



TOP 100 SCV-FRIENDLY PLANT GUIDE



REPLACE YOUR LAWN WITH SUSTAINABLE WATER-WISE LANDSCAPING

We've curated the top 100 California-friendly plants to inspire your landscape. Our selection includes California and local natives as well as non-native plants – all are water-efficient, once established, and are known to do well in the SCV.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

SEARCH BY:

Native or Other Low-Water Use Plants

Plant Group

(groundcover, perennial, shrub, succulent, tree)

Key Characteristics

(water and sun requirements, coverage at maturity, blooming season, wildlife benefits)

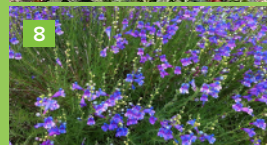
NATIVE PLANTS













A native plant is a plant that naturally occurs in an area. This plant guide offers a list of California native and Santa Clarita Valley native plants to bring nature into your garden! By brightening up your landscape with natives, you'll save water, money, time, and add value to your landscapes by cultivating a colorful and healthy habitat for pollinators, including bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Not to mention, natives are already adapted to the local climate and soil conditions, and generally require less water and maintenance than turf grass.

Check out our list of California natives and look for the ★ for Santa Clarita Valley native plants!















PERENNIAL

No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
★ 1	Blue-Eyed Grass	Sisyrinchium bellum	☹ / ☉	2	W Sp Su	🐛
2	Bush Snapdragon 'Firecracker'	Galvezia speciosa	☹ / ☉	20	W Sp Su F	🐛🐝🐌
★ 3	California Fuchsia	Epilobium canum	☹ / ☀	3	Su F	🐌🐝
★ 4	Coyote Mint	Monardella villosa	☹ / ☀☉	2	Su	🐛🐝🐌
5	Douglas Iris	Iris douglasiana	☹ / ☉	7	Sp	🐌
★ 6	Farewell To Spring	Clarkia amoena	☹ / ☀☉	1	Sp Su	🦋🐌🐝
7	Firecracker Penstemon	Penstemon eatonii	☹ / ☀	3	W Sp Su	🦋🐌🐝🐛🐝
8	Margarita Bop Foothill Penstemon	Penstemon heterophyllus 'Margarita Bop'	☹ / ☀	7	Sp Su	🦋🐝🐛🐝
★ 9	Narrow Leaf Milkweed	Asclepias fascicularis	☹ / ☀	7	Su F	🦋🐌
★ 10	Rock Phacelia	Phacelia californica	☹ / ☀☉	2	Sp Su	🐌🐝🐌
11	Wendy Alum Root	Heuchera 'Wendy'	☹ / ☉	3	Sp	🐛










★ SCV Native  Requires soil amendment (short lived in clay soil)  Cold Sensitive  Medium Water  Low Water  Very Low Water
 Full Sun  Partial Shade **W** Winter **Sp** Spring **Su** Summer **F** Fall **I** Intermittent Year-round
 Butterflies  Moths  Bees  Birds  Hummingbirds  Beneficial Insects *Coverage (sf) of individual plant at maturity



GROUNDCOVER

No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
★ 12	Common Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	☹ / ☀	4	Su	    
13	Island Pink Yarrow	Achillea millefolium 'Island Pink'	☹ / ☾	4	Sp Su	  
14	Manzanita Emerald Carpet	Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet'	☹ / ☾	28	W Sp	 
★ 15	Paprika Common Yarrow	Achillea millefolium 'Paprika'	☹ / ☀	4	Su	   

SUCCULENT

★ 16	Chalk Dudleya	Dudleya pulverulenta	☹ / ☀ ☾	1	Sp Su	  
★ 17	Coast Prickly Pear	Opuntia littoralis	☹ / ☀	7	Sp	 
18	Shaw Agave	Agave shawii var. shawii	☹ / ☾	8	W	 

