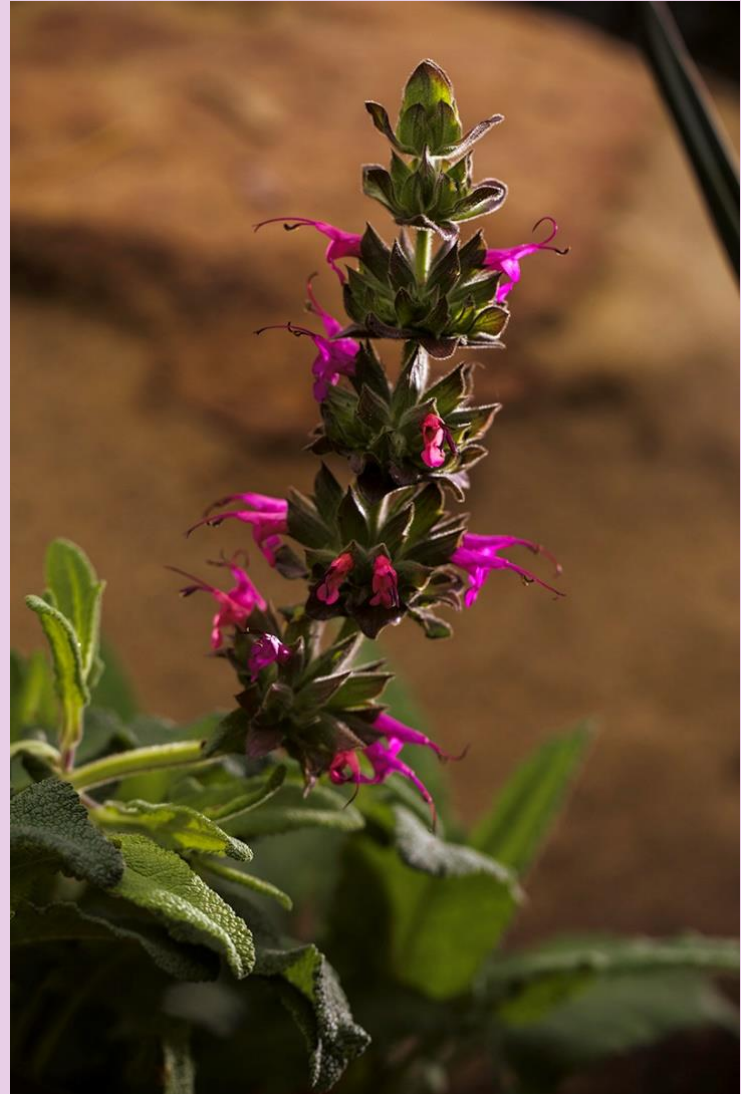
## **Dodder, *Cuscuta***

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

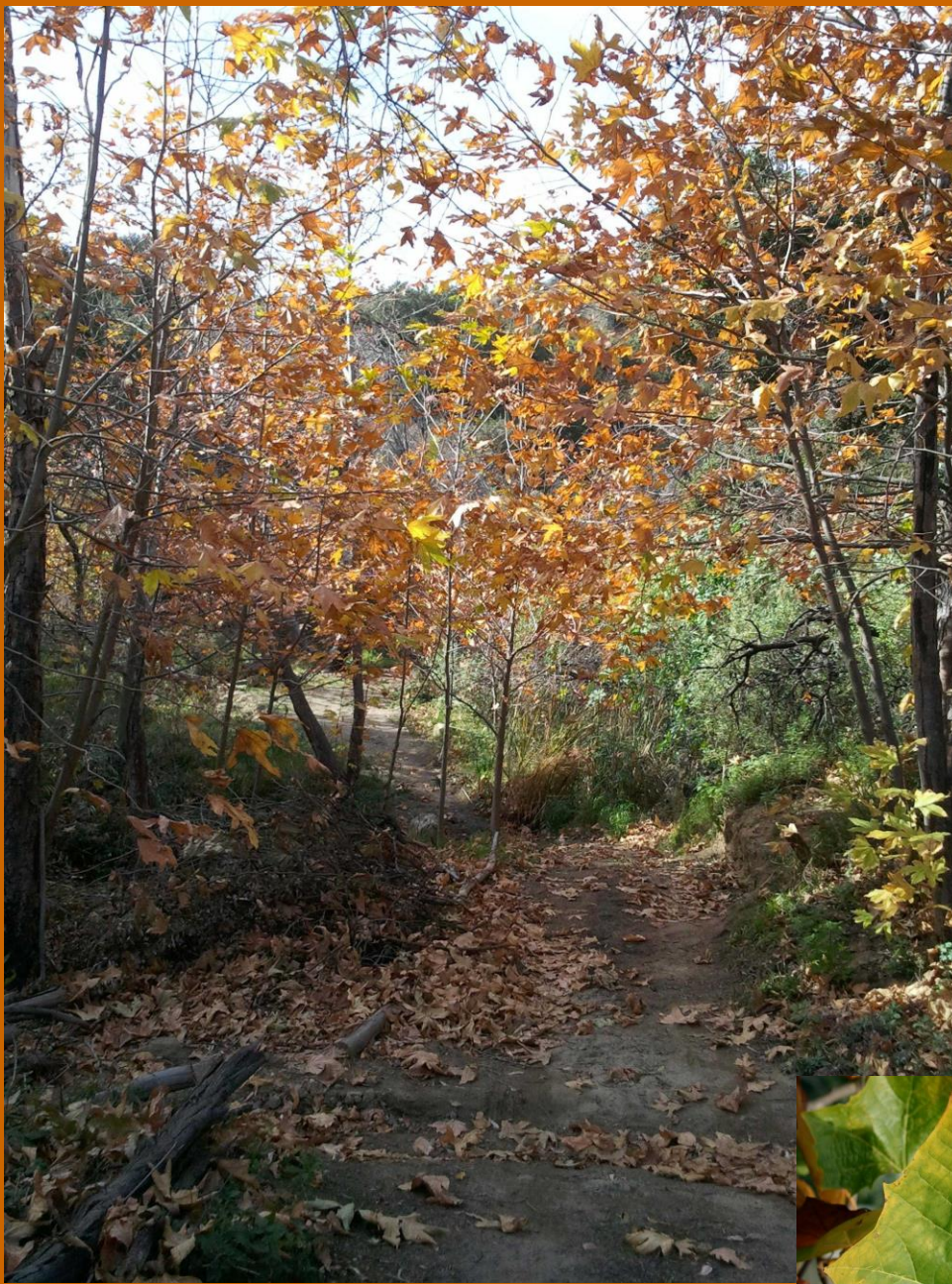


Photo: Teena Takata

***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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**