

NATIVE CALIFORNIA PLANTS FOR NATIVE SOLITARY BEES...AND OTHER POLLINATORS

From bees the size of a grain of rice all the way to those giants of the bee world, the *Xylocopa* carpenter bees, you can begin to see that bees and other native pollinators fly around us in a range of shapes and sizes! With this range it is easy to see that native pollinators would retrieve pollen and nectar in different ways. It is important to keep in mind when planting to use a variety of flowers that will provide access to this great range of pollinators. Equally important is providing food for pollinators year round. This can be achieved by keeping in mind a calendar of color when you are choosing your plants. Manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* sp.) are especially great, as they provide early flowers at the beginning of the season when fewer plants are blooming. Below are a few plants that we recommend; this of course isn't a complete list, as it doesn't even touch on the native annuals. We encourage exploration both for your interest and delight as well as the pollinators that will benefit! If it is native and you like it... give it a try, your native neighbors will likely enjoy it as well.



Perennials

Achillea sp. - Yarrow (Su)
Arctostaphylos sp. - Manzanita (W/Sp)
Dudleya sp.- Live-Forever (Sp)
Eriogonum sp.- Buckwheats (Su/F)
Eriophyllum sp- Golden Yarrow (Sp/Su)
Lotus scoparius- Deerweed (Sp)
Malacothamnus sp.
Monardella sp- Coyote Mint (Su)
Oenothera sp. - Primrose (Sp)
Penstemon sp. - California Penstemons (Sp/Su)
Salvia sp. - California Sages (Sp/Su)
Solidago californica- California Golden Rod (Su)
Sphaeralcea ambigua- Apricot Mallow- any mallow (Sp/Su)
Symphotrichum chilense - California Aster (Sp/Su)
Trichostema lanatum- Woolly Blue Curls (Su)
Verbena sp.- any Verbena (Su)

Large Shrubs and Trees

Arctostaphylos sp.- California Manzanitas (W/Sp)
Ceanothus sp.- California Wild Lilacs (W/Sp)
Ribes sp - Currants and Gooseberries (W/Sp)
Chilopsis linearis - Desert Willow (Sp/Su/F)
Mahonia nevinii - Gray Blue Bird Bush (Sp)
Sambucus mexicana - Elderberry (Su)
Salix sp. - Any Willow (Sp)
Symphoricarpos sp.- Snow berry (Sp)
Baccharis pilularis - Coyote Bush (F/W)
Cleome isomeris - Bladderpod (Sp/Su)
Cylindropuntia - Cholla cactus (Su)
Opuntia - Prickly Pear (Su)
Prunus ilicifolia - Hollyleaf Cherry (Sp)
Rhamnus californica - Coffeeberry (Sp/Su)
Senecio flaccidus - Bush Groundsel (Su)