TREE

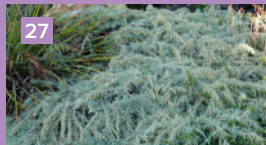
★ 19	Coast Live Oak	Quercus agrifolia	☹ / ☀	1257	W Sp	  
20	Desert Museum Palo Verde	Parkinsonia 'Desert Museum'	☹ / ☀	314	Sp	 
21	Desert Willow	Chilopsis linearis	☹ / ☀	177	Sp Su F	  
★ 22	Toyon	Heteromeles arbutifolia	☹ / ☀	79	Sp Su	 
★ 23	Western Redbud	Cercis occidentalis	☹ / ☀ ☾	79	Sp	 



NATIVE PLANTS

SHRUB

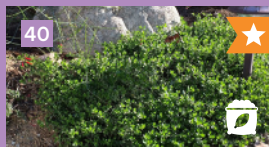
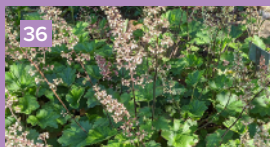
No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
24	Apricot Mallow	Sphaeralcea ambigua	☹ / ☀	7	SP SU	🦋 🌿 🐝
25	Blue Grama	Bouteloua gracilis	☹ / ☀	4	SU	🐦
26	Brittlebush	Encelia farinosa	☹ / ☀	16	W SP	🦋 🌿
27	Canyon Gray Sagebrush	Artemisia californica 'Canyon Gray'	☹ / ☯	64	SP	
28	Cedros Island Verbena	Verbena lilacina 'De La Mina'	☹ / ☯	7	W SP SU F	🦋
29	Coffeeberry	Frangula californica	☹ / ☀ ☯	50	SP SU	🦋 🌿
30	Concha California Lilac	Ceanothus 'Concha'	☹ / ☀	50	SP	🦋 🐦 🐝
31	Deer Grass	Muhlenbergia rigens	☹ / ☀ ☯	13	SU	🌿 🐦
32	Dwarf Coyote Bush	Baccharis pilularis 'Twin Peaks #2'	☹ / ☀	28	SU F	🐛
33	Heart-leaved Keckiella	Keckiella cordifolia	☹ / ☀ ☯	16	SP SU	🐦
34	Howard McMinn Manzanita	Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Howard McMinn'	☹ / ☀ ☯	38	W SP	🦋 🐦
35	Hummingbird Sage	Salvia spathacea	☹ / ☀ ☯	10	SP SU	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐦
36	Island Alumroot	Heuchera maxima	☹ / ☯	4	SP SU	🐦
37	Island Bush Poppy	Dendromecon harfordii	☹ / ☯	50	SP	🌿
38	Jelly Bean Yellow Monkey Flower	Mimulus 'Jelly Bean Yellow'	☹ / ☯	7	SP SU	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦



NATIVE PLANTS

SHRUB

No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
39	Palmer's Indian Mallow	<i>Abutilon palmeri</i>	☹ / ☯	13	Sp Su	🦋
★40	Pigeon Point Coyote Bush	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> 'Pigeon Point'	☹ / ☀	28	Su	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
★41	Red Flowering Currant	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	☹ / ☀ ☯	57	W Sp	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
42	San Miguel Island Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum grande</i> v. <i>rubescens</i>	☹ / ☀	3	Sp	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
43	Sierra Starr Fairy Duster	<i>Calliandra californica</i> X <i>eriophylla</i>	☹ / ☀	8	W Sp Su F	🐦
★44	Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	☹ / ☀ ☯	13	Sp Su	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
★45	Sticky Monkey Flower	<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	☹ / ☀ ☯	7	Sp	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
★46	Sugar Bush	<i>Rhus ovata</i>	☹ / ☀	38	Su	🦋 🌿 🐦 🐛
★47	White Sage	<i>Salvia apiana</i>	☹ / ☀	13	Su F	🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛 🐛
48	Winnifred Gilman Dark Blue Sage	<i>Salvia clevelandii</i> 'Winnifred Gilman'	☹ / ☯	33	Sp Su	🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛 🐛
★49	Woolly Bluecurls	<i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	☹ / ☀	16	W Sp	🦋 🌿 🐝 🐦 🐛
50	Yankee Point California Lilac	<i>Ceanothus griseus</i> <i>horizontalis</i> 'Yankee Point'	☹ / ☀	79	Sp Su	🦋 🐦 🐛

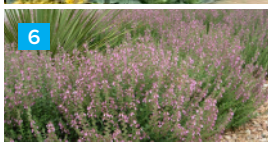
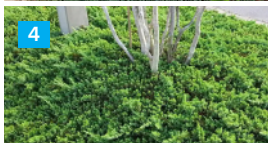
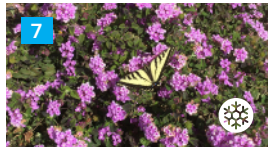


OTHER LOW-WATER USE PLANTS

NON-NATIVES

GROUNDCOVER

No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
1	Creeping Myoporum	Myoporum parvifolium	☹ / ☀	79	Sp	
2	Dymondia Silver Carpet	Dymondia margaretae	☹ / ☀	30	Su	
3	Elijah Blue Fescue	Festuca ovina glauca	☹ / ☀	2	Su	
4	Japanese Garden Juniper	Juniperus procumbens 'Nana'	☹ / ☀	64	N/A	
5	Rock Purslane	Calandrinia grandiflora	☹ / ☀	7	Sp Su F	
6	Trailing Germander	Teucrium chamaedrys 'Prostratum'	☹ / ☀	3	W Sp Su F	
7	Trailing Lantana	Lantana montevidensis	☹ / ☀	50	Sp Su	



Requires soil amendment (short lived in clay soil) Cold Sensitive Medium Water Low Water Very Low Water

Full Sun Partial Shade W Winter Sp Spring Su Summer F Fall Intermittent Year-round

Butterflies Moths Bees Birds Hummingbirds Beneficial Insects *Coverage (sf) of individual plant at maturity

PERENNIAL

No	Common	Scientific	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
8	Autumn Sage	Salvia greggii	☹ / ☀	5	Sp Su	
9	Baboon Flower	Babiana stricta	☹ / ☀	0.25	W Sp	
10	Blanket Flower	Gaillardia x grandiflora	☹ / ☀	2	Su F	
11	Grandma's Purple Flag Bearded Iris	Iris germanica 'Grandma's Purple Flag'	☹ / ☀	3	Sp Su F	
12	Johnson's Blue Geranium	Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'	☹ / ☀	5	Su F	
13	Lamb's Ear	Stachys byzantina	☹ / ☾	7	Sp Su	
14	Mealycup Sage	Salvia farinacea	☹ / ☾	3	Sp Su F	
15	Orange Freesia	Tritonia deusta	☹ / ☀	0.2	W Sp	
16	Prostrate Rosemary	Rosmarinus officinalis	☹ / ☀	16	W Sp	
17	Russian Sage	Perovskia atriplicifolia	☹ / ☀	5	Su F	
18	Society Garlic	Tulbaghia violacea	☹ / ☀	2	Sp Su F	
19	Stonecrop	Sedum spectabile	☹ / ☀	1	Su	
20	Striped Fortnight Lily	Dietes grandiflora 'Variegata'	☹ / ☾	5	W Sp Su F	
21	White Gaura	Gaura lindheimeri	☹ / ☀	7	Sp Su F	
22	Whorled Tickseed	Coreopsis verticillata 'Zagreb'	☹ / ☀	2	Su	

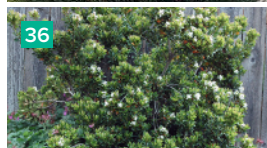
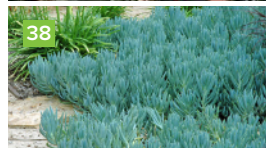
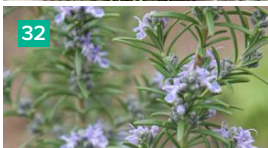


OTHER LOW-WATER USE PLANTS

NON-NATIVES

SHRUB

No	Common	Scientific	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
23	Berlandier's Sundrops	Calylophus berlandieri	☹ / ☀	5	SP SU	🦋
24	Blue hibiscus	Alyogyne huegelii	☹ / ☀ ☹	28	SU F	🦋 🐝 🦋
25	Dwarf Bottlebrush	Callistemon citrinus 'Little John'	☹ / ☀	79	SP SU	🦋
26	Dwarf Myrtle	Myrtus communis 'Compacta'	☹ / ☀	7	SU	🦋 🐝 🦋
27	English Lavender	Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote'	☹ / ☀	3	SP SU	🦋 🐝
28	Germander Sage	Salvia chamaedryoides	☹ / ☀	5	SP SU F	🦋
29	Gray Lavender Cotton	Santolina chamaecyparissus	☹ / ☀	1	SU	🦋 🐝
30	Lion's Tail	Leonotis leonurus	☹ / ☀	20	SU F	🦋 🦋 🦋
31	Lomandra 'Platinum Beauty'	Lomandra longifolia 'Platinum Beauty'	☹ / ☀ ☹	5	SU	🦋
32	Miss Jessop Rosemary	Rosmarinus officinalis 'Miss Jessop's Upright'	☹ / ☀	16	W F	🦋 🐝 🦋
33	Pink Muhly Regal Mist	Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist'	☹ / ☀	28	F	🦋
34	Rockrose	Cistus x purpureus	☹ / ☀	20	SP SU	🦋
35	Small Cape Rush	Chondropetalum tectorum 'El Campo'	☹ / ☀ ☹	9	SU	—
36	Yeddo Hawthorne	Rhaphiolepis umbellata 'Minor'	☹ / ☀	20	SP	🦋 🦋



OTHER LOW-WATER USE PLANTS

NON-NATIVES

SUCCULENT

No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
37	Arabian Aloe	<i>Aloe rubroviolacea</i>	☹ / ☀	20	W	🐦
38	Blue Chalksticks	<i>Senecio mandraliscae</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	5	Su	🦋
39	Coral Aloe	<i>Aloe striata</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	2	W Sp	🐦
40	Cynthia Giddy Aloe	<i>Aloe 'Cynthia Giddy'</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	5	Sp Su	🦋
41	Red Yucca	<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	☹ / ☀	13	Su	🦋
42	Tiger Aloe	<i>Aloe variegata</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	1	W Sp	🐦
43	Variegated Smooth Agave	<i>Agave desmettiana 'Variegata'</i>	☹ / ☀	7	Sp	🐝 🦋

TREE

No	Common	Scientific	Water / Sun	Coverage (sf)*	Bloom	Benefits
44	Bronze Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya deflexa</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	491	Sp	🐝 🐦
45	Catawba Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica 'Catawba'</i>	☹ / ☀	189	Su	🐝 🦋
46	Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	☹ / ☀	491	N/A	—
47	Japanese Blueberry Tree	<i>Elaeocarpus decipiens</i>	☹ / ☀ ☹	314	N/A	—
48	Marina Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus x andrachnoides 'Marina'</i>	☹ / ☀	400	Sp F	🦋 🐝 🐦
49	Natchez Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica x fauriei 'Natchez'</i>	☹ / ☀	314	Su	—
50	Red Bird of Paradise	<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	☹ / ☀	38	Su	🦋 🦋



NEED PROJECT ASSISTANCE OR INSPIRATION?

SCV Water is here to help! We have a variety of landscape resources to help you reimagine your landscape.

IDEAS & EXAMPLES

Santa Clarita Gardens Website
[SantaClaritaGardens.com](https://www.santaclaritagardens.com)



Need even more plant or design inspiration for your landscape? Explore beautiful, sustainable, climate-appropriate, and drought tolerant plants, trees, and grass that thrive in the Santa Clarita Valley.

PROJECT ASSISTANCE

[yourscvwater.dropletprograms.com/
program/design/assistance](https://yourscvwater.dropletprograms.com/program/design/assistance)



Landscape Design Assistance is a service offered to participants in SCV Water's Lawn Replacement Program who want a professional Landscape Designer's help with design ideas and plant selection to create a beautiful water-efficient landscape.

REBATE ESTIMATOR

bit.ly/LRP-Rebate-Estimator



Prior to starting a project, plug in the anticipated project area and estimate the rebate amount for updating irrigation components and converting grass to sustainable landscaping.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

FREE Gardening Classes
bit.ly/SCVwaterGardeningClasses



We offer one class per month on Saturday mornings. Learn directly from certified and experienced experts and get your questions answered.

For available landscape and irrigation rebates, visit conserve.yourSCVwater.com

